

Luca Dell'Anna
Piano player, Composer

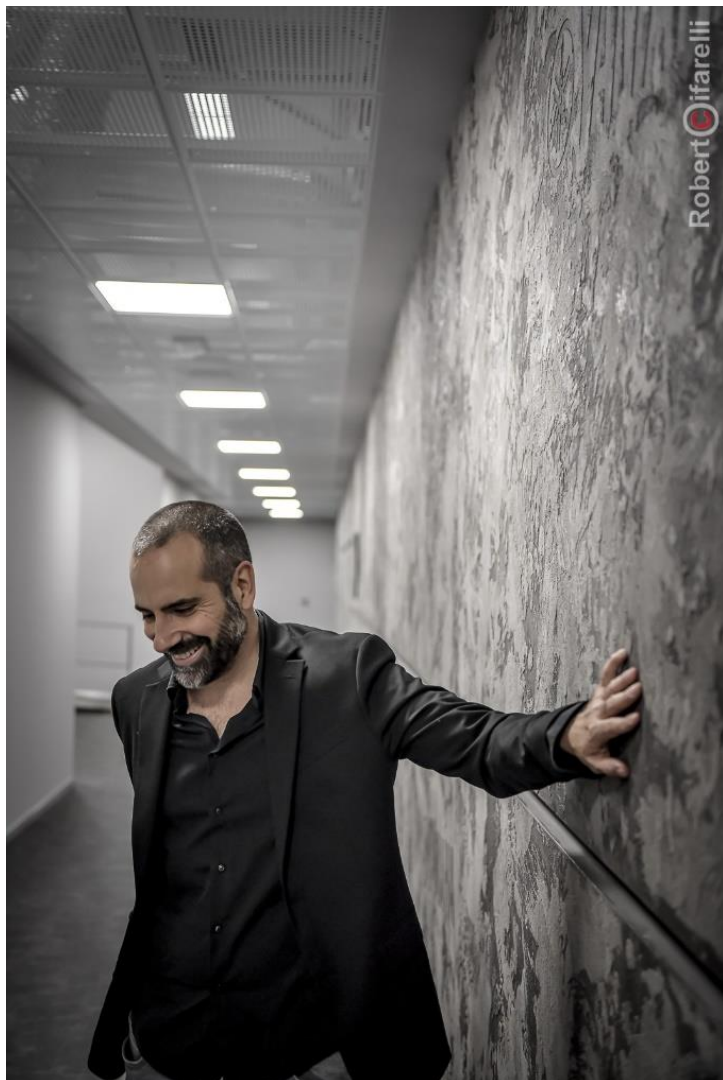
"[...] a brilliant artist, curious and versatile, as well as one of the most interesting realities emerged on the Italian jazz scene"

(JAZZIT Magazine, #91, december 2015)

Bio

"[...] Dell'Anna shows technical mastery and reflective depth: his lively rhythmic imprint always serves a sophisticated and imaginative eloquence"

A. Leonardi, www.allaboutjazz.com



Luca Dell'Anna Biography - by [Jakob Bækgaard, AllAboutJazz](#)

Italian pianist and composer Luca Dell'Anna was born on October 10, 1975 in Ferrara, a historical city with strong ties to jazz. He grew up listening to his father's extensive record collection including Count Basie, Ray Charles, Nat King Cole, Harry Belafonte and blues recordings together with Italian folk music.

His father also had a classical collection and Dell'Anna quickly fell in love with the music of J.S. Bach. Another important influence was Dell'Anna's grandfather, who played the accordion and stressed the importance of tradition and melody.

The piano came into his life when he started playing a toy piano with friends at the age of six and discovered the world of improvisation. When he was in sixth grade, he was encouraged to take piano lessons, and this was the beginning of many years of education in classical music.

A new path opened that would eventually lead to his rebirth as a jazz musician. At 16, he started playing in funk-fusion bands that played the repertoire of Tower of Power, Chick Corea, Billy Cobham and other fusion heroes from his youth.

The discovery of jazz language resulted in Dell'Anna taking lessons with notable Italian pianist Bruno Cesselli and he would later attend "L'Università della Musica" in Rome under the tutelage of the great bop pianist Andrea Beneventano.

To this day, the teachings of Beneventano still provide the foundation of the lessons Dell'Anna gives to his own students.

At the heart of Dell'Anna's sound lies a complex understanding of rhythm that goes beyond the generic sound of modern lyrical jazz piano. Part of the reason for this is his discovery of Cuban music and Latin rhythms: "I had very close friends who were big fans of Cuban music and I also started to listen to and learn proper Salsa music, in addition to Latin jazz: Chucho Valdes, Eddie Palmieri and my real big crush, Gonzalo Rubalcaba."

