

THE CHILEAN PROJECT TRIBUTE



The Chilean Project, composed of Christian Gálvez on electric bass, Nelson Arriagada on double bass, Cristián Cuturrufu on trumpet and Alejandro Espinosa on drums first appeared in 2005 as a support formation of the stars of world jazz, who came to play to Chile. From the long list of big jazz names Randy Becker, Frank Gambale or Billy Cobham can be highlighted.



The formation started its solo career in 2015 during a tour through several states of the US, which culminated in New York, by a concert in the famous Blue Note jazz club, where the „Live at the Blue Note record“ was created (PEZ Records).



Over the next five years the group had a number of concerts in Chilean clubs and festivals, being the most significant the concert in the Rosita Renard Festival in Pirque in March 2021, unfortunately the last opportunity for the four musicians to perform together. Two weeks later, the legendary trumpethist and beloved member of the formation passed away due to the Covid-19 complications.



Cristián Cuturrufo (1972-2021)

Cristián used to say “the show must go on, just keep on playing” and this is the spirit the formation decided to keep. They invited the saxophonist Marcos Aldana to help them to pay the tribute to Cuturrufo and keep cultivating their huge passion, the jazz and share it with the Chilean and international public.

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Saxophonist, professor, arranger and orchestra conductor Marcos Aldana is one of the most important performers of this instrument in the Chilean musical milieu. He began his studies at the National Conservatory and kept on developing his style playing together with his father, Kiko Aldana, a legendary tenor saxophonist. He has been an indispensable member of all television orchestras in Chile and has excelled in jam sessions for the past 40 years. He was a member of emblematic jazz and fusion groups around all the country, including the "Cometa" with Pablo Lecaros or "Coda" with Daniel Lencina. He is currently leading a new wave project for the mythical orchestra "Orquesta Huambala".



Christian Gálvez is one of the most prominent Chilean instrumentalists with a strong presence on the world jazz scene. As a bassist, composer and music producer, he is known around the world mainly for his virtuosity and the use of Chordmelody technique on electric bass guitars. He has collaborated with several big names of world jazz and international popular music, such as Ivan Lins, Stanley Clark, Frank Gambale and Billy Cobham. Christian founded the first Jazz College in Chile, the "Escuela Superior de Jazz de Chile" and has won numerous awards, including the Altazor Prize, the Apes Prize and the National Music Prize of the President of the Republic.



Alejandro Espinosa is one of the most prominent jazz drummers in Chile and a great promoter of this musical style. He organizes international festivals, works on radio (Radio Classica) Since the 1970s many prominent jazz musicians have come to Chile under his invitation, including Dave Young, Amilton Godoy, Lenny Andrade, Ingrid Jensen, Joe Lovan and Merlene Rosenberg. He has worked in major television orchestras and participated in studio recordings of numerous Chilean performers.





Nelson Arriagada first studied the career of concert cellist at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Chile and later at the Universidad Católica de Chile. In 1993 he began studying double bass with a focus on Jazz / Rock / Pop at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien in Hanover, Germany. Among the variety of musicians with whom he collaborated, it is worth mentioning Roberto Bravo, Fareed Haque, Kenny Kirkland, Ingrid Jensen, La Banda del Capitán Corneta, DeKiruza and Ernesto Jodos. In 2017 he was nominated for the Premio Pulsar award for the best instrumentalist, and is the winner of the Altazor award 2010 for the album “Música pal Mundo” by DeKiruza, winner of the German Jazz Podium Niedersachsen 1995, and is considered one of the best jazz and popular performers in Chile.