



Conducted by Laurent Mignard, the DUKE ORCHESTRA is dedicated to the interpretation and (re)creation of Duke Ellington's legacy on stage. With masterful transcriptions, personalities of the soloists and a deep work on sound and phrasing, the DUKE ORCHESTRA is considered as a reference, saluted by musicians, critics and great festivals in events and shows as Sacred Concert in Saint-Sulpice (with Lavelle) and Cork, Far East Suite in Beirut, New Orleans Suite with Rhoda Scott, Duke Ladies, Ellington Panorama ...

Beyond this job of interpretation, Duke Orchestra considers itself as a tool for sharing the extraordinary heritage of Duke Ellington in new formats of meetings and creative productions.

## Agenda

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Jun 11	Paris – L'entrepôt	La Maison du Duke,
Jun 18	Saint Cloud	Ellington Panorama
Jun 22	Cd release	Duke Ellington is alive
Jun 28	Jazz à Vienne Festival	Sacred Concert
Sep 24	Paris – L'entrepôt	La Maison du Duke
Oct 09	Vendôme	Ellington Panorama
Dec 17	Paris – L'entrepôt	La Maison du Duke
Feb 18	Paris – L'entrepôt	La Maison du Duke
Apr 15	Paris – L'entrepôt	La Maison du Duke

## Cd "Duke Ellington is alive"

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During the last season, the Duke Orchestra encountered the same fervour of a varied and large audience. To testify these moments shared, this first album live, recorded in Versailles and Maisons-Laffitte in January 2009. From "Ko-Ko" to "Ad Lib On Nippon", with passion and humility, Laurent Mignard DUKE ORCHESTRA interprets one of the most beautiful music of 20th century, original and timeless, built on sound, intelligence and aestheticism, beyond the styles and periods. Music expresses itself. Audience rises. Duke Ellington is alive.  
*CD release – june 22, 2009*

*"Duke Ellington is alive" - Winter concerts 2009 - label Juste une Trace - distribution Anticraft*

## « La maison du Duke »

Duke Orchestra is in-residence at “L’entrepôt” (the Warehouse) in Paris, one evening each trimester, to spread Duke Ellington’s legacy with the public, musicians and aficionados. An original format of musical and didactic meeting, mixing commented concert, public rehearsal, anecdotes, guests, Ellingtonian news...

To follow : master classes, conferences, exhibitions, cinema

*The « Maison du jazz » is animated by « le cercle des amis de Duke Ellington » chaired by Claude Carrière, which counts among his members jazz historian Philippe Baudoin, “Jazz Magazine” chief editor Franck Bergerot, public relations Claudette de San Isidoro, pianist Philippe Milanta, trumpeter François Biensan, band leader Laurent Mignard ...*

### Concert revue

- SACRED CONCERT with choir, soloists and narrator
  - Eglise Saint-Sulpice, Festival l’Esprit Jazz Paris, with Lavelle
  - St Finbar Cathedral – Cork Guiness Jazz Festival, Ireland, with Pat Cox
- THE WORD OF DUKE – Duke’s Suites around 5 continents
  - Jazz sur son 31 Festival, Toulouse
- THE FAR EAST SUITE
  - Beyrouth –Liban Jazz Festival
  - Jazz en Val de Cher Festival
- NEW ORLEANS SUITE
  - Meridien Jazz Festival, Paris
- DUKE LADIES
  - Jazz Club Lionel Hampton, Paris
  - Monastier Festival
- 1938-1944, ELLINGTON GOLDEN DAYS
  - Jazz Club Lionel Hampton, Paris
- ELLINGTON PANORAMA
  - Radio France - jazz sur le vif, France Musique, le bleu la nuit, France Musique - live au réservoir, Festival Jazz Munster, Festival de Sully et du Loiret, La Défense Jazz Festival, Festival Jazz Pertuis, Sancy Snow Jazz, Festival Touches de Jazz Beynes, Théâtre des Hauts de Seine Puteaux, Maisons-Laffitte, Versailles Sainte Geneviève, La Bellevilloise ...



*“Surrounded by a “dream team” capable and inclined to follow him in his adventure, Laurent Mignard succeeds in faithful, respectful and creative recreation of Duke’s grand music.”*  
*Claude Carriere, producer.*

Laurent Mignard DUKE ORCHESTRA

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## **Line up**

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Saxes – Clarinets : Didier Desbois, Aurelie Tropez, Fred Couderc, Nicolas Montier, Philippe Chagne  
Trumpets : François Biensan, Franck Delpeut, Richard Blanchet, Franck Guicherd  
Trombones : Jean-Louis Damant, Guy Figlionlos, Guy Arbion  
Piano : Philippe Milanta - Bass : Bruno Rousselet - Drums : Julie Saury  
Conducting : Laurent Mignard

*Guests : Rhoda Scott, La Velle, Sylvia Howard, Laurence Allison, Patrick Bacqueville ...*

## **Laurent Mignard**

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### **Conductor, trumpet player, composer, arranger**

Laurent Mignard followed a various musical training: marching band, conservatory, jazz schools and master class with Eric Schultz, Jean Gobinet, François Theberge, Albert Mangelsdorff, Dave Liebman, Bill Dobbins, David Angel, François Jeanneau, Jean Michel Bardez ...

After the exploration of most of the styles of jazz, he lays the foundations of a written and free music, beyond styles, and achieves fusion between jazz trio and a cello quatuor (album FACE A FACE 1998). In 2002, he finds his Pocket Quartet inspired by Ornette Coleman, Don Cherry and Duke Ellington's aesthetics. His two albums (SUITES in 2002, ALTER TROPICUS in 2005) are saluted by the critics and the public.

- Laureate of the international competition la Défense 2002
- Revelation Jazz à Juan 2005.



In 2003, Laurent Mignard founds the DUKE ORCHESTRA and conducts this dedicated ensemble acknowledged as a reference for the interpretation of the music of Duke Ellington.

As composer, he is a passionate of Debussy, Ravel, Dutilleux or Takemitsu.

### **Discography**

Laurent Mignard Duke Orchestra - Duke Ellington is alive, Juste une Trace 2009

Laurent Mignard Pocket Quartet - Alter Tropicus, Juste une Trace 2004

Laurent Mignard Jazz Quartet – Suites, Juste une Trace 2002

Laurent Mignard jazz trio & quatuor de violoncelles - Face à Face, Juste une Trace 1998

Indigo "Live at Stil"

## **Press**

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### **Le Monde**

« The Music of Duke Ellington interpreted by a smart ensemble”

### **Le Nouvel Obs**

« A real happiness to hear This very good orchestra entirely devoted to the undying music of Duke. »

### **Télérama**

« The spirit of Ellington in a body of today”.

### **France2.fr**

« A great tool for the exploration on Duke Ellington's work »

### **Radio - TV**

FRANCE 2 - Journal de la nuit, FRANCE 3 - 12/13 & 19/20, M6 - Jazz 6, LCI, FRANCE INTER - Journal 13/14, FRANCE INTER - Pop Club José Arthur, EUROPE 1- Vie Nocturne Thierry Lecamp, FRANCE CULTURE - Un poco agitato Yvan Amar, FIP, FRANCE MUSIQUE, TSF, RADIO ALIGRE, PARIS JAZZ ...

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