

PRESS KIT


ANDRÉ LEROUX



ANDRÉ
LEROUX

CLAUDE GAUTHIER

MONTREAL
JAZZ
SERIES

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MONTREAL JAZZ SERIES VOL.1

ÉCHANGES SYNAPTIQUES

Immerse yourself in the fascinating world of André Leroux with Montreal Jazz Series Vol. 1, the exhilarating first installment of an innovative series that redefines the Montreal jazz scene. Led by the renowned André Leroux, this album offers a deep immersion that blends the rich heritage of jazz with the bold sounds of today.



On this album, André Leroux brings together two distinct ensembles, providing listeners with a varied and captivating experience. The first group features Leroux on tenor and soprano saxophones, alongside the dynamic André White on drums, Frédéric Alarie on double bass, and Fred Henke on piano, delivering a powerful tribute to jazz giants such as John Coltrane and Wayne Shorter. Their performance goes beyond a mere homage; it revitalizes the classics, infusing legendary works with new life and renewed passion, appealing to both purists and new jazz enthusiasts.

The second ensemble explores new frontiers of the genre, embodying the spirit of innovation that characterizes contemporary jazz. With François Bourassa on piano, Rémi-Jean Leblanc on double bass, and John Hollenbeck on drums, this group delves into original compositions, imbued with the energy and creativity of modern New York jazz. Their bold and innovative sound offers a striking contrast to the first part of the album.

Montreal Jazz Series Vol. 1 is not just an album; it's an artistic statement. It captures the essence of Montreal's vibrant jazz culture while projecting towards the future of the genre. It's a must-have for jazz enthusiasts and anyone who appreciates musical excellence and innovation. Don't just listen: experience the evolution of jazz with some of the most exceptional musicians of our time.

♪ Stream the album now ♪

<https://bfan.link/montreal-jazz-series-1>

André Leroux releases a first radio single “Échanges synaptiques”



Montreal, July 21, 2025 – *Disques BG* is proud to announce the release of the single “Échanges synaptiques”, the centerpiece and title track of the first volume of the Montreal Jazz Series collection. A true sonic manifesto, this piece embodies the soul of the project: jazz that is both rooted in tradition and free in its exploration, driven by the avant-garde of the Quebec scene.

«**Échanges synaptiques**», written by Frédéric Alarie is the meeting point between compositional rigor and liberated improvisation. From the very first bars, the listener is transported into a universe where each note seems to emerge from an inner dialogue, like a network of musical ideas intertwining, crossing, and colliding. The soprano, fluid and expressive, guides this sensory journey, supported by a supple rhythm section and modern harmonic textures.

♪ Click below to listen to the single and the album. ♪

<https://s.disco.ac/vdabpzktizwv>



About

The Montreal Jazz Series continues to showcase the talent of musicians from Montreal’s jazz scene. After making waves with the first three volumes, the MJS is already preparing volumes 4 and 5... stay tuned! Immerse yourself in the musical universe of the series by (re)discovering the first three volumes, already available on all streaming platforms.

♪ Click below to listen ♪

<https://bfan.link/montreal-jazz-series-1>

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<https://bfan.link/montreal-jazz-series-3>

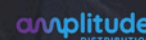
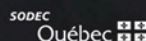


**“Saxophonist André Leroux
is a prime example
of a world-class
musician”**

- James Hale, Downbeat

Source : DISQUES BG

For information or interviews : Matias Papa
communications@disquesbg.com
Phone : (263) 384-2042



ANDRÉ LEROUX AT MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL



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A Well-Deserved Honor for Saxophonist André Leroux

- BY OLIVIER DÉNOMMÉE

"For over 40 years, André Leroux has earned his place among the most essential saxophonists on the Quebec music scene, having worked as a sideman with many of the province's leading artists. But it is at the helm of his own project that he was recognized on March 30th with the Juno Award for Jazz Album of the Year (Solo) for his record *Montreal Jazz Series 1 (Échanges synaptiques)*.

Though long associated with Montreal's jazz scene, André Leroux grew up in the Vallée-du-Richelieu region, spending several years in Otterburn Park and attending Ozias-Leduc High School, where he played his very first notes on the tenor saxophone—his instrument of choice. He still remembers teachers like Carmen Lafontaine and Marcel St-Maurice, who quickly spotted his musical talent. In his early years, he was very active locally, playing during masses in Mont-Saint-Hilaire and performing with the Saint-Hyacinthe Philharmonic Orchestra. As a teenager, Leroux recalls spending countless hours jamming to *Breakfast in America* by Supertramp, quickly developing a passion for improvisation.

