



# Rotterdam Symphonic Jazz Orchestra

Standards  
Arranged

Friday 16 February 2007  
20.30 hrs.

Conducted by **Arjan Tien**

Featuring **Gerard Presencer** (trumpet)

**Kristina Fuchs** (vocal)

Hal 4 Rotterdam (Watertorenweg 200)

Entrance: € 10 (students Codarts free entrance)

Reservations T 010-2171100

The Rotterdam Symphonic Jazz Orchestra is an adventurous cooperation of the Rotterdam Jazz Academy, the Academy for Classical Music and the Composition department of the Rotterdam Conservatoire.



### **Rotterdam Symphonic Jazz Orchestra**

Rotterdam Symphonic Jazz Orchestra Concert, February 16th 2007, featuring Kristina Fuchs and Gerard Presencer.

The Rotterdam Symphonic Jazz Orchestra (RSJO) is an orchestra for students which find its origin in a unique collaboration between the Jazz- and Classical music departments of the Rotterdam Conservatoire (Codarts). The RSJO has the same line-up as the famous Dutch Metropole Orchestra has; a complete big band, a bowed strings and woodwind section, harp and percussion. For this special edition the Codarts Vocal Choir will be added to the RSJO.

The intention of the RSJO is to bring talented young musicians from different backgrounds together in one orchestra in order to perform adventurous music, both from renowned composers and young jazz-composition students. The previous concerts of the RSJO resulted in exciting evenings full of musical contrasts, performed for enthusiastic audiences. This year's concert looks also very promising. It will be conducted by Arjan Tien, an internationally renowned conductor experienced in conducting contemporary jazz music, and features vocalist Kristina Fuchs and Gerard Presencer on trumpet. New jazz arrangements by present and former students of the Codarts Jazz composition department will be performed, together with arrangements of internationally acclaimed jazz composers such as Bob Brookmeijer, Rob Pronk, John Clayton and others.

Paul M. van Brugge  
*Rotterdam Jazz Academy*  
*Composition Department*  
*Codarts, University of Professional Arts Education*

**Conductor Arjan Tien**

Arjan Tien was born the son of German - Dutch parents in 1968 in the Netherlands. He studied violin and viola at the Utrecht Conservatoire and obtained his solo-diploma in 1994 with distinction. As a violist he made his solo debut with the Salzburg Chamber Soloists in São Paulo and Vitória (Brazil). Arjan Tien was principal violinist of the National Youth Orchestra of the Netherlands and in 1992, before graduating as a violinist, became a member of the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, a position he held until 2005. Arjan Tien studied conducting with George Hurst and Roberto Benzi.

Since 2002 he is regularly working with the Metropole Orchestra, with which he recorded three CD's and a DVD.

Arjen Tien is now the artistic leader and principal conductor of the Magogo Chamber Orchestra (Tilburg – The Netherlands), where he conducts 15 to 20 programs per season.

### **Gerard Presencer**

Gerard Presencer (1972) is universally recognised as one of the best trumpet/flugelhorn players in his field. His breakthrough was the 3 million selling album by US3, *Hand on the Torch* on Blue Note. It is Gerard's trumpet that is featured so heavily on the big hit of that CD, *Cantaloup*. Gerard has always played many diverse forms of music. He has recently completed work on a film score with Johnny Greenwood of Radiohead. He has played and written for many others, including Jamiroquai, Ray Charles, Robbie Williams, Joni Mitchell and James Brown. Gerard is Professor of Jazz and Popular Music at the Hochschule für Musik, Hanns Eisler, Berlin and Director of the Jazz Department at the Royal Academy of Music, London. Last year Gerard was also involved in Codarts Summerschool 'Jazz around the World' that was held on the eve of the North Sea Jazz Festival.

### **Kristina Fuchs**

The of origin Swiss Kristina Fuchs (1970) studied Jazz voice at the Swiss Jazz School in Berne and at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague (NL).

She has performed with numerous international artists and ensembles, amongst others with Jeanne Lee, Ronan Guilfoyle, Christoph Erböstösser, Eric Vloeimans, the RTE Symphony Orchestra, Théâtre de la Grenouille and No Place For Jennifer. She also sang in compositions amongst others of Luciano Berio, Joseph Schwantner, Dennacha Dennehy, Ana Mihajlovic en Patrick Clark.

Her venues include the National Concert Hall in Dublin, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, North Sea Jazz Festival and the International Jazz Festival of Sete. With her own ensemble, the Kristina Fuchs Sonic Unit, she has appeared in all the significant Jazz Clubs and numerous Concert Hall venues in the Netherlands and toured in Switzerland.

