

Gentiane MG (Michaud-Gagnon) Biography, 2020

Award winning pianist Gentiane MG's musical training began in her early youth, studying classical music at the *Quebec Music Conservatory* in Saguenay. During her teenage years she developed a strong interest for composition, and her growing curiosity would later bring her to discover improvised music, eventually relocating to Montréal to pursue a formal education in Jazz Performance at McGill University.

In 2014, she founded the Gentiane MG Trio alongside bassist Levi Dover and drummer Louis-Vincent Hamel. With this group, Gentiane MG has toured extensively in Quebec, in Canada and in Mexico. The trio has released two albums of original music, *Eternal Cycle* (Arté Boréal, 2017) and *Wonderland* (Effendi, 2019).

The three bandmates explore musical freedom and communication using MG's pieces as a foundation to build upon, conceiving of instrumental music as a vehicle for profound expression. MG's compositions are rooted in the jazz tradition of songwriting and improvisation while also influenced by impressionistic and romantic classical music.

Gentiane MG is an active member of saxophonist Yannick Rieu's Generation Quartet, with which she has toured extensively in China. She recently co-produced a duo album with saxophonist Frank Lozano, *Convergence* (MCM, 2020) and appears regularly with the Montreal National Jazz Orchestra.

MG has received several awards for her work with her trio, including the *François Marcaurelle de la GMMQ Award* in 2017, the *Radio-Canada Jazz Award* in 2018 and the *OPUS Award: Discovery of the Year* in 2020.