



CLARINET &
SAXOPHONE
CLASSICS

EMILIO MEROLA

Hybrid Mind

JAZZICAL

The aesthetics of *Hybrid Mind* is the result of heterogeneous musical experiences and background. It blends indeed jazz and classical, improvisation and written music: the score, meticulously played, suddenly becomes the starting point of spontaneous and playful moments of improvisation.

The album starts with the world premiere recording of *Motion Train* by the Italian composer Ernesto Sparago, a piece of music that has accompanied Emilio in various prize winning competitions.

Flip Flap, whose composition is based on imitation, is an intricate interlace of clarinet and vibraphone.

Moods can be considered as a roundup of different musical styles and languages – different moods indeed – there are echoes of tango, blues, latin jazz, swing, and modern classical music.

Clarinetologia, a piece of written jazz, was published for the first time in the homonymous album by the Italian composer Gaspare Tirincanti in 2010. Emilio's goal was to bring the piece back to what he believes were the composer's intentions: to reproduce through his own musical phrasing the feeling of spontaneity of a real improvisation.

The idea of composing *Resonance* was developed during an MRI, in fact it mimics the rhythmic sounds of an MRI device.

Eddie's Tango is dedicated to the famous clarinetist and composer Eddie Daniels.

Amandier has been inspired by the meditative contemplation of a spring landscape. The composition starts with a descriptive scenario of the soothing atmosphere created by an almond tree – "Amandier" in French.



Simona Padula PIANO
Lello Petrarca PIANO
Armand Priftuli VIOLA, VIOLIN
Artan Tauzi CELLO
Gaetano Falzarano CLARINET
Gianluca Manfredonia VIBRAPHONE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Producer: Emilio Merola, recorded in November 2018 by Massimo Aluzzi and Andrea Cutillo at Splash Recording Studio in Naples (Italy). Mastered by 360 Music. Mixed by Corrado Taglialatela. Emilio Merola plays Selmer Recital Bb and Yamaha CX Custom A clarinets. The piano used is a Grotrian Steinweg.

Photographs: Valeria Longo. Artwork design Fruition Clarinet & Saxophone Classics was founded in 1992 by Victoria Samek is part of Samek Music encompassing Recordings, Publications & Learning. Clarinet & Saxophone Classics. www.samekmusic.com

Special Thanks to Valeria Longo. Dedicated to the memory of my mother Angela Maria Viggiano and my teacher Raffaele Di Costanzo.

EMILIO MEROLA

Emilio Merola is an Italian clarinetist, saxophonist, composer, arranger, conductor and art-director with a particular inclination towards the interpretation of modern classical music, contemporary music and jazz.

After graduating with highest honors in clarinet at the Conservatory of S. Pietro a Majella in Naples, he perfected himself studying with both classical and modern musicians of national and international reputation (Eddie Daniels, Esther Lamneck, Corrado Giuffredi, Gaetano Falzarano, Andrea Pace, Gianni Oddi, Julian Bliss and Victoria Samek).

He won first prize at several national and international competitions (City of Ostuni, City of Bacoli, City of Massafra, City of Caserta and City of Asti) being the only Italian musician of the wind section who got to the semifinals of the prestigious TIM (International Music Tournament, 2009/10 edition) in Verona, Italy, playing four different repertoires (from the eighteenth century to the present days).

He has performed solo and in section in symphony orchestras, big bands and dixieland bands (including the Great Rhythm-symphonic State Orchestra of Ihjewsk-Udmurtia, Russia, directed by Nicolai Rogotnev, 900 Big Band, Sidma Big Band, Campania Felix Big Band, Liberty Dixie Band).

Among the main events he took part include the European Jazz Expo International Talent Showcase, Leuciana Festival, Phaselus Lucernae, Sanremo Rock Festival and Recanati Festival.

In 2007 he was awarded at the eighth "Premio internazionale alla carriera Nino Rota".

In December 2010 he created, produced, directed and played solo at "Burzak", a theatrical concert, mixing classical and modern music and involving the San Giovanni Symphonic Orchestra of Naples, composers, arrangers, conductors, actors and jazzmen.

He recently participated at the recordings of the soundtrack of the Italian film "Mozzarella Stories", directed by Edoardo De Angelis and distributed by Eagle Pictures, handling the direction and execution of the string and wind sections.