According to Leroux, his musical gift comes directly from his father, an engineer by profession, but also a one-man band equally talented on the piano and harmonica. "But he wanted me to get a 'real job,' so I enrolled in Pure Sciences at Cégep de Saint-Hyacinthe. Eventually, my musician friends convinced me to switch and study music instead, at Cégep de Saint-Laurent!" That's where he met Pierre Tremblay, who "made him fall in love with classical saxophone" and helped him become equally comfortable playing both classical music and in a big band. He later pursued classical studies at the Université de Montréal, but never completed his degree, leaving school to play music on Caribbean cruise ships and later with Cirque du Soleil."

A Well-Deserved Honor for Saxophonist André Leroux

- BY OLIVIER DÉNOMMÉE

"Since then, André Leroux's name has been everywhere. He founded the saxophone quartet Quasar 30 years ago and has played in groups like Michel Cusson's Wild Unit, Vic Vogel's big band, and the François Bourassa Quartet (with whom he won a Juno Award in 2002), to name just a few. "I've always been comfortable being a chameleon, able to blend in pretty easily with just about any artist. One of my strengths is sight-reading, so I can step in at the last minute and no one will even notice," says the saxophonist, who considers himself better as a sideman than a bandleader, a title he never felt the need to claim. That hasn't stopped him from accepting invitations to record a few albums under his own name, the first of which came out in 2009.

Carte blanche

That's exactly what happened with Échanges Synaptiques, when his friend Benoît Gagné approached him with the idea of creating a series of albums featuring his favorite jazz musicians on his new label. "He gave me total creative freedom, and that gave me the chance to fulfill a fantasy of mine: to play with the rhythm section that used to accompany Steve Grossman. The first half of the album was a tribute to John Coltrane and to Grossman—the musician who came closest to Coltrane that I've ever heard live. The second half, with other musicians, gave me space to explore different grooves." The result was an hour-long album with two very distinct energies—even presenting a few technical challenges when recording the B-side.

"I had no expectations for this record, but I was surprised by the positive reviews when it came out. The Juno was a total surprise, I couldn't even attend the ceremony to accept it in person!" He humbly adds that there are countless incredibly talented musicians all over the world, many of whom will never receive the recognition they deserve."

A Well-Deserved Honor for Saxophonist André Leroux

- BY OLIVIER DÉNOMMÉE

"André Leroux has received a flood of congratulations since the announcement, but he doesn't believe the award will drastically change his career. "I'm 61 years old. If I were still 35, it might be a different story! For me, life goes on, even if I do consider myself lucky to have received this award. Of course, it could help when applying for grants for future projects, for example."

Like many other musicians, André Leroux acknowledges that making a living doesn't come from recording albums, but rather from paid live performances and, especially, teaching, sharing his passion and knowledge with the next generation. "Jazz is a beautiful hobby," he says with a laugh. After a series of particularly busy months working on various projects, he admits he's looking forward to the summer, especially for some time on the golf course.

But before that, he still has a few shows ahead, including two performances at the Montreal International Jazz Festival, on June 30 with his own project, and July 5 with François Bourassa. Closer to home, André Leroux will be performing with Joe Sullivan's big band, as part of the Cabaret jazz d'Yvan Belleau, held at the Centre culturel et communautaire de la Pointe-Valaine on May 1st. "I never thought I'd be back playing in Otterburn Park! I'll probably keep a low profile during the show... unless I'm given the green light," he concludes, a smile in his voice."

- Olivier Dénommée, L'Oeil Régional

[Click here to read the full review](#)

JAZZ ALBUM OF THE YEAR - SOLO



André Leroux wins his first Juno

Montreal, April 16, 2025 – Saxophonist André Leroux was honored at the latest JUNO Awards ceremony, winning the award for Best Jazz Album of the Year (solo) for *Échanges Synaptiques, vol.1* from the Montreal Jazz Series. This captivating album, praised by critics, showcases exceptional musical virtuosity and an innovative approach to contemporary jazz.

