

DAINIUS PULAUSKAS GROUP (Lithuania)

Dainius Pulauskas - piano, synthesizers
Valerijus Ramoška - trumpet, flugelhorn
Liutauras Janušaitis – tenor sax
Kęstutis Vaiginis – alto, soprano sax
Domas Aleksa – bass
Linas Būda – drums

<http://www.mic.lt/en/persons/info/pulauskasgroup>

<http://www.mic.lt/en/persons/info/180>

<http://www.youtube.com/pulaJazz>

With no doubt, one of the most distinct and active teams of Lithuanian jazz, D.Pulauskas' group was gradually formed from 1995. D.Pulauskas' Group rapidly entered the area of Lithuanian jazz and over a very short period of time it became one of the most significant Lithuanian jazz groups. Soon the group was acknowledged internationally. Over the years of its activities, the Group has performed in a number of **European** countries as well as in jazz festivals in **China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Japan, USA, Canada** and **Africa**.

Currently Dainius Pulauskas Group is well known not only for Lithuanian but also for foreign audience. Currently the group performs more abroad than in Lithuania. Its performances are usually well received by audience and critics. **“The Dainius Palauskas Group is a unique sextet whose mixture of melody and muscle, lyricism and the unexpected, places it firmly at the forefront of progressive European jazz-fusion”** Jan Patterson **All About Jazz**. The Finnish jazz critic R.Haapsamo called their music **"a powerful pulse of the modern jazz"**. The Swedish critic Bo Levender states that **"Pulauskas, together with his colleagues creates the best fusion as it can be. The variety of their musical expression is 'giddy'. These are the somersaults of tearaway swinging and rhythms, and... the most genuine, pure and unembellished jazz."**

Dainius Pulauskas Group is distinguished by its stylistics as the group using electronic and acoustic instruments creates a very eloquent music space, a very peculiar version of fusion. Also the Group is very unique because of its extreme ensemble and mastership of all the members. All the members are professional musicians, who very frequently appear on Lithuanian jazz stage and who are excellent when performing together with different groups.

The group was awarded **GRAND PRIX** in “Yesterday - Pärnu ‘99” (Estonia)
D.Pulauskas got **“BRAVO”** nomination as the best jazz player in Lithuania in 1998.
D. Pulauskas was awarded **GRAND PRIX** in “Birštonas Jazz’ 2000” (Lithuania).
The group was awarded **GOLD DISC 2001** (Lithuanian Musicians Union).
Award **LT TAPATYBĖ 2004 (LT IDENTITY)** Dainius Pulauskas sextet for the promotion of Lithuanian Jazz.
“Vilnius Jazz” festival Award for contributions to the Lithuanian jazz culture. (Lithuania 2010)

The group recorded 7 CD : **“Penetration”**
“1999”

“Autumn suite”
“Colours”
“Orca”
“Vilnius – in the palm of your hand”
“Mixtum compositum”

2 DVD: “Trajectories”
“Live from Lithuanian Radio’s Studio”

The main festivals:

“Tokyo Jazz Festival 2014” (Japan), “Izmir European Jazz Festival 2014” (Turkey), “London Jazz Festival 2013” (U.K.), “Bratislava Jazz Days 2013” (Slovakia), “Garana Jazz Festival 2013” (Romania), “Ottawa Jazz Festival 2013” (Canada), “Cape Town Jazz Festival 2013” (Republic of South Africa), “Cairo Jazz Festival 2013” (Egypt), “Acacia Festival 2012” (Ethiopia), “Hong Kong International Jazz Festival 2011” (China), “Penang Island Jazz Festival 2009” (Malaysia), “Big Band Jam Festival 2007” (Washington, USA), “Jakarta Jazz Festival 2007” (Indonesia), “Kristianstad Jazz Festival 2006” (Sweden), “Jazzy colors”, (2005, Paris, France), “Sibiu Jazz” (2005, Romania), “Oslo Jazz” (2004), “Stockholm Jazz Festival” (2002), “Copenhagen Jazz Festival” (2002), “JazzYatra” (2001, India), “Beijing, Shanghai and Changchun International Jazz Festival” (1999, China), “JazzBaltica” (1998, Salzau, Germany) and more.

The leader of the Group, the keyboarder and composer **Dainius Pulauskas** <http://www.mic.lt/en/persons/info/180> is one of the most significant contemporary Lithuanian jazz musicians. His original compositions are the guaranty of the uniqueness of the Group.

