

Chris Kase (b. 1964, New Brunswick, NJ) is a jazz trumpeter, flugelhornist, composer and educator who has resided in Madrid, Spain since 1997. He has performed and/or recorded with many well known jazz artists such as: **The Mingus Big Band, Adam Nussbaum, Kenny Wheeler, Bob Mintzer, The Bird of Paradise Orchestra, Steve Coleman, Chick Corea, Steve Wilson, Al Foster, Grant Stewart, Bruce Barth, Jacob Sacks, David Berkman, Perico Sambeat, Iñaki Salvador, Jorge Pardo** and **Don Braden**, among others.

Presently, Chris maintains an active performance schedule throughout Spain. He is professor of trumpet and improvisation at **Musikene**, the Superior Conservatory of Music in San Sebastián and member of the music faculty at **Universidad Alfonso X El Sabio** in Madrid. His book **Arpeggiare** was published by Mountain Peak Music in 2016. His collection of variations on the exercises of H.L. Clarke entitled **Twenty-first Century Technique** was published by **Balquhiddier Music** in 2006. His arrangements for trumpet ensemble and rhythm section have been published by **Triplo Press** and **Quintessential Brass Repertoire**. He has recorded seven albums as a leader. The most recent entitled **My Private Circus** was released by Errabal at the end of 2012, just months after the release of **Six**, an ambitious sextet project, named one of the top five jazz discs of 2012 in Spain by the magazine *Cuadernos de Jazz*, as was **Ode** (2008) in 2009.

Since 1994, more than seventy of Kase's original compositions have been recorded and released. His talent as a composer has been recognized by the **Sociedad General de Autores y Editores** (SGAE) Biennial Jazz Composers Competition (Third Prize in 2003 for his composition *Epic Ballad* and Second Prize in 2001 for *Mystery Waltz*), the **American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers** (honorable mention, 1991 ASCAP Competition for Young Composers; Popular Awards panel grants since 1991; Honorable Mention, ASCAP/IAJE Dizzy Gillespie Commissions, 1997), the **Michigan Council for the Arts, Billboard Magazine** (two Honorable Mentions in 1991, one Honorable Mention in 1992) and the **John Lennon Song Writing Contest** (Honorable Mention, 2004). His arrangements have been performed and/or recorded by **Orquestra de Cambra del Teatre Lliure** (Barcelona), **Creativa Jazz Orchestra, Bird of Paradise Orchestra**, the **Musikene Big Band** and the **Bob Sands Big Band**.

Kase was one of fifteen trumpeters chosen from all over the world to participate in the **Thelonious Monk International Jazz Trumpet Competition**, held in Washington, DC in 1997. The Chris Kase Quartet won the 1990 Ypsilanti (MI) Heritage Jazz Festival Competition and reached the Mid-Western semi-finals of the 1991 **Hennessey Cognac Jazz Search**.

He has taught Master Classes and workshops in trumpet, improvisation, ensemble and jazz composition in the U.S. at the **University of Connecticut** and the **University of Michigan**, in China as part of Jazz-it-up! Macau, and in Spain at Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya; Conservatorio "Maestro Jaime López", Murcia; Estudio Escola de Música (Santiago de Compostela); Creativa Jazz Workshop at Universidad Carlos III (Madrid); 5th Annual Jazz and Flamenco Seminar (Sevilla); 4th Annual Jazz Seminar (Zarautz); Academia Progreso Musical (Madrid); Canjazz in Cangas (Galicia); Annual Trumpet Seminar in Paiporta (Valencia); Curso Academia Alto Rendimiento in Ontinyent (Valencia); XIV Seminario Internacional de Jazz y Música Latina (Valencia); Seminario Internacional de Jazz (Almendralejo). From 1997-2004 he taught trumpet, improvisation and ensemble at the Escuela de Música Creativa in Madrid.

