



Name: Ionel, aka Johnny

Name: Bota

Date of birth: 31/01/1956.

Birthplace: Timișoara, Romania

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Marital status: Married

#### STUDIES AND DIPLOMAS

1976-1980 musical studies at the Academy of Music "Gheorghe Dima" from Cluj-Napoca, in Violin

1980 first degree in performance and instrumental pedagogy

2008 Diploma of PhD at the Music Academy "Gheorghe Dima" from Cluj-Napoca

#### ACTIVITY

1980 is awarded the Grand Prix at the Architecture Festival with the "Experimental Quintet"

1980 violin and viola teacher at the National College of Arts "Ion Vidu" Timișoara: get his students every year, the highest awards in performing competitions

Founded in 1983 with guitarist Dan Ionescu, the "Crepuscul" group, which won the prize of Consecration at the Sibiu Jazz Festival

1983 first collaboration with Bela Kamocsa at the jazz festival in Brasov and founding the Bega Blues Band

1984-1988 bass in "Quartet Gondi"

1990 Professor and founder of the classical guitar department of the Conservatory of Timișoara

1990-2002 editor and producer of the show "Jazz Reflex" at Radio Timișoara

1990 Philharmonic violinist in the orchestra "Banat" in Timișoara

1990 and 1991 participates in Jazz Festival Debrecen Hungary, sharing the same stage with Elvin Jones, Charles Lloyd, Charlie Mariano, Larry Corryell, Niels-Henning Oersted-Pedersen, Aladar Pege

1991 Vice President of the Romanian Association of Jazz

1992 attending the Festival in Montreux, Switzerland, where playing for His Majesty King Michael of Romania

1993 launches the first disc of blues-jazz Romanian "Blues de Timișoara" with the Bega Blues Band

1997-2017 participates in the jazz-festival Brebu-Garana, among whose founders are, next to BBB, Paul Weiner, Puba Hromadka, Istvan Gyarfas, Miloš Krstić, Liviu Butoi, Kamo

2001 comes to organize, with CCF of Timișoara, the first international jazz masterclass in Timișoara, taught by excellent jazzmen such as: Manuel Rocheman, Sylvain Beuf, Istvan Gyárfás, Gyuri Jeszenski, Miloš Krstić, Stéphane Kerecki

2002 attends, along with German pianist and drummer Günter Buchwald and Romanian drummer Dinu Simon, the first international film festival "Transylvania" in Cluj, performing "live" soundtrack "Nosferatu," directed by Murnau

2002 plays in the town of Sao Luis in Brazil, along with the famous blues guitarist Kenny Brown in the music festival "Um Canto de los povos por la Harmonia"

2002 attends the Sibiu Jazz Festival, appearing on the same stage with famous Belgian guitarist Jean "Toots" Thielemans

2003 March 8, appears in the extraordinary concert called "From Gershwin to Sting", at the Opera House in Timișoara, in celebration of twenty years of existence of his Bega Blues Band. Soloists were Alexandra Guțu, Mirela Zafiri, Istvan Gyárfás Liviu Butoi, Toni Kühn and Mircea Bunea, accompanied by the Philharmonic Orchestra "Banat" in Timișoara, led by maestro Cristian Oroșanu. Bota wrote the whole music concert, the first of its kind, combining jazz with blues, rock and symphonic music

2003 November reissuing the success of the show "From Gershwin to Sting" in the framework of the 13th edition of the jazz festival in Timișoara

2003 introduces American band Oregon, in Timișoara, in a concert organized by the Cores company

2004 gets, along with BBB, the Award for best band blues of the year, equivalent to a vernacular Grammy, in a great concert, on the stage of the Radio Hall in Bucharest with such guests as Istvan

Gyárfás Mirela Zafiri and Mircea Bunea, and accompanied by the Bucharest Radio Big Band, conducted by Ionel Tudor

