

Pedro Giraudo Jazz Orchestra



Pedro Giraudo has captivated listeners around the world with its unique sound built on a foundation of South American grooves, Argentine folk traditions, the passion of tango, and jazz improvisation. Pedro Giraudo, in the tradition of such composers as Duke Ellington and Carla Bley, highlights the unique talents of each band member while masterfully weaving together pre-composed and improvised elements. In the last few years, he has been hailed as one of the most creative and daring composer/bandleaders on the jazz scene today. His principal projects include:

- **The Pedro Giraudo Jazz Expansions Orchestra** (17-piece band)
- **The Pedro Giraudo Jazz Orchestra** (12-piece band),
- **The Pedro Giraudo Sextet.**

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About Pedro Giraudo

Originally from Córdoba Argentina, Pedro Giraudo moved to New York City in 1996. Since then he has become a highly versatile bassist, composer and arranger, performing in a wide variety of musical projects, both his own award winning Pedro Giraudo Jazz Orchestra and as a member of several prominent ensembles, ranging from tango to jazz.

Pedro Giraudo has collaborated with Grammy award winner Pablo Ziegler, 9 time Grammy award winner Paquito D'Rivera, Latin American icon Ruben Blades, and Dizzy Gillespie's protégé William Cepeda, as well as 'Tango meets Jazz' guests: Branford Marsalis, Kenny Garret, Regina Carter, Nestor Torres, Miguel Zenon among many others. Pedro Giraudo has also performed with U.S.'s most prominent tango ensembles including Hector Del Curto's Eternal Tango, Fernando Otero's X-Tango and Daniel Binelli's 'Tango Metropolis'. He has participated in numerous jazz and music festivals throughout the North America, Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean and Asia, and performed in venues such as The Blue Note (Japan & USA), Birdland (Austria), London's Queen Elizabeth Hall, Jazz Festival Royale in Thailand, Kennedy Center (Washington DC), Iridium, Jazz Standard, Blue Note, Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall (NYC). Pedro Giraudo has also conducted the world renown WDR Big Band and Cologne Contemporary Jazz Orchestra.

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Will Vinson (alto sax, soprano sax & flute)
Todd Bashore (alto sax & flute)
Luke Batson (tenor sax, flute & clarinet)
Carl Maraghi (baritone sax & bass clarinet)

Jonathan Powell (trumpet)
Tatum Greenblatt (trumpet & flugelhorn)
Miki Hirose (trumpet & flugelhorn)
Ryan Keberle (trombone)
Mike Fahie (trombone)

Jess Jurkovic (piano)
Eric Doob (drums)
Paulo Stagnaro (cajon)

Pedro Giraudo (bass, arrangements and compositions)

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Japan Formation



小林 充 Mitsuru Kobayashi (alto sax, soprano sax & flute)

浅井良将 Ryosuke Asai (alto sax & flute)

高橋知道 Tomomichi Takahashi (tenor sax & clarinet)

古谷光広 Mitsuhiro Furuya (baritone sax)

広瀬未来 Miki Hirose (trumpet)

築山昌広 Masahiro Tsukiyama (trumpet & flugelhorn)

大西哲郎 Tetsuro Onishi (trombone)

大島一郎 Ichiro Oshima (trombone)

奥村美里 Misato Okumura (piano)

竹田達彦 Tastuhiko Takeda (drums & percussion)

Pedro Giraudo (bass, arrangements and compositions)

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CRITICAL ACCLAIM

"The rich eloquence of Giraudo's gorgeous artistic expression flows through the music with an undeniable grace. . .through the colors of Giraudo's finely tuned compositions."

—**Chip Boaz, Latin Jazz Corner**

" * * * " - "Giraudo's orchestra is lithe and light on its feet [with] the leader's highly active bass and his movement-filled arrangements."

—**Downbeat Magazine**

"Careening instrumental textures, dovetailing riffs, shifting terra firma and individualistic solo voices . . . Giraudo takes this band on an eye-opening journey through his world. His odyssey contains odd-metered music with intensely vibrant sounds and driving rhythms, graceful and reflective ruminations of a peaceful nature, and a Maria Schneider-esque savoir faire."