Kase studied at Boston's prestigious **Berklee College of Music**, where he earned a Bachelor of Music Degree (cum laude) in 1985, and had the opportunity to perform with **Chick Corea**. He then went on to earn a Master of Music degree in Classical Trumpet Performance at the **University of Massachusetts** at Lowell, where he was a student of and graduate assistant to the late **Natalo Paella**. His trumpet teachers include jazz recording artists **Mike Metheny, Louis Mucci, Jack Walrath, Laurie Frink, Greg Hopkins, Laurie Frink, Ralph Alessi** and **Randy Brecker** as well as former Madrid Symphony Orchestra principal trumpet **Lluís González Martí**. In 1991 he participated in the Jazz Workshop at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta, Canada where he was a student of jazz greats **Kenny Wheeler, Rufus Reid** and **Bunky Green**, and performed with Wheeler and **Steve Coleman**.

While living in New York City (1992-97), Chris was instructor of trumpet and music theory at the **Mannes College of Music** as well as at the **New School for Social Research Jazz and Contemporary Music Program**. His years in New York provided him with the opportunity to play in such recognized jazz clubs as: **Time Café, Visiones, Five Spot, Small's, Metronome** and **Cornelia Street Café**.

Kase endorses and plays **Van Laar** instruments exclusively.

SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY

As a Leader:

My Private Circus, 2012, Errabal
Six, 2012, Nuba Records/Karonte
Ode, 2008, Nuba Records/Karonte
Nine Easy Pieces, 2003, Satchmo Jazz Records
A Song We Once Knew, 2001, Satchmo Jazz Records
Te Espero Aquí, 1999, Satchmo Jazz Records
Starting Now, 1994, Mons Records

As a Sideman:

Gonzalo Tejada Special Trio, Chet Baker Tribute, 2015, Moskito Records
Mikel Andueza, Cada 5 segundos, 2015, Errabal
Nuno Ferreira, Set, 2014, Sintoma Records
Rainer Seiferth + Trio Solano, Viento adentro, 2013, Youkali
Abe Rábade, DVD Open Doors LIVE, 2010, Nuba Records/Karonte
Rainer Seiferth + 8 Hertzios, Guadiela, 2009, Saltamundi Music
Abe Rábade, GHU! Project, vol. 2: Open Doors, 2008, Nuba Records/Karonte
Pequejazz (Perico Sambeat et. al.), **Una reunion de amigos**, 2007, Crescent Records
Miguel Ángel Chastang Quintet, Four Generations, 2006, Nuba Records/Karonte
Libert Fortuny Elèctric Big Band, CD/DVD XXL, 2006, Nuevos Medios
Terela Gradin Quintet, Lost, 2006, Errabal
Orq. Sinfónica de Radio-televisión Española, Jazz Sinfónico, 2006, RTVE
Mikel Andueza, De Javier a San Javier, 2005, Quadrant
Joaquín Chacón, Spanish Standards Project, 2005, Summum Music
Gonzalo Tejada, Encore, 2005, Elkar
José María Carlés, Torre de Babel, 2005, Nuba Records/Karonte
Abe Rábade, GHU! Project, 2004, Nuba Records/Karonte
Ramón Quadrada Big Band, Paradisos Imparells, 2003, Satchmo
Rafael Alcántara, Aquí y Ahora, 2003, Galileo Music
Mariano Díaz, Barbecue Beat, 2003, Satchmo
Perico Sambeat et. al., Jam en el Kursaal, 2002, Satchmo
Mikel Andueza, Amusia, 2002, Satchmo
Miguel Angel Chastang Quintet, En el Central, 2002, Ingo Música
Santiago De La Muela, Lo Que Nos Gusta Es Esto, 2000, Satchmo
Alfons Enjuanes Quartet, El Prestidigitador, 2000, Satchmo
Bobby Martinez, Intensity, 1999, Moe Music
Dexterity, A Tribute to Dexter Gordon, 1999, Satchmo
Big Bizar Habit, Le Dirigeable Fantastique, 1998, Baixim Records
The Bird of Paradise Orchestra, Project X, 1996, Schoolkids' Records
Christoph Schweizer, Normal Garden, 1994, Mons Records
The Mingus Big Band, Nostalgia in Times Square, 1993, Dreyfus

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