

## **PROFILE** Yuichiro Tokuda - Sax / Vocal & Composition



After studying at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston, He returned to Japan and formed his band "Yuichiro Tokuda RALYZZDIG", and released his first album which was acclaimed as "the cutting edge of the present progressive form of jazz" in Jazz Life magazine. In 2008, He received an award as the "New Face of the Year in Art & Culture" from the Chiba-City Government, the first time ever for a jazz artist. Every year he performs at Japan's most prestigious Jazz Festival "Yokohama Jazz Promenade" and also performs at many festivals in all over the world. His original songs received "Finalist" & "Honorable Mention Award" in International Songwriting Competition 2010, 2012 & 2013 Jazz Category. "RALYZZDIG" is mixed original word of "RAY, LYRIC, JAZZ and DIG" It means "to dig into Jazz that sends out hot ray and touches the heart with lyrics".

<https://youtu.be/9aKselVuN2I>

<https://goo.gl/bFS8cw>

## **PRESS REVIEW**

"The cutting edge of the present progressive form of Jazz" \_Jazz Life Magazine (2007 Japan)

"Masterpiece", throughout the album, that's it!!" \_CD Journal Magazine (2010 Japan)

"70 minutes powerful album!!" full of the enthusiasm and very unique tone and play style."

\_Jazz Life Magazine (2010 Japan)

"Imagination" is enormously impressive and definitely as excellent work as I assure it is ahead of a couple generations." \_CD Journal Magazine (2010 Japan)

"The perfect blend of jazz fused with rock styles makes for truly the most appealing cross-genre grooving music. You might be wondering why we would feature him here. Well, because his music is AMAZING. Open your ears and your mind and listen to any one of his songs." \_NEO Magazine (2012 New York)

"Unmistakably their play is careening to the future while digging today's jazz space."

\_Jazz JAPAN Magazine (2013 Japan)

"There is no band to play a comprehensive Jazz like them anywhere in the world so far. Masterpiece."

\_CD Journal Magazine (2013 Japan)

"The new standard! The sound which is roused from races and bloods. Definitely the best masterpiece."

\_Jazz Life Magazine (2013 Japan)

"Yuichiro Tokuda who continues the music which he believes on the world stage has an infinite possibility. "

\_Jazz JAPAN Magazine (2013 Japan)

"It rocks my heart like a wind of one. It is neither gusts nor breeze. It is comfortable, but it is not just that, it has strength. This balance is exquisite. From Normandy to the universe, this wind keeps blowing everywhere." \_Jazz JAPAN Magazine (2018 Japan)

"Contemporary jazz with its overwhelming energy and rich lyricism will not leave my ear once I hear it ... The real "sound" in the music is because what he learned in real experience will be reflected. He is a minstrel who travels the world and is a realist." \_Jazz JAPAN Magazine (2018 Japan)

"In addition to the conventional jumping drive feeling, he will also show landscape observations in foreign countries, ethnicism which can tighten our hearts, hand clapping used for flamenco, and his sweet vocals. Looking for new grounds, keeping the spirit of nature but powerfulness, you can see the holding as a band that has always challenged growth and change. " \_Tower Records Magazine/intoxicate (2018 Japan)

"This is the dream team back up band for any producer or engineer."

"Any modern Jazz fan who missed this band missed the best performance of the festival."

From CANADIAN MUSIC WEEK 2013(CMW) official web magazine "The Scene Magazine"

Yuichiro Tokuda RALYZZDIG was awarded CMW 2013 No.1 Best Performance Point "9.8" from more than 1000 bands. <http://www.thescenemagazine.ca/cmw-2013-live-review-yuichiro-tokudas-ralyzzdig/>

## **DISCOGRAPHY**

"Initial Impulse" 2007

"Urban Lights / Umi Toki Kaze Iro" 2007

"Imagination LIVE @ Shinjuku PIT-INN" 2010

"Imagination" 2010

"LIVE @ Akasaka B-flat" 2012

"Crossing Colors" 2013

"WIND" 2018

## **ACTIVITY/AWARDS**

"The story of Japanese Jazz artist Yuichiro Tokuda" aired on BBC Radio America 2011/6/15.

Jun 2011: "FINALIST & Honorable Mention Award" in International Songwriting Competition 2010 Jazz Category.

Sep 2011: "FINALIST Award" in the UK Songwriting Contest 2011 Jazz & Blues Category.

Dec 2011: "FINALIST Award" in the USA Songwriting Competition 2011 Jazz Category.

Dec 2012: "FINALIST Award" in the UK Songwriting Contest 2012 Jazz & Blues Category.

May 2013 : "FINALIST & Honorable Mention Award" in International Songwriting Competition 2012 Jazz Category.

May 2014 : "FINALIST & Honorable Mention Award" in International Songwriting Competition 2013 Jazz Category.

Mar 2015 : Composed music for Japan's Major TV station BS-TBS established anniversary special program.

2016 : Casting as a saxophonist in Warner Brothers Movie.

2017 : Composed whole music for Japanese the forefront of Konica Minolta's planetarium

## **OVERSEAS TOUR EXPERIENCE**

2011 May, BORNEO JAZZ FESTIVAL, Miri, Malaysia

2011 Oct, NANJING INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, Nanjing, China

2012 Mar, CANADIAN MUSIC WEEK \_ WINTER JAZZ FESTIVAL, Toronto, Canada

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2013 Apr, MANGO JAZZ NIGHT, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

2013 May, WORLD YOUTH JAZZ FESTIVAL, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2013 May, INDIAN JAZZ CLUB TOUR, Mumbai & Bangalore, India

2014 May, AMMAN JAZZ FESTIVAL, Jordan

2014 Aug, CHINA TOUR as a representative of Yokohama Jazz Promenade Festival

2014 Oct, JARASUM INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, Korea

2015 Apr, EUROPEAN JAZZ TOUR with Joris Posthumus Quartet , Netherlands & Belgium

2015 June & July, FLAMENCO JAZZ TOUR with Ricardo Garcia Flamenco Guitar, North France & South France

2015 Sep, INDIA TOUR with Aman Mahajan Group

2016 Feb, INDIA TOUR with Aman Mahajan Group

2016 May, WORLD YOUTH JAZZ FESTIVAL, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2016 May, BORNEO JAZZ FESTIVAL, Miri, Malaysia

2016 August, Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Scotland UK

2016 August, BANSKO INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, Bulgaria

2016 August, NISVILLE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, Serbia

2016 November, GOA INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, India

2016 November, KOLKATA INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, India

2016 November, PUNE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, India

2017 April, Joris Posthumus's Tokyo's Bad Boys Tour in EU, Belgium & Netherlands

2017 July, North Sea Jazz Festival, Netherlands

2017 August, Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Scotland UK

2018 April, Collaboration Concert with Great "Rosario Giuliani" & Legendary "Joe LaBarbera" in Japan