

MUSICAL ART QUINTET

NUEVO CHAMBER



"Classical music is sexy again. Lest you doubt that, look no further than Mission District chamber group The Musical Art Quintet" - *East Bay Express*

The Musical Art Quintet was formed in 2008 in the Mission district of San Francisco during chamber music jam sessions every Sunday night at Cafe Revolution. Each week a new piece of music was written by MAQ band leader Sascha Jacobsen to be performed at Classical Revolution, and ink still wet, we would read through the piece in front of a live audience. As our repertoire grew, a core group of players emerged and the quintet was founded.

The name of the quintet is taken from The Musical Art Quartet, a string quartet formed in the 1940's and led by the Great-Grandfather and namesake of the bassist and composer of the quintet, violinist, Sascha Jacobsen.

Although classically trained, the members of The Musical Art Quintet are skilled improvisors and each one brings with him a special area of expertise. Whether it is Argentine Tango, Afro-Cuban Son, Klezmer, Classical works, or even Electronica, the Quintet is at home. The music of band leader, Sascha Jacobsen, is essentially rhythmic in nature, utilizing dance forms to propel his melodies forward. Each piece is based on a dance form, but instead of a Sarabande or a Gigue, Jacobsen uses rhythms like Cha-cha-cha or Milonga.

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"...composer-bassist Sascha Jacobsen's concoctions hop nimbly through a world of styles while impressing with ear-catching intricacy and handsome technique...indelible tracks like "Milonga de San Francisco" and Afrobeat-inflected "Fela Feliz" are spirited treats that will have you twirling across the floor."
-*San Francisco Bay Guardian*

Nuevo Chamber is the name for this new genre that blends world music influences with a chamber music ensemble, infusing rhythms from Argentina, Cuba, Africa, Jazz, Classical and even Electronica into a new style of music. The Quintet has cemented it's status as a top world music string ensemble with recent recordings with the Nuevo Flamenco guitarist, Stevan Pasero (Twelve Shades of Night, 2011, Sugo records) and with the Argentine Tango group, Trio Garufa (El Rumor de tus Tangos, 2010, Garufa records).

Press

“polished performance”

-New York Times

“...composer-bassist Sascha Jacobsen's concoctions hop nimbly through a world of styles while impressing with ear-catching intricacy and handsome technique....indelible tracks like "Milonga de San Francisco" and Afrobeat-inflected "Fela Feliz" are spirited treats that will have you twirling across the floor.”

-San Francisco Bay Guardian

“Classical music is sexy again. Lest you doubt that, look no further than Mission District chamber group The Musical Art Quintet”

-East Bay Express

“Plenty of local bands are ambitious; San Francisco's Musical Art Quintet is trailblazing its own genre.”

-SF Weekly

“Nuevo Chamber is a superb fusion of chamber compositions and global sounds by one of the emerging talents in the world music scene.”

-World Music Central

“Expect an and invigorating infusion of classical and worldly sounds”

- Mundo Vibe

Discography

RELEASES

The Musical Art Quintet "Nuevo Chamber"
(2012, Classical Revolution Records)

TRACKLIST:

1. Milonga de San Francisco
2. El Viejito
3. Luna Llena
4. Algo Nuevo, Dick "Taco" Mesa, arr. S. Jacobsen (BMI)
5. La Nuit la Plus Longue
6. Life is Beautiful
7. Fela Feliz
8. Paddies, Solo Razafindrakoto, arr. S Jacobsen (Harry Fox)
9. Descansado, Mark Vanderpoel & S. Jacobsen
10. Ombigao en Argentina, music S. Jacobsen, words Avotjca
11. Mi Chinita
12. Ultimo Amor

All songs by Sascha Jacobsen unless otherwise noted

Stevan Pasero w/the Musical Art Quintet "Twelve Shades of Night"
(2011, Sugo Music/Solea Group)

TRACKLIST:

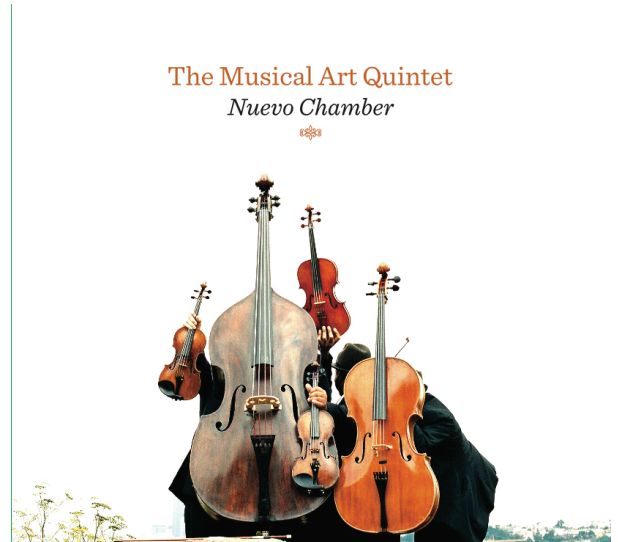
1. Rhumba Dee
2. Motivato
3. Due Anelli
4. Soleares Enrique, Traditional
5. Nosso Samba
6. Sway With Me
7. Malagueña my Love, E. Lecuona
8. My Wild Gypsy
9. Ray of Compassion
10. Prayer
11. El Viejito, S. Jacobsen
12. Gardens of Ravello

