

SEBASTIEN AMMANN'S COLOR WHEEL



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SEBASTIEN AMMANN // PIANO & COMPOSITION

MICHAËL ATTIAS // ALTO SAXOPHONE

NOAH GARABEDIAN // BASS

NATHAN ELLMAN-BELL // DRUMS

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COLOR WHEEL



Tedesco Studios, March 2015

Sebastien Ammann's *Color Wheel* creates a world of sound in the moment that is continuously in movement, looking simultaneously to the past and to the future. Sebastien Ammann's compositions are vessels that enable the musicians to embark on a journey that takes the listener to new, yet familiar places.

While well rooted in improvised music, jazz and classical music, the music recalls at times, Ornette Coleman with the quartet's quicksilver unison lines, Cecil Taylor through the group's sheer energy and sonic density or Anton Webern's serial or abstract compositions. Sebastien Ammann writes polychromatic compositions that not only blur the lines between composition and improvisation, but leave ample space for the band to create its own collective narrative.

Sebastien Ammann's *Color Wheel* has been active on the New York jazz scene since 2013. The band features some of New York's most creative and fearless improvisers. **Sebastien Ammann** (Ohad Talmor, John Hébert, Samuel Blaser) on piano, **Michaël Attias** (Renku, Anthony Braxton, Paul Motian) on alto saxophone, **Noah Garabedian** (Ravi Coltrane, Ralph Alessi), on bass and **Nathan Ellman-Bell** (Dave Douglas, Michael Formanek) on drums.

Since its creation, the quartet has performed extensively around the New York area in such clubs and concert series as Sound It Out, Seeds Brooklyn, Shapeshifter Lab, Nublu, IBeam Brooklyn, Korzo's Konceptions Series, house concerts and more.

Their first record "***Color Wheel***" (Skirl Records, 2017) was well received by numerous publications both in America and internationally. S. Victor Aaron from **Something Else!** Says: "(...) *They achieve their mission of stimulating, dynamic jazz (...)*" and Bill Meyer from **Downbeat Magazine** writes: "(...) [*Sebastien Ammann's*] precise touch on the keys ensures that even the most elaborate structures stand out in stark relief."

THE BAND

SEBASTIEN AMMANN



Photo by Mary Prescott

Since arriving on the New York jazz scene in 2008, Sebastien Ammann has made a name for himself as a versatile pianist and composer with a strong musical voice.

Sebastien Ammann is the leader of **Sebastien Ammann's Color Wheel**, a band featuring some of New York's most interesting and fearless improvisers, saxophonist **Michaël Attias** (Renku, Anthony Braxton, Paul Motian), bassist **Noah Garabedian** (Ralph Alessi, Ravi Coltrane, Andrew D'Angelo) and drummer **Nathan Ellman-Bell** (Michael Formanek, Uri Caine, Dave Douglas). The first album **Color Wheel** (Skirl Records, 2017) was very well received by numerous publications both in America and internationally including Downbeat Magazine and Something Else!

Mr. Ammann is also the leader of the **Sebastien Ammann Quartet** featuring fellow Swiss saxophonist Ohad Talmor, bassist David Ambrosio and drummer Eric McPherson. Their first album **Samadhi** (Freshsound New Talent, 2013) was released in 2013. The band toured Europe (Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, France) in March 2014.

Sebastien Ammann also co-leads the **Ammann / Davis Quartet** with alto saxophonist Caroline Davis whose repertoire finds its roots in the esthetic of jazz pianist Lennie Tristano.

Since 2016, he is a member of the rock group **Gary Douglas Band** with whom he tours playing keyboards and B3 Hammond organ. The new album will be released early 2018.

Sebastien Ammann has collaborated with such musicians and projects as Kris Davis' *Massive Thread*, Tony Malaby, Billy Drewes, The Russ Flynn's *Large Ensemble*, *Le Zhang Quintet*, *The Gary Douglas Band*, Gene Ess' *Fractal Attraction*, Mark Ferber, George Schuller, Dana Leong, John Hébert, Samuel Blaser, Sean Conly, Michael Sarin and many others, performing in venues and festivals all over the USA and Europe.

He is the recipient of the Friedl Wald Stiftung (Zürich, 2006), and the Sir Roland Hanna Memorial Scholarship (New York, 2010).

Sebastien Ammann runs his own private studio and is on faculty at the Turtle Bay Music School in New York City.

THE BAND

MICHAËL ATTIAS



Photo by Peter Gannushkin

Saxophonist/composer Michaël Attias is a quietly fierce force on the international improvising scene. Born in Israel to Moroccan parents, he grew up in Paris and the American Midwest before settling in NYC in 1994. He has performed and recorded under the leadership of such great artists as Anthony Braxton, Paul Motian, Anthony Coleman, Oliver Lake, Tony Malaby, and many others. With five critically-acclaimed albums as a leader, current projects include his long-standing trio **Renku** with John Hébert and Satoshi Takeishi; the quintet **Spun Tree** with Ralph Alessi, Matt Mitchell, Sean Conly and Tom Rainey; the **Michaël Attias Quartet** with Aruán Ortiz, John Hébert and Nasheet Waits; and the solo project, **I's**, with himself on alto saxophone and piano.

He has also composed live electronic scores and sound designs for theater including numerous collaborations with legendary director Robert Woodruff. Michaël Attias was named a 2000 Artists' Fellowship Recipient of the New York Foundation for the Arts, a 2013 NYFA Artists Fellowships Finalist, and was awarded a MacDowell Arts Colony fellowships in 2008 and 2015.

THE BAND

NOAH GARABEDIAN



Photo by Stephan Hawk

A native of Berkeley, California, Noah Garabedian holds a BA in ethnomusicology from the University of California Los Angeles, and a Master's in Music Performance from New York University. In 2006, he was awarded a John Coltrane National Scholarship, and in 2007, was selected as a finalist for the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz graduate program. In March of 2011, Mr. Garabedian was selected to participate in the master class with Brad Mehldau through the Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall, and in June of that same year was selected as a finalist in the International Society of Double Bassists Competition.

As an educator Mr. Garabedian currently works with the music outreach program at Jazz At Lincoln Center, called Jazz For Young People, and he also works with the Weil Educational Institute at Carnegie Hall. He is part time faculty at The New School, in New York City. In the past, he has served as adjunct faculty at NYU and participated in the music outreach program between UCLA and the Los Angeles Unified School District.

He has also helped lead master classes and clinics at UMASS Amherst, University of New Mexico, University of California at Berkeley, and Brigham Young University.

As a sideman, Mr. Garabedian has worked with Ravi Coltrane, Josh Roseman, Ralph Alessi, Andrew D'Angelo, Myron Walden, Ben Perowsky, Julian Pollack, The Amigos Band, as well as his own sextet Big Butter And The Egg Men. He has performed at festivals and venues around the world including The Montreux Jazz Festival, The Umbria Jazz Festival, Jazz à Vienne, The Blue Note in Tokyo, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, The Blue Note in New York City, The Monterey Jazz Festival, and the New Mexico Jazz Festival. In March of 2014, Mr. Garabedian represented the US State Department on a six-week tour of Southeast Asia with The Amigos Band, where they performed and taught in five countries.

THE BAND

NATHAN ELLMAN-BELL



Photo by Michael Yu

Nathan Ellman-Bell is one of the busiest drummers on the scene in New York right now. He moved from Idyllwild California to Baltimore at age seventeen to attend the Peabody Institute from which he graduated with a degree in jazz studies.

After relocating to New York, Nathan Ellman-Bell quickly made a name for himself as a strong new voice on the drums, which lead him to collaborate with musicians such as Sam Rivers, Uri Caine, Michael Formanek, Tony Malaby, Matt Mitchell, Brandon Seabrook or Craig Taborn.

His current sideman activities include pianist Sebastien Ammann's Color Wheel, vibraphonist Yuhon Su's Quintet, with whom he toured Taiwan, and the Darius Christian Jones Group.

As well as being a highly creative and skillful drummer, Nathan Ellman-Bell is also an experienced classical percussionist having studied under Master Robert Van Sice. He currently resides in Brooklyn, New York.

UPCOMING SHOWS

European Tour 2018

March 13th // Emission JazzZ (RTS, Espace 2) – Lausanne (Switzerland)

March 14th // Sala Clamores – Madrid (Spain)

March 15th // Café Dujardin Jazz Nights – Berlin (Germany)

March 16th // Opus Club – Budapest (Hungary)

March 17th // AMR/Sud Des Alpes – Geneva (Switzerland)

March 18th // Porta Jazz – Porto (Portugal)

PAST SHOWS

January 16th 2013 // IBeam - Brooklyn

April 14th 2013 // Shapeshifter Lab - Brooklyn

July 2nd 2013 // Korzo - Brooklyn

July 7th 2013 // Nublu - New York

October 29th 2013 // Douglass street Music Collective - Brooklyn

January 12th 2014 // IBeam - Brooklyn

March 24th 2014 // Freddy's - Brooklyn

April 30th 2014 // Korzo - Brooklyn

May 21st 2014 // Seeds Brooklyn

March 19-20- 21 2015 // Residency at IBeam + Tony Malaby

April 29th 2015 // Seeds - Brooklyn

October 6th 2015 // Korzo - Brooklyn

February 4th 2017 // Greenwich House, (Sound It Out Series) - New York

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