—**Dan Bilawsky, All About Jazz**

"An opulent listening experience of modern orchestral jazz, brimming with passionate improvisations, contrapuntal melodies, and plush harmonies ."

— **John Murph, Downbeat Magazine**

"Argentinean bassist-composer Pedro Giraudo's music combines high-concept swing with subtly akimbo Latin American rhythms, witty call-and-response conversations, and emotional sustenance aplenty."

— **Richard Gehr, The Village Voice**

"Arrangements that are harmonically rich, rhythmically challenging and charged with emotion. The group is full of compelling soloists. If Mingus were still around, he'd love this group."

— **Paul Blair, Hot House**

"Pedro Giraudo, from Argentina, is attracting rising attention in NY with his latest CD, "Córdoba." inspired by memories of his hometown in Argentina. In the featured suite, he blends traditional Argentine rhythm and Jazz. The mixture of heavy ensemble and thrilling solos on top of complicated rhythms makes this suite epic."

—**Takehiko Tokiwa, Jazz Life (Japan)**

"Giraudo's writing for big band is propulsive, determined, dense, tense."

—**LondonJazz**

"Pedro Giraudo's Orchestra is the hottest, swingiest and most exciting Latin jazz outfit to come along in years. This is the best, and most exciting, Latin jazz I've ever heard."

—**Ric Bang, Jazz Scan**

Pedro Giraudo Jazz Orchestra

"The music, bright, emotionally satisfying and mature, is filled with exciting solos, thoughtful melodies and fine harmonies. 2011 is proving to be another banner year for large ensemble recordings and Pedro Giraudo's CD is among the best."

—**Richard B. Kamins, Step Tempest**

Totally excellent Latin jazz on parade here. All the players are inspired and the originals are worth getting invested. This bass player is a consummate pro that knows how to make a set that just hits you between the eyes. Played right, played tight, this is must hearing for any Latin jazz fan that fully appreciates the real deal.

—**Chris Spector, Midwest Record**

" * * * " - "This album is a wonderful mix of contrasts from the beautiful horn and woodwind sections to the bass and piano. The percussion from the Cajon and drums helps to keep the beat well throughout the album. This sounds like another wonderful potential award winner for Pedro.

—**Mark Johnson, Sea of Tranquility**

In the Sunday Arts section of the **Miami Herald**, **Fernando Gonzalez** picks "El Viaje" among his short list of releases of contemporary Latin jazz: "Exceptional large ensemble mixing jazz, classical music and Argentine tango and folk music."

"Giraudo's new album, *El Viaje*, is a stunning example of large ensemble orchestration, proving that in a remarkably short time, the Argentine has absorbed the wisdom of such hallowed arrangers as Ellington, Gil Evans and Carla Bley and has staked out his own distinctive identity. The performances of his 12-member group are an uncommon mixture of orchestral bravado and chamber music-like structure and finesse."

— **Mark Holston, LatinoMagazine.com**

"Another masterwork from Giraudo, an Argentinean bassist living in New York and running one of the most impressive orchestras around here. The writing, supple and sophisticated, is an example of how a composer, especially one gleefully between traditions, can draw on an immense amount of music. It's often brilliant, and it's always careful. Highly recommended."

— **Peter Watrous, Descarga.com**

"His latest, "El Viaje," showcases his superb command of a large ensemble, as well as his broad emotional palette. Sometimes tender, sometimes brash and always arranged for maximum emotional punch."

— **Hank Shteamer, Time Out New York**

"Giraudo's impressions make a solid statement about living and about creative jazz. . . this series of compositions gives jazz fans the world over a chance to celebrate."

— **Jim Santella, AllAboutJazz.com**

Pedro Giraudo Jazz Orchestra

“His intense, dynamic yet complex sound took the audience on a journey through nostalgic episodes and brought them back with the force of a tailwind that stirred their hearts beating and compelled them forward. Pedro’s compositions are quite complex, but his band members have been playing with him since the orchestra's formation, and perform as an ensemble with dazzling and exquisite harmony.”