♪ Click below to listen to the album ♪

<https://bfan.link/montreal-jazz-series-1>

About :

The Montreal Jazz Series continues to highlight the talent of musicians from the Canadian jazz scene. This collection of albums, driven by artists with diverse backgrounds, celebrates the innovation and diversity of Montreal's jazz scene. Dive into the upcoming volumes of the series and discover new captivating sounds, available now on streaming platforms.

♪ Click below to listen to vol. 2 and 3 ♪

<https://bfan.link/montreal-jazz-series-2>

<https://bfan.link/montreal-jazz-series-3>

Broadcast source : DISQUES BG

For information or interviews: France Riquier
communications@disquesbg.com

Phone : (514) 919-5014



**“Saxophonist André Leroux
is a prime example of a
world-class musician”**

- James Hale Downbeat



"Power house Jazz in Québec, Montréal Jazz Series 1-2-3"

- Kerilie McDowall Broadcasting, Vancouver



André Leroux

Gagnant du JUNO meilleur album jazz (solo).

"Le saxophoniste André Leroux est un exemple parfait de musicien de classe mondiale."

- James Hale



- Downbeat Magazine



Jean Cyr

Écouté en streaming dans 86 pays.

"Un des 5 meilleurs albums jazz de l'année 2024."

- Christophe Rodriguez, Sortie Jazz Night



- Downbeat Magazine



Straight Ahead

"Quatre artilleurs de luxe qui maîtrisent parfaitement les standards sans oublier leurs compositions personnelles."

- Christophe Rodriguez, Sortie Jazz Night



- Downbeat Magazine



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The French-Canadian Connection

Language, politics and economics have historically divided the province of Quebec from the rest of Canada. Quebecois jazz has been somewhat isolated as well, with few natives besides Oscar Peterson and Paul Bley breaking through to global audiences. That hasn't stopped several tranches of musicians from building and sustaining a strong community.

Saxophonist **André Leroux** is a prime example of a world-class musician who has developed a singular voice and maintained a busy career without becoming as well-known as American peers like Greg Osby. The 11 pieces on *Montreal Jazz Series Vol. 1: Échanges Synaptiques* (Disques BG; ★★½ 66:21) present Leroux with two distinct quartets — one with pianist Fred Henke, bassist Frédéric Alarie and drummer André White; the other with François Bourassa, Rémi-Jean Leblanc, and John Hollenbeck in the same positions — ably showcasing some of the best players in Quebec. Fluent in the language of Coltrane, Rollins and Shorter, 62-year-old Leroux leads both bands through a program that slides easily between the surging aggression of Steve Grossman's "Take The D Train" and Leblanc's "Up And Up," which is reminiscent of early Weather Report. The two quartets match up well, although the expressive work of Alarie gives an edge of electric urgency to the batch of performances he's on.

Leroux returns as one of six musicians on bassist **Jean Cyr's** *Montreal Jazz Series Vol. 2: Car tu existes* (Disques BG; ★★½ 39:47) but the musical setting couldn't be more different. The 67-year-old leader is best known for long stints with popular Quebecois musicians like the late Bob Walsh and Stephen Faulkner, but *Car tu existes* gives him an opportunity to assemble his own program. As experienced as these players are, the brief mixed bag of tunes doesn't give them many opportunities to shine. Consequently, the results sound like a very skilled band picking up some wedding gig money: a 1930s-style dance number, a tango showcase for trumpeter Benoit Gagné, a leader's showcase on "Georgia On My Mind" and a rousing, funky closer that echoes Blood, Sweat & Tears. It might make for a fun night on the dance floor; it's less engaging for dedicated listening.

While Jean Cyr's sextet sounds like a skilled band-for-hire — with a dash of breezy swing and a soupçon of late-career Miles Davis, the quartet **Straight Ahead** sounds like its members might be competing against a top-flight college music unit for DB's Student Music Awards. That's not a knock on the skills of trombonist Muhammad Abdul Al-Khabyr, pianist Luc Beaugrand, bassist Mathieu McConnell-Enright and drummer Martin Auguste, but *Montreal Jazz Series Vol. 3: Gentle Soul* (Disques BG; ★★



Alain Bédard leads the Auguste Quartet.

84:20) covers so much territory, with so much facility, that the band sounds overly performative. Relentlessly upbeat, chestnuts like "Moon River," "All The Things You Are" and "What A Wonderful World" seem superfluous on an album this long and provide pretty arid soil for expressive improvisation.

