



Vladan Mijatovic

VLADAN
Bio
2017-2018

Serbian born, New York City-based jazz pianist and composer **Vladan Mijatovic** began playing piano at age seven as the latest incarnation of a generations-long dynasty steeped in the unique Balkan musical tradition. Being brought up at that part of the world where music is ornamental, melodious and vastly colorful, man is often bestowed with such a unique skills and atypical abilities, in music.

As part of his musical background, **Vladan** has continuously combined music from Eastern Europe with the modern jazz and classical music idioms, blending a fine fusion of the two. He has played around the world with his trio and as a solo pianist, and has built an international following with audiences who have come to expect a singular, intense experience at his performances. Through his original iteration of the Balkan musical tradition, his personal playing technique and treatment of progressive ornamentation and poly-rhythmic beats, and the unique synthesis of his dynamic and sensitive spirit, **Vladan** has built a distinctive musical style.

After completing music school in his hometown, **Vladan** continued his education at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Munich (Jazz Piano) studying with legendary Russian jazz pianist Leonid Chizhik and graduating with honors. In 2010 he received a prestigious scholarship from the Berklee College of Music in Boston. In 2012 VLADAN earned a Master's degree in music.

Since 2006 **Vladan** recorded and performed extensively both as part of a trio and as a soloist. Starting in 2009, his trio started performing FOLK-MEETS-JAZZ- themed concerts. Next, he made a solo piano recording entitled "**Mamazone**" (music for woman battling breast cancer) released in Germany. LOFT Music, a major German production company, organized a series of "Folk meets Jazz" concerts, for which **Vladan** composed several songs closely linked to his native musical tradition.

He recently started a new trio project with Grammy winning drummer Robby Ammen and the well-known Turkish-American composer and author of the "*Virtuoso Series*" books, Bugra Balci. The trio, **Korrous**, and their new album "**Paranoid**" will present a fusion between Latin, American Jazz and Eastern European music. **Vladan** will be featured on a new recording of legendary singer Lyn Christopher to be released by Paramount Records.

In October 2014, **Vladan** make his **Carnegie Hall debut**, with his Solo Piano album "**Ornaments**"

"Ornaments, his solo piano debut is an expansive portrait of his unique style". (The New York Jazz Record)

"To listen to his debut solo piano album is to be engulfed by the whirlwind that is Vladan". (New York Jazz Record)

"His music mixes classical sensibility with Balkan folk music coupled with improvisation, making him end up sounding like a modern Balkan Chopin merged with Oscar Peterson". (Budd Kompan, All About Jazz)

Vladan is a medium that can perhaps reveal a Balkan musicians truest voice. (Vlada Panovic - Chief of Serbian National Orchestra)

Vladan has joined **CLASSIC ROCK LEGACY**, an organization of seasoned Broadway, studio and touring musicians and vocalists performing music of the greatest classic rock artists. **CRL** members have played with such renowned artists as Eric Clapton, Gloria Estefan, Shakira, Toto, Chaka Khan, and many others. **Vladan** is a musical director of the **CLR**.

Vladan's latest release "**Folk Legacy**" is a three-piece band simply called **V3**. As this is the time in the music where everything is a mishap and fusions are born everyday, V3 is admirably bending boundaries between traditional Eastern European, very specific and distinguish (Balkan) folk music and contemporary Jazz, taking the traditional "temper", odd rhythms and lyrical melodies of such music and adventurously teleporting them into the "now", the present time of, let's call it "World Jazz."

He have amply demonstrated his skills by touring, playing with spontaneity, enjoying one of the humans biggest miracles called music and by creating entertainment for a mass audience all around the world.

Vladan's goal is spreading the music all around the world and one day make it free. As he said: "Music should be free, it is a gift from God". Musicians will still be able to get the deserved rewards by giving live performances and playing concerts. Vladan is confident people would pay more for the tickets and support each and every artist.

Besides being a musician and composer, Vladan Mijatovic is also a philanthropist. He loves donating to the charity and performing at many charity events, to name a few, Rebuild Serbian Orthodox Cathedral Saint Sava - Charity event, Piano for Kolarac (Serbian equivalent of Carnegie Hall), playing for the children and much more. In 2014 Vladan donated all of his earnings from the Carnegie Hall concert to the poor.