

Phil Abraham – trombone

After studying the classical piano, the guitar and harmony, Phil Abraham was seduced by jazz and the trombone, on which he is self-taught. His stylistic evolution is parallel to the history of jazz, and even if he is a modern mainstream soloist today, he has worked with a wide variety of great musicians.

Abraham has taken part in more than sixty albums, including eleven as a leader, with which he won many prizes. He has often been invited in big bands as a soloist. He took part in several recordings and concerts of the Belgian Radio big band (BRT). He also devoted his career to teaching, training courses and master-classes. He was a teacher of vocal improvisation in Antwerp and Brussels. He is currently a jazz and trombone teacher at the Brussels Royal Conservatory, and at the National Conservatory in Douai, France.

Phil Abraham has played with Michel Petrucciani, Charles Aznavour, Claude Nougaro, Clark Terry, Toots Thielemans, John Surman, Art Farmer, Michel Herr, Andy Emler, Paolo Fresu, Dusko Goykovitch, Benny Bailey, Bart Van Lier, Henri Texier, Deborah Brown, Maria Schneider, John Lewis, Lou Bennett, Claudio Roditi, William Sheller, Didier Lockwood, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Michel Legrand, Jiggs Whigham, ...

Awards:

1988 : first Prize at the International Jazz Contest in Sorgues (France)

1989 : Prize of the Best Soloist at the "Concours de la Défense" in Paris

1998 and 1999: elected best Belgian and European trombone player by the listeners of the Belgian radio, and the Belgian critics

2000 : second Prize at the International Contest of jazz soloists in Monaco.

His Quartet record "Stapler", was chosen as the CD of the month by the Belgian jazz magazine "Jazz In Time". His CD "En Public" was selected as the CD of the month by the French "Jazz Magazine" in October '97.

He was chosen by the Belgian Radio (BRT) to represent Belgium in the Big Band of the European Broadcasting Union in Strasbourg, France.

Abraham was the first Belgian Jazzman to be a member of the French "Orchestre National de Jazz", in which he stayed for a total of six years.

He followed Bob Brookmeyer in Michel Petrucciani's sextet.

In 1998, he played all the trombone parts in Charles Aznavour's star-studded album "Jazznavour".

In February, 2004, he was sent by the Belgian Ministry of Culture to play in the International Dusko Goykovitch Big Band for a big TV-concert in Belgrade, Serbia.

Phil Abraham has developed a new jazz trombone for the COURTOIS Company, the "Xtreme AC 430T" model.

In May, 2013, Abraham was invited in Seattle, Washington for concerts and master-classes. He recorded a new album in New York in February 2014 with European musicians Sylvain Luc, Hein Van de Geyn, and Mino Cinelu, plus Canadian trumpeter Bria Skonberg as a guest. The recording won an award in Los Angeles in 2017.