

Charles Loos – piano, composition

After formal classical piano training, Belgian jazz Master pianist and composer Charles Loos left, in 1972 at the age of 21, to study jazz composition and orchestration at the Berklee School of Music in Boston.

Back in Belgium, he co-founded *Les Lundis d'Hortense*, a Belgian association for jazz musicians. From 1993 to 1997, he was the president of Les Lundis d'Hortense.

He worked as a sideman with numerous soloists: Toots Thielemans, Chet Baker, Ali Ryerson, Philip Catherine, Johnny Griffin, Maurane etc... He also took part in more experimental groups such as "Abraxis" and "Julverne".

He founded and recorded two albums with the Loos-Lazarevitch International Quintet (with Serge Lazarevitch, Riccardo Del Fra, John Ruocco).

Charles Loos particularly enjoys playing intimate settings both for gigs and recordings.

Solos include: "Egotriste", "Tout Seul".

Duos include: "Comptines" with Steve Houben, "Summer Winds" and "Sad Hopes" with Jean-Pierre Catoul, "O Sonho e o Sorriso" with Weber Iago, "Noctis" with Thibault Dille.

Trios include: "HLM" with Steve Houben and Maurane, "Vagabondages" with Steve Houben and Ali Ryerson, "En Public, au Travers" with Philippe Aerts and Félix Simtaine, "Lust for Jazz" with Bas Coymans and Dré Pallemmaerts, Lyrae, "Secret Laughs" with Ricardo Del Fra and Félix Simtaine (his most jazzy album according to Charles), "French Graces" with Bas Coymans and Bruno Castellucci (also released in Japan as "French Kiss"), "Avant un Rêve" with jeanfrançois Prins and Sébastien Walnier.

Quartet etc... : "Unknown Mallow" with André Donni (Philippe Aerts, Rick Hollander), "Chou'our Moutabadila" with André Donni and the AISSAWAS of Rabat, "The Sweet Substitutes" "Parfum Latin" "Just One of those things" with André Donni.

Loos has released over 20 albums as a leader or co-leader.

He usually plays his own compositions, inspired by serious music, folklore as well as jazz of yesterday and today.

These various styles have taken him around the world.

Teaching and writing for theatre ("Les poètes du jazz", "Antigone", "Salut Lenny") and ballet ("No Wall No War", California 1991) fill his time.

He was awarded the "Sax Prize" for the best concert of the year 1988, the "Prize for the Jazz Rallye's most creative concert" in 1990, the DJANGO D'OR in 1997.

Charles Loos can only be described as poetical inspiration made sound... He acts as a painter, enamored with tonalities, aware of their magical power. His compositions have in common a certain bareness, an inexpressible purity...