Ordering info: disquesbg.com

On their seventh album, bassist **Alain Bédard's** *Auguste Quartet* rolls as confidently as Max Verstappen at the Montreal Grand Prix. With fellow veteran Michel Lambert on drums and younger players Marie Fatima Rudolf and Mario Allard on piano and reeds respectively, *Particules sonores* (Effendi; ★★½ 55:08) exhibits a broad range of approaches: lively interaction on "Compte-Rendu III," energetic outside blowing on "A Goose Story" and a more relaxed feel on "Il Cappello de mia Sorella." On each of these, Allard demonstrates his expansive vocabulary on several members of the reed family. If *Particules sonores* has an overarching weakness, it's the lack of unpredictable solo placement.

Ordering info: alainbedardauguste.com

A mashup of Canadian franco- and anglophones, Haitians, Africans and people of other ethnicities, Montreal's creative music scene has been a hot house for numerous pan-stylistic bands. Guitarist **Simon Angell**, a protégé of Marc Ribot, and drummer **Tommy Crane** have worked extensively in rock and jazz. Now, on *Angell & Crane (For The Living And The Dead)* (★★★ 41:36) the two have distilled 40 hours of wide-ranging improvisation into a 40-minute swirl of socially oriented pieces. The work slides from the intense to the ethereal and back with seamless flow — even with extremes like the idyllic blend of Angell's acoustic guitar and Charlotte Greve's flute and the hardcore thrust of "Hesa Fredrik," with Sarah Rossy's out vocals. **DB**

Ordering info: angellandcrane.bandcamp.com



Joe Alterman/ Houston Person *Brisket For Breakfast*

JOE ALTERMAN MUSIC

★★★½

"The Savannah Music Festival ... has become a magnet for those of us who like to have our listening borders stretched," one leading journal noted, and with the appearance of tenor saxophonist Houston Person and pianist Joe Alterman in the 2023 lineup, attendees had their borders stretched and their emotions lifted higher than a Georgia pine. Fortunately, Person and Alterman had their moments recorded and it was a combustible connection between them and an enthusiastic audience. The high point occurred on "Since I Fell for You," and Person's husky, robust horn seemed to summon those who knew the lyrics to sing along with him.

Hearing the roar of the crowd for the quartet, including Kevin Smith on bass and drummer Justin Chesarek, suggests that several moments of the date were done outdoors, and that made a lot of sense given the room needed for the group's explosive sound. And in keeping with the album's title *Brisket for Breakfast*, there are some tasty licks from Chesarek on "Only Trust Your Heart."

Also, there is space where the four of them tone things down, expressing themselves intimately as they did on "Namely You," though here and elsewhere it is hard for Alterman to contain his spirited romps on the keyboard, particularly his way of getting behind Person and pushing his imaginative thunder. Invariably, listening to Person's tuneful iterations of memories of him with Etta Jones surface, and on "The Second Time Around," Alterman takes her place, answering Person's plea for another chance.

—Herb Boyd

Brisket For Breakfast: The Second Time Around; That's All; Only Trust Your Heart; Never Let Me Go; Namely You; Since I Fell for You; You Are My Sunshine. (53:30)

Personnel: Joe Alterman, piano; Houston Person, tenor saxophone; Kevin Smith, bass; Justin Chesarek, drums.

Ordering info: joalterman.bandcamp.com

JAZZ QUÉBÉCOIS - BY JAMES HALE

The French-Canadian Connection



Available on all platforms



Vol. 1 - André Leroux

Vol. 2 - Jean Cyr

Vol. 3 - Straight Ahead



DOWNBEAT
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SINCE 1934

"Language, politics and economics have historically divided the province of Quebec from the rest of Canada. Quebecois jazz has been somewhat isolated as well, with few natives besides Oscar Peterson and Paul Bley breaking through to global audiences. That hasn't stopped several tranches of musicians from building and sustaining a strong community.

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- James Hale, Downbeat



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COURTESY ANAT COHEN



Anat Cohen, Oded Lev-Ari and the Anat Cohen Tentet from 2019.

The Power of the Duo

JAN. 24, 2025 — PUTTING THE WORD

"Fire!" on the cover of this issue may seem like an odd choice, given that the L.A. fires have caused so much despair on the West Coast — even within our jazz community, as writer Gary Fukushima documents on page 13.

