

Jazz Profiles

Focused Profiles on Jazz and its Creators while also Featuring the Work of Guest Writers and Critics on the Subject of Jazz.

Saturday, May 11, 2019

Marco Pacassoni - Frank and Ruth

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Although I've never met him because of the geographical distance between California and Fano [near Urbino], in the northeast Tuscan-Romagnolo Apennines region of Italy where he lives, percussionist, composer and teacher, Marco Pacassoni and I have become social networking friends.

It's a friendship that I value not only because of some obvious points - I'm Italian-American and he's Italian; I play drums as does he and other percussion instruments as well; our shared interest in Jazz - but because my "friendship" with Marco helps keep me in touch with what's going on in Jazz today.

Keeping current is a challenge for me; to be honest, I don't like much of what I hear that passes for Jazz today. It just doesn't speak to me. On the other hand, I don't want to isolate myself from contemporary Jazz while relegating myself solely to the music, which I do favor, as it existed in previous periods of its development.

Jazz has always been ecumencial and eclectic - it's a music open to influences from a wide variety of socio-cultural sources - so it's probably healthy for me to have associations with young musicians who hear and play the music differently and who help keep my ears moving in different directions.

But if that wasn't enough, there's another "connection" between Marco and me brought about by the concept of his most recent CD and that is, its theme

