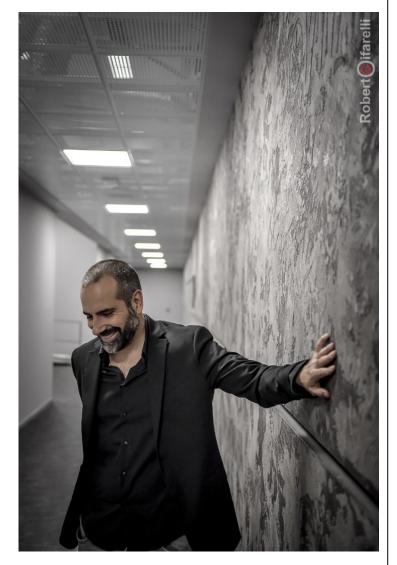


Luca Dell'Anna Biography - by Jakob Bækgaard, AllAboutJazz

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



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. Especially Ray Charles and Nat King Cole impressed him: "While I was listening to them singing, their licks and piano styles entered my memory forever."

His father also had a classical collection and Dell'Anna quickly fell in love with the music of J.S. Bach. As he approached the piano for the very first time, he quickly began improvising melodies in the style of Bach. Another important influence was Dell'Anna's grandfather, who played the accordion and stressed the importance of traditional Italian folk music.

The piano came into his life when he started playing a toy piano with his friend at the age of six. One year later, he got an electronic keyboard for Christmas and discovered the world of improvisation. When he was in the sixth grade, he was encouraged to take piano lessons, and this was the beginning of many years of education in classical music. From he was 10 to 19 years old, he studied classical piano and attended the Conservatory G. Frescobaldi of Ferrara. A new path opened that would eventually lead to his rebirth as a jazz musician. At 16, he started playing in a funk-fusion band 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 the renowned L'Università della Musica (The Music University) 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. In 2012, as a result of his brief experience with avant-garde Improvvisatore Involontario Art Collective, he released the acclaimed album The Fourth Door with the trio Tan T'len. In 2013, it was chosen as the third best album of the year by the prestigious Japanese jazz magazine, Jazz Critiques. 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 the critic Yasukuni Terashima. Jazz Critiques also included his second album as a leader, Symbiont, among the best jazz of 2015, surpassing albums by pianists Fred Hersch and Vijay lyer.

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

He has also explored other formats playing Hammond Organ in 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 a composition for his musical Evolution, which was performed live at Nagoya Century Hall, Japan in 2012. The Italian Pianist Michele Francesconi has asked him to compose music for his "Seasons" project. As a sideman, Dell'Anna has played with Steven Bernstein, Yturvides, Michael Mondesir, with singers Sheila Jordan and Chris Bennett and the acclaimed drummer Israel Varela, who is also a part of his 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 his own work, Dell'Anna has refined an open jazz style between avantgarde and mainstream with a modal approach to the piano. As he says: "I define my approach to composition as modal. By 'modal' I mean the way I juxtapose chords and harmonies isn't (most of the time) led by harmonic rules but more by the strength of the melody that shapes its harmonic path by itself." He has toured extensively with his music and appeared at numerous festivals around the world.

He toured in Ethiopia, Japan, China, Canada, Belarus, Poland, Denmark, Ukraine, Slovakia, Ireland, Spain. In 2018, he embarked on a big tour of China with fellow pianist Tazio Forte, and his Canadian trio project with bassist Rich Brown and drummer Marito Marques is a result of an invitation by the Italian Cultural Institute in Toronto to celebrate International Jazz Day 2019. He also toured in 2018 and 2019 in the Canary Islands and Ireland with Adam Rapa, during the lockdown in 2020 his work didn't stop, collaborating with many great musicians, coming back to his original "Mana" trio, again invited by the Toronto Italian Culture Institute. He participated as a member of "URKestra" collective at the recording of an album for collecting funds for Italian hospitals, featuring Dave Douglas and Steven Bernstein.

For the International Jazz Day 2020 he was an ambassador for the Italian Ministry of Education, bringing Jazz to 1^{st} and 2^{nd} grade Schools with the project "Il Jazz va a Scuola" (jazz goes to School).

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

It underlines 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 MhA3nv0O8

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 saxman 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 new 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

Personnel, description and audio samples are available at each link



Luca Dell'Anna Trio

"La décima puerta"

Single for the Toronto Italian
Culture Insitute,
2020



Luca Dell'Anna Quartet "<u>Human See, Human Do</u>" UR Records, 2018



URKestra feat. Dave Douglas & Steven Bernstein

"When"

UR Records,

2020



Luca Dell'Anna Trio "<u>Mana</u>" Zone di Musica, 2013



Luca Dell'Anna Trio "Symbiont" Auand Records, 2015



Elisabeth Breines Vik "Beginnings" 2013



Rootless "<u>Brian had a Little Plate</u>" El Gallo Rojo Records, 2005



Serena Ferrara, Luca Dell'Anna, Ivo Barbieri & Israel Varela "Zancle" 2013



Martino Vercesi "<u>Virgo Supercluster</u>" Tosky Records, 2017



The Assassins
"The Beauty and the Grace"
Improvvisatore Involontario,
2013



Tan T'Ien
"The Fourth Door"
Improvvisatore 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=eW3IAO5IALU



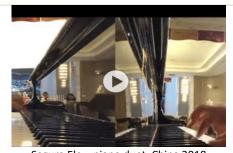
Luca Dell'Anna Quartet live @ Milestone Jazz Club https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUgKzNGprzs



"Cohesion" – Live in Toronto 2019 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3 St48Zykgg



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=hgMaj2rSJWc



Poulenc – sonata for two pianos FP156 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPQo7bMMrv4



Mana – Album Teaser https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpjhkpP5X88



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

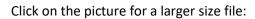


Afro - Cuban Piano + Bass https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qwR-AoQeaU

Awards

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

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





"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" @320k mp3:



Click here to Download "Mana" @320k mp3:



Click here to Download "Symbiont" @320k mp3:



Click here to Download "Tan T'len – The Fourth Door" @320k 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. Fabrizio Giammarco



ph. Roger Salem



ph. Roberto Bertolle



ph. Roberto Cifarelli



ph. Roger Salem



ph. Ghiro Ph



Ph. Roberto Cifarelli

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