

Giovanni Ceccarelli

pianist, composer, arranger, producer, educator

“(Giovanni Ceccarelli’s) playing... is impeccable, reminding me of the legendary late Hank Jones where every note seems to be thought out with great care. He’s not just playing correct notes of the ever-changing and moving chords defining a tune, but offers up creative, heartfelt expressions that seem to tell a story coming from inner feelings initiated by the music itself.”

Benny Golson

Musical education:

Cleveland High School – Portland, Oregon, USA – *Studies with Prof. Larry Nobori; high school diploma, 1984-1985.*

Youthsound Big Band – Portland, Oregon, USA – *Big band training and concerts with conductors Thara Memory and Greg McKelvey, 1984-1985.*

Terni Jazz University – Terni, Italy – *Studies with pianists Rita Marcotulli and Mike Melillo; big band training and concerts with conductor, composer and arranger Bruno Tommaso, 1987-1988.*

Siena Jazz Clinics – Siena, Italy – *Studies with pianist Franco D’Andrea; jazz ensemble training with Tomaso Lama and Claudio Fasoli; scholarship award, 1989-1990.*

CPM Siena – Siena, Italy – *Studies with pianists Enrico Pieranunzi and Stefano Battaglia, 1990-1991.*

Orchestra Giovanile Italiana – Siena, Italy – *Studies with Bruno Tommaso, Giancarlo Gazzani and Marcello Piras, 1992.*

IASJ International Meeting – Siena, Italy – *Studies with pianist Louis Vidal; jazz ensemble training with Dave Liebman, Ronan Guilfoyle and Rick Peckam, 1993.*

Jazz piano workshops with Franco D’Andrea (1981) and Walter Bishop Jr. (1997).

Jazz ensemble workshops with Lew Tabackin (1985), Bruce Forman (1988), Miroslav Vitous (1988), and Jack Walrath (1998).

Private studies:

Maria Grazia Trontino – Classical piano, Fabriano, Italy, 1974-1976.

Nedda Spotti – Classical piano – Fabriano, Italy, 1977-80.

Eddie Wied – Jazz piano – Portland, Oregon, USA, 1984-85.

Enrico Pieranunzi – Classical and Jazz piano – Rome, Italy, 1990-91.

Emilio Procaccini – Classical piano – Fabriano, Italy, 1992.

Aki Montoya – Tablas and North Indian musical theory – Rome, Italy, 2004-06.

Curriculum as a Jazz educator:

In France:

“**Musiques Tangentes**” School of Music – Piano, jazz piano, music theory and ensemble music courses – Malakoff, 2007-2008.

“**C.I.M.**” School of Music – History of jazz course – Paris, 2009.

Private Courses for “**Allegro Musique**” association – Jazz and Modern Piano – Paris, 2007-2009.

“**Ecole des Arts**” – Jazz piano and vocal coaching courses, assistant for the choir courses – Marcoussis, 2009-2010.

In Italy:

“**CIAC Musica**” – Jazz piano course – Rome, 1991-1993.

“**Fare Jazz**” – Jazz piano course – Chiaravalle, 1994.

Scuola Comunale di Musica – Jazz piano, improvisation, ensemble courses – Ferentino, 1991-1995.

Scuola Comunale di Musica – Jazz piano, improvisation, ensemble courses – Orte, 1994-2004.

“**Sentieri Sonori**” clinics – Jazz piano, improvisation and ensemble courses, didactic direction – Fabriano, 1995-1997.

“**InJazz Summer clinics**” – Jazz piano, rhythm workshop, jazz ensemble, vocal ensemble, vocals and piano workshop, didactic direction – Arcevia and Fabriano, 1999-2013.

“Istituto Pergolesi” – Jazz piano course – Ancona, 2001-2003.
Scuola Comunale di Musica “B. Padovano” – Jazz piano course – Senigallia, 2004.
Scuola Comunale di Musica “L. Mancinelli” – Jazz piano course – Orvieto, 2004-2007.
“Ancona Summer Jazz Festival” – Dance and music workshop on improvisation – Ancona, 2005.
“SpringInJazz Music Seminars” – Jazz ensemble courses – Labro, 2008.
University of Macerata – Lecture on teaching jazz and improvisation – Fermo, 2010.

In the USA:

“Lake Music Center” – Jazz piano course – Lake Oswego, Oregon, 1997.
Berklee College of Music – Jazz improvisation lecture with Garrison Fewell – Boston, Massachusetts, 1999.
Willamette University – Concert/lesson with Stan Bock – Salem, Oregon, 1999.

