

FELICE CLEMENTE

Short bio

Felice Clemente - saxophonist, clarinetist, composer, conductor, band-leader and teacher - has been defined by Enzo Siciliano (from the Italian newspaper Repubblica) "the best young Italian saxophonist" and by Cadence Magazine (USA) "a talent that is destined to make the history of jazz".

Born in Milan in 1974, he started developing his passion for music within his family, under the guidance of his grandfather, a clarinet maestro.

Mentioned several times and ranked by the Italian magazines *Musica Jazz* and *Jazzit* among the best saxophonists ever, he is actively involved in various projects for the dissemination of jazz culture.

He features a remarkable record production, with 15 records as leader and co-leader, and 16 as sideman.

His albums "Nuvole di Carta" and "6:35 AM" have received 4 stars from the renowned American magazine DOWNBEAT (November 2011 and June 2015).

He carries out an extensive concert activity in Italy and abroad, collaborating with some of the best musicians on the national and international scene, such as Gregory Hutchinson, Xavier Davis, Eliot Zigmund, Danny Grissett, Ugonna Ogekwu, Jimmy Greene, Quincy Davis, Asaf Sirkis, Yuri Goloubev, Ken Field, Mike Westbrook, Cyro Baptista, Stjepko Gut, Adam Rudolph, Michel Godard, Paolino Dalla Porta, Marco Tamburini, Massimo Morriconi, Paolo Birro, Tino Tracanna, Massimo Colombo, Massimo Manzi, Sandro Gibellini, Bebo Ferra, Stefano Di Battista, Andrea Dulbecco, Stefano Bagnoli, Antonio Faraò, Tullio De Piscopo, Daniele di Gregorio, Carlo Uboldi, Javier Pérez Forte, Francesco D'Auria and many others.

He has performed 33 times at the Blue Note Milano, one of the most important jazz clubs in the world.

Felice Clemente is also very invested in his work as an educator. He currently teaches at the CPM Institute (Centro Professione Musica- *Centre for the Music Profession*) in Milan, and he is the proud teacher and director of the Orchestra Stabile of the Middle School Fermi, in Villasanta, just outside Milan, a permanent 44 piece young orchestra.

He is also the artistic director and director of the Mixiland Jazz band in Milan, as well as of OJBM (Orchestra Jazz della provincia di Monza e Brianza - *Jazz Orchestra of the province of Monza and Brianza*) and a member of the Board of Directors of the national association "Il Jazz va a Scuola" (*Jazz goes to School*), started by the Italian National Jazz Federation chaired by Paolo Fresu.

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Extended Bio

Felice Clemente - saxophonist, clarinetist, composer, conductor, band-leader and teacher - has been defined by Enzo Siciliano (from the Italian newspaper Repubblica) "the best young Italian saxophonist" and by Cadence Magazine (USA) "a talent that is destined to make the history of jazz".

Born in Milan in 1974, he started developing his passion for music within his family, under the guidance of his grandfather, a clarinet maestro, and graduated with flying colours at the Conservatorio G. Verdi in Milan, with Maestro Tessari.

As a clarinetist, he won first place at the International Music Competition "Premio Ispra" (VA) in 1991, at the National Clarinet Competition "Vito di Lena" in Segni (RN) in 1994, at the International Tournament of Music T.I.M. Erba (Co), in 1997.

Alongside with his classical studies, discovering jazz and the saxophone led him to study with saxophonists Paolo Tomelleri, Pietro Tonolo and Tino Tracanna. He graduated with full marks in jazz music, with Maestro Tracanna, at the Conservatory of Milan.

In the early 2000s, he actively took part in several masterclasses in jazz arrangement with Corrado Guarino, Dave Liebman and Massimo Colombo, as well as earning his teaching qualifications.

He features a remarkable record production, with 15 records as leader and co-leader and 16 as sideman, earning several mentions and features in the main Italian and International jazz specialised press. He ranked among the best saxophonists of the year in the TOP JAZZ 2015 referendum, held by the magazine "Musica Jazz" (2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014) and in the JAZZIT AWARDS by the magazine "Jazzit" (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018).

His albums "Nuvole di Carta" and "6:35 AM" received 4 stars from the renowned American magazine DOWNBEAT (November 2011 and June 2015).

