

Performers

Mi-Bémol Saxophone Ensemble

Music director Masahiro Maeda, Professor of Saxophone, Soai University, Osaka

Alain Crepin

Saxophone Solo, Direction, Professor of Saxophone, Royal Conservatory of Brussels

ARSYS Quartet

The International Saxophone Ensemble

Organized by Mi-Bémol Saxophone Ensemble Inc. Osaka Co-organized by Embassy of Japan in Belgium Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles

of Royal Conservatory of Brussels

Sponsored by







TOYOTA







Program

ARSYS Quartet

Alexander Glazunov / Saxophone Quartet in B flat major, Op.109 Finale

The International Saxophone Ensemble of Royal Conservatory of Brussels

W.A. Mozart / arr Alain Crepin / Ouverture des Noces de Figaro G. Verdi / La traviata - Sempre libera

Arturo Marquez / arr Jérémie David /Danzón N°2 P. Iturralde / Aires Rumanos

Mi-Bémol Saxophone Ensemble

Johann Sebastian Bach / Toccata und Fuge in d-Moll BWV565 Chang Su Koh / Kodama (Spirit of Forest) Japanese Folk Ballads / Kiso-bushi, Asadoya Yunta, Kagoshima Ohara-bushi Gustav Holst / Mars, Jupiter from The Planets, Op.32

Joint performance Mi-Bémol & Alain Crepin

Alain Crepin / Sax Flight, Sax and the City

Joint performance by all members

Furusato no Uta, Medley of Japanese songs / Kono-michi, Yashino-mi, Aka-tonbo, Furusato Maurice Ravel / Bolero



Alain Crepin



Since 1981 he is professor of saxophone at the Brussels 'Conservatoire Royal de Musique' and professor of orchestration and conducting at the Conservatory of Music of Esch-sur-Alzette (Grand Duchy of Luxemburg).

Since 1983 he is a military bandmaster and for 21 years he was musical director of the Royal Symphonic Band of the Belgian Air Force. Until August 31th 2008 Major Alain Crepin was appointed artistic director of all the bands of the Belgian Army.

As a soloist or conductor he has recorded some 60 compact discs and performed all over the world. As a composer, Alain Crepin wrote numerous works for saxophone or symphonic band. Crepin's compositions are always

Since 2005, he is president of the jury of the International Saxophone Contests at Dinant . He is member of

numerous international juries' and is regularly invited for master-classes all over the world.

He accompanied the greatest saxophone players at the European Saxophone Days at Dinant in 1990 and at the World Saxophone Congresses in Minneapolis (Minnesota 2003) and Ljubljana (Ślovenia 2006).

ARSYS Quartet



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Collectif Arsys was created through a common passion for chamber music. Explorers of musical universes, – traditional, clasical, romantic, contemporary, etc. - these musicians gathered in a "variable geometry" ensemble.

The starting point of this project: the Saxophone, and the will to highlight this instrument for the widest public. Thus, concert programmes fall into two main parts: transcriptions and original works. There is a genuine commitment to instrumental research, as to tones, styles, or playing modes. As a result, they push back saxophone's limites in order to reach interpretation requirements.

Adaptability is the very essence of Collectif Arsys. Ensembles and programmes' conception tends to meet with public and concert halls' expectations. From duet or saxophone quartet to piano trio, musical ensembles give the musicians the opportunity to explore the vast repertoire of chamber music

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Collectif Arsys offers artistic combinations which allow to discover a rich range of musical universes, a way of opening the field of endless possibilities.

The International Saxophone Ensemble of Royal Conservatory of Brussels, direction Alain Crepin



The ensemble is above all an education tool. Its composition varies with the population of the saxophone class of professors Alain Crepin and Simon Diricq at the Brussels Royal Conservatory. However, some alumni who are now professional musicians, remain the structural and permanent base of the ensemble.

It is currently constituted of 22 saxophonists from 8 different countries: Luxembourg, Japan, France, Italy, Spain, Ukraine, Poland and Belgium. The ensemble has already recorded 2 Cds and has performed extensively throughout Belgium, France and Luxembourg. In July 2013, it performed 3 concerts in Lithuania (Vilnius). In February and May 2013, it was prize-winner in a National Saxophone

Ensemble Competition in Dinant (Belgium), category Excellence. It also created the mandatory piece of the next Adolphe Sax International Competition, that will take place in Dinant, in November 2014. In April, it recorded its 3rd Cd. On June 29th 2014, during the Adolphe Sax Anniversary festivities, it performed a concert for the Musique 3 Festival, broadcast on Musique 3 radio. In 2015, it will be invited to perform at the World Saxophone Congress in Strasbourg, France. Its rich repertoire goes from classical transcriptions to original music for saxophones ensemble. It often plays with renowned international soloists.

Mi-Bémol Saxophone Ensemble



In 1989, a group of dedicated professional saxophone players got together under the direction of Masahiro MAEDA to pursue the new way of interpreting the classic music. He created the ensemble of twenties of saxophones, having been inspired by his study in the Conservatoire National de Lyon, France.

This unique ensemble consists of 5 kinds of saxophone, soprano, alto, tenor, baritone and bass saxophone, and performs various genre of music, mainly Classic but also Pops, Jazz etc. Twenties of professional saxophonists offer their dynamic sound as well as perfectly balanced harmony, comparable to an orchestra, to the audiences.

The Ensemble has performed more than one hundred of concerts since its establishment, in Japan, in other countries in Europe, in Asia and in North America, including the one at the Carnegie Hall in New York City. They have played not only in the big concert halls but also in the church, in the park, in the wine yard, closer to the audience. The Ensemble has released more than ten CDs as well. Today, Mi-Bémol Saxophone Ensemble is recognized by the public as the ensemble unique in the world.

The name of the Mi-Bémol Saxophone Ensemble is originated from the particularity of the instrument. The saxophone is the transposing instrument invented and developed in 1840's by Adolphe SAX, the young Belgian musical instrument manufacturer. Mi-Bémol stands for E Flat in French. For example when you play your alto saxophone, Do or C on your instrument gives the sound equivalent to Mi-Bémol or E Flat on the original music score.