In Syria:

French Cultural Center – Jazz piano and improvisation courses – Damascus, 2011.

In Lebanon:

Onomatopoeia The Music Hub – “Jazz Tales” lecture with Paolo Orlandi – Beirut, 2014.

Associational activities:

President and founding member of Cultural Association “InJazz” organizing “Incontri con il Jazz” music festival (11 editions), “InJazz” Summer clinics (14 editions), “SpringInJazz” music seminars (4 edition), and “Tra le Quinte” music festival (5 editions) – Arcevia, Fabriano, Labro, and Osimo Italy, 1999-2013.

Founding member of Cultural Association “Marchinjazz” organizing “Tra le Quinte” (5 editions) and “Bell Folk” music festivals – Osimo Italy, 2013-.

Awards:

Siena Jazz Clinics – Siena, Italy – Scholarship, 1989.
Rotary Club – Cittadella, Italy – “New Talents” Prize, 1993.
“Juan Le Pins-Antibes Jazz Festival” – Juan Le Pins, France – International contest dedicated to vocal Jazz – 3rd Prize with the “Ciara Arnette Jazz Quintet”, 2003.
Castello di Argignano – Fabriano, Italy – Recognition of merit (winner in the Junior’s category), 2009.
Radio FIP – Paris, France – “Sélection FIP” for album “Météores”, 2011.
Harmonia Mundi Switzerland – “Sélection HMCH” for album “Météores”, 2011.
Italian magazine “Jazzit” – “Jazzit Likes It!” for album “Waxin’ in Camerino”, 2011.
“15th Annual Latin Grammy Awards” – nomination as “Best MPB Album” for CD “InventaRio incontra Ivan Lins”, 2014.

Current own music projects.

Solo Concert: Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano, melodica, vocals); original compositions and arrangements; concerts in Italy – 2007-.

Daniele di Bonaventura & Giovanni Ceccarelli: with Daniele di Bonaventura (bandoneón), Giovanni Ceccarelli – piano; original compositions and arrangements; **new CD to be released in 2014**; concerts in Italy – 2012-.

Blas Gimeno & Giovanni Ceccarelli: with Blas Gimeno (images, film direction), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano); own videos – 2008-.

Marcello Allulli & Giovanni Ceccarelli: with Marcello Allulli (tenor sax, electronics), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano); **live soundtrack of silent movie “Cenere”**; performances in Italy – 2006-.

Inner Urges: with Fabrizia Barresi (vocals), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano); original compositions and own arrangements of music from different parts of the world; **CD “Feedin’ Inner Urges”** (Quantum Jazz Music, 2009); concerts in France and Italy – 2007-.

Giovanni Ceccarelli Trio: with Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano), Ferruccio Spinetti (double bass) and Francesco Petreni (drums); original compositions and own arrangements of music taken from the jazz, Brazilian and Italian repertoire; **CD “Météores”** (Bonsai Music, 2011); concerts in France, Italy and Lebanon – 2010-.

Giovanni Ceccarelli Quartet: with Christophe Panzani (tenor and soprano saxes), Giovanni Ceccarelli

(piano), Nicolas Rageau (double bass), Antoine Paganotti (drums); original compositions; **CD "Daydreamin'"** (Magmatune, 2010); concerts in Lebanon – 2008-.

InventaRio: with Dadi (vocals, guitars, mandolin, electric bass), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano, keyboards), Ferruccio Spinetti (vocals, double and electric basses, guitar), Francesco Petreni (drums, percussions); original songs, classics of the Italian and Brazilian repertoire; **CD "InventaRio"** (artistic production by Ceccarelli and Spinetti, My Favorite Records, 2010), **CD "InventaRio incontra Ivan Lins"** (artistic production by InventaRio; released by Blue Note/EMI Music Italy, 2012; released in Brazil by Biscoito Fino; **nominee at the "15th Annual Latin Grammy Awards" as "Best MPB Album"**, 2014); concerts in Italy – 2009-.

Lee Konitz & Giovanni Ceccarelli French Trio: with Lee Konitz (alto sax), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano), Chris Jennings (double bass), Patrick Goraguer (drums); jazz standards; **CD "Waxin' in Camerino"** (Philology Records, 2011); concerts in Italy – 2009-.

Benny Golson & Giovanni Ceccarelli Trio: with Benny Golson (tenor sax), Nicolas Rageau (double bass), Antoine Paganotti (drums); Golson's compositions and jazz standards; concerts in Spain – 2008-.

Past own music projects.