2004 Bota became a member of the Composers and Musicologists Union of Romania

2004 the Timișoara City Hall offers the BBB Diploma of Excellence "for all musical activity and for promoting the image of Timișoara in the country and abroad"

2004 plays the bass score of "Concerto for saxophone and orchestra" by Sabin Pautza in the Timișoara Philharmonic, a work directed by the author himself featuring soloist Nicolas Simion

2005 organized the first International Symposium Jazz Jupînești with the participation of American jazz seven teachers, such as Tom Smith, Brian Torff, Tom Wolfe, Rick Condit, and 40 Romanian students and teachers

2005 October established the first College of jazz and pop in Romania within the "Tibiscus" University of Timișoara, which gives its name "Richard Oschanitzky" in honor of the most important Romanian jazz composer, born in Timișoara

2005, 2006, the prize for jazz, awarded by the Union of Composers magazine, "Music News"

2006 January participates as a representative of the Romanian academic jazz, IAJE Convention in New York

2006 organizes the second edition of the International Symposium Jazz Jupînești

2006 participate in Garana Jazz Festival with the BBB accompanying American jazz vocalist Karen Gallinger

2006 participates in the Festival of Paks, Hungary Gastroblues sharing the same scene with Chris Farlow ex- Colosseum and Keith Emerson

2006 is touring Hungary, Slovakia and Serbia together with Eldad Tarmu Ensemble and recorded with the CD "Songs for the Queen of Bohemia"

2006-2007 plays with BBB at the Timișoara Opera Square New Year, marking Romania's EU entry

2007 celebrates 25 years of the band Bega Blues Band with a festive concert held March 3 in Room CNA "Ion Vidu", accompanied by the Philharmonic Orchestra of Timișoara, with special guest Moni Bordeianu, the first singer of the band " Phoenix "

2007 plays with BBB, invited by the Polish Cultural Institute, the famous clubs "Tygmont" in Warsaw and "Pivnica Baranemia Bridge" in Krakow

2008 IAJE attend the International Conference in New York, as representative of the Romanian university jazz

2008 is organizing the third edition of the International Symposium Jazz Jupînești with the participation of famous Romanian artists Eugen Gondi, Alex Simu, Catalin Milea and some foreign teachers valued: Mike Krstić (Serbia), Tom Wolfe ( USA), Tom Smith (USA), Karen Gallinger (USA) Tarmu Eldad (USA)

2008 starts along with Eldad Tarmu Strings Group a tour in Hungary and Slovakia to promote music disc "Songs for the Queen of Bohemia" and appears at TV Bratislava broadcast

2008 invited as a teacher "in residence" at the Faculty of Jazz in Basel (Switzerland)

In January 2010, after the death of Bela Kamocsa, which was his colleague for 25 years in the BBB , Bota organizes a farewell concert at Club 30, with over 25 invited musicians trademark of Timișoara

2010 Bega Blues Band restored by Bota, keeping from the old formula only drummer Lica Dolga

2010 March participates with the BBB in Valjevo Jazz Festival

2010 plays at the Unirii Square in Timișoara with BBB at Europe Day

2010 is touring eight cities in Romania with jazz USA big bands jazz from the University of Northern Colorado and Louisiana McNeese, featuring soloists Sasha Bota, Alex Man and Luiza Zan

August 2010, becomes the director of the festival "Blues for Timișoara"

2010 plays with his son Sasha Bota, and with Istvan Gyárfás and son Gyarfás Attila at the Unirii Square in Timișoara, within the event "Timișoara-Little Vienna"

2010 Bota becomes the director of Gala Blues Jazz Kamo in Timișoara, playing with the BBB and featuring guest the French singer Pierre Trégomain. After that, they performed in important Romanian towns such as Cluj, Brașov, Iași, Bucharest, Sfîntu Gheorghe

2010 plays at ICR in Budapest and Szeged, with Csaba Deseo, Attila Juhasz and Eugen Gondi

2010 plays at ICR in London, together with the BBB

In 2011 the prize for best Romanian jazz band of the year with the Bega Blues Band, in a ceremony held at Dalles Hall in Bucharest

