



TONI KITANOVSKI: BIOGRAPHY

Born 1964 in Skopje, Macedonia.
Toni starts his musical education with Dragan Gjakonovski - Spato in 1979.

From 1986 to 1990: Toni Kitanovski is band-leader of the "Spato" trio and performs many concerts and radio/TV appearances. He composes & arranges concerts for the MBUC chamber orchestra; the MRT dance orchestra, and records solo material for WDR in Cologne, Germany.

1988 – 1990: guitarist in MRT dance orchestra.

1990 – 1997: Berklee College of Music (Boston, USA), where he attends composition seminars with Luciano Berio, György Ligeti and private studies with Denis Grillo. He composes for Herb Pomeroy's Jazz Orchestra, Greg Hopkins' Big-Band, and leads groups of his own. He cooperates with performance artists Bart Uchida and Nancy Adams from Boston and composes the solo act of Uchida in Taipei, Taiwan.

In 1997, Toni returns to Skopje, forms the band Luna, appears on the AFES festival with the chamber orchestra of FMA, as composer and soloist. As a soloist, bandleader, composer and arranger, with his trio, and the jazz orchestra, he performs at many festivals, concerts and clubs.

Toni Kitanovski has collaborated with many highly regarded musicians, including Greg Hopkins, Charlie Mariano, Gustavo Aguilar, Vinny Golia, Steve Bernstein & The Sex Mob, Matt Dariau and Nat Su.

In 1998, in conjunction with the Skopje Jazz Festival label, Toni released his debut CD "One for Charlie."

Three years later, in 2001, he released the live album "Duet" with the same label. He currently collaborates with the Cherkezi gypsy brass band. In 2006 they released their album "Borderlands" under the enja records label.

Awards

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| 1988 | <i>Robert Share Memorial Award;</i> |
| 1992-95 | <i>Berklee Achievement Scholarship;</i> for extraordinary musical accomplishments. Awarded on three occasions. |
| 1994 | <i>Charles Mingus Award;</i> for outstanding and original accomplishments in the field of jazz composition. |