All songs by Stevan Pasero unless otherwise noted
All songs arranged by Sascha Jacobsen

Trio Garufa w/the Musical Art Quintet
"El Rumor de tus Tangos" (2010, Garufa Records)

TRACKLIST:

1. Malena
2. El Torito
3. Milonga Uruguaya
4. El Trunco
5. Oblivion
6. De la Prima a la Bordona
7. Tango a Trois Temps
8. Milonga de San Francisco
9. Cancion del Jangadero
10. El Viejito
11. Contratiempo
12. La Olvidada
13. La Bordona
14. Responso



Performances

Ashkenaz Community Center, Berkeley, Feb, 2012
 Rhythmix Cultural Works, Alameda, Jan, 2012
 Viracocha, San Francisco, Jan, 2012
 Academy of Sciences, SF, 2009-11
 Teatro Zinzanni, Cabaret Lunatique, 2011
 Fulton 55, Fresno, 2011
 Autofuss Studios, 2011
 Pause Wine Bar, 2011
 Yoshi's San Francisco, 2011
 DeYoung Museum, 2009-2011
 Conference for Science & Non-Duality, 2011
 Concerts at the Collins, 2011
 Beatbox, 2011
 You Are Hear, SFO Music Series, 2009-2011
 Red Poppy Art House, 2009-2012
 Harmony Festival, 2011
 Coda, 2009-2011
 Legion of Honor, 2009-2011
 Cafe Revolution, 2008-2011
 Milk Bar, 2010
 Black Cat, 2011



Social Activism:

Ensemble in Residence for Classical Revolution, 2011-12
 Zellerbach Grant Recipients, 2011
 Kickstarter Campaign, 2011
 Benefit for Pakistani Flood Victims, Jan. 2011
 Benefit for Food not Bombs, 2011
 Mission Arts Performance Project, 2009-11
 El Salvador School for the Arts, 2011
 Lawyers for the Arts, 2012

Radio Interviews:

KDFC
 KPFA
 KALW
 KPOO
 WBAI

Contact

Manager:

Robert Friedman (415) 290-1912

rf@rfpresents.com

www.rfpresents.com

Booking:

Sascha Jacobsen (415) 350-1607

sascha@saschajacobsen.com

www.saschajacobsen.com

Publicity:

Mark Gorney, Worldisc, (510) 665-4211

mark@worldisc.net

www.worldisc.net

Website:

www.musicalartquintet.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/MusicalArtQuintet

YouTube Channel:

www.youtube.com/MusicalArtQuintet

Twitter:

[@musart5tet](https://twitter.com/musart5tet)



SASCHA JACOBSEN

STRING BASS



Sascha Jacobsen was born into a musical family, going as far back as his great, great, great, great-grandfather, who was a bassist for the Moscow Opera. He completed a Master's degree at the University of Southern California, and then went on to teach at Humboldt State University. He has served on the faculty at Laney College and the Sequoia Chamber Music Festival. Sascha performed as principal bass with the Santa Cruz Symphony, and the American Musical Theatre in San Jose, and as a section member of the Monterey Symphony and the Sarasota Opera. Sascha has performed on the world premier production of Martin Short's *Fame Becomes Me*, Hugh Jackman *In Performance*, and Rita Moreno "Life Without Makeup", recorded on the new cast album of *A Chorus Line*, and has toured the world with the Argentine Tango group: Trio Garufa. He is a founding member of Classical Revolution, and the Musical Art Quintet which performs his original works. His Jazz group, the Sascha Jacobsen Quintet, released its premier CD *Outer Sunset*, in 2002, which *Double Bassist* magazine declared, "shines a light on Jazz that it hasn't basked in for years."

www.saschajacobsen.com

JORY FANKUCHEN

VIOLIN



Violinist and violist Jory Fankuchen is quickly building a reputation as both a performer and teacher in the Bay Area. Jory's musical studies include a Bachelor's of Music from the San Francisco Conservatory where he studied with Ian Swensen, and a Master's of Music from the New England Conservatory, where he studied with Lucy Chapman. An avid chamber musician, Jory has performed in concert with artists such as Robert Mann, Joseph Silverstein, Joel Krosnick, Bonnie Hampton, Mark Sokol, Ian Swensen, and Paul Hersh. As first violinist of the Kailas String Quartet, Mr. Fankuchen performed throughout North America, winning first prize in the Chamber Music International Competition, and silver at the National Fischhoff Competition. Founded in 2005, the Kailas held a two-year residency at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music.

