

# MARKO ČRNČEC BIOGRAPHY



Marko Črnčec is one of Slovenia's most heralded contemporary musicians and renowned exports. On the international scene he is known as a formidable young multi-instrumentalist, composer, arranger and producer who easily works across genres and in particular jazz and popular music.

Črnčec was born May 15, 1986 in Maribor, Slovenia and by the age of age six his musical path began by studying classical music on accordion and then piano at the age of ten. A prodigious talent, by his teens he was a multiple award-winner in both national and international competitions, and he earned a classical piano degree at the Conservatory of Music and Ballet Maribor, Slovenia in 2005 as well as jazz piano degree at the University of Music and Dramatic Arts in Graz, Austria in 2009 where he graduated with honors.

Črnčec has released four albums as a leader: *Signature and Moral Interchange* (both released in 2010 on B.A.S.E.). His third high critically acclaimed album *Devotion*, featuring Mark Shim (saxophone), Chris Tordini (doublebass) and Justin Brown (drums), released on Whirlwind Recordings, the prolific London-based imprint was selected among 20 best jazz releases of 2014 by the famous jazz publication "All About Jazz".

This april 2017 his forth album was released, entitled "Ruthenia – Retrospective to the Russian Composers of 20<sup>th</sup> Century". It is presenting a big amount of his compositional ability. Album consists of 8-movement Suite, written for a jazz quartet (guitar, piano, doublebass and drums) and a 12-piece chamber orchestra (6 violins, 2 violas, chello, flute, French horn and oboe). The Suite is written in a classical compositional concept, but open for improvisations in between the movements for instrumental soloist to express their personal sound as musicians, especially the guitar., which is played by the world renowned artist Mike Moreno. Special featured musicians on this album next to the piano player and leader Črnčec are also Chris Jennings on doublebass and Rudy Royston on drums.

In his short career Črnčec has already performed or recorded with the many following notable musicians: Bob Mintzer, Seamus Blake, Don Menza, Michael Phillip Mossman, Ron McClure, Luis Bonilla, John Ellis, Gary Chaffee, Damion Reid, Mark Shim, Chris Tordini, Justin Brown, Marco Minnemann, Stjepko Gut, Marcus Gilmore, Rez Abbasi, Mark Shim, Armando Gola, Suresh Talwalkar, Jonathan Powell, Kenny Grohowski, Gwen Hughes, Stefan Milenkovich, Boško Petrovic, Karmina Silec, Sharat Shrivastava, Gyan Syngh, Bernhard Schimpelsberger, Karlheinz Miklin, Bajsa Arifovska, Stanko Arnold, and many others.

He has played on major festivals and clubs around the world, like: Brosella Jazz Festival, Havana Jazz Festival, Unterfahrt Jazz Club Munich, Porgy and Bess Vienna, Vienna Konzerthaus, Jazz Festival Sarajevo, Jazz Festival Belgrade, Jazz Festival Ljubljana, Tangente Jazz Club Liechtenstein, Salsa Festival Barcelona, Ohrid Music Festival, Rovinj Salsa Festival, Dubrovnik Music Festival, Stockholm A-Capella Festival, Sava Centar Belgrade, Gramercy Theater NYC, Blue Note Jazz Club, Gregorys Jazz Club Rome, Sunside Sunset Paris, and many others...