

HORST- MICHAEL SCHAFFER

Composer
Trumpeter
Singer



FACTS

born in 1971 in Weißkirchen in der Steiermark, Austria.

It all started to get professional in 1989 when he began studying classical singing at the KUG – University of Music and Dramatic Arts in Graz/Austria and at the Johann-Joseph-Fux Conservatory. After four years he added Jazztrumpet and spent a year at the College of Music in Leeds (GB). In addition to that he studied at the Royal Academy in London (GB) with Bobby Shew in Los Angeles (USA). In 2000 he finished his studies at the KUG in Graz/Austria with Summa Cum Laudum and was awarded an exceptional Artist Award from Ministry for Arts and Culture Austria (A).

PERFORMING & COMPOSING

As a Jazz Artist he played and/or recorded with Mark Murphy, Luis Sclavis, Django Bates, Wolfgang Puschnig, Colin Towns, Bob Mintzer, Georg Breinschmid, John Hollenbeck, Theo Bleckmann, Ostinato, Raphael Wressnig, Nguyen Lé, Fritz Pauer, Deitra Farr, Gregory Jones, Sabina Hank, Deutschland Phunk, Studiopercussion Graz, Vereinigte Bühnen Graz, Vereinigte Bühnen Wien, Graz Philharmonic Orchestra, Niederösterreichisches Tonkünstler Orchestra, the Upper Austrian Jazz Orchestra, Richard Österreicher Bigband, Cologne Contemporary Jazz Orchestra and many more.

As a composer, producer and/or musician in the field of Pop- and Electronic music he collaborated with artists such as Nick Cave, Maxwell, the Vienna Scientists, LTJ Buken, Shanice Keighton, Stars and Stripes Major Label, Matthew Herbert, Karimski Club, Alex Deutsch, Mark Batson, X-Colored, Yossi Fine, DGS, Count Basic, Keiner mag Faustmann, Producer Circle 05, Dzihan & Kamien and many more.

Since 2002 he is co-leading the JBBG-Jazz Bigband Graz together with saxophonist Heinrich von Kalnein. A fantastic European jazzorchestra doing many different projects with poets and actors like Gert Jonke, Josef Haslinger, Reinhard P. Gruber, Barbara Frischmuth, Frank Hoffmann, David Kennedy and international Jazzartists such as Colin Towns, Kurt Elling, John Hollenbeck, Theo Bleckmann, The New York Voices, Diane Schuur, John Hendricks, Take 6, Nguyen Le, Matthias Loibner, Sebastian Studnitzky, Henning Sieverts, Johannes Enders, Sebastian Gille, Ed Neumeister or Bob Brookmeyer. With this orchestra they produced several albums on Universal Music, ACT Music, Intuition Music and Natango and with his vision as a composer he created a unique and original orchestrasound between electronic, pop, jazz, minimal music and poetry. (visit: www.jazzbigbandgraz.com)

From 2003 – 2005 he was contracted as a Songwriter exclusively for BMG Germany.
From 2005 - 2010 he worked for the Burgtheater in Vienna and various different other Theatercompanies in Austria & the Netherlands. In 2014 he composed the music for the ARTE documentary film „The Life Of Enrico Caruso“ which was awarded a special off-records award at the filmfestival in Venice (ITA).

Currently he is touring with different bands as a singer and trumpetplayer and is composing and producing music for his own and other ensembles. Occasionally he is curating some festivals such as the Jazz Redoute Graz, Murton Festival, Styrian Soundz, etc...

TEACH

Since 2008 he is teaching Jazztrumpet, ensemble, didactic and teaching practice for brassinstruments at the ipop - the Institute for Popular Music of the University of Music and Dramatic Arts in Vienna, Austria.

Since 2016 he is also teaching Jazztrumpet at the KUG - University of Music and Dramatic Arts in Graz, Austria.

Alongside his composing and performing activities teaching is one of his great interests. Since 2000 he is teaching trumpet and vocals in different musicschools and over the last 10 years he had the chance to develop a unique teaching method for brass instruments for kids without using any written music for the very first 3-4 years, implementing and dealing with the newest findings in the fields of learning corridors, brain reserch and differentiated learning. He wrote several articles about this topics and in the meantime it is proved that the learning outcome for the kids with this method is much higher than it is with common ones. This method can be learned in his classes at the University for Music and Dramatic Arts in Vienna, Austria or in his workshops and masterclasses around Europe.

FESTIVALS

Jazzfest Berlin (D), Bingen (D), Bonn (D), Jazzahead Bremen (D), Elbjazz Hamburg (D), Snow&Jazz Gastein (A), Jazzsommer Graz (A), Styriarte Graz (A), Festival Modern (A), Wiener Festwochen (A), Krakow (PL), Lisboa (P), Hondarribia Blues (ES), Madrid (ES), IAJE Conference New York (USA), Northsea Jazzfestival Rotterdam (NL), Jazzfestival Burghausen (D), Jazz Baltica Salzau (D), Salzburger Jazzherbst (A), Sczcecin (PL), St. Ingbert (D), Jazzfest Wien (A), Stuttgart (D), Bukarest (ROM), Sibiu (ROM), Brasov (ROM), Vienne (F), Warschau (PL), Weilheim (D), Rheingau Musikfestival (D), Marciac (F), Imst (A), San Sebastian (ES), Dubai Jazzfestival (VAE) and many more ...

AWARDS

1997 Overseas Scholarship from Ministry for Arts and Culture Austria (A)
1998 Outstanding Performance Scholarship from College Of Music Leeds (UK)
2000 Artist Award from Ministry for Arts and Culture Austria (A)

Find him on Social Media:

