

# Michele Bonifati Emong



Federico Pierantoni, Manuel Caliumi, Michele Bonifati, Evita Polidoro

Emong, a quartet composed of Evita Polidoro on drums, Manuel Caliumi on saxophone, Michele Bonifati on guitar and Federico Pierantoni on trombone, is Michele Bonifati's first project as bandleader.

The name of the project derives from a particular model of kite (a passion that Michele has been cultivating for years, while practicing in areas characterized by constant lack of wind) capable of flying in weak, almost absent, wind conditions. With these kites the wind is replaced by the force exerted by the kite flyer on the line. The gestures transmit direction to the kite inducing the movement that will lead him to glide; a slow and calibrated flight made of wavy and circular movements, different from hovering at great heights. A choice therefore, which enhances slow time, the desire to stay close and present, to dive deep rather than distance yourself, but without giving up the gesture of raising your head towards the sky. Aspects to which is given further importance through the title of the album, that will be released in 2023: "Three knots". The three knots, intended as a unit of measurement of the wind, is the necessary quantity of wind that allows an Emong to make a wide flight, hovering far from the ground but slow and constant in its evolutions, like the road that led the group to the creation of this first album.

The group plays original music composed by Michele Bonifati with the exception of two songs, one by John Lennon and one by Rage Against The Machine, sung by Evita Polidoro, chosen to complete the narrative and sound horizon of this group.

The choice of an unusual lineup, together with the peculiarities of the repertoire, enhances the mobility of the roles of the members of the group to create a unitary and cohesive and at the same time fluid and elusive sound that ranges among the many influences that have contributed in defining the musical identity of these musicians: jazz, electronic music, rock, American folk and much more.

## **Michele Bonifati:**

Michele Bonifati, born in 1989, graduated with honors in "Jazz Music Disciplines" at the Master Degree of the "Arrigo Boito" Conservatory of Parma under the guidance of M ° V. Mingiardi after having completed his Bachelor Degree in "Jazz and Improvised Music" at the "G. Frescobaldi" of Ferrara. He has performed in festivals such as: EFG London Jazz Festival, Ashkenaz Festival (Toronto, Canada), Foligno Young Jazz, Opus Jazz Club (Budapest), Mantova Jazz, Parma Jazz Frontiere, JAZZ (s) RA Festival (Annecy, France), Bergamo Jazz, Veneto Jazz, Fano Jazz Network, Lugocontemporanea, Torrione Jazz Club (Ferrara), Viterbo JazzUp Festival, Verdi Festival of Parma, Clusone Jazz Festival, Novara Jazz, La Grande Notte del Jazz (Brescia), Ah Um Jazz Festival, Lyric Festival. He has played alongside musicians such as: Dave Douglas, Frank London, Stefano Battaglia, Javier Girotto, Enrico Fink, Tino Tracanna, Dudù Kouate, Pasquale Mirra, Marcello Allulli. In 2016 his first solo album was released for A Simple Lunch, A different kind of Bob Dylan, an instrumental work on music by Bob Dylan. He is co-leader of the collective Clock 's Pointer Dance (Paolo Malacarne, Andrea "Jimmy" Catagnoli, Andrea Baronchelli, Michele Bonifati, Filippo Sala) which in 2017 released an album of the same name for UR-Records. Together with Giulio Stermieri he is co-leader of Aparticle, completed by Cristiano Arcelli and Ermanno Baron. With this group he released two records, Bulbs and The Glamor Action, both for Ur Records.

Since 2016 he has been a member of Andrea Grossi's trio, Blend 3, together with Manuel Caliumi. With this group he recorded the album Lubok, produced by We Insist! in addition to the album Four Winds by Andrea Grossi Blend Orchestra and the album "Songs And Poems" by Andrea Grossi Blend 3 + Beatrice Arrigoni.

In mid-2020 he begins to work together with Giacomo Papetti and Filippo Sala in Mopoke, a collective group, which debuts in 2021 with "Trovare", entirely composed of original songs by the three musicians and published by Kandinskyrecords.

During the 2020 lockdown, due to the COVID-19 epidemic, he took part in the UR-Kestra "When" project. The artists of the UR Records collective have decided to join forces to make an effective contribution during the emergency. In this record the song "Racklad", composed by Bonifati ad Stermieri, sees the extraordinary participation of the American trumpeter Dave Douglas.

In addition to the teaching activity of guitar, mainly focused on the knowledge of the instrument and improvisation, his main didactic activity carried out by him is that of directing the Modena MoltoMondi youth orchestra.



Michele Bonifati, chitarra

## **Manuel Caliumi:**

Graduated in Jazz Saxophone at the "A.Boito" Conservatory of Parma with full marks and honors and at the "F. Venezia" Conservatory of Rovigo with honors and honorable mention. At the same time he attends various masterclasses such as Siena Jazz, Umbria Jazz, Nuoro Jazz, Arcevia



Manuel Caliumi, sassofono

Jazz, Veneto Jazz. He had the chance to study privately in New York with David Binney, Melissa Aldana and Loren Stillman and at Columbia College in Chicago thanks to a scholarship following a masterclass with Dave Douglas with whom he played following the scholarship. He received the "Luca Flores Prize" and "Marco Tamburini Prize"; he was a finalist in the "Massimo Urbani Prize"; he won the Chicco Bettinardi Competition and the Barga Jazz Contest. He performed at Umbria Jazz as member of the winning formation of the Conad Jazz Contest and is among the winners of the I-Jazz "New Generation Jazz 2019" call with Blend 3. In 2017 he was selected as the first alto saxophone of the National Jazz Orchestra. He has several original music projects to his credit, he has collaborated with orchestras including: Jazz Art Orchestra, National Jazz Orchestra, Parma Frontiere Orchestra, Civic Jazz Band, Area M Orchestra, Venezzes Big Band, Reunion Big Band, Tai-No Orchestra . He has performed in important festivals and reviews in Italy and abroad including: Umbria Jazz, Umbria Jazz Winter, Praga Jazz Festival (Czech Republic), Jaipur Music Stage - Jaipur Literature Festival (India), Italian Cultural Institutes (Tel Aviv , Paris, Brussels, Cologne), Canadian Cultural Center (Paris), Jazz Showcase Chicago (USA), Jazzycolors Festival (Paris), Parma Jazz Frontiere, Pescara Jazz Festival, Musicus Concentus - Jazz Supreme, Novara Jazz, Mit Jazz Festival, Venezzes Jazz Festival, Treviso Jazz Festival, Ground Music Festival, European Jazz

Conference - Fringe Jazz Festival, JazzMI, Napoli Jazz Winter, Roccella Ionica Jazz Festival, Blue Note Milano, BargaJazz, Firenze Jazz Festival, Delta Blues Festival, Mantova Jazz, Piacenza Jazz, Iseo Jazz, Sile Jazz, Jazz Area Metropolitana, Orta Jazz, Modena Jazz Festival, Jazz In'IT Festival, Ancona Jazz, Albinea Jazz Festival, Bassano Jazz Festival, Jazz at Casalini's Garden, Festival dei Due Mondi di Spoleto, Taste Of Jazz, Does raJazz, VisionInMusica, IBOGA Summer Festival (Spain), Teate Winter Festival, Lyrico Festival.

### **Federico Pierantoni:**

Federico Pierantoni is born in Bentivoglio (Bologna) on 04/11/1989. Graduated from the Master and the Bachelor Degree in "Jazz trombone" at the G.B. Martini of Bologna under the guidance of Massimo Morganti.

In 2014 he follows lessons with the musician / trombonist Hal Crook.

Professionally he has collaborated with various big bands and extended groups such as: Umbria Jazz big band, Reunion big band, Tommaso Cappellato orchestra, Two tower composer orchestra, Orchestra jazz del Veneto, Colour Jazz Orchestra, Italian big band, Lydian sound orchestra, Alpe Adria, Insium di Glauco Venier, The Auanders.

He has performed with musicians such as: Andy Sheppard, Chris Cheek, Marcello Tonolo, Gianluca Petrella, Giovanni Falzone, Fabrizio Bosso, Dee Dee



Federico Pierantoni, trombone

Brightwater, David Binney, Francesco Bearzatti. etc..

He participated in the Riga Jazz stage and the Jay Jay Johnson Competition.

In 2019 he won the AIR MIDJ call for an artistic residency at the Italian Cultural Institute in Tokyo.

He has been a member of the Italian pop star Jovanotti for many years and also worked with other Italian songwriters as Marco Mengoni and Daniele Silvestri. In the indie-rock field with Calibro 35 and C'mon Tigre.

He has played in festivals such as: Bologna Jazz Festival, Umbria Jazz, Vancouver Jazz Festival, Pisa Jazz, Rome Jazz Festival, Bergamo Jazz Festival, Florence Jazz Festival, Umbria Jazz Winter, Poggiardo Jazz Festival, Olive Jazz Festival.

## Evita Polidoro:

Evita Polidoro, born in Sesto S. Giovanni in 1995, began studying piano at a young age and in 2009 she graduated in "Teoria e Solfeggio" at the Turin Conservatory. She moved to the Lago Maggiore area as a teenager and she begins studying drums.



Evita Polidoro, batteria

Between 2011 and 2014 she wins national and international competitions.

In 2017 she arrives with the band Rumor live on Rai 1 for Sanremo Giovani. From 2015 to 2018 she moved to Siena and attended the Bachelor Degree at the Siena Jazz Foundation where she studied with Fabrizio Sferra and Alessandro Paternesì. During the summer seminars in Siena she wins a scholarship and the following year in Nuoro. In this occasion she wins another scholarship that will lead her to release a record with the group formed by the best students of the year.

From 2018 she starts writing original music and founds two trios in her name. She is currently working on her first solo EP as a singer, composer using only electronic instruments and on her future album with her trio Nerovivo.

The summer of 2021 turns out to be a riot of surprises as she is chosen to accompany the Italian tour of Dee Dee Bridgewater flanked by Claudio Filippini, Mirco Rubegni, Michele Polga and Rosa Brunello and she is also called by Miguel Zenon to replace Nasheet Waits for the Siena Jazz concert with Shai Maestro, Avishai Cohen and Matt Penman at the rectorate of Siena. She currently lives in Rome and plays in various jazz, electro / pop and rap projects. She is the singer of the band Kostja, winner of Arezzo Wave Emilia Romagna, drummer of Lorenzo Pucci, a young singer-songwriter from Rome, semifinalist of Musicultura, one of the most important national festivals and of Iruna, singer-songwriter, with whom a tour curated by DNA Concerts.

He also played with Roberto Cecchetto, Maurizio Giammarco, Luca Aquino, Gabriele Evangelista, Fabrizio Puglisi, Silvia Bolognesi, Francesco Diodati, Fulvio Sigurtà, Simone Graziano, Pierpaolo Ranieri, Stefano Cantini, Andrea Lombardini, Gianluca Di Ienno, Stefano Tamborrino, Joe Rehmer and many mors...

## **Audio, video sample:**

audio: <https://on.soundcloud.com/HbdKh>

video teaser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vhivJrRDC6w>

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