2011 performs at the Romanian National Opera Hall in Timișoara, an Astor Piazzolla anniversary concert, along with the Nuevo Tango Quintet: Sasha Bota-violin, Alin Stoianovici-harmonica, Roxana Coșoreanu-piano and Ionuț Dorobanțu- guitar

2011 organized a series of so-called "Unplugged Concerts", as an artistic director, at the County Council Hall

2011 November is the artistic director of Jazz Kamo Blues gala in Timișoara playing along with the Bega Blues Band, featuring twenty years reunion with colleagues in the Quartet Gondi: Eugen Gondi, Dan Ionescu, Toni Kühn

2012 two concerts with the Nuevo Tango Quintet at ArCuB in Bucharest, organized with support of the Embassy of Argentina and the Cervantes Foundation, with full house

Get the prize for journalism in 2012 for his book "The history of jazz Breviar", awarded by the Foundation and the Union of Composers Muzza

2012 August 11 to 12, Bota is the artistic director of the „Blues for Timișoara” festival

2013 attended the "Razelm" revival concert in Bucharest, together with Eugen Gondi, Toni Kühn, Nicolas Simion Ion Baci Junior Liviu Butoi, Garbis Dedeian, in memory of the "Razelm" period, at Black Sea resort Venus

2013 continues as artistic director, „Unplugged Concert” series, held at Timis County Council, presenting bands like: Lucian Ban - Matt Maneri from New York, Iordache, Sebastian Trio Spanache, Aquarium, Mikuta Trio

2013 May 22, organizes and writes scores for the Banatul Philharmonic Orchestra, the musical program that celebrates the anniversary of 30 years of the group Bega Blues Band. The concert, conducted by Maestro Radu Popa, he had as guests, Alexandra Gutu - cello, Moni Bordeianu - voice, Mircea Bunea - guitar, Aura Twarowska - mezzo. On this occasion, the band Bega Blues Band, was granted the second Diploma of Excellence by the Municipality of Timișoara

2013 performs, along with Toni Kühn, a series of concerts organized by the Banat Philharmonic, introducing the violin to Timișoara youth, and Faget, Jimbolia

2013 May organizes jazz master classes at the Faculty of Music in Timișoara, held by American Tom Wolfe, Professor of the University of Alabama, completed by a concert

2013 May concerts with the Bega Blues Band, at Posticum Jazz Festival in Oradea

2013 June concerts at Jimbo Blues, with the Bega Blues Band

2013 in July, plays the opening concert Jazz Festival Timișoara, with Bega Blues Band and vocalist Aura Twarowska, accompanied by the Banatul Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by maestro Peter Oschanitzky

2013 August is the festival's artistic director Blues for Timișoara held in the Opera Square, and plays with his Bega Blues Band

2013 September participates with Banatul Philharmonic Orchestra, the George Enescu Festival in Bucharest

2013 September plays at the jazz festival „Plai” in Timișoara, with the Nuevo Tango Quintet, featuring Argentina guest vocalist on Marilia Machado

2013 November is the artistic director of Jazz Blues Gala Kamo, playing with the Bega Blues Band and, separately, with pianist Mike Krstić (Serbia) and Ioan Minda (Austria)

2013 November tours Netherlands with the Banatul Philharmonic Orchestra, playing concerts at the famous Concertgebouw in Amsterdam

2013 December plays with BBB alongside Lucian Ban - Mat Maneri concert featuring CD Release Concert, at the Ion Vidu Hall

2014 July 3, plays with Mike Trio Krstić at Bucharest ArCub Festival

2015 in April, is touring with Bega Blues Band in cities in Transylvania and Maramures: Bistrița and Satu Mare, Baia Mare, Alba Iulia

2015 June 20, gets his BBB at the American Music Festival in Arad

2015, July 31, plays at the Blues Panorama of Ghelari

2015, August 4, plays at in Timisoara Opera Square with the BBB featuring blues guitarist AG Weinberger

