



Saxophonist / Composer Marc Mommaas (NYC)

"A gifted communicator and strong presence in today's global Jazz scene."

Saxophonist, Cum Laude graduate Manhattan School of Music, William Borden Award recipient, international guest lecturer at MSM , NYU, William Paterson University, Rhythmic Music Conservatory/Denmark and the Conservatory of Amsterdam, co-director of the New York Jazz Workshop and the Hudson Jazzworks Program, faculty member of the New School and bandleader of his celebrated formation Global Motion and composer of innovative works featured on *Global Motion*, *Balance* and *Landmarc* (Sunnyside Records).

Marc Mommaas (b1969) comes from a creative background. He grew up with his mother performing and teaching opera and classical piano, and his father in the center of the Dutch art scene using oil on canvas as his art form. During his study in Amsterdam, NL he combined his musical development with a university education (Masters in Comm.Science/Business). After being awarded two Dutch grants (Stichting Podium Kunsten, Prins Bernard Fonds Anjer Fondsen) in 1997, he made New York City his residence. Marc Mommaas (b1969) comes from a creative background. He grew up with his mother performing and teaching opera and classical piano, and his father in the center of the Dutch art scene using oil on canvas as his art form. During his study in Amsterdam, NL he combined his musical development with a university education (Masters in Comm.Science/Business). After being awarded two Dutch grants (Stichting Podium Kunsten, Prins Bernard Fonds Anjer Fondsen) in 1997, he made New York City his residence.

Once in New York, Marc received a full scholarship to attend the Manhattan School of Music where he completed his Masters in Jazz Performance. Upon graduating he was awarded the William H. Borden Award, given to only one student selected from the graduating class for outstanding achievement.

*Marc made his debut as a leader in his 1999 recording *Global Motion* Trio with Nikolaj Hess (piano) and John Hebert (bass). In 2001 the acclaimed drummer Tony Moreno joined the group which*

became Global Motion. In 2003 after an extensive tour in Europe including a 5 day hit at the Pompoen in Amsterdam, the band returned to NYC and recorded Global Motion, released by Sunnyside Records. This release earned critical acclaim in Downbeat, Jazztimes, Jazzimprov, All About Jazz and numerous online platforms. This record was followed by another well received Sunnyside release titled Balance (2006), a long anticipated duo recording with pianist and longtime friend Nikolaj Hess. In 2010 he jumped into a new project born out of his extensive collaboration with drummer Tony Moreno. It became "Landmarc" the guitar project, a band with three guitars, sax, drums and no bass. The touring band included two guitars, Vic Juris and Nate Radley. In 2013 Marc finished his solo Saxophone project "Irreversible Momentum" which was four years in the making. This highly personal and innovative work will be released in the fall of 2013. Also coming up in the fall is a Ballads record with Danish pianist Nikolaj Hess.

Marc has toured the world with many formations including the Amina Figarova sextet, and formations lead by Tony Moreno, Tim Horner, Armen Donelian and many more. He played all the main stages, from the New Port Jazz Festival to Carnegie Hall. But besides his impressive career as a saxophonist and improviser he also made his mark as an educator. He co-founded the New York Jazz Workshop with Marco Chelo and Hudson Jazz Works with Armen Donelian, has given masterclasses on conservatoria across the globe and is a faculty member of the New School.

Marc is currently working on a text book on "a rhythmic approach of improvisation and composition for linear instruments", a recording project with Global Motion in collaboration with a string quartet, a recording project with Tony Moreno and several project based arrangements.

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