

FRANÇOIS BOURASSA QUARTET

New Album SWIRL

Available on July 7th, 2023 via Effendi Records.



François Bourassa has become an ambassador for the thriving jazz community in Quebec on an international scale. A model of constant evolution, he continues to seek new challenges for himself, his colleagues, and his growing community of listeners. The François Bourassa Quartet has been a must-see in the Montreal artistic landscape for over 25 years.

It has been more than 5 years since the François Bourassa Quartet's last recording. Their latest album, "Number 9," released in 2017, was the recipient of two Opus awards - "Jazz Album of the Year" and "Jazz Concert of the Year" - as well as a nomination at the ADISQ Gala. After a solo album and a global pandemic, the need to record a new album with his quartet has once again become essential for François Bourassa. His longstanding musical comrades, André Leroux, Guy Boisvert, and more recently his drummer Guillaume Pilote, have a great understanding and interaction that make this group the pinnacle of his artistic expression: freedom, sensitivity, audacity, original and complex compositions, and above all, their shared passion for the love of music.

That's why Bourassa decided to record his new compositions for quartet live in front of an audience at the legendary Studio Piccolo in Montreal. Recorded on July 2nd and 3rd, 2022, this recording echoes the Quartet's 2001 album "Live At the top of the Senator," which also won a Juno award at the time. The energy and spontaneity of a live album are often unparalleled, and it is this energy that the François Bourassa Quartet wishes to share with their new record.

UPCOMING EVENTSmany events are embargoed and further exciting announcements to come!**

June 9th, 2023 - Release of the first single "*15 Notre Dame de Lorette*"

July 7th, 2023 - Release and album launch concert for "Swirl" at Dièse Onze, Montreal (QC)

**As part of the Montreal International Jazz Festival*

September 9th, 2023 - Performance at Upstairs Jazz Bar & Grill, Montreal (QC)



DESCRIPTION OF THE TRACKS

SWIRL

01- POOLOP (12:22)

02- PROLOGUE (12:58)

03- ROOM 58 (8:30)

04- COSTARD (5:50)

05- REMOUS (11:10)

06- 15, NOTRE-DAME-DE-LORETTE (9 :55)

01- Pooloop: A piece that exploits and develops short repeated motifs, in the form of a "loop".

02- Prologue: An introspective piece that gradually evolves into a deconstruction.

03- Room 58: A ballad composed on the occasion of Chambrette's 58th birthday.

04- Costard: A game of superimposing different metrics.

05- Remous: A composition focused on interaction and dialogue between musicians.

06- 15, Notre-Dame-de-Lorette: A nod to more classic jazz culminating in an explosive coda.

CREDITS

Recorded live at Studio Piccolo on July 2nd and 3rd, 2022

François Bourassa, Piano, compositions

André Leroux, Saxophones, flute

Guy Boisvert, bass

Guillaume Pilote, Drums

Philippe Côté, Artistic direction

Pierre Messier, Sound engineer

Guy Hébert, Mastering & engineering

Mathieu Bourassa, Audio mixing, photos

Dana Whittle Graphic design

John Drew Munro, Artwork



CITATIONS

Album Solo:

"His solo piano music is right on the line between composed and improvised; certain things must happen, yet there's also room to experiment. Is Maurice Ravel dreaming of Paul Bley — or is it the other way around?" - **Ethan Iverson**

"Your (solo) album is a pure marvel. I find all of your harmonic strength with a bunch of impressive ideas - truly hats off to you." - **Pierre de Bethmann**

"There's a beautiful inspiration, a beautiful introspection, a humility that does complete justice to the music." - **Benoît Delbecq**

Album Quartet:

"I am compelled to write to let you know that both of us were moved by the music you and the quartet made. ... Congratulations on a wondrous piece of work. ... And, we should add, it's thoroughly refreshing to hear music that forces players to stretch to the limit." - **Steve Swallow & Carla Bley**

"François has developed a distinctive compositional voice and his playing is always engaged with his material. This is interesting, exploratory and passionate music that is well worth spending time with." - **Fred Hersch**

TEAM

Management / Booking –
Famgroup/ Heidi Fleming
<https://famgroup.ca/>

Label
Effendi Records – Alain Bédard
<https://www.effendirecords.com/>

Presse Relations
Orange Grove Publicity
<https://orangegrovepublicity.com/>

