



MAURICIO ZOTTARELLI DRUMMER/COMPOSER

Drummer/Composer Mauricio Zottarelli has been on the forefront of the Jazz, Latin and Brazilian music scenes for quite some time. Coming from a musical family, Mauricio was born in Santos, SP, Brazil, but moved with his parents to their hometown, Rio Claro, SP, as a toddler. Surrounded by the city's and country 's rich music and cultural traditions, Mauricio grew up in an intense musical environment, and it was just a matter of time before he chose a career in music— or as he puts it, music chose him.

His first few years as a professional musician consisted of many performances throughout his native country with different Brazilian groups and artists, as well as studio and session work. At the same time, he pursued a degree in Computer Science, and concluded his studies in 1997.

In 1999 he was awarded a scholarship to Berklee College of Music, in Boston, MA - where he studied Film Scoring, Arranging and Performance. He graduated from the prestigious college in 2002. In the following years, Mauricio studied Indian music with the amazing South Indian guitar player Prasanna, and studied piano and composition with renowned jazz instructor Charlie Banacos. He moved to New York City in 2006.

Mauricio is a critically acclaimed and award-winning drummer and artist. He has participated in more than 60 albums as a drummer/percussionist. He is also the co-leader of the jazz-fusion project **Dig Trio**, which released its first CD in 2003 and has received great reviews from critics and audiences alike. In 2005, he was unanimously elected the best drummer at the 2005 Emergenza International Festival for Independent bands (Boston finals).

In 2009, Mauricio became a member of jazz pianist Hiromi's super group, **Hiromi's Sonicbloom**, and has traveled the world in support of her latest CD, *Beyond Standard*. Also in June, Mauricio released his first album, entitled **7 Lives**, which includes several of his own compositions. The CD has an amazing lineup of some of the best names in jazz and Brazilian music, performing a unique mix of Brazilian jazz, fusion, and jazz. Among his many different projects and contributions in 2010, Mauricio performed on the latest recording by the legendary Brazilian pianist **Dom Salvador**, and has been appearing with his group in concerts both in Brazil and USA.

Best known for his musicality, impeccable time and groove, his facility on the drum set, and his ability to play in many different styles, Mauricio is often seen performing with some of the most preeminent jazz, fusion, pop/rock, Latin, and Brazilian names in today's music both in shows around the U.S. and in tours all around the world.

Mauricio uses and endorses **Vic Firth e Mono cases**.

WEB Sites:

www.mzdrums.com
www.myspace.com/mauriciozottarelli
www.mzdrums.blogspot.com
www.youtube.com/mzdrums

Emails:

Artist: mz@mzdrums.com
Booking: booking@mzdrums.com



Mauricio has performed with: Hiromi, Dig Trio, Eliane Elias, Marc Johnson, Prasanna, Esperanza Spalding, Cláudio Roditi, Rosa Passos, Dom Salvador, Jovino Santos Neto, Nilson Matta, Toninho Horta, Filó Machado, Sandro Albert, Santi deBriano, Cidinho Teixeira group, Gustavo Assis Brasil, Marc Rossi Group, Hendrik Meurkens, Oriente Lopez, and many others.

PRESS

"(...)the stupendous drummer Mauricio Zottarelli..." The News Group on-line – SPAIN /Latino América Exterior (on-line) – SPAIN

"Outstanding – Much more than drums, cymbals, and drumsticks."
L. Nobile, Newspaper "O Estado de São Paulo", Brazil review of the CD "7 Lives"

"(...) Featuring Zottarelli's many different rhythmic and compositional skills, this album is high-quality Brazilian jazz". H.Sugita - Swing Journal – JAPAN – review of MZ's "7 Lives" album

"Zottarelli delivers a splendidly developed, variegated drum solo." Scott Albin – www.jazz.com - from CD review of Marc Rossi Group's Hidden Mandala

"Sonicbloom, Hiromi's frenetic but exacting fusion band, relies on the strong propulsion of the British bassist Tony Grey and the Brazilian drummer Mauricio Zottarelli." The New York Times – July 2009 - Hiromi's Blue Note NYC 2009 concert review

"Mauricio Zottarelli is a hot new talent to watch out for!" John Stevenson – www.ejazznews.com

"(...)Mauricio Zottarelli, one of the new promising brazilian drummers..." www.lasprovincias.es - Valencia, SPAIN
www.valencianoticias.com - ValenciaNews (SPAIN)

