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Music and musicians Interviews

## Dario Chiazzolino talks about his new album "Red Cloud"

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Born in 1985, Dario Chiazzolino talks about jazz and presents his new album "Red Cloud", which will be released at the end of February.

**Despite being very young, you already have great collaborations with the likes of Bob Mintzer, Russell Ferrante, Jason Rebello (Sting's pianist), Yellow Jackets and many others. Who impressed you the most?**

*I had the privilege to play and compare myself with really important and talented musicians. I find it difficult to identify a particular name because everyone has left a positive mark during my artistic journey.*

*Every meeting with a musician is a moment of intense sharing of musical and human experiences. Sometimes you know only a few hours before a concert, so you only have time to do a little test during the sound check and then you go up on stage, almost no one talks about it. This forces you to be ready and reactive with anyone in front of you, and above all to keep your ears well open.*



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*That said, I can not but mention the collaboration with the legendary jazz-fusion band Yellow Jackets. Without a doubt one of the most relevant moments of my career. ( [At this link](#) you can see the performance of Dario Chiazzolino along with the Yellow Jackets on the stage of the Blue Note in Milan, ed)*

### **Are there differences in the way of doing jazz in Italy and abroad?**

*From the strictly stylistic point of view, there are certainly differences. In Italy I believe that jazz is still pro-American today, although there are no musical streams that look more towards Northern European sounds. The American jazz criticism is also unanimous in considering the Italian Jazz as the most interesting and notable international scenario. This obviously can not help but fill me and all the Italian jazz musicians with joy. The opportunities to perform are higher in the big cities. It is no coincidence that probably New York, London, Paris and Berlin are the major cultural and musical centers to which many musicians come from all over the world. Living in New York, I realized this perfectly; meet high-level musicians, with different influences and musical backgrounds it is a really considerable resource for his artistic growth. Among other things, the city of New York offers about a hundred jazz concerts a day, including large and small clubs, hotel lounges and theaters. But what is even more surprising is the audience at the concerts, always nurtured and attentive. It is inevitable that all this gives the artist greater possibilities to spread his own music, his own projects and more philosophically speaking, his own "vision".*

### **At the end of February your new album "Red Cloud" will come out: what is the common thread? How were the compositions born?**

*Red Cloud is my last job. The pianist Antonio Faraò, bassist Dominique Di Piazza and drummer Manhu Roche collaborated on the project. They were fantastic traveling companions and they shared all their strength and musical sensibility. The music of Red Cloud is sometimes very rough, sometimes softer and lyrical. I composed eight tracks each of which takes its name from different atmospheric phenomena. I have described with the music, the themes and the same improvisations the "moods" of the sky, sometimes serene, sometimes furious and turbulent. Who has already heard the preview of the disc defines it as a "Concept Album". Only one cover will be present in the track list: Solar by Miles Davis.*

### **What is your relationship with the guitar?**

*A relationship of profound love. She is a companion of inseparable life.*

*It may seem exaggerated, but I can feel everywhere at home when I have my guitar with me.*

*I have a nice memory of when I was a kid at school and I could not concentrate in class during class. I was constantly thinking about the guitar, I imagined playing it even when it was not in my hands and when I got home I would fall on her. In short, it was a real obsession.*

*Growing up and taking care of music professionally, other issues took over. Being a musician does not only*



mean playing, but it is a far more complex job than commonly thought.  
But that curiosity and that constant desire to pick up the instrument and let me be carried away by the vibrations of its strings is always alive and present in every day of my life.

**Let's talk about your teaching activity, at the moment you are a jazz guitar teacher at the Long Island City Music Academy in New York : what are the key points and the concepts you are trying to convey to your students?**

First of all, I try to convey my passion, even before tackling a technical discourse. I think it's very important for the student to fall in love with the music so that the studio also becomes fun. Music is a serious game and, in order to really enjoy its potential, it requires commitment and dedication, as in all things. A very important message that I try to spread is that music has the power to make people feel good. No matter how high your level or how virtuous you are to play or sing, music is magical because it has the power to transport people to "other places" and make them dream.

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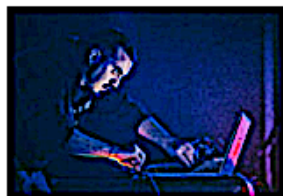
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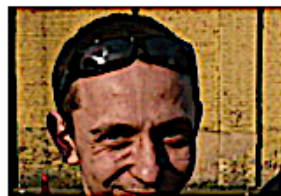
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