— **Motoko Hasegawa, Swing Journal (Japan)**

“[Pedro Giraudo] created a world of sounds that went far beyond ordinary Jazz and Latin music. Moreover, the ever-changing harmony of the ensemble, as well as the virtuoso improvisations, achieved an extraordinary organic blend.”

— **Takehiko Tokiwa, Jazz Life (Japan)**

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Discography

Pedro Giraudo 'Córdoba' (Zoho Music 2011)
Pedro Giraudo 'El Viaje' (PGM 2009)
Pedro Giraudo 'Desconsuelo' (PGM 2005)
Pedro Giraudo 'Mr Vivo' (PGM 2002)
Pedro Giraudo 'Destiny of Flowers' (PGM 2000)

Other recordings with Pedro Giraudo:

Rubén Blades 'Tangos' (Sunnyside Records 2014), Swiss Jazz Orchestra 'Live at Jazzfestival Bern' (Mons Records 2014), Chiemi Nakai 'Transformation' (Independent Release 2013), Julio Botti 'Tango Nostalgias' (ZOH0 2013), Eleonora Bianchini 'Esperare' (Independent Release 2013), Hector Del Curto 'Eternal Piazzolla' (Independent Release 2013), Gustavo Casenave 'Tango Casenave' (Watchcraft Music 2012), Achilles Liarmakopoulos 'Tango Distinto' (NAXOS 2012), Aruán Ortíz 'Santiarican Blues Suite' (Sunnyside 2012), Gregor Huebner 'El violin Latino' (Timba 2011), Erwin Schrott 'Rojo tango' (Sony 2011), Gustavo Moretto 'Yo me acuerdo Buenos Aires' (Independent release 2010), Jose Conde 'Jose Conde' (Warner 2010), Manhattan Camerata 'Manhattan Camerata' (Independent Release 2010), Sofia Tosello 'Alma y Luna' (Sunnyside Records 2009), Marta Topferova 'Trova' (Harmonia Mundi 2009), Gizelxanath Rodriguez 'Passion Tango NYC' (Independent Release 2009), Mar Sala 'Primavera' (Independent Release 2009), Mar Sala 'Take me to Bahia' (Independent Release 2009), Nick Danielson 'Tango & Obsession' (Independent Release 2008), Alejandro Florez 'Retrato' (Independent Release 2008), Juan Bandelbaum 'Our Disappeared' (Movie track - Independent Release 2008), Various Artists 'Baby Loves Salsa' (Baby loves music 2008), Anna Saeki 'Anna Saeki' (Moon Music 2008), Nicole Renaud 'Couleurs' (Independent Release 2008), Fernando Otero 'Pagina de Buenos Aires' (Nonesuch 2008), Gustavo Casenave 'Project Time' (Independent Release 2008), William Cepeda 'Bomba Sinfonica' (Albany Records 2007), Anna Saeki '20th Anniversary Concert' (Moon Music 2007), William Cepeda 'Unity' (Casabe Records 2007), Marta Topferova 'Flor Nocturna' (World Village 2006), Jose Conde 'Ay que rico ... seconds' (Universal 2005), Marta Topferova 'La Marea' (World Village 2005), Anna Saeki 'Negau' (Comstock 2005), David Ullmann 'Hidden' (Wetcash Records 2005), Mo'Guajiro 'Paciencia' (Independent release 2005), Lucia Pulido 'Dolor de Ausencia' (FM Records 2004), Francesca Ancarola 'Sons of the same sun' (PetroGlyph Records 2004), Jose Conde 'Ay! Que rico' (Pipiki Records 2004), Lila 'you're home' (Independent release 2004), Fernando Otero 'Plan' (Twinz Records 2003), The Tango Group 'Amor por el tango' (Soundbrush Records 2003), Jose Conde 'Esencia' (Independent release 2002), Ricardo Arjona 'Santopecado' (SONY 2002), Jess Jurkovic - Pedro Giraudo 'Blue and Violet' (Independent release 2001), Dalai Lama 'Compassion' (Mellenia Music 2000), Jose Halac 'dance of a thousand heads' (Tellus 1998), Dario Iscaro 'Antiheroe' (Independent release 1996).