



**PIETRO TONOLO sassofoni**  
**PAOLO BIRRO pianoforte**

**Pietro Tonolo and Paolo Birro Tonolo played as a duo for several years. They have performed in various contexts, including jazz festivals, silent film soundtracks, etc. ..., and their collaboration is documented in the CD "Symbiosis" (Splasc (h) '95 ) and in the CD "Autumn", released in 2000 for the label "Aegean". The repertoire consists mainly of original compositions, improvisations and impromptu readings of songs from different musical areas.**

**Pietro Tonolo**

Classical music's loss was jazz's gain in 1979, when Pietro Tonolo gave up a career as a classical violinist to become a jazz sax player. Around that time, he moved to Milan, where he played with some of Italy's best jazz musicians, including Franco D'Andrea, Luigi Bonafede, Larry Nocella, Massimo Urbani, Rita Marcotulli and Enrico Rava. In 1982, Tonolo joined the Gil Evans Orchestra, playing with notable musicians as Steve Lacy, Lew Soloff and Ray Anderson. He later went on to perform in jazz clubs and on radio and television around Europe and the USA, both as a sideman and as a leader with his own band. He was a steady member of the Paul Motian's Electric Bebop Band from 1999 to 2004. Other notable collaborators have included the likes of Kenny Clarke, Roswell Rudd, Sal Nistico, Chet Baker, Lee Konitz, John Surman, Steve Swallow, Gil Goldstein, Barry Altschul, Joe Chambers, Henri Texier, Aldo Romano, Kenny Wheeler, Eliot Zigmund and Tony Oxley. Besides Jazz, Tonolo has been collaborating with contemporary musicians and ensemble ('Ex Novo Ensemble', 'Laboratorio Novamusicà', 'Nex Time Ensemble', 'Sentieri Selvaggi', 'Orchestra d'archi Italiana', sax quartet 'Arundo Donax'). Is currently teaching at the Conservatory of Vicenza and Siena Jazz international masterclasses.

## PAOLO BIRRO

Paolo Birro was born in Noventa Vicentina, Vicenza, Italy in 1962. He completed his classical piano studies at the Vicenza Conservatory with a summa cum laude degree in 1987, after which he devoted himself to the jazz language which had fascinated him from his childhood. In 1992, in trio with Sandro Gibellini e Mauro Negri, he won the first prize for the performing group section at the Barga Jazz International Contest. In 1996, after the releasing of his first trio album "Fair Play", he was nominated "Best New Talent" by the critics of the magazine "Musica Jazz." His career has offered him the opportunity to perform with jazz legends such as Lee Konitz, Buddy De Franco, Art Farmer, Johnny Griffin and many other internationally-known artists including Scott Hamilton, Gianni Basso, Ruud Brink, Eliot Zigmund, Bobby Watson, Ronnie Cuber, Harry Allen, Tom Kirkpatrick, Charles Davis, Enrico Rava, Erwin Vann, Aldo Romano, Richard Galliano, Robert Bonisolo, Paolo Fresu, Tiziana Ghiglioni, Chuck Israels, Matt Renzi. As a sideman he has contributed to the recording of over 50 albums by some of the most important jazzmen working in Italy; in particular the artistic relationship with saxophonists Pietro Tonolo, Emanuele Cisi, Claudio Fasoli and the American trumpet player (living in Italy) J Kyle Gregory has been more continuative, as documented in a series of works published by independent labels, including Egea, Splasc(h), Soulnote and Velut Luna. He is a regular member of the Lydian Sound Orchestra directed by Riccardo Brazzale, one of the most critically acclaimed Italian bands in the recent years. As a leader or co-leader he has released several albums in solo, duo and trio: his last releases include "Sbàndio" (Almar Records), a solo piano performance based on the cultural traditions of his native region in Italy, and "Passion Flower" (Philology) an homage to the music of Billy Strayhorn recorded together with the saxophonist Lee Konitz. As an educator he has taught Jazz piano, improvisation and ensemble at the "Civici Corsi di Jazz" (Milan), International Jazz Master Classes at Siena, Jazz Department of the Bologna Conservatory, "Il Suono Improvviso" (Venice), Perugia Classico, Summer stages at Loano, and the Jazzinty Workshop in Novomesto (Slovenia). He is currently Head of the Jazz Department at the Conservatory of Vicenza.

### **Multimedia**

Musica: <http://www.pietrotonolo.com/#/pietro-tonolo-duo/4583493240>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5rvC65ZbdYc>

### **Contatti**

Official Website Pietro Tonolo: [www.pietrotonolo.com](http://www.pietrotonolo.com)

Official Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PietroTonolo](http://www.facebook.com/PietroTonolo)

## **P.G Management Artist Agency**

Promotion, Organisation Events

**Paulina White** +393470610688

**For interviews and album reviews**

[contact@pgmanagementartist.com](mailto:contact@pgmanagementartist.com)

**For events**

[events@pgmanagementartist.com](mailto:events@pgmanagementartist.com)

[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#) | [read our blog](#) | [youtube](#) | [forward to a friend](#) | [google+](#)