The pianist graduated from Vilnius Conservatoire and the Lithuanian Academy of Music, where in 1980 he won the Piano Improvisation Contest. D.Pulauskas had toured a lot all over the World with the Oktava Orchestra, in which he played from 1981 and from 1990 he is a regular jazz performer. D.Pulauskas has collaborated with a number of Lithuanian and foreign jazz musicians. From 1995 he has been a leader of Dainius Pulauskas Group. D.Pulauskas was very successful to gather one of the most prominent Lithuanian jazz bands, which performs only the leader's pieces.

D. Pulauskas, who is a distinct leader and unique composer, is also distinguished as a prominent piano soloist. This witnesses his solo album **Moods** (2000) as well as excellent solo concerts given during an international jazz pianist festivals. D.Pulauskas 's way of composition 'thinking' is very original and intriguing; the musician is an excellent master of piano techniques and electronic instruments, his music space is colourful, and he is excellent at harmonious tuning of acoustic an electronic timbres.

2008 D. Pulauskas and significant horn player Arkady Shilkloper formed quartet, whose debut concert was held in Birštonas Jazz Festival. In the same year, D. Pulauskas was invited to represent Lithuania in the “Baltic Jazz Trio”, which plays the most prominent jazz musicians from the three Baltic countries - Maris Briežkalns from Latvia, and Toivo Unt from Estonia <http://www.myspace.com/balticjazztrio>

For his activities **D.Pulauskas** received a number of different awards, including the one and only **Bravo** award granted for Lithuanian jazz, which in 1998 D.Pulauskas received as the best Lithuanian jazz musician; in 1999 the version of John Lennon's and Paul McCartney's **Yesterday** that D.Pulauskas arranged and performed together with his sextet and Neda was granted the **Grand Prix** of an International **Yesterday - Pärnu'99** Contest (Estonia); in 2000 the musician was awarded the **Grand Prix** of Birštonas Jazz Festival, and in 2001 D.Pulauskas and

his Sextet received the **Golden Disc** of Lithuanian Music Association . Award LT Tapatybė 2004(**LT Identity**) Dainius Pulauskas Jazz sextet for the promotion of Lithuanian jazz. **“Vilnius Jazz”** festival Award for contributions to the Lithuanian jazz culture (Lithuania 2010).

The trumpeter **Valerijus Ramoška** <http://www.mic.lt/en/persons/info/ramoska> regularly performs together with D.Pulauskas's ensembles from 1994. The musician plays jazz from 1990, and currently he is one of the best Lithuanian jazz trumpet masters. Besides D.Pulauskas Sextet V.Ramoška plays together with E.Buožis', D.Praspaliauskis', V.Labutis', V.Chekasin's, V.Tarasov's, P.Vyšniauskas's, S.Sasnauskas's, etc. ensembles; he is a soloist of the LRT Big Band. V.Ramoška teaches in Vilnius Conservatoire.

Kęstutis Vaiginis <http://www.kestutisvaiginis.com/> <http://www.mic.lt/en/persons/info/177> is a seasoned jazz musician of younger generation, active as a saxophonist, composer and group leader. His characteristic sound (produced on soprano and tenor saxophones, sometimes also on flute) is clear and delicate, lyrical and emotional. He began playing jazz in 1999 and instantly became an indispensable part of Lithuanian jazz scene, performing both in his own age group and with experienced jazz masters. He soon began appearing in international collaborations. Having polished his technique in the Netherlands, Amsterdam Conservatorium and United States, Manhattan School of Music. Vaiginis has formed several international groups and composed for them. Kestutis Vaiginis performed in one of the biggest jazz festivals in Lithuania and Europe (Nord Sea Jazz, Breda Jazz, Kiev Jazz, Colors Jazz in Paris, Rotterdam jazz festivals and others). He usually performs his original compositions, which combine certain national tones and the elements of modern jazz and academic music. He recorded new his album " Unexpected Choices" in New York, with great artist like D.Berkman, A.Hunter, H.Romero, Linda Oh, T.Greenblatt.