In 1999, Dell'Anna moved to Milano to become a part of the vibrant music scene. He soon got in touch with the Cuban Latin jazz community and became a companion of great Cuban musicians such as Dany Martinez, who initiated him into the concepts and theories of Cuban and African music.

As a musician in demand, he played many gigs in various genres but started to focus on jazz and in 2005 he released the album "Brian Had a Little Plate" with Rootless Ensemble together with Simone Guiducci, Danilo Gallo, Francesco Bigoni, Massimiliano Sorrentini.

After a period of two months in Japan to work in grand show "Evolution" for Aimachi Marching Band 50th anniversary In 2012, he released the acclaimed album "The Fourth Door" with the trio "Tan T'len" with Francesco Cusa and Ivo Barbieri. In 2013, the album was chosen as the third best album of the year by the prestigious Japanese jazz magazine, "The Jazz Critique Magazine". Tracks from "The Fourth Door" and his first album as a leader, "Mana" (2013), were included on Japanese samplers of the best of jazz chosen by highly respected Japanese jazz critic Yasukuni Terashima. "The Jazz Critique Magazine" also included his second album as a leader, "Symbiont", among the best jazz albums of 2015.

Dell'Anna's third album as a leader, "Human See, Human Do" (2018), digresses from the trio language by including award-winning saxophonist Massimiliano Milesi, and it was included among the Greatest Jazz Albums of 2018 by Italian JAZZIT Magazine.

He has also explored other formats playing Hammond Organ with the great Italian drummer Walter Calloni's group and in a duo with worldwide acclaimed trumpeter Adam Rapa that is still touring actively. Rapa also commissioned him to write compositions and arrangements for his musical "Evolution", which was performed live at Nagoya Century Hall, Japan in 2012. As a composer, renown Italian Pianist Michele Francesconi has asked him to compose music for his "Seasons" upcoming piano trio project. As a sideman, Dell'Anna has collaborated with many Italian and international artists including Adam Rapa, Dave Douglas, Jorge Pardo, Walter Calloni, Ares Tavalazzi, Steven Bernstein, Michael Mondesir, Roland Stzenpali, Mauro Negri, Zane Wayne Massey, Makaya McCraven, Yturvides, Giorgio di Tullio, Giulio Visibelli, Maxx Furian, Alessandro Carreri, Gabriele Boggio Ferraris, Daniel Kollé, Donato Scolese, with singers Serena Ferrara, Mila Trani, Elisabeth Breines Vik, Alice Lenaz, Sheila Jordan, Chris Bennett and the acclaimed drummer Israel Varela, who is also a part of his "Mana" trio with bassist Ivo Barbieri.

Dell'Anna's musical versatility has secured appearances on albums by such stylistically different artists as the alternative soul collective "The Black Beat Movement" and the Nordic singer Elisabeth Breines Vik.

In 2023 he appeared in Allan Holdsworth tribute album "The Nineteen men of Tain" by Enrico Pinna together with worldwide acclaimed artists such as Mike Stern, Jason Rebello, Paul Wertico, Bob Franceschini, Enzo Zirilli.

In his own work, Dell'Anna has refined an open jazz style between avantgarde and mainstream with a flexible yet structured approach to phrasing and improvisation. He has toured extensively with his music and appeared at numerous festivals around the world.

He toured in many countries including Ethiopia, Japan, China, Canada, Belarus, Portugal, Poland, Denmark, Ukraine, Slovakia, Ireland, Spain, France, Canary Islands. In 2018, he embarked on a big piano duo tour of China with fellow pianist Tazio Forte, and in Canada with bassist Rich Brown and drummer Marito Marques to celebrate International Jazz Day 2019 in Toronto.

He also toured with Adam Rapa in the Canary Islands, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Galicia, Lithuania, France together with great ensembles such as Spanish Brass, Kaustika and Rapa's quartet featuring Jeremy Bruyère and Rafael Pannier. During the lockdown in 2020 his work didn't stop, collaborating with many great musicians, coming back to his original "Mana" trio, invited by the Toronto Italian Culture Institute.

He participated as a member of "URKestra" collective at the recording of "When", album for collecting funds for Italian hospitals, featuring Dave Douglas and Steven Bernstein on trumpet.

For the International Jazz Day 2020-21 he was an ambassador for the Italian Ministry of Education, bringing Jazz to 1st and 2nd grade Schools.

He also collaborates with the International School of Comics as a Soundtrack composer.

His upcoming trio album, "Tactile", featuring Italian acclaimed bass player and drummer Alessandro Fedrigo and Luca Colussi, released in 2024, is produced by the award-winning sound engineer Stefano Amerio for Artesuono records.

All of these diverse experiences live together underlining the global nature of Luca Dell'Anna's music that is rooted in Italy, but at home in the world.