Maybe subliminally, it was a way to take back the word for the good: a campfire, sitting by the fireplace on a cold winter's day. Or maybe it's just the best way to describe the work of clarinetist Anat Cohen, an artist who exudes joy, the best this music has to offer and a fiery performance style that is downright infectious.

It's been fun to watch her rise to the top of the jazz world, building a true community to make her art glow — from her brothers Avishai and Yuval, who with Anat constitute the amazing 3 Cohens; to the south-of-the-border leanings of Quartetinho; to the Anat Cohen Tentet, an ambitious, driving large ensemble.

With all of it, Cohen seems to form and develop with groups that are mini families, each with its own particular flavor, each feeding a different part of her artistic spirit. That, of course, is especially true when she's playing with her brothers in the 3 Cohens.

But then there's the wonderful bond she has with Oded Lev-Ari, one of the most talented arrangers and composers on the scene today.

In speaking with Ashley Kahn, who wrote this month's cover article on Anat (see page 26), I suggested that Lev-Ari is the Billy Strayhorn to Anat Cohen's Ellington. But he corrected me, suggesting it might be more like he's the Gil Evans to Anat's Miles.

Aside from the fact that both artists would likely brush aside comparisons to those historic jazz partnerships, there's no doubt that their

success comes in no small measure from the work that they've done together.

Last summer, this writer had an opportunity to see them at the International Society of Jazz Arrangers & Composers Symposium at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. Speaking onstage, the two offered deep answers to interesting questions, joked, finished each other's sentences — the bond was undeniable.

And their connection goes beyond the music. When they formed Anzic Records 20 years ago to put out Anat's first record, *Place & Time*, it was Lev-Ari who first called DownBeat to figure out how the whole editorial and advertising world worked. At that time, we figured he was a business manager and had no idea he was such a gifted arranger and composer. He was the dude placing ads. We've come to recognize the entirety of his role in Anat's universe, and we hope to bring his name to an even wider audience.

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Speaking of families, and circling back to the L.A. fires, everyone at DownBeat wishes to express our love and sympathy for those whose houses and studios perished during those horrific few weeks in January. As our article reports, John Clayton, Bennie Maupin, Hailey Niswanger and so many others lost their family homes, many more were displaced for days or weeks, and even more simply lived in a state of fear for their own livelihoods and well-being.

This note is being written from The NAMM Show, safely down the road in Anaheim, where the convention is thriving, but many attendees and exhibitors have those artists on their minds. The organization, which embodies the global musical products industry, is helping the relief effort. Go to namm.com to find out more. **DB**



disquesbg.com

MONTREAL JAZZ SERIES

f y

Available on all platforms

Vol. 1 - André Leroux
Vol. 2 - Jean Cyr
Vol. 3 - Straight Ahead

En nomination au prix

JUNOS on  CBC 2025

Montreal Jazz Series Vol. 1

André Leroux - Échanges Synaptiques



Saxophonist André Leroux is a prime example of a world-class musician ★★★★★

- James Hale, **Downbeat Magazine**



JAZZ AROUND TOWN - BY SCOTT YANOW

The Montreal Jazz Series

"Jazz has been an international music ever since recordings became widely available in the early 1920s. Canada has long had a rich if underrated jazz scene. BG Records, in the first three releases in their Montreal Jazz Series (available as Lps), documents some of the many talents who are active in Montreal today.

The most intriguing of these albums is André Leroux's *Echanges Synaptiques*. The tenor and soprano-saxophonist is featured with two different rhythm sections on a pair of sessions. The first three selections have him displaying the influence of John Coltrane circa 1961 in a group with pianist Fred Henke (who sometimes sounds very close to that of early McCoy Tyner), bassist Frédéric Alaire, and drummer André K. White. They perform an uptempo "The Night Has A Thousand Eyes," the title cut (a ballad by Alaire), and Steve Grossman's "Take The D Train" which is highlighted by Leroux's tenor playing over the closing vamp.

The four originals with pianist Francois Bourassa, bassist Rémi-Jean Leblanc and the notable drummer John Hollenbeck are quite a bit different. The Coltrane influence is dropped, the music is much freer (with "E.M." is quite mystical) and Leroux sounds much more original. The music often swings (particularly the closing "Up and Up") but is much more unpredictable and adventurous."