Mokambo Jazz Trio: with Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano), Luigi "Lullo" Mosso (double bass), Mirko Sabatini (drums); original compositions, jazz standards, music of Thelonious Monk; concerts in Italy – 1988-1991.

Quartetto Europa: with Trudi Strebi (flute), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano), Adelina Filli (double bass), Mirko Sabatini (drums); original compositions and jazz standards; concerts in Italy and Switzerland – 1989-1991.

Giovanni Ceccarelli Trio: with Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano), Stefano Cantarano, Giordano Pietroni or Mauro Battisti (double bass), Massimo Manzi, Francesco Vitale or Carlo Battisti (drums); original compositions, jazz standards; concerts in Italy – 1992-2002.

Eddie Wied & Giovanni Ceccarelli: with Eddie Wied (piano), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano), Frank Larosa or Giordano Pietroni (double bass), Ron Steen or Massimo Manzi (drums); original compositions, jazz standards; **CD "The Street Dancer"** (Philology Records, 1998); concerts in Italy and the U.S.A. – 1997-1999.

American Dream: with Sandra Cartolari (vocals), Lorenzo Fontana (sax, flute), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano, Fender Rhodes piano), Luigi "Lullo" Mosso (double bass), Mirko Sabatini (drums); original compositions, music by Ornette Coleman, Eric Dolphy; concerts in Italy – 1993.

Giovanni Ceccarelli Quintet: with Piercarlo Salvia (tenor and soprano saxes), Massimo Morganti (trombone), Giovanni Ceccarelli (piano), Pietro Ciancaglini (double bass), Lorenzo Tucci (drums); original compositions; concerts in Italy – 2003-2005.

Current collaborations:

Ivan Lins, Dadi, Ferruccio Spinetti, Francesco Petreni, Lee Konitz, Benny Golson, Daniele di Bonaventura, Blas Gimeno, Marcello Allulli, Fabrizia Barresi, Ada Montellanico, Randa Ghossoub, Piero Delle Monache, Federica Altieri, Francesco Giannelli, Fabio Accardi and Claudia Mars.

Past collaborations:

Massimo Urbani, 1989-1992 (release of **CD "The Nights of the Beuscher"** as a co-leader).

Tony Scott Group, 1991.

Tiziana Ghiglioni Group, 1996-97 and 2001 (participation in 2 CDs by this group).

Mayto Torres y su orquesta, 1996-1997 (participation in 1 CD by this group).

Velotti/Battisti Jazz Ensemble – 1997-2007 (participation in 1 CD by this group).

"Concerto per Leopardi" – Musical lecture in collaboration with the Italian actor Arnaldo Foà and the Velotti/Battisti Jazz Ensemble, 1998-2005.

"Beyond the Horizon" – Performance involving poetry, theater, dance and music, Warsaw, Poland, 1999.

Ciara Arnette Quartet – 2000-2005.

Toni Germani Trio – 2003-2004 and 2006 (participation in 1 CD by this group).

Trioakì – Fusion of jazz and Indian classical music, with Aki Montoya and Marcello Allulli, 2003-2005.

"Jazz: Istruzioni per l'Uso" – Orchestra conducted by Massimo Nunzi, 2004.

"Bukowski: confessions of a genius" – Musical lecture in collaboration with the Italian actor Alessandro Haber, 2005.

Marcello Sebastiani Fourtet – 2000-2008 (participation in 1 CD by this group).

Historias Trio – Original music and songs from Brazil, Cuba, with Marcello Allulli and Ferruccio Spinetti or Chris Jennings, 2008-2009.

“Due mondi che s’incontrano” – Concert with the singer Amii Stewart and the flutist Andrea Griminelli, 2008-2009.

Antonello Sorrentino S.T. Quintet – 2008-2010 (participation in 1 CD by this group).

Paolo Fresu – 2011 and 2013 (participation to a TV program).

Enrico Rava, Mark Murphy, Bob Wilber, Charles Davis, Giacomo Gates, Marco Tamburini, Tiziano Tononi, Carlo Atti, Emanuele Cisi, Brad Wheeler, Gianni Basso, Pietro Tonolo, Antonello Salis, John Stowell, Garrison Fewell, Nancy King, Larry Smith, Joe Magnarelli, Jim Snidero, Gianni Coscia, Ettore Fioravanti, Rosario Bonaccorso, Rosario Giuliani, Attilio Zanchi, Agostino Di Giorgio, Gianni Cazzola, Gianluca Petrella, Massimo Moriconi, Amii Stewart, Stefano “Cocco” Cantini.