"Mauricio Zottarelli is a machine! Keep your eyes on him." DRUM PRO magazine- USA

"And once again a drummer proves to be quite musical. Zottarelli's drumming is not just running through different rhythms, rather they serve the song. He accompanies the songs with great feeling. A convincing debut album from a drummer you certainly should know."

www.jazzdrummerworld.com, September 2009 – review of CD "7 Lives"



" The dynamic Brazilian drummer Mauricio Zottarelli (...)" M. Jackson – Downbeat Magazine 2009

"Zottarelli, who wrote seven out of the eleven songs, is not only a gifted composer but also a great producer. A drummer whose playing is incredibly musical and at the same time propulsive, whose kicks and breaks are always directly related to the purpose of the song. If you have seen Zottarelli live, you will understand what I mean by that, and the joy of playing that this drummer emanates." Silvano Gerosa, Jazz n' More magazine, SWITZERLAND, September 2009 – review of "7 Lives"

"Particularly impressive is Zottarelli's solo turn atop Assis-Brasil's beautiful complementary chords." W. Kolosky – www.jazz.com - on Gustavo Assis-Brasil live DVD/CD

"Mauricio is one of today's most distinctly musical drummers." metalhaven.livejournal.com

"Zottarelli shows us that he can adapt efficiently to any musical style with amazing ability." Metronome Magazine - Boston, MA

7 LIVES

Mauricio's new CD, entitled "**7 Lives**" was released in June 2009. The project explores even more the drummer's versatility and musicality, as well as showcasing him from a different perspective: as a composer, bandleader and producer.

"I always wanted to have my own group, and to write my own songs," says Mauricio. "In one way or another this has been *in the works* since I started to get serious about music. And it has been a fantastic experience to be able to create this music and to have these incredible musicians perform it. I couldn't be happier with what we created!"

The goal of the project is to blend Brazilian-jazz, fusion, and Jazz into one unique sound. On his original compositions, Mauricio works on combining different harmonic ideas, polyrhythmic patterns and grooves, and interesting melodies into something truly original, modern, artful.

"I try not to label my music and/or what I do," explains the drummer and composer. "Since I like many different styles, my music will hopefully draw from all of these different influences. I want it to be its own thing. I want my music to have a specific and recognizable character, but at the same time I want it to be comprised of all the things I like about music and life. Be it the cultural richness of Brazilian music, the high-energy that comes from fusion, or the beauty and intricacy of the jazz vocabulary and improvisation, I want this music to be an extension of who I am and what I feel. But, obviously, I want listeners to have their own experiences and impressions of it too. As long as there is an exchange, I think these songs will be serving their purpose."

The CD line-up includes some important names in the Jazz and Latin/Brazilian music scenes:

GUSTAVO ASSIS-BRASIL (guitar)
ITAIGUARA BRANDÃO (electric bass)
MILENE CORSO (vocals)
BRANDI DISTERHEFT (acoustic bass)
DOM SALVADOR (piano)
ORIENTE LOPEZ (piano, flutes)
ESPERANZA SPALDING (acoustic bass)
CIDINHO TEIXEIRA (piano)
RODRIGO URSAIA (saxophone)

Brazilian pianists **Dom Salvador** (from the world-famous Rio-65 trio e from group Abolição) and **Cidinho Teixeira** are two of the most influential and admired Brazilian musicians ever. They both contribute with one original song each to the record. Bassist/singer sensation

Esperanza Spalding, who is one of the most notable new musicians in jazz, grooves hard along with the band. The guitarist **Gustavo Assis-Brasil** is a highly respected name in educational circles for his books and methods using the "hybrid-picking" approach, and also for his live DVD recorded in Brazil in 2007. This DVD also features Mauricio on drums.

Itaiguara Brandão, **Rodrigo Ursaia** and **Oriente Lopez** are among the very best and most sought-after musicians in both the Latin and jazz scenes in NYC. They are constantly involved in many projects with Mauricio, which creates a high level of interaction among them, as well as mutual respect and admiration.

Brandi Disterheft won the Canadian Juno 2008 for her work as a bassist and composer. Brandi travels the world playing with her band and promoting her music, and plays with Mauricio regularly in many groups and ensembles in NYC. **Milene Corso** has a very diverse musical career, which includes: extensive work as a singer in Brazil and in the USA, directing and arranging for many musical groups and vocals ("a cappella"), and recent studies on the Dalcroze Methodology for teaching music.