- Scott Yanow, LAJazzScene



Powerhouse Jazz in Quebec

In the Zen - BY KERILIE MCDOWALL

"When Disques BG's Benoit Gagné offered me a listen to the tempting email that arrived, "A New Exploration of Quebec Jazz," I was all ears. I plopped it into my to-do list. Enter, Échanges Synaptiques', "The Night Has a Thousand Eyes'," ethereal meditative deep sonorous droning and André Leroux's saxophone glides towards the stars.

The Montreal Jazz Series' Vol.1 shows leader Leroux leading two commanding quartets. Leroux's vibrant colorful and playful saxophone leads the first quartet band with smoking keys sizzling from the ivories from none other than pianist Fred Henke. This impresses. Steaming rhythm section flow of bassist Frédéric Alarie and drummer André White with Leroux is a true pleasure to listen to.

The second quartet featuring André Leroux's supportive band interplay of François Bourassa, piano, Remi-Jean Leblanc, bass, and the one and only John Hollenbeck on drums, does not disappoint and is a not-to-miss powerhouse of soulful improvisation."

- Kerilie McDowall, kerilie.com



[Click here to read the full review](#)



SortiesJAZZnights - BY CHRISTOPHE RODRIGUEZ

André Leroux - Échanges Synaptiques

"On Wednesday, October 23, BG Records launched, under the title Montreal Jazz Series, three vinyl and digital albums reflecting the vitality of jazz in Montreal and Quebec. Alongside bassist Jean Cyr and Straight Ahead led by trombonist Muhammad Abdul-Al Kabyyr, we also found the powerful tenor saxophonist André Leroux with Échanges Synaptiques (2024).

For this all-star event, our friend Leroux didn't hold back. On Side A of the vinyl, he was joined by pianist Fred Henke, bassist Frédéric Alarie, and drummer André White. On Side B, he reunited with his longtime collaborator, pianist François Bourassa, bassist Rémi-Jean LeBlanc, and drummer John Hollenbeck."

Side A – Échanges Synaptiques

"It's safe to say this is a bold new release with Coltrane-esque accents, opening with a beautiful tribute to legendary tenor saxophonist Sonny Rollins, via the track Night Has a Thousand Eyes, which once served as the theme for Bernard Pivot's cult TV show Bouillon de culture. Without adhering to the tune's typical slow tempo, Leroux delivers a virtuosic argument with a warm, sometimes biting tone, in harmony with his bandmates who skillfully toss ideas back his way.

Échanges Synaptiques, composed by bassist Frédéric Alarie, is a gorgeous and enchanting ballad that gives the saxophonist another chance to showcase his talents on soprano sax. Then comes Take The D Train, paired with Katonah by the eminent horn player Steve Grossman, a burst of dynamic energy. The result is jazz with just the right touch of tartness: explosive, with each musician taking their turn in the spotlight. We could even say this performance is representative of André Leroux's musical style, having fully mastered the codes of this timeless genre. Side A concludes with Virgo, a sublime ballad delivered by a soprano saxophonist whose sound strongly evokes the world of Bill Evans, especially when we listen to Rémi-Jean LeBlanc's bass playing, which closely resembles the tone of Eddie Gomez."

André Leroux – tenor and soprano saxophone

Fred Henke – piano

Frédéric Alarie – double bass

André White – drums

SortiesJAZZnights - BY CHRISTOPHE RODRIGUEZ

André Leroux - Échanges Synaptiques

Side B – Échanges Synaptiques

"Side B plunges us into a completely different universe, much more experimental. John Hollenbeck's piece Forced Empathy is defined by short phrases wrapped in a fractal-like atmosphere. It feels as though André Leroux has reunited with his old companions from the Quasar ensemble. Admittedly, it takes a trained ear! With Last Minutes by pianist François Bourassa, we remain in a similar vein. A lunar "blue note," off-center, plays with timing and harmony, driven by a drummer, let's say, possessed!

We continue with the metaphorical and funky Up and Up, where François Bourassa takes over the synthesizer. This track is truly delightful, evoking the groovy vibe of the 1970s, reminiscent of John Patton and Larry Young. This familiar ground for passionate jazz lovers is another great discovery. When Rémi-Jean LeBlanc's double bass briefly transforms into a kora, the piece Last Minute becomes a mystical experience for everyone. All it takes is to perceive the blue note from truly new perspectives, and you'll get chills."

