



Danijel Lauko

Danijel Lauko was born in Slovenj Gradec, Slovenia in 1987. He began his musical education at the music school *Glasbena šola Radlje ob Dravi*, Slovenia and continued to study saxophone at the *Srednja glasbena in baletna šola in Maribor*, Slovenia.

In 2011, he graduated with honours from the *University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz*, Austria. In 2013, Lauko was awarded Master's Degree with Honours in Mag. Gerald Preinfalk's class and thus became Master of Arts. In 2012, he successfully completed his pedagogical and andragogical education at the *University of Koper, Faculty of Education*.

Throughout his studies, Danijel took up additional educational programmes and master classes with established saxophone professors, such as Philippe Geiss, Marcus Weiss, Lars Mlekusch, among others.

As member of the *Kug-Sax-Sippia* saxophone orchestra, he performed at numerous European festivals, such as The European Saxophone Forum in Wroclaw, Poland, AS Festival Bled, Slovenia and others. With the *Kug-Sax-Sippia*, he also performed at the renowned World Saxophone Congress, *Sax Open*, in Strasbourg, France in 2015.

Danijel Lauko has been member of numerous chamber and other orchestras. Among them are the *Saxotic* quartet, *HaMaGaDa*, *Austrian Saxophone Ramblers*, *S-AXE WIEN-GRAZ* orchestra and the Oto Vrhovnik salon orchestra. He founded the *Noricum* saxophone quartet, with which he performed at numerous contemporary music festivals in Austria.

Lauko has collaborated with several acclaimed composers and played several pieces of their music for the first time. He also works with the Slovene Military Orchestra, the Maribor Slovene National Theatre Symphony Orchestra and other renowned musicians from Slovenia and abroad.

Presently, he is member of the *Big Band Radlje*, *Brass Band Radlje*, *The Saxtopus* duet and the founder of the contemporary band *SaGaDuDaB*. In 2019, *SaGaDuDaB* released their debut album, titled *DJungla*.

In addition to his artistic creativity, Lauko is also active in the field of music education. He works for the Glasbena in baletna šola Antona Martina Slomška in Maribor, Slovenia. His students regularly attend Slovenian and foreign competitions, achieving excellent results. He collaborates with the music schools KUD Coda Maribor and with the Austrian private school of music Mo-haring-at. He's been teaching saxophone at the music schools Glasbena šola Radlje ob Dravi and the Glasbena šola Karol Pahor in Ptuj.

He is both, a musician and a teacher, and has recently been occupied mostly with exploring new saxophone playing techniques and with developing contemporary teaching methods. It is his goal to contribute to a better development and progress of his students. And indeed, he inspires all his students with his wit and techniques of combining different musical styles.