Liutauras Janušaitis multi - instrumentalist , producer , arranger ,composer,conductor and educator,one of the top saxophonists of Eastern Europe and Baltic States.These are the music fields this artist has been working at recently. Mr.Liutauras is a leader and composer of projects such as "BALTIC SALSA ORCHESTRA ", jazz quintet "CERTAIN CASE", electro-acoustic experimental band "LJ ELECTROBOP " to name a few. In 2007 Mr.Liutauras became a member of contemporary fusion band "D'Orange" which consists of top young jazz musicians of Lithuania. As a soloist in other projects or with bands named above he has made concert tours to Germany, Belgium, Spain, France, Italy, Baltic States and has also performed in U.S.A, Russia and Japan as well. The artist also constantly arranges and records for various rock, r&b and pop projects and often takes part in many international festivals of jazz and contemporary music. As a composer,he usually works in the field of electronic music, but has done remarkable works for acoustic instruments as well, including music for piano, various chamber ensembles, saxophone quartets. Mr.Liutauras is a very first Lithuanian musician ever graduated from Berklee College of Music (Boston , USA) .Right after his graduation he recorded a debut album “ ECLECTIC SKETCHES ” in New York City.The artist is now working on his second release “ TWO SIDES OF THE MOON “,in a collaboration with strings orchestra "Avanti" and various musicians from Scandinavian countries. Mr.Liutauras now also works as a prime conductor and artistic director of Kaunas City Bigband , he's a president of public-enterprise " International Creative Projects" producing collaborative projects between Lithuanian and foreign artists.In a production field this artist is known under LIAM JOAO nickname ,his remixes have won several awards at Robert Glasper’s or record label’s “Jazzanova” remix contests.

Domas Aleksa <http://domasaleksa.com/> (born in 1983) is one of the best bass guitar player in Lithuania. He is a winner of many competitions in Baltic States and has collaborated with plenty of Lithuanian jazz and pop bands and artists. In 2012 D. Aleksa realised his 1-st solo album

called "Domas Aleksa & d'Orange" (featuring Roberto Manzin, Gaio De Lima, Xuman, and many Lithuanian jazz musicians).

D. Aleksa and his band has supported for Roy Ayers Band, Poojie Bell Band. Playing as a sideman in pop bands he has supported for "Black Eyed Peas", "Simply Red", "Macy Gray" and "Avril Lavigne". D. Aleksa has also played with Philip Hamilton and Otis Taylor Band.

The drummer **Linas Būda** is a member of Lithuanian TV and Radio Big Band. He takes part at various Jazz projects. Linas Būda began to play Jazz in 1987 and played in Jazz festivals all around Europe, Asia and USA.

[Allaboutjazz.com](http://www.allaboutjazz.com)

Ian Patterson:

Hong Kong International Jazz Festival: September 28-30, 2011

<http://www2.allaboutjazz.com/php/article.php?id=40520&page=1>

Thankfully, the double-header concert at the Hong Kong City Hall went ahead without a hitch. First up was the [Dainius Pulauskas Group](#), veterans of the Lithuanian jazz scene.

Pianist/keyboardist Pulauskas is without a doubt, one of the most interesting composers at the fusion end of European jazz, and has been at the helm of this sextet for seventeen years. A front line of trumpeter Valerijus Ramoska, tenor saxophonist Rimantas Brazaitis, and alto/soprano saxophonist Kestutis Vaiginis brought a big band feel to the leader's imaginative arrangements, while bassist Leonid Sinkarenko's funk lines and drummer Linas Buda's more rock-informed beats brought extra dimensions to the rhythms.



Dainius Pulauskas Group

A vibrant and absorbing set was based largely on material from *Mixtum Compositum*. (DS 6, 2010) At times the melodies, shifting dynamics and wide—ranging sonic textures evoked keyboardist/composer [Joe Zawinul](#)'s Zawinul Syndicate. Where the Dainius Pulauskas Group differs chiefly is in its more muscular brass approach, and its more direct rhythmic pulse, seen to best effect on the powerful "Chiconora." A mid-section synthesizer interlude, with classical overtones, provided one of the evening's rare moments of Pulauskas unaccompanied. Whether on synthesizer or piano, Pulauskas' measured improvisations flowed naturally, always telling a tale which captured the attention.

Pulauskas's knack of diverting the music from the expected course lent the music an edge. The melodic "Luxor" was a case in point, starting life with unison lines in the brass, shifting to an atmospheric Chinese interlude, before segueing into a lyrical synthesizer segment over a constant groove. Pulauskas clearly recognizes the strengths of his ensemble, and plenty of room was afforded trumpet and saxophones to stretch out, as the leader directed proceedings from his keys.

