

Huu Bac Quintet

Skillfully combines his vietnamese and chinese heritages to north-american jazz music



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In Montreal, november 2013, Huu Bac Quach performs his first concert with his quintet skillfully combining his vietnamese and chinese heritages to North American Jazz music.

Backed by a solid team of some of the most prominent musicians on the up and coming Montreal jazz scene Huu Bac performs his compositions inspired by his numerous travels in Asia, Europe and South America. He is accompanied by Guillaume Martineau on piano, Marie-Neige Lavigne on violin, Jean-Félix Mailloux on upright bass and Etienne Mason on drums.

In concert, he charms a large public through the beauty and intensity of his musical pieces as well as through his impressive mastery of the dan bau (vietnamese monochord), the erhu (chinese fiddle), the quena (andean flute) and the jazz guitar.

The Huu Bac Quintet delivers a true dialogue between Asian, North and South American cultures in a contemporary, original and unique way!



Huu Bac Quintet

www.huubac.com

Huu Bac Quach
dan bau, erhu, quena, guitar

Guillaume Martineau
piano

Olivier Babaz
bass

Zoé Dumais
violin

Etienne Mason
drums

HUU BAC QUACH | DAN BAU, ERHU, QUENA, GUITAR

Arrived in Quebec from Vietnam at age two, Huu Bac absorbs with great enthusiasm life in his new homeland. His musical journey starts in Montreal (McGill University) with a sound foundation in jazz guitar. In 2002, he discovers the beauty of the vietnamese monochord, the Dan Bau, under the guidance of master Pham Duc Thanh. He works on traditional repertoire all the while integrating western pieces. His curiosity for ancient string instruments leads him to the Shanghai Conservatory of Music where he learns the chinese fiddle, the Erhu.

Back in Montreal in 2006, he encounters renowned peruvian composer Lucho Quequezana who invites him to a musical journey in Peru with the group Sonidos Vivos. This intimate contact with afro-peruvian music and music from the Andes is a source a inspiration in his artistic itinerary. Learning to play the andean bambo flute, the Quena, Huu Bac expands his talents of performer to a new instrument.

From 2009 to 2015, he collaborates twice with the Cirque du Soleil, recording for the shows "Totem" and "Toruk". He also recorded for "Canotgraphie", a show by artistic director Robert Lepage. In 2010, he distinguishes himself as finalist for the "Montreal Arts Council Diversity Award". Recipient in 2011 and 2012 of a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts as a composer, he is as well invited in 2011 to take part in the festival "Africa-Asia Encounters", in Paris.

Nourished by his travels and encounters, he dedicates himself to the composition and performance of a present day jazz music blending eastern and western colours. The waters of the Mekong River flows in his compositions, expressing his asian cultural heritage in the North American backdrop.

In november 2013, he founded the Huu Bac Quintet, which has since toured in Canada as well as garnered various awards : "RIDEAU/ROSEQ Award 2014", "Entrées en Scène Loto-Québec 2015-16", "Stingray Rising Stars Award 2015" and "Public Choice Award 2016" at Vitrine des Musiques Locales Métissées.

www.huubac.com




GUILLAUME MARTINEAU | PIANO

Honoured as the Revelation Radio-Canada 2015-2016 in jazz, pianist Guillaume Martineau is widely known for his versatility and creativity across many genres and musical styles. He completed his jazz studies at the Berklee College of Music in Boston in 2012 where he received the North American Scholarship and the Zambelli Award. After completing his masters degree in classical piano performance at McGill University, he won the 1st prize at the Canadian Music Competition in 2009, around the same time he had his first experience with Oliver Jones, who inspired Guillaume to transition from classical to jazz as an artist and pianist.

Today, Guillaume's achievements as a pianist and artist reflect greatly on his versatility. He was the invited soloist of six different symphony orchestras, recorded the piano parts in the feature film Louis Cyr, hosts his own weekly one-hour radio show dedicated to his own musical improvisation on CIBL Radio-Montreal, and not to forget his piano marathons lasting up to 12 hours non-stop. Throughout Guillaume's career, he has performed internationally in countries including Canada, U.S., Japan, France, Switzerland and Austria. In his first album Par 5 chemins, Guillaume expresses his imagination through his compositions in creating music best described as a Cinematic-Jazz style. His second album Piano Marin was recorded at Radio-Canada's Studio 12, which reaches the endless possibilities in Guillaume's creativity, featuring all-entirely improvised works.