- Christophe Rodriguez, SortiesJAZZnights

André Leroux – tenor and soprano saxophone

François Bourassa – piano

Rémi-Jean LeBlanc – double bass

John Hollenbeck – drums

[Click here to read the full review](#)



Christophe Rodriguez : rod.chris@hotmail.com

Under the refined pen of our most loyal columnist, discover the best jazz albums and books from Quebec and around the world. Christophe also writes a jazz column for Ted Audio, a classical music column for ludwig.com, and is the author of the book Les grands noms du jazz (The Great Names of Jazz).



QUAND LE JAZZ EST LÀ

With Stanley Péan



The promotional graphic is divided into three main sections. On the left, a night view of the Montreal skyline is shown with the text 'QUAND LE JAZZ EST LÀ' in blue and white, 'En ondes depuis 2009!' in white, 'avec Stanley Péan' in white script, and 'Du lundi au jeudi de 22h00 à minuit sur ICI Musique' in white on a blue oval background. In the center, there is a small image of a CD cover for André Leroux's 'Échanges synaptiques'. On the right, a photograph of André Leroux playing a saxophone is shown, with the text 'ANDRÉ LEROUX' in green and 'Lauréat d'un prix Juno' in white below it. In the top right corner, the number '2' is displayed in white, with 'avril' in white below it.

QUAND LE JAZZ EST LÀ

En ondes depuis 2009!

avec Stanley Péan

Du lundi au jeudi de 22h00 à minuit sur ICI Musique

ANDRÉ LEROUX

Lauréat d'un prix Juno

2
avril

"Haven't had that much fun at Dièse Onze on a Wednesday since... the Brooks era! Launch of the first three LPs in the Montreal Jazz Series by BG Records: ÉCHANGES SYNAPTIQUES by saxophonist André Leroux, CAR TU EXISTES by double bassist Jean Cyr, and GENTLE SOUL by the group Straight Ahead led by trombonist Muhammad Abdul Al-Khabyr. Hats off, and long life to this new record label!"

- Stanley Péan, QuandLeJazzEstLà

Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 27, 2024

Media contact: Marie-Josée Choquette
communications@disquesbg.com
Tél. 514-265-6803



MONTREAL JAZZ SERIES

LAUNCH-SHOW

OCTOBER 23rd 2024

AT DIESE ONZE JAZZ CLUB & RESTAURANT

Montreal, Tuesday, August 28th, 2024 – We are pleased to announce the launch of a series of exceptional albums highlighting the talent and originality of Montreal jazz musicians. The first trilogy feature the formations of **André Leroux**, **Jean Cyr** and the group ***Straight Ahead***. We are delighted to introduce them to you through this exclusive collection.

Montreal, the vibrant cradle of Canadian jazz, has always played a crucial role in the evolution of this musical genre. Since the 1920s, the city has been home to countless talented musicians, contributing to the enrichment of jazz history. This series of albums pays homage to this tradition by presenting artists who, although widely respected by their peers, have not yet had the opportunity to shine on the international stage.

Each album in this series has been meticulously crafted to reflect the unique essence of these musicians, capturing their creativity and passion. You will discover original compositions and new interpretations, showcasing the ongoing innovation in Quebec jazz.

We invite you to dive into this musical adventure on **Wednesday, October 23rd, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. at Diese Onze** for a launch show where you can hear the three groups perform some pieces from their album.

You will find these albums on all digital platforms and on vinyl at the Diese Onze record store starting October 23rd, 2024. We hope you enjoy this exploration of Quebec jazz as much as we enjoyed putting it together.



Vol.1 André Leroux
Échanges Synaptiques
André Leroux
 Tenor and soprano sax

Face A
Fred Henke - piano
Frédéric Alarie - bass
André White - drums

Face B
François Bourassa - piano
Rémi-Jean Leblanc - bass
John Hollenbeck - drums



Vol.2 Jean Cyr
Car tu existes
Jean Cyr
 Bass

Roger Walls - trumpet
Benoît Gagné - trombone
André Leroux - tenor sax
Gaétan Daigneault - piano
Alain Bourgeois - drums



Vol.3 Straight Ahead
Gentle Soul
Muhammad Abdul Al Khabyr
 Trombone

Luc Beaugrand - piano
Mathieu McConnell - bass
Martin Auguste - drums

Broadcast source : DISQUES BG

Venue : **Diese Onze**, 4115 R. Saint-Denis, Montréal, QC H2W 2M7

Date : October 23rd 2024

Opening doors to the media: 18h00

Opening doors to the public: 19h00

Show : 20h00

♪ Click here to listen **MJS1 André Leroux - Échanges Synaptiques** ♪

♪ Click here to listen **MJS2 Jean Cyr - Car tu existes** ♪

♪ Click here to listen **MJS3 Straight Ahead – Gentle Soul** ♪

R.S.V.P.

