

# INTERVIEW WITH MACIEK PYSZ & DANIELE DI BONAVENTURA

CK Jazovia, październik 2016

**Kamil Rubik:** Good morning Gentlemen, welcome to Gliwice – JAZOVIA, Palm Jazz Festival. Is it your first time here? How do you like the city and the venue (yesterday) ?

**Maciek Pysz:** For me personally it is not my first time in Gliwice. I have been here many times, like at least 20-30 times in my life, but it was more as I was a teenager. I know the city quite well. We love the the venue. It is an amazing place. I really enjoyed the sound and I hope that the audience enjoyed our performance yesterday as well.

**Kamil Rubik:** How about you Daniele?

**Daniele di Bonaventura:** For me it is the first time in Gliwice, but the second time in Poland. I have been and played in Katowice with my Quartet.

**Kamil Rubik:** Yes, correct. You played yesterday together on the stage of Palm Jazz Festival 2016. Did you enjoyed the concert? What would you say about the audience?

**Maciek Pysz:** I think the audience was very warm, receptive. They had a very good sense of humor so that they were really into the music and I felt that they enjoyed our music. I think also that in the world Polish audience is very famous for being really warm. I spoke to many musicians and they always



appreciate Polish listeners. Yesterday it was another example of it.

**Daniele di Bonaventura:** Yes, I think the same. Very good audience! Very open-minded.

**Kamil Rubik:** As the introduction I just wanted to ask you those simple questions, but I am really curious about your stories regarding music. Maciek, you started playing guitar at the age of 11, correct? You say, you have been inspired by many great musicians – and guitarists of course – such as Pat Metheny, Al di Meola, Bireli Lagrene. Why do you namely chose this instrument? I think not many people just know that.

**Maciek Pysz:** Yes, sure. You know, the story is maybe even more simple, because my cousin played guitar and I wanted to join him and play the guitar, so that is how it happened initially and then I became more interested in the instrument. Actually, at first I wanted to take piano lessons when I was younger, but my parents they were not up for it... this instrument was too big, you know. Then I said: okay, I want to play the guitar and they agreed and said: that's perfect – it is small and cheap. Then I discovered I really love this instrument! I moved also from electric guitar to acoustic / nylon strings.

**Kamil Rubik:** Your inspiration comes from tango, flamenco, Latin and Brazilian music, jazz and classical style. Which of these styles is more ingrained in you currently?

**Maciek Pysz:** Hmm, it is hard to say. All of these styles I have in me. It is difficult to give a name to the music and put into a box. Maybe world music in general? I think it is a blend of all of those styles. If you listen to my music you can find many influences: it might be a classical composition, latin section with jazz harmony changes. They are really all in my music. However, maybe jazz is the most ingrained in me? World music as well? Hard to say.

**Kamil Rubik:** The album “A journey” was recorded almost two years ago, you play there together with Daniele – Daniele appears there with his magnificent and unique sound of bandoneon and piano. How did it happen that you decide to work together?

**Daniele di Bonaventura:** Maciek invited me to play on this album, so it is also a simple story. It was a very beautiful experience!





**Maciek Pysz:** Yes, I had a trio before the album “A Journey” and I wanted to add someone to the project for the next CD. One of my musician knew Daniele very well and advised me on checking his music. So I checked it and really loved Daniele's music. After I contacted him to join us and it happened from there.

**Kamil Rubik:** Daniele, you are multi-instrumentalist, but your main instruments are bandoneon and piano. I am really curious about your story with the bandoneon. What made you the way of playing this instrument well-known for Argentinian music?

**Daniele di Bonaventura:** This is a long story. I will try to relate it concise. I started playing bandoneon almost 23 years ago and I chose this instrument because of its gorgeous sound, not because of tango music. I wanted to find another “mind”, another world, new language to express my music – to mix my whole experience from pop, rock music, jazz, classic – I studied composition at conservatory in Italy. Regarding your question, for me Argentinian music is only one of the directions.

**Kamil Rubik:** Daniele, you have cooperated with many excellent musicians. Which of these musical collaborations has stucked in your memory forever?

**Daniele di Bonaventura:** with Maciek of course! (laughter). It is really very important cooperation for me.

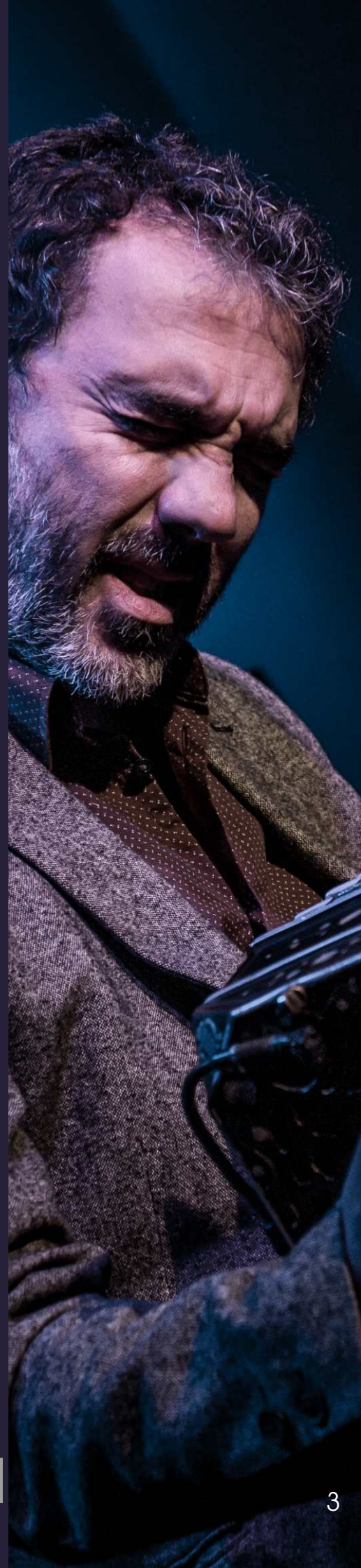
**Kamil Rubik:** Gentlemen, I have a questions for both of you. What is your definition of music personally?

**Maciek Pysz:** So, for me music is a way for expressing emotions. It is another language to communicate with people, with the audience. It is also a deeper language of communication than words. You can say something with words but with music you can say much more, touch people in a different way.

**Daniele di Bonaventura:** very simple, with contemporary music. Music for me is an expression of the culture, of yourself. It is just a fusion.

**Kamil Rubik:** Duo. Very interesting concept. Do you have a pleasure in playing Duo? How does it work in your case?

**Maciek Pysz:** I think this a very good musical situation to play Duo. It definitely offers to explore other areas of the instrument because there is more space without bass and drums. We can use more effects, sounds. I really enjoy this constellation.



**Daniele di Bonaventura:** Duo is a very special organic. There is more intimacy. Also, it is very important for the dynamic. You can connect with the second player more than within a bigger band.

**Kamil Rubik:** Gentlemen, thank you very much for your time. My very last questions: what would you like to wish you for the nearest future?

**Maciek Pysz:** I would like to be able to play at many festivals, as nice as Palm Jazz Festival in Gliwice. Also, to collaborate with great musicians, to perform music around the world.

**Daniele di Bonaventura:** I would like to wish myself to have more time to ride a bike (laughter)

**Kamil Rubik:** Thank you very much for your time. All the Best and hopefully see you soon in Gliwice!

**Maciek and Daniele:** Thank You very much!

Photo: Michał Buksa, Paweł Kołodziej

