

# Erik Rothenstein

(1973, Bratislava, Slovakia)

[www.erikrothenstein.com](http://www.erikrothenstein.com)



is a jazz baritone saxophonist, composer, arranger and pedagogue. As a leader of **Erik Rothenstein band** he concentrates on modern mainstream jazz combined with ethnic elements of middle-eastern and southern Europe. The band cooperates with various Slovak and international musicians, singers or beat box artist. His band was touring in Europe and Latin America. With pianist Zita Sopková he founded **Lento Ad Astra** a group oriented on european classical music build on interesting arrangements, new compositions from slovak contemporary composers and connection to improvisation.

Erik started as a child to play clarinet and later alto saxophone. He played in local rock groups and later with Pressburger Klezmer band. From this time he was strong influenced by klezmer and ethnic music of middle-eastern Europe. He also started to play jazz and at the age of 18 he decided to study saxophone on Bratislava conservatory. Afterwards he moved to Austria to Graz academy jazz department where he took baritone saxophone as his primary instrument. He also started to work on his author's compositions, arrangements and discover other music cultures.

Beside his work as a band leader Erik is active as a sideman, big band player and arranger. He is a member of Matúš Jakabčic CZ-SK Big band. He also cooperated with Gustáv Brom Orchestra, Višegrád Jazz Big band and with classical orchestras Slovak Radio orchestra, Slovak Philharmony, Sinfonieta Žilina, Melos Ethos ensemble. He is a member of Michal Motýl' Tentet and a founder of Pressburger klezmer Band.

As a arranger and composer he cooperated with company PS Production, CZ-SK Big Band M.Jakabčica Michal Motýl' tentet, Hanka Gregušová, Pressburger Klezmer Band, Robo Opatovský, NikiStein Jazz Sextet and others. He is also active as a music journalist for newspaper Music Life and web portal skjazz.sk. He works also as a music teacher and organizes saxophone workshops. Erik is a author of first Slovak Saxophone school- book The Progressive saxophone method.

## Festivals extract

Euro Jazz Mexiko, Guatemala Jazz festival, Morelia Jazztival Michuacan-Mexiko, Bratislava Jazz Days, Bratislava music festival, Kubín music Spring, Melos-Ethos– festival of contemporary music, Bažant Pohoda, Jazz fest Brno, Bohemia jazz festival, Jazz goes to town - Hradec Králové, Czechoslovak jazz festival Přerov, Valjevo jazz festival Serbia, Novi Sad jazz festival Serbia, Ljubljana festival Slovenia, Zagreb jazz festival Croatia, Zabrze jazz festival Poland, Poysdorf Wine & Jazz summer Austria

## Discography extract

### as leader:

#### **ERIK ROTHENSTEIN BAND:**

Prater Menuet (2005),  
Erik Rothenstein and the Rainbow  
project – In Concert (2005),  
The Fools of Chelm (2012),  
Rio Danubio (2015).

#### **LENTO AD ASTRA:**

Playing „Šach“ with Mr.Bach (2013)

### as sideman:

**Melos Ethos Ensemble** (Works of young  
Slovak composers) (2005), Slovak for Warsaw  
Autumn(2006)

**Matúš Jakabčič CZ-SK Big Band:** Jazz na  
Hrade (2009)

**Pressburger Klezmer Band:** ...mit Liebe  
(2007)

**Groove Brothers:** Groove Brothers (2011)

**Michal Motýl' Tentet:** Sunflowers (2013)

### music education:

Conservatory in Bratislava Slovakia,  
Kunst Universität Graz Austria – jazz  
department,

Academy of Arts Banská Bystrica Slovakia – classical department



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