Participations in festivals, concert seasons, radio and television programs:

“Gaume Jazz Festival” – Belgium, 1993.

“Aarau Jazz” – Switzerland, 1998.

“Heineken EuroJazz Festival in Beyrouth” and **Italian Institute for Culture** in Beirut – Lebanon, 1998 and 2000.

“Jazz Jamboree”, Warsaw – Poland, 1999.

Italian Institute for Culture in Cordoba, Buenos Aires and Mar del Plata – Argentina, 2002.

“Euro Jazz” Festival and **Italian Institute for Culture** in Mexico City, **“Festival de Jazz de Michoacán”** in Morelia – Mexico, 2003.

“Italian Jazz Festival” in Melbourne – Australia, 2003.

“Festival de Jazz en Touraine”, **“Grenoble Jazz Festival”**, **“Crest Jazz Vocal”**, **“Jazz à Ramatuelle”**, **“Semaine Italienne”** – France 2003-2012.

Italian Institute for Culture in Budapest – Hungary, 2007 and 2008.

Festivals **“Blues a Roses”** in Roses, **“Jazz San Fermin”** in Pamplona and **“Ciudad de Toledo”** in Toledo – Spain, 2009-2010.

“Thunupa African Tour” – concerts in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Libreville (Gabon), Nairobi (Kenya), Maputo (Mozambique), Johannesburg and Cape Town (South Africa), Harare (Zimbabwe), 2013.

“Jazz Talks” Festival – Beirut, Lebanon, 2014.

Festivals and concert seasons in Italy: **“Ancona Summer Jazz Festival”**, **“Le Strade del Jazz”**, **“Casa del Jazz”**, **“Jazz & Image – Villa Celimontana”**, **“Dolce Vita Jazz Festival”**, **“La Notte Bianca”**, **“Rassegna Jazz al Teatro dell’Opera”**, **Teatro Molière**, **“Mediterranea Festival”**, **“Reggio Parma Festival”**, **“Pescara Jazz Winter”**, **“Udin&Jazz”**, **“Verbania Jazz”**, **“Crossroads”**, **“Pomigliano Jazz”**, Italian **Jeunesses musicales** and **AGIMUS** – 1990-2014.

Concerts in **Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg.**

Concerts in the following renowned jazz clubs: **Alexanderplatz Jazz Club, La Palma, St. Louis Jazz Club, New Mississippi Jazz Club** (Rome, Italy), **Sunside Jazz Club** (Paris, France), **Le Travers** (Bruxelles, Belgium), **Jazz at the Opus** (Portland, Oregon, USA), **Bennett’s Lane** (Melbourne, Australia), **Blue Note** (Beirut, Lebanon).

Participations in radio and television programs.

Radio programs **“Invenzioni a due voci”**, Radio RAI Tre, Italy, 2003; **“Brasil”** at Radio RAI Uno, Italy, 2009-2010; **“Jalla-Jalla”** at Radio Popolare, Italy, 2010; **“Voulez vous sortir avec moi ?”**, France Inter, France, 2010; **“Summertime”**, France Inter, France, 2011; **“Musicalement Votre”**, Radio Aligre, France, 2011; **“Les Invités d’Arièle”**, France Music, France, 2011; **“Le 20h de TSFJazz”**, TSFJazz, France 2011; **“Jazz a Nota Libera”**, TeleRadioStereo, Italy, 2011-2013; **“Lo Stato Interessante”**, EcoRadio, Italy, 2013.

Tv programs for **RAI International**, Italy 2000; **“One Shot Not”**, Arte, France 2011; **“Orient-Occident”**, Syrian National Television, 2011; **“Télématin”**, France 2, France 2011.

Discography.

As a leader:

Giovanni Ceccarelli, **“Météores”** (Bonsai Music – Japanese release by Production Dessinée), 2011 (as

pianist, composer and arranger).

Giovanni Ceccarelli, **"Daydreamin"** (Magnatune), 2010 (as pianist, composer, arranger and producer).

As a co-leader:

Ivan Lins, Giovanni Ceccarelli, Dadi, Francesco Petreni, Ferruccio Spinetti, **"InventaRio incontra Ivan Lins"** (Blue Note/EMI Music Italy – Brazilian release by Biscoito Fino – **nominee at the "15th Annual Latin Grammy Awards" as "Best MPB Album"**, 2014), with Samuele Bersani, Jessica Brando, Bungaro, Chico Buarque, Chiara Civello, Vanessa Da Mata, Maria Pia De Vito, Maria Gadu, Petra Magoni, Tosca, Fabrizio Bosso, Vinicius Cantuária, Gnu Quartet, and Fausto Mesolella, 2012 (as pianist, keyboardist, arranger and artistic producer).