He has collaborated with some of the best artists on the national and international scene, such as Gregory Hutchinson, Xavier Davis, Eliot Zigmund, Danny Grissett, Ugonna Ogekwo, Jimmy Greene, Quin-cy Davis, Asaf Sirkis, Yuri Goloubev, Ken Field, Mike Westbrook, Cyro Baptista, Stjepko Gut, Adam Rudolph, Michel Godard, Paolino Dalla Porta, Marco Tamburini, Massimo Morriconi, Paolo Birro, Tino Tracanna, Massimo Colombo, Massimo Manzi, Sandro Gibellini, Bebo Ferra, Stefano Di Battista, Andrea Dulbecco, Stefano Bagnoli, Achille Succi, Riccardo Fioravanti, Rudy Migliardi, Massimo Morganti, Antonio Faraò, Ellade Bandini, Roberto Cecchetto, Claudio Fasoli, Tullio De Pi-scopo, Sergio Orlandi, Bruno De Filippi, Daniele di Gregorio, Carlo Uboldi, Javier Pérez Forte, Francesco D'Auria, Montecarlo Night Orchestra and Nick The Nightfly conducted by Gabriele Comelio, and many others.

He carries out an extensive concert activity in Italy, through various projects: **sax and clarinet solo**, the **Felice Clemente Quartet** (with Massimo Colombo, Giulio Corini and Massimo Manzi) which sometimes expands into a quintet, thanks to the presence of Bebo Ferra, the **Felice Clemente Trio** (with Paolino Dalla Porta and Massimo Manzi) with guest artist Daniele di Gregorio, a duo with Javier Pérez Forte, another duo with Carlo Uboldi, the direction of his own big band "Mixiland Jazz Band".

The awards he earned from music critics have also led him to play in prestigious theatres and concert halls, both in Italy and abroad, as a soloist, in chamber groups and symphony orchestras, such as the Symphony Orchestra of Pesaro, the Symphony Orchestra of the "G.Verdi" Conservatory of Milan, the Villa-Lobos Orchestra of Paderno Dugnano, the Operà Ensemble of Milan. As a soloist clarinet, he took part in the final concert of the Festival Verdiano at the Teatro Verdi in Busseto (PR) in 2009.

With Nuevos Aires, he has dedicated himself to the research and dissemination of the rhythms of the Folk-tangojazz of South America and has also collaborated with the Artchipel Orchestra conducted by Ferdinando Faraò.

Among the main jazz clubs and jazz festivals that have hosted Felice Clemente: the Blue Note in Milan (where he played 33 times), the Smalls Jazz club in New York, the Kitano Jazz club in New York, the Boston Jazz Festival, the Lily Pad jazz club in Boston, the Torino Jazz Festival, La Palma Club in Rome, Fano Jazz club, Stresa Seven in Jazz, the Jazz & Wine Commons (GO), Val Tidone Festival, No Borders Italian Jazz Festival Gubbio, and many others.

He has been featured several times as a guest on the radio channels RAI3 (*Piazza Verdi*, *Primo Movimento* shows), Radio RAI International, Radio Marconi, Radio Popolare and Radio Classica and he has been the artistic director of the Crocevia di Suoni Jazz Festival in Agrate Brianza (2005-2008) and the Blué Jazz Club in Cernusco sul Naviglio (MI) (2013/2014). In 2007, he also founded his own record label, the Crocevia di Suoni Records.

He has worked in theatre as co-arranger of the musical *La principessa Neghitò* for the Teatro delle Erbe in Milan (2001). He is also the author of several advertising jingles for Seat Pagine Gialle.

Felice Clemente is very invested in his work as an educator. He currently teaches at the CPM Institute (Centro Professione Musica- *Centre for the Music Profession*) in Milan, and he is the proud teacher and director of the Orchestra Stabile of the Middle School Fermi, in Villasanta, just outside Milan, a permanent 44 piece young orchestra.

He is also the artistic director and director of the Mixiland Jazz band in Milan, as well as of OJBM (Orchestra Jazz della provincia di Monza e Brianza - *Jazz Orchestra of the province of Monza and Brianza*) and member of the Board of Directors of the national association "Il Jazz va a Scuola" (*Jazz goes to School*), started by the Italian National Jazz Federation chaired by Paolo Fresu. He is a proactive promoter of numerous projects for the dissemination of jazz culture, and regularly holds jazz saxophone masterclasses and seminars on the history of jazz.

