



# ATOM STRING QUARTET

Atom String Quartet is one of the very rare string quartets in the world that play jazz, and certainly first such band in Poland. Its members are: Dawid Lubowicz, Mateusz Smoczyński – violin, Michał Zaborski – viola and Krzysztof Lenczowski – cello. These musicians also lead other bands and perform with best Polish artists.

Atom String Quartet mainly plays their own compositions which sound modern and original thanks to the unusual set of instruments for a jazz band. This promising quartet is constantly achieving renown and appreciation. Recently ASQ was awarded the “Młoda Polska” Scholarship founded by the Polish Ministry of Culture; Grand Prix of “Bielska Zadymka Jazzowa” Festival and Grand Prix of Jazz Melomani Society in the category “New Hope of 2010”. In June 2011 the quartet’s album “Fade in” was released, that is a live concert recorded in Radio Katowice. The album was greeted with critics and listeners’ enthusiasm.

Dawid Lubowicz is a violinist, whose style and improvisation character developed under the influence of various music genres: classic, folk, tango, jazz... He comes from a renowned music family from Zakopane. As a child he studied under the tutelage of Mieczysław Galica and Leszek Brodowski. He is a graduate of secondary music school in Rzeszów, from the violin class of Orest Telwach. In 2005 he graduated with honours from Frederic Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw, from the violin class of professor Konstanty Andrzej Kulka. As he says, he was always lucky to meet great pedagogues at each level of his music education. He developed his abilities during various master courses with such virtuosos as: Roland Baldini, Marina Jaszwili, Mirosław Ławrynowicz, Zoran Milenković, Wanda Wiłkomirska, Andrzej Jagodziński, Michael Parkinson, Garry Wittner. He received awards at several festivals and contests, e.g. 2nd prize at the International Festival of Jazz Standards in Siedlce (Poland) – 2004, special prize at the Jazz Scene of the Youth in Radom (Poland) – 2004, he was the finalist in the International Contest of Krokus Jazz Festival in Jelenia Góra (Poland) – 2004 and 2005, in 2005 he was the winner of Warsaw Hopes Jazz Contest.

He plays different music genres, most of all the classical music, folk, tangos and jazz. At present he is the second concertmaster in Roma Musical Theatre in Warsaw. He is the member of Opium String Quartet, aTango, Lubowicz Jazz Quartet and East Wall Jazz Quartet. An important event in his soloist career was the premiere of Christophe Voise's "Missa Brevis", with Dariusz Stachura and Polish Radio Orchestra directed by the composer himself.

Mateusz Smoczyński - the graduate of Frederic Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw from the class of Andrzej Gębski. He is a jazz violinist who debuted in 1999 in Jazz Camping Kalatówki (Poland) with the quintet of Jacek Namysłowski. With this band he won many prizes and awards. Despite his young age he performed many times outside Poland (e.g. Italy, Germany, Ukraine, Denmark, Sweden, the Czech Republic and Slovakia) and also in most of Polish biggest jazz festivals. He cooperates with such renowned Polish musicians as: Krzesimir Dębski, Krzysztof Herdzin (in the original project "Jazz on Strings" Mateusz Smoczyński was the soloist and concertmaster of Sinfonia Viva Orchestra), Kazimierz Jonkisz, Zbigniew Namysłowski, Tomasz Stańko, André Ochodlo, Maciej Strzelczyk, Janusz Skowron, Jarosław Śmietana or Zbigniew Wegehaupt. Together with Joachim Kuhn, Bohdan Jarmołowicz, Janusz Stefański and Bronisław Suchanek he took part in the premiere of Zbigniew Seifert's jazz concert for violin, symphony orchestra and rhythmic section. He often played with the German band Schultzing.