Media contact : Marie-Josée Choquette

Phone. 514-265-6803

communications@disquesbg.com

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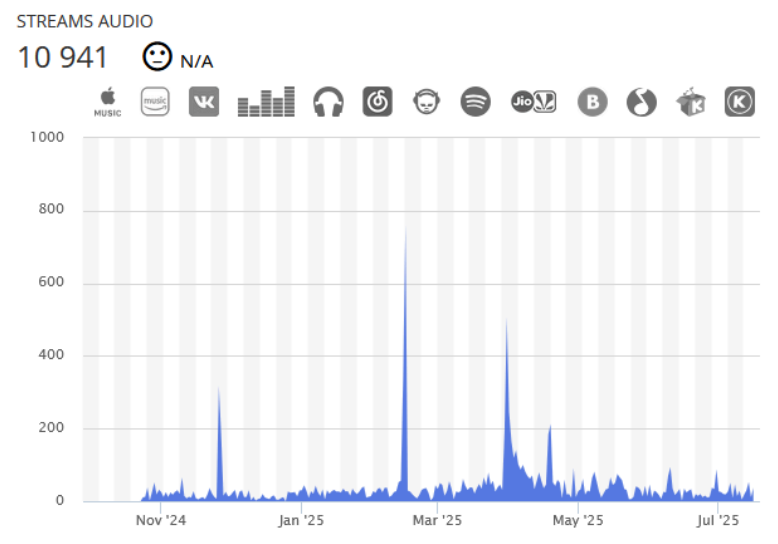
Top Song from October to July – MJS Vol.1-2-3

		Titre	Artistes	Albums	Date de sortie	Stream audios	% Stream	Auditeurs uniques	Stream par utilisateur	Téléchargements titre	Shazam
1.		Salut CA-5ZG-24-00015	Jean Cyr	Montreal Jazz Series 2 3617662430624	24/10/2024	7 499	27.16 %	3758	1.5	1	0
2.		Échanges Synaptiques CA-5ZG-24-00002	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1 3617662430709	24/10/2024	1 314	4.76 %	431	2.55	1	0
3.		Night has a thousand eyes CA-5ZG-24-00001	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1 3617662430709	24/10/2024	1 499	5.43 %	591	2.08	0	0
4.		Take the D Train/ Katonah CA-5ZG-24-00003	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1 3617662430709	24/10/2024	1 016	3.68 %	282	2.91	2	24
5.		Up and up CA-5ZG-24-00007	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1 3617662430709	24/10/2024	1 808	6.55 %	974	1.69	0	0
6.		Iris CA-5ZG-24-00008	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1 3617662430709	24/10/2024	658	2.38 %	183	3.07	1	22

Top 5 Countries - André Leroux

	Pays	%	Stream audios	Téléchargements titre	Téléchargements album	Sonneries	Streams vidéo
1.	Canada	88.74	7 886	5	5	0	0
2.	United states	4.93	1 601	0	0	0	0
3.	Taiwan	2.17	387	0	0	0	0
4.	Germany	0.81	141	0	0	0	0
5.	France	0.58	160	0	0	0	0

Performance from October to July - André Leroux



The 2 most Shazamed songs

3.		Take the D Train/ Katonah CA-5ZG-24-00003	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1 3617662430709	24/10/2024	1 016	9.29 %	282	2.91	2	24
4.		Up and up CA-5ZG-24-00007	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1 3617662430709	24/10/2024	1 808	16.52 %	974	1.69	0	0
5.		Iris CA-5ZG-24-00008	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1 3617662430709	24/10/2024	658	6.01 %	183	3.07	1	22
6.		415 Central Park Ouest	André Leroux	Montreal Jazz Series 1	24/10/2024	666	6.09 %	178	3.21	1	0