



Mondo - Interview with drummer Dario Cellamaro, a luminous career and still many projects to come

Dal nostro corrispondente a Bangkok - 21 giu 2022 (Prima Notizia 24) Next stop, crowdfunding operation to support a recording project in the name of two historic and famous trumpeters whose names transcend the barriers of Space and Time, Clark Terry and Dizzy Gillespie.

Dario Cellamaro, is a talented and masterful drummer on his instrument, a jazz musician known not only in Italy for his valuable stylistic skills but also worldwide, boasting in his carnet of studio and live appearances, collaborations with Authors and musicians of international stature. To all this he also adds a compositional vein, as he is the Author himself of various compositions that have embellished the CDs and records that bear his name and that also feature musicians of the highest level and valuable jazz maturity. Dario Cellamaro, among the many names of world Jazz stars to whom he places his name alongside, also counts the very authoritative presence of the famous and historic trumpeter Clark Terry, with whom he recorded an LP entitled "Clean Hands," as well as having played with him numerous times live gladdening the spirits and hearts of those who were fortunate enough to fully enjoy this phantasmagorical union. How did this idea of a CD dedicated to Clark Terry and Dizzy Gillespie come about? Who will be involved in performing the songs? The idea came from me mainly because of my lifelong love for Clark Terry, his music, his artistic temperament and his humanity. As you may recall, from 1996 to 1999 he was practically my mentor. It was a continual opportunity -for me- to learn about the many anecdotes he used to tell me about his rambles together with Dizzy Gillespie (they were almost the same age - Clark's 14/12/1920 and Dizzy's 21/10/1921) not the least of which was to go almost every night at three o'clock to knock on Louis Armstrong's doorbell and then run away). In that era, they were the best and so I wanted to bring them together in this project by dedicating most of the repertoire to them while adding other trumpeters who drew so much from these 2 "holy monsters." Roy Hargrove among the younger ones following their period but especially Arturo Sandoval whom Dizzy Gillespie raised as a son in every sense of the word. In the performance of the pieces we will all be emotionally involved. But from a primarily and exclusively musical point of view the trumpeter of my quintet (Emilio Soana) will be involved, who in Italy is now the most prepared in this jazz music genre. "Produzioni dal Basso" ("Productions from Below") - Fundraising Campaign for its production seems to be really a particularly innovative idea in the field of crowdfunding campaigns, since it involves the production of a CD. How did you come to select this specific proposal? I got there the easiest way possible: by word of mouth among colleagues in the same field. Productions from Below has done so many projects for the performing arts and the arts in general. They are serious, reliable and organized people. But unfortunately it is not enough because

if the recipient of the donation request is not sensitive to the topic, the operation falls apart. The budget to be reached (which can be exceeded but which cannot be lowered even by a penny on pain of the operation's cancellation) is just 3,000 euros, which, after deducting the fees for those who manage the organization of the collection (which are just 5 percent), are just enough for the realization, production and distribution of the CD. I am trying and I take this opportunity to invite anyone who would like to feed this great PASSION of mine (because yes, it is not only a job but mainly a great PASSION) to make a donation. It is only 15.00 euros against a copy of the published CD as a reward. Below this amount, the reward will be a credit and thank you with the donor's first and last name inside the CD booklet. It is clear that this will happen automatically and even more certainly for donations above this amount. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the link to the page on which to make the money donation: <https://sostieni.link/31721> Can you tell readers what relevance in the history of jazz and in your life in particular, relevant figures such as Clark Terry and Dizzy Gillespie? They are two artists of unprecedented skill, two characters of unique charisma and two people of a humanity that is hard to find in artists in general. I remember that just a few weeks ago I witnessed an interview with an entertainment worker here in Italy (dance sector) who, regarding a question about the difference between the "person" and the "artist" stated, "It is not difficult to meet good artists but it is very difficult to meet very good artists who are also very good people." Clark & Dizzy are two artists who have nurtured and helped a whole host of musicians (just think of Arturo Sandoval and the good that he and his family received from Gillespie) and -about the above answer- NEVER was the statement more true. Clark Terry and Dizzy Gillespie were above all two very good people before they were two outstanding artists. And when you meet subjects of this caliber and also have the good fortune to hang out with them (as happened to me with Dizzy Gillespie) and play with them for years (as happened to me with Clark Terry), well, it's like having gone to the Conservatory and studied with the best teachers for ten years straight. I have tried to summarize my answer in the most explicit way to make it clear to those reading how much I love these two great trumpet players and how much I have eternal gratitude to them. God bless both of them. To support and participate in the crowdfundig campaign for the making of Dario Cellamaro's CD dedicated to Clark Terry and Dizzy Gillespie, access the link <https://sostieni.link/31721>.

di Francesco Tortora Martedì 21 Giugno 2022