In 2012 he published the album *Gentleman in trouble* with the pianist Lello Petrarca. In 2016 he won the second prize at "Golden classical music Awards", performing at the Carnegie Hall, New York, for the final ceremony.

Emilio Merola plays Selmer Recital Bb clarinet, Yamaha CX Custom A clarinet and Zac ligature products.



GASPARE TIRINCANTI
(1951–2014)

Born in Riccione in 1951, he graduated in clarinet and percussion instruments at the "G. Rossini" Conservatory of Pesaro in 1969 and 1970. In 1970 he won the competition at the "S. Cecilia" orchestra in Rome as a percussionist where he stayed over three years. In 1972 he won the competition for first clarinet at the Teatro Carlo Felice in Genoa and in 1973 the competition for first clarinet at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, supporting this role until 1979.

Appreciated interpreter of contemporary music and renowned representative of the swing style in Italy, he has carried out an intense concert activity and has participated in numerous international festivals and events: Berg Festival (Milan), Zagreb and Lisbon International Festival, Venice and Berlin Biennale, Review of Italian Contemporary Music in China and "Metafonie" at Teatro alla Scala in Milan.


He held the clarinet professorship at the "A. Peri" Institute in Reggio Emilia, from the 1970s to 2009

ERNESTO SPARAGO
(1966–)

He graduated in piano and composition at "Conservatorio di Salerno", and in musicology at "PIMS" – Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music – in Rome and he attended courses at IRCAM in Paris in 2007.

He is author of music for short films, documentaries, dance performances. His compositions have been performed in Germany, France, Holland. He performs recordings with the Suisse Chamber Orchestra, Raitrade, Unistory, Sky.

He is deeply involved in research, studies and public performances on early music, with focus on baroque music and in particular with the authors, sometimes referred to as 'minors' of the musical school of the Neapolitan eighteenth century. He is dedicated to revising and transcribing for the Sremusiedizioni series, Baroquemusic, the Vigormmusic and the Saundbox. Sparago is teacher of piano, harmony, counterpoint and escape in conservatories and musical high schools.



Una mente da sempre ibrida quella di Emilio Merola, musicista che non ama etichettare e definire la propria musica con formule fisse. Le otto tracce di *Hybrid Mind* si snodano libere da catalogazioni riflettendo le eterogenee esperienze musicali interiorizzate. Una musica liquida, dai contorni labili e sfumati, che unisce in una narrazione coerente due mondi apparentemente opposti: la musica scritta e quella di improvvisazione. La partitura, dapprima eseguita alla lettera, diviene infatti spesso un canovaccio, uno spunto per dipingere creazioni estemporanee come in un flusso di coscienza.