Guillaume Martineau's creative style, artistry and voice as a musician and composer is greatly influenced by his mentors in both classical and jazz styles: Menahem Pressler, Anton Kuerti, Richard Raymond, Gilles Manny, JoAnn Brackeen and Laszlo Gardony, to name a few.

www.guillaumemartineau.com

OLIVIER BABAZ | DOUBLE-BASS

As a bass player, Olivier Babaz has been multiplying artistic projects and collaborations for many years. He accompanies numerous artists and take part in various bands.

Born and raised in Paris, he started travelling at a very young age in Europe and worldwide. he lived mainly in France, Netherlands, Reunion Island and now in Montreal since 2010.

After "La Lune de Kala", Akoz Duo's disc, "Midnight Cafeine" and "Virages", Olivier presents its 4th album "Odd Light" in which compositions find their way between modern jazz and acoustic rock, surprisingly incorporating elements of Reunion Island rythms.

For ten years, he has been developing the combina4on of Kalimba and acous4c bass, opening the possibili4es of polyrhythmic playing with a unique texture.

www.olivierbabaz.com


ZOÉ DUMAIS | VIOLIN

Zoé studied classical violin at the Music Conservatories of Rimouski and of Montreal, with Mrs. Johanne Pothier. She also studied at the University of Montreal where she obtained her Master's degree with Mr. Claude Richard and at Concordia University, where she studied jazz violin with Mr. Stephane Allard.

Very interested and stimulated by creative music and improvisation, she is a founding member of the band Sagapool (winner of a Felix for Instrumental Album of the year and "breaking the boundaries" at the Great Canadian Folk Music Awards in 2012, the band tours around the world since 1999).

She very passionately teaches the violin at Uqam, Cégep St-Laurent and the "Conservatoire de Musique de la Montérégie". She also conducts the string ensemble "Prélude" and is a member of the Montérégie string quartet and the "François Richard New Orchestra" and also plays with several artists. She is solo violin for the Saint-Lambert Symphonic Orchestra, for the Symphonic Rock programs.

She also writes music for films and was nominated at the « Gémeaux 2014 » for best documentary music, for the movie « Le prix des Mots ».


ETIENNE MASON | DRUMS

Having been playing drums for more than 17 years, Etienne Mason is a drummer who's main objectives are originality, creativity and musicality. He participates actively in multiple bands, not only as a drummer but also as a producer, arranger and composer. His studies in pop music at Cégep Lionel-Groulx and Jazz music at McGill University has allowed him to be extremely versatile, playing style ranging from rock to jazz, world music and electronic music.

He has won the title of « Instrumentalist of the Year » in 2013 in the Jazz En Rafale contest for up and coming jazz bands and has participated in many different Jazz Festivals : International Jazz Festival of Montreal, Festi-Jazz Rimouski, Festi-Jazz de Tremblant ; World Music Festivals : Festival des Traditions du Monde de Sherbrookde, Hamilton World Music Festival, to name a few

He released his debut solo album in April 2016, and plans on releasing two more this year.

“The founder, Huu Bac Quach,...isn't shy to infuse North American accents, in a harmonious blend of cultures.”

Ronald Martel - La Presse - LaTribune

“Huu Bac Quach, an artist to keep an eye on.”

Yves Bernard - Le Devoir

“Huu Bac Quintet,..., blew us away with his dynamism, talent, humour and his creativity.”

Marie-Josée Boucher - Info-Culture

“The balance between jazz and asian influences reminded us of the harmony between nature’s elements...”

Alexandre Faille- La Tribune, Sherbrooke

“The show of Huu Bac Quintet is original. The ancestral asian touch brings a nice element to jazz, a more contemporary musical style. A group to discover...”

Reine Côté - Nord Info & Voix des Mille-Iles

“...a nuanced and well rounded performance...”

Anne-Frédérique Hébert-Dolbec - Journal Métro - Le Messager

“Huu Bac Quach, a musician versed in using MANY instruments... Impressive was Huu Bac's dexterity using varying instruments...”

Marlon Regis - The Huffington Post

“Huu Bac Quintet, a groupe lead by an original and audacious composer-performer,..., a musical journey where originality flirts with eclecticism...”

Éric Dumais - La Bible Urbaine

“Rich and complex harmonies leading us to a reassuring unknown territory...”

Joëlle Desjardins- Nord Info





Public Choice Award 2016



LES ENTRÉES EN SCÈNE LOTO-QUÉBEC

2015-2016 Tour



2015

STINGRAY

RISING STARS AWARD



Roseq

RIDEAU/ROSEQ Award 2014



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