Albums as a Leader

Click on the Covers to listen on Spotify



"La Décima Puerta"
Single for Toronto Italian
Culture Institute, 2020



"Human See, Human Do"
UR Records, 2018



"Symbiont"
AUAND Records, 2015



"MANA"
Zone di Musica, 2013



"[...] Dell'Anna builds a piano trio able to move on different territories with agile security and takes advantage of this characteristic to look for - and, ultimately, find - a sign, energy, resilience, strength in the slow tempos, all dosed with measure and with a certain taste for contrasting flavors, the intention, that is, to always put an emphasis on what's not expected whether or not granted"

F.Ciminiera, www.jazzconvention.net

Luca Dell'Anna Canadian Trio

Featuring Rich Brown & Marito Marques

His new trio featuring two great Canadian Musicians had a first concert at the Jazz Bistro in Toronto, Canada.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJ3rJehF8495zwzXkbO94s3_MhA3nv008

Rich Brown on bass – Rich Brown has been an active member of Toronto's culturally diverse music scene since 1992. Influences such as Jaco Pastorius, Victor Bailey, Jimmy Haslip, and Alain Caron fuelled his passion for bass at the age of 17. Rich is currently touring around the globe with the band Samdhi led by New York based sax-man Rudresh Mahanthappa. He has also performed and recorded with some of the finest musicians in the world including jazz vocalist Carol Welsman, Jane Siberry, Glenn Lewis, Dapp Theory, Steve Coleman & 5 Elements, James 'Blood' Ulmer, Vernon Reid, Andy Narrell, Bruce Cockburn, Marc Jordan, Kim Mitchell, and David Clayton Thomas (of Blood, Sweat, & Tears) to name a few.

Marito Marques on Drums – Currently living in Toronto, Marques is considered one of the most requested and versatile drummers in Europe and Canada, having performed World Tours with artists in the most diverse music genres; some of which include two Grammy Winners Ivan Lins and Carlos do Carmo, the Grammy nominees Helik Hadar, Adonis Puentes, Hilario Duran and Jeff Coffin, Anna Maria Jopek, Mino Cinelu. Larnell Lewis, Gregoire Maret, The Wilderness of Manitoba and Sara Tavares.



Luca Dell'Anna Quartet

Human See, Human Do

Release Date: 27 sept, 2018

Video Teaser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNGyvLHu50>

Luca Dell'Anna's third album as a leader features three of the most influencing Italian young jazz players:

Massimiliano Milesi on Sax – awarded amongst the best albums of 2017 with his “Double Cut” project by “Musica Jazz Magazine.”

Danilo Gallo on Double Bass – one of the most popular bass players in Italy, three times awarded as the “Best Bass Player” of the year by “Musica Jazz” magazine, he has collaborated amongst others with Uri Caine, Chris Speed, Jim Black, Marc Ribot.

Alessandro Rossi on Drums – young and talented Italian drummer, member of the “Italian young talents Jazz Orchestra” , he is one of the most valued and appreciated jazz drummers on the Italian scene



Discography samples

Personnel, description and audio samples are available at each link



Luca Dell'Anna Trio
["La décima puerta"](#)
 Single for the Toronto Italian Culture Institute, 2020



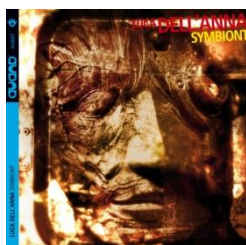
Luca Dell'Anna Quartet
["Human See, Human Do"](#)
 UR Records, 2018



URKestra feat. Dave Douglas & Steven Bernstein
["When"](#)
 UR Records, 2020



Luca Dell'Anna Trio
["Mana"](#)
 Zone di Musica, 2013



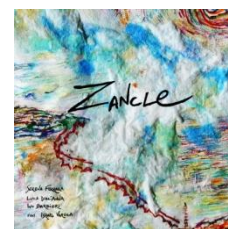
Luca Dell'Anna Trio
["Symbiont"](#)
 Auand Records, 2015



Elisabeth Breines Vik
["Beginnings"](#)
 2013



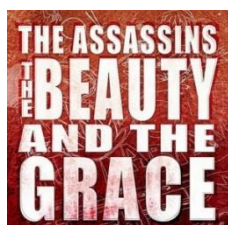
Rootless
["Brian had a Little Plate"](#)
 El Gallo Rojo Records, 2005



Serena Ferrara, Luca Dell'Anna, Ivo Barbieri & Israel Varela
["Zancle"](#)
 2013



Martino Vercesi
["Virgo Supercluster"](#)
 Tosky Records, 2017



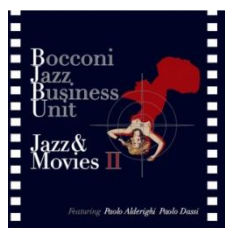
The Assassins
["The Beauty and the Grace"](#)
 Improvisatore Involontario, 2013



