



# ALMOST BLUE

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A show dedicated to the cities of Amsterdam and New York

*A project by Enrico Duranti  
edited by CLUSTER Associazione Culturale*

The idea of making *Almost blue* was born following a trip to the cities of Amsterdam and New York. "Blue" like the blue of the ocean that separates them, like the colour of the sky towards which the immense skyscrapers of New York tend, like the shades of the sky that suddenly change over the canals and the picturesque streets of Amsterdam. But *Almost Blue* is much more: it is a disposition of the soul, that only music and theatre can describe and tell...

Amsterdam and New York, though so distant and so different, share some crucial moments in their history and represent a point of contact between Europe and America, between the Old Continent and the New World. What we want to represent on the stage is a journey that is both real and spiritual, true and profound as those journeys that lead to the discovery of oneself through places and encounters, sounds and colours, voices and words.

Thanks to the stories of five characters, a small constellation of faces that accompanies the viewer on a path traced by music, the journey of *Almost Blue* comes to life and once again unites the two metropolises.

The three music ians on stage interact with an actor touching different genres and styles, from opera repertoire to jazz, through spirituals and Spanish music. Plays of light and an atmosphere suspended between reality and fiction lead the viewer to where words, by themselves, cannot reach.

## ALMOST BLUE WE GO ON STAGE!

For the staging and mise-en-scene of *Almost Blue* we need a theatre or an auditorium, with a stage that can comfortably accommodate the 4 artists included in the script and a grand piano. Following a support, we will be able to list all the expense details.

## SUPPORT THE PROJECT SET SAIL WITH US!

**What are the advantages if you support the project?**

- Concession of free show tickets for your customers, employees and stakeholders;
- Visibility of the brand on all communication materials (posters, booklets and promotional videos);
- Availability to quote the brand in dedicated articles in newspapers and magazines;
- Availability to quote the brand during interviews with radio and television broadcasters;
- Integrated communication opportunities on social networks (Facebook page, Twitter profile and Association's website)
- Thank-you message during the show

**Enrico Duranti**  
+39 329 1011241  
[associazionecluster@gmail.com](mailto:associazionecluster@gmail.com)



## THE CREW OF ALMOST BLUE

**FABIANO CASANOVA** completed his musical studies at the "Giuseppe Verdi" Conservatory of Milan under the guidance of Master O. Minola, graduating in 1994 with honour and honourable mention. His concert career has led him to hold recitals as a soloist in Italy and abroad. Alongside the concert commitment, he has also started a didactic activity, teaching piano at the Accademia Musicale S. Cecilia of Bergamo and at the Istituto Superiore di Studi Musicali "G. Donizetti" of Bergamo. He is the assistant of Master Konstantin Bogino at the High Specialization courses at the Accademia Santa Cecilia of Bergamo and has been president of the Cluster Association since 2015.



FABIANO CASANOVA

**MARCO CORTINOVIS** graduated in Organ with M<sup>o</sup> A. Macinanti and he continued his training in France with M<sup>o</sup> F. Desenclos. Currently he is the resident organist at the Duomo in Bergamo (Italy) and performs internationally as a soloist as well as in various ensembles. M<sup>o</sup> Cortinovis has been featured in records published by Bottega Discantica and Classica dal Vivo. In 2008 he was tasked with writing a new piece by the Fondation Royaumont (FR) for the dance-theatre project Etude pour la Sainteté produced by the dancer and choreographer Erika de Crescenzo. Since 2009, Cortinovis has been an Organ lecturer at the Santa Cecilia Academy in Bergamo and since 2017 he has been teaching Theory, Analysis and Composition at the High school "V. Gambara" in Brescia.



MARCO CORTINOVIS

**ENRICO DURANTI** completed his studies in Musicology and Trombone, dedicating himself for a few years to concert activity in orchestral and chamber ensembles. He has been a Key teacher for Italy for three years, from 2012 to 2015, within the European project Class Band by Yamaha Music Europe. He has been teacher of musical subjects at the Scuole dell'Opera Sant'Alessandro of Bergamo since 2010. He is the author of the theatrical works for the shows offered by the Cluster Association. His fields of artistic research range from musical theatre to cinema, with proposals dedicated to an audience of all ages and cultural education.



ENRICO DURANTI

**TIZIANO FERRARI** after a degree in Design at the Politecnico of Milan, he graduated in 2005 from the Piccolo Teatro school in Milan and continued with Luca Ronconi in several of his shows for a few years, before moving closer to the research of Cristina Pezzoli and the puppet theatre with Fabrizio Montecchi and Teatro Gioco Vita. He collaborates as a teacher of theatre techniques with Erbamil Teatro and, as a director, he is in charge of the SPAZIO TEATRO company.



TIZIANO FERRARI

**FEMKE IJLSTRA** professor at the Claus Conservatory in Groningen, Holland, is one of the most successful saxophonists of her generation. Graduated with honours in Amsterdam, she has won many competitions, such as the "Princess Christina Concours" and the National Competition For Wind Players in the Netherlands. She plays with various orchestras of the world, among which the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, the Budapest Festival Orchestra and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. In 2016, she also won the audition for the Tonhalle Orchestra of Zurich. Femke loves chamber music: she is a saxophonist and the founder of the Syrène Saxophone Quartet.



FEMKE IJLSTRA

**OMAR TOMASONI** has been principal trumpet of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam since 2013. He has held the same position in the Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, under the direction of Maestro Zubin Mehta and, since 2008, in the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia conducted by Maestro Antonio Pappano. He was part of the European Union Youth Orchestra and, for this reason, in 2003 he was awarded the Bronze Medal of the Italian Republic for artistic merit. He is a member and co-founder of the brass quintet Italian Wonderbrass.



OMAR TOMASONI

**SIMONE MORETTI** lighting design and assistant director

**STEFANO ASPERTI** English version

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Cluster was born in 2015 from the common idea of a group of musicians to promote a multifaceted and quality musical culture. Founded by pianists Fabiano Casanova, Matteo Corio, Sara Costa and Paolo Ongis, the Association proposes: concert shows, educational projects and shows of an interdisciplinary nature for schools, preparatory workshops for children, training courses for teachers and masterclass of instrumental improvement.

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