

Hanka G
Robert Pospiš
Nikolaj Nikitin
Martin Sillay

~ Walt Whitman's poetry turns into music Project Tour USA ~

feat.
Stanley Banks
Taru Alexander
John Peters



Nikolaj Nikitin - saxophone

Saxophonist, composer and university teacher belongs to the one of the most prominent saxophonists of Slovak contemporary jazz. Performed with: Miroslav Vitous, Patches Stewart, Klemens Marktl, Cluster ensemble

Videos:

Nikitin/Sramek/Vitous

Nikitin/Sramek: Tempstation

Nikitin/Sramek feat. Klemens Marktl:

Altar live



Robert Pospis - vocal

Well-known names of the Slovak musical scene. Both musicians are respected not only as active performers but also as producers of reputable Slovak music and founders of the renowned publishing company Real Music House. They have released eight own albums and more than fifty records as producers and sound engineers. Robert Pospis & Martin Sillay's albums are regularly ranked on the top in various Slovak music album inquiries. Excellent acceptance by audience and music critics confirm that Robert Pospis & Martin Sillay's work is resonating with ever-wider audience. After the period they spent working on awarded projects Balady, Jan Cikker 105 and Polajka - Exodus, in their latest project with Nikolaj Nikitin and Hanka G, they are now coming back closer to songwriting, which has always been an important part of their specific sound. Producing/songwriting team Robert Pospis and Martin Sillay belong without any doubt to the most interesting and most productive tandems on the Slovak music scene. Collaboration with the top of the world's music scene, variety of received awards and exquisite reactions from both professional and general audiences just confirm it.

Videos:

Exodus/Polajka

Jan Cikker 105/Nikitin/Pospis/Sillay

Balady/Robert Pospis & Martin Sillay

Real Music House



Martin Sillay- guitar



Hanka G - vocal

One of the most admired and well respected jazz singers in Slovakia, growing up in Mongolian desert Gobi and currently living in New York. She is a rising star of jazz & world-music, singer & lyricist. Acknowledged as "The Best of the Next Generation" by Cassandra Wilson, the two-time Grammy award winner and the best American jazz singer, she is also represented by the same agency - Ojah Media Group. Recipient of the most respected jazz award in Slovakia, Martonik's award "Jazzman Of The Year 2017".

She has been performing at the domestic as well as international jazz scene for well over a decade now, with her signature musical style of jazz, soul, gospel & world- music fusion.

Videos:

[Promo video Hanka G](#)

[Web - Videos](#)

[Hanka G with Nikolaj Nikitin - Slovak folklore song „Red Apple“](#)

Presskit:

[Hanka G](#)

Web:

hankag.com

Hanka has recorded three solo CD's "Reflections Of My Soul" (2007), "Essence" (2014) and "Twin Flame" (2016) and cooperated on several other projects (Nikolaj Nikitin, Stefan Bartus, Sisa Michalidesova, Marcus McLaurine...) converting instrumental tunes into songs by writing lyrics and vocalizing them. She is also a lead singer in Memorial Baptist Church in Harlem, New York. Hanka opened up for Cassandra Wilson & Kurt Elling and toured with Rodney Kendrick. She is actively performing at NYC jazz scene with her trio (Anthony Wonsey, Marcus McLaurine, Taru Alexander) as well as a member of Taru Alexander's quartet & Anthony Wonsey quintet. Her recordings are played in more than 10 major jazz radio stations across the USA. Throughout her career, Hanka has worked and performed with one of the best jazz musicians in the world: Marc Cary, Essiet Okon Essiet, Rodney Kendrick, Anthony Wonsey, Marcus McLaurine, Benito Gonzales, Eric Wyatt, Theo Hill, George Gray, Patches Stewart, Taru Alexander, Gerry Eastman, Carlton Holmes, Kris Funn, John R. Lamkin, Kenny Davis, Mimi Jones, Camille Gainer Jones, Chris Beck, and many others...



Taru Alexander - drums

American jazz drummer, born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He is a son of jazz legend Roland Alexander, an American post-bop jazz tenor saxophone player from Boston, Massachusetts.