He is the leader of a quintet where he plays with Konrad Zemler – guitar, his older brother Jan on piano, Wojciech Pulcyn – bass and Łukasz Zyta – drums. With this quintet he recorded his first CD "Inspirations", dedicated to his two biggest inspirations – John Coltrane and Zbigniew Seifert. In 2008 the second recording "Expressions" was released. Both have gained big popularity and received many positive reviews. After the success of his first album in 2007 Mateusz got the Minister of Culture and National Heritage Scholarship "Young Poland", and in June 2008 was awarded Jazz Oscar in the category Music Lovers' Hope of 2007. In 2010 a CD with the newest project "New Trio" is going to be released. This time the band consists of his brother Jan on Hammond, and the Russian drum star Alexander Zinger.



Michał Zaborski – in 2004 he graduated with honours from Frederic Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw, from the viola class of Professor Ryszard Duż. He was awarded the Minister of Culture and National Heritage Scholarship “Young Poland”. He took part in various viola contests, e.g. in Poznań (Poland) in 2003, where he won 3rd prize, in Pörschach (Austria) in 2003 – also 3rd prize, in Bled (Slovenia) in 2004 – 2nd prize. In 2009 with the band “The Transgress” he won the Blues Rock Jazz Warsaw Festival in the jazz band category. This band performed as support before the concert of “Medelski, Martin & Wood” trio in the Congress Hall in Warsaw.

He performed as a soloist with Lublin Philharmonic Orchestra playing Hector Berlioz “Harold in Italy”. He developed his abilities in classical and jazz music workshops in Poland and abroad, with such musicians as: Hatto Beyerle, Cezariusz Gudzina, Nobuko Imai, Stefan Kamasa, Robert Majewski, Maciej Strzelczyk, Jean Sulem. He recorded pieces of Bartłomiej Gliniak music with Krzysztof Herdzin trio to the film “NN” by Feliks Falka. He is a member of Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra and Radom Chamber Orchestra.

Krzysztof Lenczowski was born in 1986 in Cracow, Poland. In 2010 he graduated from Frederic Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw, from the cello class of Professor Tomasz Strahl and Rafał Kwiatkowski. Between April 2008 and November 2009 he was the member of a Polish orchestra “Sinfonia Iuventus”. Since February 2009 he has been the member of “Cellonet” Warsaw Cello Group led by Professor Andrzej Bauer. He is a jazz cellist of Atom String Quartet - one of the very rare string quartets in the world that play jazz, and certainly first such band in Poland. With Atom String Quartet he won Grand Prix of the 13-th Lotos jazz Festival 2011 (Bielska Zadymka Jazzowa), and also received the “Young Poland” scholarship from the National Culture Centre

He also graduated from Henryk Majewski Postgraduate Jazz School in Warsaw in the jazz guitar class of Professor Piotr Lemański. As a jazz guitarist he is a member of “Jazz Construction” quintet and “Fusionator” quartet. Compositions or arrangements by Krzysztof Lenczowski were performed by such an artist as: Maxim Vengerow, Leszek Możdżer, Krzesimir Dębski, Andrzej Bauer and many other outstanding musicians from both the area of classical music and jazz.



# Atom String Quartet reviews:

*I have a pleasure to introduce you to the sounds of a string quartet playing without any rhythmical section, in spite of which playing pure jazz. How they did this is a real sensation!*

Jan Ptaszyn-Wróblewski's Polish radio programme, March 2010

*What the four of you create, your jazz compositions in a string quartet, is really a rareness on a worldwide scale.*

*All of you write music pieces and they are very diverse and very interesting. It is clear you draw on many influences.*

*I highly recommend this, keep your eye on Atom String Quartet.*

Aga Zaryan's „Chilli Zet” radio programme, June 2011

*...jazz feeling, a lot of technically brilliant and effective improvisations. There are also original compositions, excellent arrangements full of surprising sound effects.*

*It is a clever album; can be best enjoyed when listened as a whole, which is difficult to gain in a band sounding so homogenously.*

„Jazz Forum” magazine, June 2011

*We have a thoroughly original jazz band and that is on a European scale.*

„Rzeczpospolita”, Polish daily newspaper

*Their music is jazz from the good old New Orleans school, with clear philharmonic and folk influences. It is great in jazz music that it matches so many motives and trends.*

*... they play their own compositions because simply there is no music literature for a jazz string quartet. They have to create their world from the beginning. And that also is amazing.*

A blogger's review



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