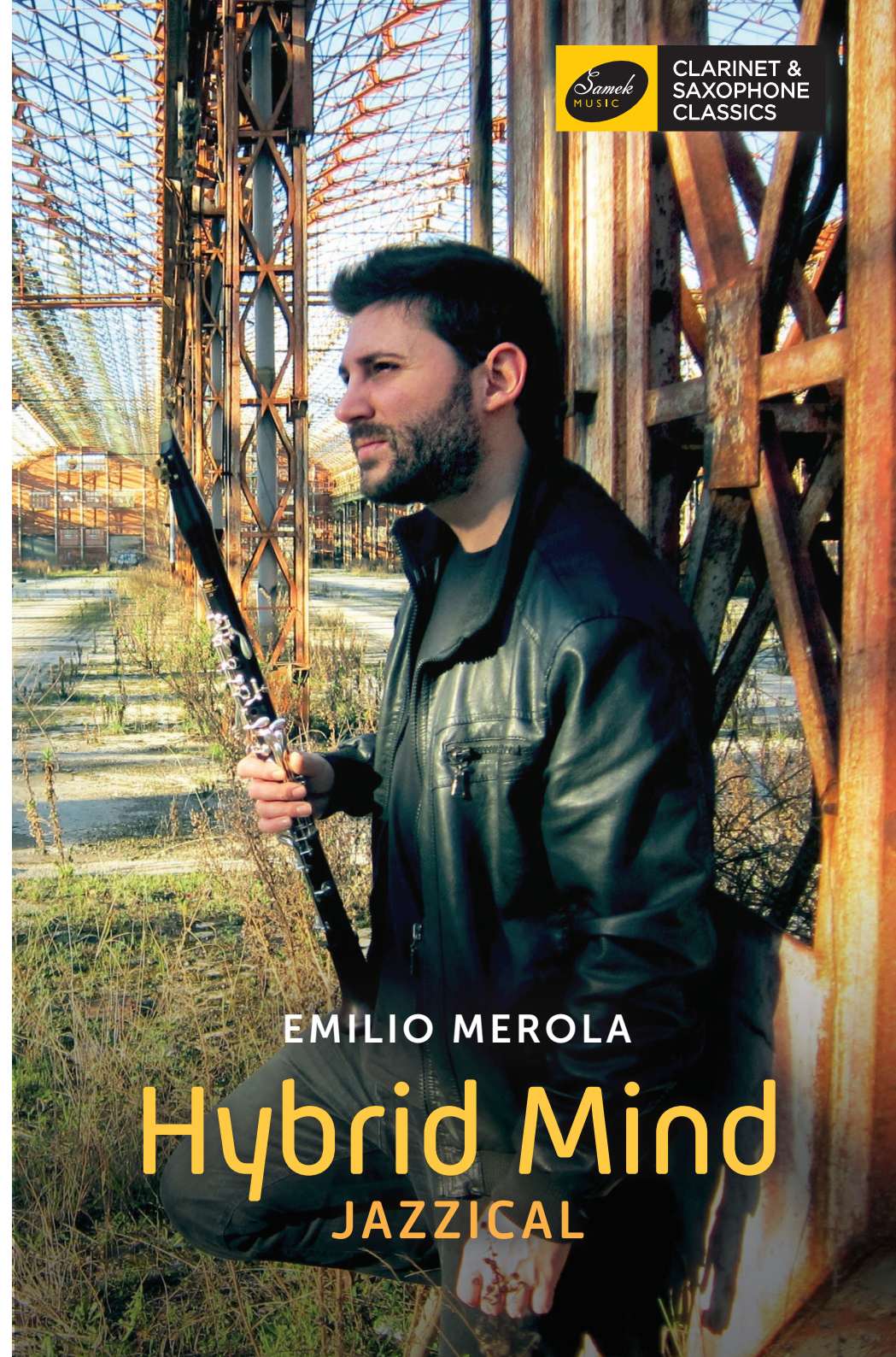
1. **Motion Train ERNESTO SPARAGO** 9:43
DUO FOR CLARINET AND PIANO
clarinet Emilio Merola, guest pianist Lello Petrarca
2. **Flip Flap EMILIO MEROLA** 4:41
DUO FOR CLARINET AND VIBRAPHONE
clarinet Emilio Merola, guest vibraphonist Gianluca Manfredonia
3. **Moods EMILIO MEROLA** 6:27
TRIO FOR CLARINET, VIOLIN AND PIANO
clarinet Emilio Merola, guest violinist Armand Priftuli,
guest pianist Simona Padula
4. **Clarinetologia GASPARE TIRINCANTI** 2:04
DUO FOR CLARINET AND PIANO
clarinet Emilio Merola, guest pianist Lello Petrarca
5. **Resonance EMILIO MEROLA** 6:03
DUO FOR CLARINET AND PIANO
clarinet Emilio Merola, guest pianist Lello Petrarca
6. **Eddie's Tango EMILIO MEROLA** 8:23
TRIO FOR TWO CLARINETS AND PIANO
clarinet Emilio Merola, guest clarinetist Gaetano Falzarano,
guest pianist Lello Petrarca
7. **Amandier EMILIO MEROLA** 6:04
SEXTET FOR CLARINET, TWO VIOLINS, VIOLA, CELLO AND PIANO
clarinet Emilio Merola, guest violinist and violist Armand Priftuli,
guest cellist Artan Tauzi (1st 2nd violin and viola in overdubbing)

Total timing: 43:29

CC0078. Producer: Emilio Merola, recorded in November 2018 by Massimo Aluzzi and Andrea Cutillo at Splash Recording Studio in Naples (Italy). Mastered by 360 Music. Mixed by Corrado Taglialatela. © 2021 Clarinet & Saxophone Classics. © 2021 Clarinet & Saxophone Classics. 24-bit recording. Made in the EU. Clarinet & Saxophone Classics is part of Samek Music.

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