DISCOGRAPHY

AS LEADER

- Felice Clemente, "**SOLO**", Crocevia di Suoni Records - March 2020, CDS018
- Mixiland Jazz band dir. Felice Clemente, Play Records Company - September 2018
- Felice Clemente & Carlo Ubaldi duo "**Introspective**", Music Center records - May 2018, BA402
- Felice Clemente Quartet, "**Mino Legacy**", Crocevia di Suoni Records - February 2017 CDS016 (Felice Clemente, Fabio Nuzzolese, Giulio Corini, Massimo Manzi).
- Felice Clemente & Javier Pérez Forte, "**Evolución**" – Crocevia di Suoni Records - February 2016, CDS014
- Felice Clemente Trio, "**6:35 AM**", Crocevia di Suoni Records CDS010 - January 2015 (Felice Clemente, Paolino Dalla Porta, Massimo Manzi, guest Daniele di Gregorio).
- Felice Clemente & Javier Pérez Forte, "**Aire Libre**" – Crocevia di Suoni Records - March 2012, CDS007
- Felice Clemente Quartet, "**Nuvole di Carta**", Crocevia di Suoni Records - February 2011, CDS005 (Felice Clemente, Massimo Colombo, Giulio Corini, Massimo Manzi).
- Massimo Colombo – Felice Clemente, "**Doppia Traccia**", Crocevia di Suoni Records -November 2010, CDS003
- Felice Clemente Quintet, "**Blue of Mine**" 2008, Crocevia di Suoni Records – 2008, CDS002 (Felice Clemente, Massimo Colombo, Bebo Ferra, Giulio Corini, Massimo Manzi, Tino Tracanna, Antonello Monni).
- Felice Clemente & Javier Pérez Forte, "**Escaleras**", Crocevia di Suoni Records - September 2007.
- Felice Clemente Quartet, "**Live**" 2006, Picanto records - February 2007, PIC 005 (Felice Clemente, Xavier Davis, Valerio Della Fonte, Quincy Davis).
- Felice Clemente Quartet, "**Perfect World**", Picanto records - February 2006, PIC 002 (Felice Clemente, Danny Grissett, Valerio Della Fonte, Gregory Hutchinson).
- Felice Clemente, "**Inside Me**", Splasc(h) records - May 2004, CDH928.2 (F. Clemente, M. Brioschi, R. Migliardi, M.Colombo, V. Della Fonte, M.Manzi, L.Stefanuto)
- Felice Clemente Quintet, "**Way Out Sud**", Splasc(h) records – 2003, CDH786.2 (F. Clemente, G.Falzone, M.Colombo, V.Della Fonte, Tommy Bradascio).

AS SIDEMAN

- Adalberto Ferrari QM "Music Unleashed" – Nadad record 003 - April 2016.
- Ferdinando Faraò & Archipel Orchestra "Play Soft Machine" – Musica Jazz Magazine, September 2014
- Dario Cellamaro Swingsuite 5et" - special guest Stjepko Gut "Omaggio a Clark Terry" - Jazzit Magazine, >July/August 2014.
- Claudia Cantisani "Storie d'amore non troppo riuscite" - Crocevia di Suoni Records.
- Andrea Bandel Ensemble with Felice Clemente "Eight finger" – Decam tdd-Edel - June 2013
- Walter Marocchi Mala Hierba "Alisachni", Working Bee record - May 2013
- Ferdinando Faraò & Artchipel Orchestra feat. Phil Miller "Never Odd or Even", Music center records - 2012
- Compilation "Dodici note per un Mattone" Academy for the Arts and Professions, Monza and Brianza - 2009.
- Opera Ensemble dir. Gerardo Colella Casa Musicale Eco - 2007
- Compilation for Jazz Magazine, August 2007
- Roberto Favilla Jr., "Oi Dialogoi", Splasc(h) records - 2006
- Marco Trifilio e Sergio Gimigliano, "Wishlist", Picanto Records - 2006
- Valerio Della Fonte, "Per un istante", Splasc(h) records - 2005
- Oliviero Biella "Accade pol das" FolkClub Ethnosuoni - 2004