Muted trumpet and gently swirling synthesizer created an entirely different mood on the intro to the elegant "Safaga." A short burst of bluesy piano provided nice contrast in a piece whose spacey synthesizer ambience evoked memories of William Orbit's electronic/ambient soundscapes. Jazz, however, lies at the core of Pulauskas's music and "Ex Improviso" was a straight-ahead number whose double-time workout was spurred by trumpeter Ramoska and Vaiginis, on soprano. By contrast, the dark-hued brass tones and pounding bass rhythm of the epic "Machine Shop" rivaled the intensity of Belgian big band mavericks, [Flat Earth Society](#). A brief alto and drum exchange led into a solo bass segment, which succeeded in redirecting the number, with Sinkarenko at the heart of the rousing ensemble voice.

The closing number, "White," featured a delightful, almost hymnal trumpet intro, before giving way to Pulauskas on piano. His most extended solo of the evening led into anthemic, unison brass riffs and a rousing end to a wonderful performance. The Dainius Pulauskas Group is a unique sextet whose mixture of melody and muscle, lyricism and the unexpected, places it firmly at the forefront of progressive European jazz-fusion.

Ian Patterson:

The 6th Penang Island Jazz Festival: December 3-6, 2009

<http://www.allaboutjazz.com/php/article.php?id=35026&pg=5>

The Dainius Pulauskas (pictured left) Group from Lithuania provided some of the most interesting music and at the same time some of the most challenging jazz for the Penang audience. This six-piece band began life in '95 and all the musicians are veterans of the progressive Lithuanian jazz scene.

Pianist/leader Pulauskas's original compositions boasted interesting arrangements which brought the most out of the group. The three-pronged brass frontline of Valerijus Ramoska on trumpet, Rimantas Brazaitis on tenor and Kestutis Vaiginis on alto and soprano was used as one voice, almost as in a big band, and the impressive Vaiginis enjoyed the lion's share of the soloing.

On "Machine Shop" the driving bass of Leonid Sinkarenko and sharp brass riffing laid the foundations for a telling solo from Ramoska on trumpet. Everybody dropped out, leaving

soprano as sole voice, joined shortly by dreamy cymbals and washing synth. The music built slowly and inevitably as the brass harmonies reconvened and the composition reached a powerful climax.

When on synth, Pulauskas' sound inhabited a space somewhere between Joe Zawinul and Patrick Moraz. There was more than a hint of 70's progressive rock/fusion about this band, though the modern arrangements and shifting dynamics meant that the music never lost its intensity.

On the final piece of the set tenor saxophonist Brazaitis was able to stretch out, which made for a refreshing change from the near-monopoly on extended soloing enjoyed by Vaiginis. The Dainius Pulauskas Group was arguably the most artistically risky group for festival director Paul Augustin to set before a Malaysian crowd more used to smooth jazz, but the power of the music and the excellent musicianship will no doubt have made an impression on many in the audience.

Central Europe Review: Baltic Bop: <http://www.ce-review.org/00/27/boysen27.html>
Baltic BeBop

Mel Huang

One of the most creative and experimental jazz formations in Lithuania is the Dainius Pulauskas Sextet, which is composed of six incredibly talented jazzmen. On one autumn night in 1998, Dainius Pulauskas staged a fabulous performance in Vilnius, which was later released as an album titled *Autumn Suite*. The four-part mini-epic goes beyond demonstrating the skills of the musicians, but it is also a mixture of various sub-genres of jazz and sub-links into other genres, such as fusion, freeform, retro, progressive and classical, among others. In other words, the album is highly experimental, full of improvisations and demonstrates what Lithuanian jazz is all about.

Led by pianist and keyboardist Dainius Pulauskas, the Sextet descends into hedonistic passages of free expression at one moment only to segue into a structured passage moments later. Pulauskas's use of some retro synthesizer sounds recalls the wild fusion of Joe Zawinul and Chick Corea from the 1970s, but that is only a small fragment of the mosaic of styles and sounds in this piece. At times, Pulauskas's restraint allows the other musicians to really shine, and it also shows a dedication to the composition.

The Dainius Pulauskas Sextet is one of the most famous jazz bands in Lithuania. Since forming the sextet, Pulauskas has become famous as an original improviser, composer and arranger in the fusion and rock-jazz realm.

One of the most fascinating aspects of this four-part piece is the work of the two percussionists. Drummer Linas Būda, a fabulous technician in his own right, is complemented perfectly by percussionist Arkadi Gotesman, himself a leading drummer. The drums and percussion play more than a backing role here; like in some of the radical fusion acts of earlier years, such as Brand X, the drums at times become the second lead, playing almost impishly in the background above the horns.