Taru started to play drums at the early age of seven years old surrounded by the greatest jazz musicians like Freddie Hubbard, Reggie Workman, Gary Bartz and Kiani Zawadi. At the age of nine he was studying drums under the leadership of master drummers Rudy Collins, Andre Strobert and Walter Perkins at the New Muse music school in Brooklyn, New York. By the age of thirteen, Taru started to perform professionally with his father Roland Alexander's quintet (Roland Alexander-tenor saxophone, Kiani Zawadi-trombone, Hilton Ruiz-piano, Paul Brown-bass). At the same time, he started to study drums with Justin DiCioccio at the La Guardia Music & Art High School in New York.



John Peters - Piano

Native New Yorker from the Bronx born with the gift of music. His first instruments were guitar and bass but had a stronger love for organ and piano. John's vision was to be able to play and learn music beyond the four walls of the church. Studying Jazz greats like Jimmy Smith, Bud Powell, Chick Corea, Bobby Lyle, Russell Ferrante and Oscar Peterson has allowed John to open his mind musically. By doing so he has recorded over 300 projects, played throughout New York City and traveled worldwide playing for countless artist. John has five instructional DVDs on Gospel piano/Organ were a few are being studied at Berkley College. In 1986 his first debut was a live recording with The Bronx Mass Chior under the direction of Eric McDaniels and Roger Hambrick. He then had the privilege of working with James Hall and Worship and Praise out of Brooklyn New York. Other artist include Donnie Mckirkland, Alicia Keys, Karen Clark, Oprah Winfrey, Clifton Davis and others.



Stanley Banks - bass

Legendary Bassist Stanley Banks, a Brooklyn native who began playing bass guitar in High School. Stanley performed 2 years with the New York City High School Orchestra and Chorus at Philharmonic Hall. He later joined 10 time Grammy winning artist George Benson. He has continued to play along side him as his bassist for over 35 years, and has recorded on albums such as "Breezin", "Weekend In LA", "The Greatest", and others that have gone gold or platinum.. He has also appeared with such greats as Chaka Khan, Aretha Franklin, Esther Phillips, Freddie Hubbard, Al Jarreau, David Sanborn, Etta James, Stanley Turrentine, Manhattan Transfer, and countless others.



A two-phase concert tour on the occasion of recording and publishing of the CD Walt Whitman Project will take place in NYC in March and October 2018. Its aim is to promote Slovak music in the USA, establish new musical connections and continue cooperation with world class musicians. From Slovakia, Hanka G (vocal), Robert Pospis (vocal), Martin Sillay (guitar) and Nikolaj Nikitin (saxophone) will take part in the project. Musicians from the USA will be: Taru Alexander (drums), Stanley Banks (bass) and John Peters (piano). The main theme is poetry of Walt Withman, which appeals to the general public. That is why the target audience is not only fans of high-quality music, jazz, blues and soul, but also fans of poetry or musical texts. The project's ambition is to attract a multi-generational audience. People of every generation, focusing on the young and middle generation. Fans of jazz music, visitors of jazz and non-jazz festivals and other cultural events. Due to the close relationship with Walt Whitman's poetry, we are also expecting interest among his readers and fans of overlapping genre music projects.

The project follows up on the CD projects of Polajka/Nikolaj Nikitin ensemble with Miroslav Vitous (Music Fund Bratislava, 2014), and Jan Cikker 105 (Real Music House, 2016). This time, the group of producers has chosen poetry of Walt Whitman, a world-known poet, as a main theme. The material is drawn from his poetry collections. Music is based on current trends in jazz, folk, blues and bluesrock music. The ambition is to draw together the European and American traditions of folk genre. The project's partners are The Samurai Hotel Recording Studio and musicians from the USA. The guarantor of the project is the influential Slovak saxophonist Nikolai Nikitin and for the USA side - Hanka G, a Slovak singer living abroad.

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Jazz/Soul/Folk/Experimental

The best from Slovakia with international foreign guests



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samosprávny
kraj

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