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Massimiliano Donninelli was born in Jesi, achieves studies of Saxophone with Albino Mattei, Enzo Veddovi (Diploma with Flying Colours and Merit at the Conservatoire G.Rossini - Pesaro) and Jean-Marie Londeix (Première Prix et médaille d'Or à l'unanimité avec félicitations du Jury au Conservatoire National de Région de Bordeaux et Prix de Musique de Chambre), Composition, Conducting with Zoltán Peskó, László Tihany and George Pehlivanian.

Winner at very young age of national and international Competitions, he enters upon an international career, invited in festivals as Sagra Malatestiana di Rimini, Trieste Prima, Mittelfest, Otranto Festival, MGN Monaco, Biennale-Europa Mediterranea (Roma), Biennale Musica (Venezia), Teatro La Fenice (Venezia), Rijeka, Pula, Xth World Saxophone Congress (Pesaro), Xth International Saxophone Master-Class (Fermo), Teatro "G.Rossini" di Pesaro, Milano Oltre, CDMC (Madrid), Biennale Zagabria, Zaal De Unie (Rotterdam), Suggestioni Archeologiche (Aquileia), Nuove Forme (Verona), Lo Spazio Ritrovato (Trieste), VIII Mednarodno Srečanje Saksofonistov (Nova Gorica), 14th World Saxophone Congress (Ljubljana), Teatro Miela, Lubenické Festival (Croazia), Bordeaux, Centenary of the birth of Goffredo Petrassi (Trieste) and Luigi Dallapiccola (Pisino d'Istria), MIBAC – Musei di Sera – Aquileia, RadioFrance (Paris), TeaterSSG.

Collaborations with Orchestra Internazionale d'Italia, Lu Jia, Christian Lauba, Ovidiu Balan, Orchestra Mihail Jora, Valeria Moriconi, Brizio Montinaro, Gruppo La Macina, Ensemble International des Saxophones de Bordeaux, Jean-Marie Londeix, Luciano Berio (Massimiliano is the only Italian saxophonist to have collaborated with the Maestro of the execution sequence IXb for alto saxophone), Claudio Ambrosini, Alessandro Sbordoni, Eric Trémolières, International Saxophone quartet – Sax Overseas, Giampaolo Coral, François Rossé, Stefano Bassanese, Renato Rivolta, Alessandro Solbiati, Dimitri Nicolau, Luca Mosca, Giovanni Maier, Mauro Lanza, Lorenzo Pagliei, Andrea Vigani, Fabio Nieder.

He gave master-classes, concerts and conferences for Institutions as Youngstown University (USA), Alberta University (Edmonton, Canada), Universität Klagenfurt, Fondazione Regionale per lo Spettacolo (FVG), SISSA (Trieste), Centro Nazionale di Studi Leopardiani (Recanati), Museo Archeologico Nazionale (Aquileia), Provincia di Trieste, CTP (Centro Tradizioni Popolari, Jesi), Museo Teatrale "C.Schmidl" (Trieste), Grm-Ina (Paris). In collaboration with Socrates Project he gave masterclasses and concerts for Real Conservatorio Superior de Música (Madrid), Escola Superior de Música (Lisboa), Konservatorium Wien and Trinity College of London.

He took part of the jury of the “III International Saxophone Competition Alpe-Adria-Danubio” (Nova Gorica), II International Competition for young saxophonists “Saksistra 2007” (Koper), 36 Concorso Nazionale “TEMSIG” (Ljubljana), III and IV International Competition Paolo Spincich Prize (Trieste).

His compositions are performed in Italy, Germany, Slovenia, France, Croatia, Brasil, USA, broadcasted by Rss Sky, Rete A, Telequattro, Radio Vaticana, RAI, UN Radio (Antioquia, Colombia) and performed as world première by interpreters as Zagreb Saxophone Quartett, Celje String Orchestra, Nenad Firšt, Luisa Sello, Arno Bornkamp, Duo Novecembalo. He wrote music for the theatre, CTK-Lecce, UPT Trieste and Regione FVG, he published with Pizzicato (Udine), Sloway Music Editions (Ljubljana) and recorded for CBC, Rai, Rai Slo, RNE, Rusty Records (Milano-Torino), Palomar Records, RadioFrance.

He founded and he conducts regularly the “PrismaEnsemble” of Trieste, “Gruppo-Laboratorio di musica da camera Contemporanea del Conservatorio G.Tartini di Trieste” and “Trieste Saxophone Orchestra”. Collaborates with Chromas Ensemble of Trieste and “Ex-Novo Ensemble” of Venice.

Has been appointed Artistic Director and Chief Conductor “ONGI” (Italian National Youth Orchestra) project that began as the development of JMIYO. He has been appointed Vice President of GMI (Youth Music of Italy - Jeunesse Musicales International) seat of Verona.

He was nominated Artistic Director of “paeSaggi Sonori”, project understanding from the Conservatory of Udine and Trieste, winner of competition of the Regione FVG for the production and divulgation of new music.

He was invited from the Italian Department of State Education (MIUR - Ministry of State Education, University and Scientific Research) to take part to the national commission to value the new didactic courses in the Italian Conservatoires of Music and Instituts of Music Officially recognized.

Regularly he taught at the International Master-Class of Spilimbergo (Istituto G.A. Fano-ANBIMA), International Master-Class of Associazione D.Sarro - European Arts Academy di Trani, International Saxophone Master-Class “Alpe-Adria-Danubio” (Nova Gorica), International Master-Class of Saxophone (Koper/Capodistria). He taught at the Conservatory “A.Scontrino” of Trapani, at the Istituto Musicale Pareggiato “P.Mascagni” of Livorno and as a winner of State Competition for Chairs of teacher of Saxophone he taught since 1995 to 1996 at the Conservatoire of Music in Benevento and since 1996 he is the teacher of Saxophone at the Conservatoire “G.Tartini” in Trieste, where he taught also Semeiography of contemporary music for the Accademic level.