Lee Konitz & Giovanni Ceccarelli French Trio, **"Waxin' in Camerino"** (Philology), 2011 (pianist, composer and co-producer).

Giovanni Ceccarelli/Dadi/Ferruccio Spinetti, **"InventaRio"** (My Favorite Records – Japanese release by Rip Curl Recordings), with Ivan Lins, Marisa Monte, Petra Magoni, and Pacifico, 2010 (pianist, keyboardist, composer, arranger and artistic producer).

Fabrizia Barresi/Giovanni Ceccarelli, **"Feedin' Inner Urges"** (Quantum Jazz Music), 2009 (pianist, composer, arranger and producer).

Massimo Urbani/Giovanni Ceccarelli, **"The Nights Of The Beuscher"** (Philology), 2009 (as pianist).

Giovanni Ceccarelli/Eddie Wied, **"The Street Dancer"** (Philology) recorded in the USA, 1998 (as pianist, composer, arranger and producer).

Collaborations:

Piero Delle Monache, **"Aurum"** (Parco della Musica), 2014 (as pianist and keyboardist).

Stefano Cantarano, **"Walk in Progress Ensemble"** (Domani Musica), 2011 (as pianist).

Francesco Giannelli, **"Occhi"** (AlfaMusic), 2011 (as pianist, keyboardist, composer, and arranger).

Piero Delle Monache, **"Welcome"** (Altotenore), 2010 (as pianist and composer).

Antonello Sorrentino S.T. Quintet, **"Blog"** (Wide Sound), 2009 (as pianist, composer, and arranger).

Ada Montellanico, **"Omaggio a Billie Holiday"** (Jazz Italiano Live), with Stefano "Cocco" Cantini, 2008 (as pianist, composer, and arranger).

Fabrizio Cecca, **"Southern Avenue Project"** (Cristal), with Nicola Stilo, 2008 (as pianist).

Francesca Merloni, **"Elice"** (Deca), 2007 (as pianist and composer).

Toni Germani, **"Blues ballate canzoni"** (Splasch), 2005 (as pianist).

Elvio Ghigliardini, **"Alterabile"** (III Millennio) with Ada Montellanico, Joy Garrison, and Claudia Marss, 2004 (as pianist and keyboardist).

Marcello Sebastiani, **"Desiderio"** (Splasch), 2003 (as pianist).

Elvio Ghigliardini, **"Fluttin' on Jazz"** (Domani Musica) with Nicola Stilo, 2002 (as pianist and keyboardist).

Enrico Ghelardi, **"Lost Love"** (Domani Musica), 2002 (as pianist).

Ada Montellanico, **"Suoni Modulanti"** (Abeat) with Fabrizio Bosso and Max Ionata, 2002 (as pianist, composer, and arranger).

Lee Konitz, **"At the New Mississippi Jazz Club"** (Philology) 2002 (as pianist).

Confraternita Corale della Cintura, **"Hush!"** 2002 (as pianist).

Enrico Bracco, **"Going Wes"** (Philology), 2001 (as pianist).

Sandra Cartolari, **"Twolips"**, 1999 (as pianist, composer, and arranger).

Velotti-Battisti Jazz Ensemble, **"I Canti di Leopardi"** (Micromega) with Arnaldo Foà, 1998 (as pianist).

Tiziana Ghiglioni, **"Tenco in Jazz"** (Philology), 1998 (as pianist).

Mayto Torres y su Italian Salsa, **"Salsando Salsando"** (Duck Records), 1998 (as pianist and keyboardist).

Participations:

Maria Gadú, **"Nós"** (Som Livre) with InventaRio, 2013 (as pianist and guest group).

Agorà, **"Ichinen"**, 2013 (as pianist, keyboardist, and composer).

Gnu Quartet, **"Something Gnu"** (Bonsai Music), 2011 (as pianist and guest artist).

Various artists, **"Jazz al Dente"** (Bonsai Music) with Giovanni Ceccarelli French Trio, 2010 (as pianist, featured artist, and composer).

Massimo Nunzi/Elena Somarè, “**La Grande Storia del Jazz**” (DVD L'Espresso) with Ada Montellanico and Pietro Ciancaglino, 2009 (as pianist).

Nancy King, “**Moonray**” (Philology), 1999 (as pianist).

Tiziana Ghigloni, “**My Essential Ellington**” (Philology) with Tony Scott and Lee Konitz, 1998 (as pianist).