A good segment of the lead is played by saxophonist-extraordinaire Vytautas Labutis. His remarkable skills enable him to go from Charlie Parker-like anarchy to a lonely alto sax soliloquy, and they show why he has become famous beyond his native Lithuania. Trumpet

player Valerijus Ramoška plays a sweet horn, leading the charge often with brassy outbursts to detailed and emotional lines that bring out that autumn feel perfectly.

As a bass player myself, I tend to be more critical of bassists than other musicians. However, bassist Vladislav Borkovski is extremely talented and is one of the smoothest walkers I have heard in a long time. In some of the double-time passages his work alongside the percussion is just tantalising. He even employs some choice bass chords during the opening of part three.

In a way, this piece is a juxtaposition of contrasting elements. Set in somewhat of a classical structure, a fusion feel soon creates the space for unrestrained improv and silence alike, and, at times, the band even crosses over into the structures of progressive rock. At times, you can almost hear Miles Davis playing with 1970s symphonic Genesis in the latter bits of part three. The horn-sax attack, backed by a dazzling piano and walking bass, conjures up visions of more straightforward jazz; however, that is shattered and reaffirmed almost by the juxtaposition of contrasting bits, whether it comes from the sound effects, the synthesisers, the percussion or from the dazzlingly inspired playing.

This four-part piece really does have an autumn feel to it, with the piano so crisp at times that it sounds like rain hitting fallen leaves on the soil.

The flugelhorn recreates the melancholy that is in the slowly cooling weather and shortening days of autumn, while the sax conjures up the turbulence of such a season. The percussions take over for calamitous weather, giving the feel of thunder at the precise moments. It is always an amazing feat when musicians can create instrumental works that speak louder than words in describing scenery and environment, but this talented sextet has achieved. The fourth part sees a return to more traditional sound, a fusion sound that has everyone at their strongest. A fascinating ending to a fascinating piece.

The Dainius Pulauskas Sextet is one of the most fascinating and talented jazz ensembles in the world right now. Not locked into specific styles and free to float as their imaginations allow them, they are actually pioneers in the free, but sometimes overly restrictive, genre of jazz. The Sextet has won many awards recently, and let us hope that this pushes the musicians to further success on the international jazz scene. Look out New York.

[Mel Huang](#), 10 July 2000

The Big Band JAM!

by **Jon Rochetti** on April 19th, 2007

In its third year, the ***Big Band JAM*** brings together college, military and international big-band jazz ensembles for a 9-day celebration of the best in big band jazz.

Representing the U.S. military are the Army Blues Jazz Ensemble Army, Navy Commodores, Airforce Airmen of Note. The collegiate bands include ensembles from American, George Mason and George Washington Universities University of North Texas, and Montgomery College. A dozen local high school bands and seven bands from overseas plus more round out the performances. The headliners are the legendary Count Basie Orchestra.



Dainius Pulauskas Group (Lithuania), Performing Sunday, April 29th at the Blues Alley Jazz Club.

Jams will be occurring all week at at different times, so check the Big Band JAM [schedule](#).

- [Blues Alley](#)
1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW
Washington, DC, 20007
- **Sylvan Theater** on the grounds of the Washington Monument,
15th Avenue and Constitution Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001
- [Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](#)
2700 F Street, NW
Washington DC. 20566
- **Voice of America Auditorium**
330 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20237



Count Basie – 1955 film - Rythm

AROENGBINANG PROJECT

WHERE MIND, HEART AND SOUL MEET
JAKARTA INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL 2008

Saturday, December 08, 2007

Dainius Pulauskas Performance

I got another name from the last JakJazz Festival that need to be memorized in my shallow memory. It's **Dainius Pulauskas**, a jazz pianist from Lithuania with his **Dainius Pulauskas Sextet** group that he established back in 1996. The sextet is considered as one of the most creative, most experimental, and one of the most popular jazz bands in Lithuania, a country with only 3.5 million population in the Eastern Europe.

Unfortunately there were not so many people watching **Dainius Pulauskas** performance when we arrived at the Big Stage-1 on the left wing of Istora Senayan. Whilst most of the available seats were occupied, the space in front of the stage were still spacious. Maybe his name hasn't yet been that popular among Indonesians.