Kristina Fuchs is teaching jazz voice at the Royal Conservatoire of Antwerp and at the Lemmens Institute of Leuven.

# Programme

## Set I

1

**Title: Cherokee**

Composer: Ray Noble

Arranger: Rob Pronk

2

**Title: Speak Low**

Composer: Kurt Weill

Arranger: Manny Albam

3

**Title: Changing City**

Based on 'New York, New York'

Arranger: Ilja Reijngoud

4

**Title: Nightmarry (Get me to the church in time)**

Composer: Frederic Loewe

Arranger: Jan Maihorn.

5

**Title: Always and forever**

Composer: Pat Metheny

Arranger: Gil Goldstein

6

**Title: Caravan**

Composer: Ellington

Arranger: Esteve Molero

**Pause**

## Set II

7

**Title: Over Here**

Composer: Bob Brookmeyer

8

**Title: Sing Sing**

Composer: Woody Herman

Arranger: Johan Rooze

9

**Title: Here's that Rainy Day**

Composer: Van Heusen/Burke

Arranger: John Clayton jr.

10

**Title: A Whole Night in Tunisia**

Composer: Gillespie

Arranger: Antonio Ballestin

11

**Title: Chelsea Bridge**

Composer: Billy Strayhorn

Arranger: Esteve Molero

12

**Title: A prelude to a prelude to a prelude to a prelude to a Kiss**

Composer: Ellington/ Schubert.

Arranger: Renard Aust

**Nightmarry - Frederic Loewe, Arranged by Jan Maihorn**

It is now 50 years ago that the musical "My Fair Lady" started playing. During the story, a character called Alfie is celebrating his last night before his wedding with the song "Get me to the church on time". Jan Maihorn places the song a few hours later: Out from the drunken reality, it is now the soundtrack of a colourful, restless dream full of echoes from the party, and nothing guarantees that the wake-up call will come.

Originally arranged for string quartet, this version for the RSJO is starring Kristina Fuchs, who will perform the male text from a female angle, haunted by her diverse inner voices from the jazz choir and a wide range of bells in the percussion.

**Caravan - Duke Ellington, Irving Mills & Juan Tizol, Arranged by Esteve Molero.**

Caravan, originally written in 1937 for the Duke Ellington's Orchestra, is one of the first "Latin-jazz" compositions in the history. It is a well-known standard piece in the jam session repertoire, where is normally played in a Latin feel for the A section and in swing for the B. Esteve Molero's arrangement is based on this idea of two contrasting rhythmical patterns. Although it is an orchestral piece, the main feature is the voice of Kristina Fuchs, for who the arrangement has been specially written. She sings the melodies and the solos using different techniques like scatting or vocalising, what makes the voice another instrument in the orchestral palette.

### **A whole night in Tunesia - Dizzy Gillespie, Arranged by Antonio Ballestin.**

This arrangement, based on Dizzy Gillespie's "A Night in Tunisia" was originally written for string quartet but, due to its impressionistic programme, it became a work for string orchestra and trumpet, referring to the original version of Gillespie's music.

The piece starts with a static sunset (strings in their highest register), seen from the city walls. Slowly, the sunlight starts changing its colour while a smooth breeze comes around (strings tremolo). This change of harmony and dynamic signifies the arrival of the night in the desert. Suddenly, a distant music can be heard coming from a tent outside the walls.

Little by little the music becomes clearer until we recognise a melody, coming from is a feast that will last the whole night. Different moments of this festive night are represented from the moment the trumpet starts his solo. The party turns into a wild dance, the energy increases, dissonant sounds and frenetic rhythms occur. This orgy does not stop until its sweet climax: a relaxed interlude followed by the appearance of the first sunrays, while the last desert breeze disappears. Everything has returned to its original state.

### **Chelsea Bridge - Billy Strayhorn, Arranged by Esteve Molero.**

Billy Strayhorn is considered the "American impressionist" for many musicologists due the strong influence that Maurice Ravel and Claude Debussy had on his way of composing. He translated the "French impressionism" sound to the big band language in the Duke Ellington's Orchestra, where he was the main arranger for several decades. The arrangement of Esteve Molero wants to keep this "impressionist" feeling by the treatment of harmonies and orchestration. Harp, flutes and French horn are the protagonist, but also soft saxes, muted trumpets and trombones are in charged of carrying the melodies. "I wanted to arrange Chelsea Bridge for the Rotterdam Symphonic Jazz Orchestra because Billy Strayhorn never had the chance to write for such a huge orchestra. He would love, for sure, this orchestral line up. That's my tribute to one of my favourite's jazz composers".



**Special thanks to:**

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