Tan T'len
["The Fourth Door"](#)
 Improvisatore Involontario, 2012



The Black Beat Movement
["Love Manifesto"](#)
 Universal, 2016



Marco Mariani's Sextet
["Jazz & Movies 2"](#)
 ABeat, 2013



Michelle Millis Chappel
["Simple Graces"](#)
 Beautiful Things Records, 2003



Black Beat Movement
["Black Beat Movement"](#)
 2012



The Black Beat Movement
["ID-Leaks"](#)
 Black Movement Records 2014

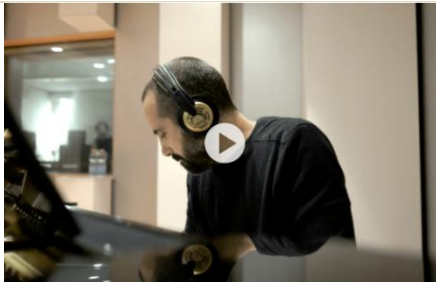
Videos

YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/lucadellanna>

Featured Videos page on Website:

<http://www.lucadellanna.net/New/videos/>



Human See, Human Do

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNGyvLHu50>



Symbiont - Album Teaser

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KbacQT4prD4>



La décima puerta

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eW31A05IALU>



Luca Dell'Anna Quartet live @ Milestone Jazz Club

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUgKzNGprzs>



"Cohesion" – Live in Toronto 2019

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_St48Zykkg



Luca Dell'Anna Trio - Up To Me – Jethro Tull

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cza761ATIJU>



Segura Ele – piano duet, China 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgMai2rSJWc>



Poulenc – sonata for two pianos FP156

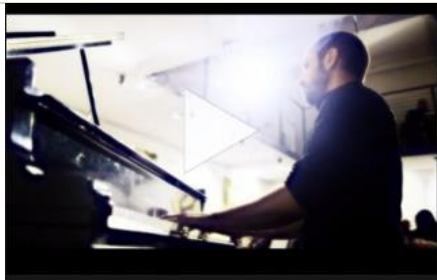
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPQo7bMMrv4>



Mana – Album Teaser
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpjhkp5X88>



Solos w/Hard Beat Quartet
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYtlf_xwJis



Abre los Ojos- Live
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gHsHcHLKono>



Live w/Elisabeth Vik's Quintet, Torino
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1v6Day5Rhtw>



Walter Calloni Hammond Funk Trio
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YirEKNgwzPE>



The Black Beat Movement - Gloomy
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSgow4OKPYY>



ZANCLE Live in China, Shenzhen
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS0qhHNjibA>



Afro - Cuban Piano + Bass
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qwr-AoQeaU>

Awards

“Symbiont” awarded amongst the best Jazz CDs in 2015 by “The Jazz Critique Magazine”

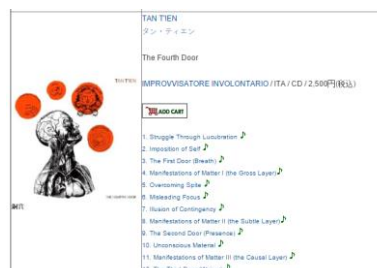
<http://www.lucadellanna.net/the-jazz-critique-magazine-symbiont-awarded-amongst-the-best-jazz-albums-in-2015/>

Click on the picture for a larger size file:



“Tan T’ien – The Fourth Door” was ranked #3 best Jazz Album in 2013 by “The Jazz Critique Magazine”

<http://diskunion.net/jazz/ct/news/article/1/42831>



Music

Spotify:

<https://play.spotify.com/artist/5eGmWkKdn0C9mzxUpTXrgh>

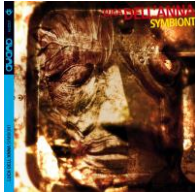
Click here to Download “Human See, Human Do” mp3:



Click here to Download “Mana” mp3:



Click here to Download “Symbiont” mp3:



Click here to Download “Tan T’len – The Fourth Door” mp3:



Audio Samples on my Website:

<http://www.lucadellanna.net/audio/>

Photos

Click on each picture to download the HD version



ph. David James Lenaz



ph. Roberto Cifarelli



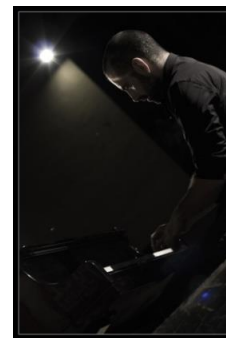
ph. Fabrizio Giammarco



ph. Roger Salem



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ph. Roberto Bertolle



Ph. Roberto Cifarelli

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Instagram:

http://www.instagram.com/luca_dellanna

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/lucadellanna.musicpage>

SoundCloud:

<https://soundcloud.com/lucadellanna>