The group line up was Dainius PULAUSKAS on piano and sythesizers, Valerijus Ramoska on trumpet and flugelhorn, Rimantas Brazaitis on saxes, Leonid Sinkarenko on bass, Eugenijus Ramoska on guitar and Linas Buda on drums. The group made their debut in 1996 by launching **Penetration**, their first album.

They played around ten of their compositions quite impressively, and received applause every time they finished with one song. Up until now, unfortunately, I haven't got a chance to looked around to find their album in Jakarta, including their latest album titled "Orca", dubbed as highly experimental.



The eighteenth Vilnius Jazz festival opens with the merger of jazz and symphonic music

The concert in the Vilnius Congress Hall October 6, 7 pm announces opening of the eighteenth International jazz festival **Vilnius Jazz**. For eighteen years this jazz forum has been committed to presenting a wide panorama of contemporary jazz – creative and ingenious, alternative and unpredicted. In this period of time the festival became quite a Mecca for jazz innovators, and its stage has presented an impressive gallery of luminaries of jazz world.

An unusual aspect of contemporary jazz will be presented at the opening concert – a union of jazz and symphonic music.

This trend starts with P. Whiteman's orchestra and G. Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, and today it counts eighth decade. However, Lithuanian attempts in this field have been very meagre so far, with more typical form of it being an initiative of the academic musicians to inlay jazz ensemble or a soloist in an orchestra.

Thus, the organisers of the **Vilnius Jazz** festival have resolved to fill this gap. The opening concert will introduce Dainius Pulauskas' *Suite for jazz group and symphony orchestra* in a performance of two renowned collectives, experts of their own art – Dainius Pulauskas jazz group and Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra, led by maestro Gintaras Rinkevičius. This work is unique in that this time it presents synthesis of jazz and symphonic music inspired by a jazz musician – one of the most celebrated jazz musicians, a masterful pianist and keyboardist, an unequalled leader and a unique composer – Dainius Pulauskas, who carried the work in his mind for quite a while.

In seven-movement suite the listeners will experience symbiosis of jazz and symphonism, in which sound palette of the celebrated jazz group will merge with lush tones of the symphony orchestra. In his score the composer addressed not only rich timbral possibilities of a symphony orchestra in general, but dedicated much attention to the orchestra's strong facets – its percussion section as well as vibraphone and marimba. In this composition, based on a synthesis of academic and free forms, the composer toys with various jazz elements – rhythmic criss-cross between orchestra, jazz group and soloists, and jazz reefs tinted in orchestral colours.

Dainius Pulauskas tried his hand at composition and arranging while working in *Oktava* orchestra (1981), since 1996 he has led and composed for his own ensembles: a quintet which soon grew into a sextet and became one the most outstanding and active Lithuanian jazz groups – an ambassador of Lithuanian jazz. It is D. Pulauskas-composer who can be credited for the ensemble's success. He has led *Dainius Pulauskas Group* for more than a decade. The group has earned accolades in a number of prestigious European and Asian jazz festivals. The Finnish jazz critic Risto Haapsamo has called its music “*the powerful pulse of modern jazz*”.

“*Pulauskas and his colleagues play the best fusion you could find. Variety of their expression means is staggering. It is a topsy-turvy of madcap swinging and rhythms, and ... the purest, unembellished jazz. It is obvious, that the leader of the group pianist Pulauskas and his friends are all excellent arrangers; there is always a place for improvisations in their precisely calculated arrangements. <...> It was long ago that I have heard jazz masters of such a talent*”, wrote Swedish critic Bo Levander about Dainius Pulauskas and his group.

Members of *Dainius Pulauskas Group* are jazz musicians of the highest league: trumpeter Valerijus Ramoska, saxophonist Vytautas Labutis, bassist Leonid Shinkarenko, drummer Linas Buda and percussionist Arkady Gotesman.

The well-known jazz group will be joined by *Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra (LSSO)* whose founder, Artistic Director and Chief Conductor is Gintaras Rinkevičius. During 16 years of its existence, the Orchestra gave more than 900 concerts at home and abroad. Even though the main core of the Orchestra's repertoire consists of opuses by classical through contemporary composers, the creative collective does not desist trying unusual experiments in the symphonic music sphere such as genre synthesis. Among LSSO's previous undertakings are Giedrius Kuprevičius' *Decaphonia* for ten jazz soloists and symphony orchestra; performance with the

legendary rock group *Electric Light Orchestra*, appearance in a program *Classical Metamorphoses* together with pop and rock singers.