Since returning to the Bay Area in 2007, Jory has performed with many chamber ensembles and orchestras, including the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, Del Sol Quartet, Berkeley Symphony, Festival Opera, and many others. As a member of the Classical Revolution, Mr. Fankuchen performs weekly in unconventional venues such as Clubs and Art Houses, bringing classical music to a new and vibrant audience. As a member of the Magik Magik Orchestra, Jory has had the opportunity to perform with artists such as Sting, Mary Wilson and Bob Weir. Not only a performer, Jory has always had a passion for teaching. He has taught privately and at many schools including the San Francisco Conservatory's Preparatory Department, The Marin Academy, and PACO Music Camp. Jory is currently on the faculty at the Crowden School and was recently a judge for the San Francisco Youth Orchestra concerto competition.

ANTHONY BLEA

VIOLIN



Anthony Blea was born and raised in San Francisco. Started playing the violin at age eight in public Schools and was accepted to the San Francisco Conservatory of Music at age eleven as a full scholarship student. Anthony went on to receive a Bachelors Degree from the Manhattan School of Music where he studied with Raphael Bronstein and his Masters Degree from the San Francisco Conservatory where he majored in String Quartet performance. Having played with Afro-Cuban bands here in San Francisco and New York City Anthony continues to play a wide variety of music in the Bay Area and internationally. He has played and recorded with artists such as and including Israel Lopez “Cachao”, Ray Charles, S.F. Opera Orchestra, John Santos Ensemble, Jazz Mafia, Anthony Blea y su Charanga, Charanga 76, Orquesta Broadway and many more. Anthony also is a professor of Music at the San Francisco City College where he teaches Orchestra, Violin and Community Choir.

CHARITH PREMAWARDHANA



Violist Charith Premawardhana is a native of Sri Lanka and resident of San Francisco. Charith is the founder of Classical Revolution, an organization which promotes live music performance in accessible venues. What started 5 years ago as a weekly chamber music reading session at Revolution Cafe in San Francisco's Mission District has grown into a worldwide phenomenon, with active chapters nearly 30 cities in the US, Canada, and Europe. Classical Revolution is very active in the Bay Area, having presented over 700 live performance since 2006.

Charith is a proponent of new music of different styles, having premiered more than 200 works since moving to San Francisco seven years ago. In addition, Charith has recorded and performed with the Musical Art Quintet (world chamber ensemble), Jazz Mafia Symphony (jazz/hip hop orchestra), The Congress (soul/funk band), Magik*Magik Orchestra (backup orchestra for pop and rock bands), Third Eye Blind, jazz singer Madeleine Peyroux, pop star Vanessa Carlton, rock band The Mars Volta, Indian/jazz percussionist Sameer Gupta, folk singer/songwriter Meklit Hadero, gypsy folk band Rupa & the April Fishes, and numerous other ensembles from various musical styles. With all of these various projects, Charith's main interest is in chamber music, and he brings the experience gained in performing in a string quartet to each of these non-classical chamber groups. Charith has performed at the Cabrillo Contemporary Music Festival, Aspen Music Festival, the Playboy (LA), Newport, Montreal, Vancouver, and Victoria Jazz Festivals and holds performance degrees from The Ohio State University, Rice University, and San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

SHAIN CARRASCO



Shain Carrasco began playing the cello at age six. By the time he reached High School, he had dedicated his life to cello performance. At North Carolina School of the Arts, he earned a Bachelors Degree in performance, and at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, a Masters Degree. In graduate school, Shain began playing with several Bay Area symphonies, teaching cello, and pursuing chamber music. All of these have led to Shain's emergence as one of the preeminent cellists in the Bay Area.

Today, Shain frequently plays in the California, Berkeley, Monterey, Santa Cruz, Fresno, Napa Valley, and Reno Symphonies and Philharmonics as well as in the San Francisco Sinfonietta, and the Russian Chamber Orchestra of Marin. He also joins numerous well-known jazz and rock bands on stage and in recordings such as Peter Gabriel, Dave Brubeck, Beats Antique, and Vetiver.

Shain's dedication to the evolution of classical music led him to join the international movement, Classical Revolution, bringing Chamber music to people in accessible and often informal venues. Out of Classical Revolution, the Musical Art Quintet (MAQ) was formed with Shain as the founding cellist. Shain's love for diverse Chamber music also led him to join the Presidio String Quartet – a group widely known for their unique interpretations of contemporary classical pieces.

www.presidiostringquartet.com