

Mauricio Zottarelli - Bio

The Brazilian-born and New York City-based drummer and composer Mauricio Zottarelli has been on the forefront of the Jazz, Latin and Brazilian music circles for many years. A *Grammy* nominated artist, Zottarelli has been called “superb”, “outstanding”, “dynamic” and “extraordinary” by many prestigious international publications such as *JazzTimes* and *Downbeat* magazines, and has become one of the most sought after drummers on the scene since his move to NYC in 2006.

A Berklee College of Music graduate, Mauricio is a critically acclaimed and award-winning drummer and artist. He is credited in more than 100 albums so far in his career, and has worked with dozens of the most important and notable artists of today, crossing over many musical styles. Some of them are: Hiromi, Eliane Elias, Toquinho, Prasanna, Eddie Daniels, Lee Ritenour, Dave Grusin, Esperanza Spalding, Keiko Matsui, Richard Bona, Paquito D’Rivera, Richard Galliano, Cristina Pato, Chuck Loeb, Romero Lubambo, Chico Pinheiro, Cláudio Roditi, Joe Locke, Geoffrey Keezer, Mike Pope, Eldar, Ivan Lins, Carmen Souza, Rosa Passos, Dom Salvador, Christos Rafalides, Jovino Santos Neto, Nilson Matta, Toninho Horta, Oriente Lopez, Filó Machado, Gustavo Assis Brasil, Hendrik Meurkens and many others.

As a band-leader/solo artist, Mauricio has released two critically acclaimed albums: *7 LIVES* (2009) featuring an original mix of Jazz, Fusion and Brazilian Music; and *UPSIDE DOWN LOOKING UP* (2017), his highly anticipated follow-up disc, featuring a stellar lineup: *Oriente Lopez* (flute/piano); *Itaiguara Brandão* (bass) *Rodrigo Ursaia* (sax); *Gustavo Assis Brasil* (guitars); *Milene Corso* (vocals); *Mike Pope* (bass); *Eldar Djangirov* (keys); *Helio Alves* (piano) *Christos Rafalides* (vibes) and *Klaus Mueller* (piano). As a co-leader/co-producer, Mauricio has released 3 albums so far: *DIG TRIO* (2003) with guitarist Gustavo Assis

Brasil; MOZIK (2011) with pianist Gilson Schachnik; and GLASSES, NO GLASSES (2014) with bassist Amanda Ruzza.

Mauricio has been consistently featured on the prestigious “Jazz Station” website as one of the top 10 drummers of the year since 2011, and in 2012 he won the most important music award in Brazil, the “Brazilian Music Awards”, with legendary pianist Dom Salvador. In 2018 he was a finalist in the 23rd USA Songwriting Competition in two different categories, with songs from his latest album.

Mauricio is equally active as a teacher and educator, and has performed clinics, workshops, and taught in several music education programs in South America, USA and Europe. He has written many articles for Modern Drummer Magazine in Brazil. He can be reached at **www.mzdrums.com**.

WEB Sites:

www.mzdrums.com

www.facebook.com/mauriciozottarellimusic

www.youtube.com/mzdrums

www.instagram.com/mzdrums

Emails:

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Mauricio uses exclusively:

Latin Percussion LP Percussion • **Vic Firth** sticks • **Evans** Drumheads

Soultone Cymbals • **Lexicon** Pro Audio • **FSA** Cajons

PowerClick in-ear monitors • **Gruv Gear** Accessories

Snares by **Wisdom Drums** & **Bay Custom Drums**

PRESS QUOTES - Praises for Mauricio, his group, and some of his CD releases

#7 Best Drummer of 2018

#4 Best Drummer of 2017

#4 Best Drummer of 2016

#5 Best Drummer of 2014

#5 Best Drummer of 2013

#3 Best Drummer of 2012

#7 Best Drummer of 2011

Among Best 25 albums of the year (2017 – “Upside Down Looking Up”) Best New Talent of 2011 (with MOZIK)

A. deSouteiro – Jazz Station

“A benchmark recording from one of the premier drummers in just about any music played today.”

www.jazzdagama.com (review of “Upside Down Looking Up” 2017)

the superb Brazilian drummer Mauricio Zottarelli.”

JazzTimes Magazine

“Outstanding – Much more than just drums, cymbals, and drumsticks.”

L. Nobile, Newspaper “O Estado de São Paulo”,

Brazil review of the CD “7 Lives”

(...)the stupendous drummer Mauricio Zottarelli...”

The News Group on-line – SPAIN /Latino América Exterior (on-line) – SPAIN

"Drummer Zottarelli is remarkable, practically providing a clinic on Brazilian drumming and percussion."Latin Beat Magazine - LMBO.com - on a review about Mauricio's new project MOZIK

"Zottarelli expresses his musicality in an almost indescribable manner, showing his incredible mastery of the instrument, and making the music become the target of all his phrases and grooves. The drummer knows how to put each figure in the right place, always playing to the music, with tasteful tones to choose from, besides presenting extraordinary technique and musicality!"
F. Marrone – Modern Drummer Magazine BRAZIL – review of "Aguas Profundas" by Oriente Lopez

"Roditi's latest drummer, the brilliant Mauricio Zottarelli gives notice here that he is a force to reckon with as he shades the piece with earthy tones and polyrhythms. Elsewhere...Zottarelli shows how sensitive he can be."

Raul da Gama – Latin Jazz Network – a review about Claudio Roditi's CD Bons Amigos (2011)

"First and foremost – the amazing Brazilian drummer/percussionist, Mauricio Zottarelli, performed a splendid job in meshing genuine Brazilian musical concepts with Bebop jazz."

Danny R. Johnson – San Diego County News' Washington,DC - on a review about Claudio Roditi's CD Bons Amigos

"(...) Featuring Zottarelli's many different rhythmic and compositional skills, this album is high- quality Brazilian jazz".

H.Sugita - Swing Journal – JAPAN – review of MZ's "7 Lives" album

(...) An excellent example of how a record from a great musician should be done; on which the creativity, good taste, and musicality are all highly valued. And for whoever wants it, there is the technical aspect too—always applied for the benefit of the music."

V. Rocha, *Modern Drummer Magazine*, BRAZIL - review of Mauricio's CD 7 Lives

"Sonicbloom, Hiromi's frenetic but exacting fusion band, relies on the strong propulsion of the British bassist Tony Grey and the Brazilian drummer Mauricio Zottarelli."

The New York Times - Hiromi's Blue Note NYC 2009 concert review

"Mauricio Zottarelli is a hot new talent to watch out for!"

John Stevenson – www.ejazznews.com

"(...)Mauricio Zottarelli, one of the new promising brazilian drummers..."

www.lasprovincias.es - Valencia, SPAIN

www.valencianoticias.com - ValenciaNews (SPAIN)

"Mauricio Zottarelli is a machine! Keep your eyes on him."

DRUM PRO magazine- USA

"And once again a drummer proves to be quite musical. Zottarelli's drumming is not just running through different rhythms, rather they serve the song. He accompanies the songs with great feeling. A convincing debut album from a drummer you certainly should know."

www.jazzdrummerworld.com – review of CD "7 Lives"

" The dynamic Brazilian drummer Mauricio Zottarelli (...)"

M. Jackson – *Downbeat Magazine*