2015 November 21-22, launches CD „Brassica Soup” at the 25 edition of the Gala de Blues jazz Kamo in Timișoara

2016 April 20-22, he plays one concert in Zalau and two other concerts at the Diesel Club in Cluj and at the Music Academy G.Dima concert hall in Cluj-Napoca, with the BBB

2016 May, plays with the BBB at the Posticum jazz festival in Oradea

2016 June 28, performs the music of his album “Brassica Soup” with his Bega Blues Band at the Sibiu Philharmonic Hall

2016 June,2 plays with the BBB at the Rich Mix jazz club in London, by the Romanian Cultural Institute

2016 , July 11, plays at the most famous Romanian jazz Festival in Garana with the BBB. Here he launches Bega Blues Band first LP, presenting the music on the former “Brassica Soup” CD

2016 August,6 is the musical director of the Jimbo Blues, where he plays with the BBB

2016 September, 15 he attends the” Opus” jazz club in Budapest, invited by the Romanian Cultural Institute to introduce the music on his album “Brassica Soup”

2016 September 22 he plays at the Bucharest Jazz Festival along with his BBB. After, he organizes concerts in Timisoara and Lugoj for his friend, Canadian guitarist Dan Ionescu and his group

2016 November 17-18, he is the bass player of Elena Mîndru’s group, playing two concerts: one at the Filarmonica Arad, the second at the Filarmonica banatul in Timisoara

2016 November 19-20, Johnny Bota is the director of the 26<sup>th</sup> Gala de Blues Jazz Kamo edition, where he plays with the BBB and, also with the “Banatul Quartet led by Mike Krstić

2016 December,12 he performs at the Arad Philharmonic, together with the BBB

## EXPERIENCE

Johnny Bota played with the most famous Romanian jazzman such as Johnny Răducanu, Dan Mândrilă, Marius Popp, Stephen Berindei ,Garbis Dedeian, Mircea Tiberian, Anca Parghel, Eugen Gondi, Liviu Butoi, Dan Ionescu, Toni Kühn, Ion Baciú jr., Teodora Enache Dragos Nedelcu, Harry Tavitian, Mihai Farcas Puiu Minda, Dinu Simon, Veronica Luță Victor Miclăuș, Mirel Butoi, Sași Vușcan and performed with international jazz artists from abroad : Brian Torff, Tom Smith, Rick Condit, Tom Wolfe, Karin Gallinger, Eldad Tarmu, Florence Melnotte, Toots Thielemans group, Harry "the Skipper" Franklin, Paul Weiner, Puba Hromadka, Nicolas Simion, Istvan Gyarfás, Sylvain Beuf, Manuel Rocheman, Claudia Raths, István Gyárfás ,Gabor Gado, Gyuri Jeszenski, JL Wilson, Csaba Deseo, Terry Seabrock, Tony Lakatos, György Vukán, Imre Köszegy, Berkes Balász, François Hervé, Claude Barthélemy, Sophia Domanchich, Paul Rogers, Yildiz Ibrahimova, Reinhard Hammerschmidt, Urs Leimgruber, Simeon Sterev, Jiří Stivin, Patrick Scheider, Szakcsi Lakatos, François Moutin, Evan Parker, Edir dos Santos.

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

2012 "Blues and jazz Banat" Publishing Eurostampa

2011 "Jazz history Roundup" at Green Valley Muzza, awarded with the Prize for Journalism Society and the Union of Composers

2008 "Glossary of terms of jazz" in Brumar,

2008 "Modern jazz violin" at Brumar; Award for Journalism Society and the Union of Composers Muzza

## DISCOGRAPHY

2016 LP "Brassica Soup" with Bega Blues Band at the EM Records

2015 "Brassica Soup" with Bega Blues Band at the EM Records

2010 " Zboina Neagră " with Bega Blues Band at Show Factory

2010 "From Gershwin to Sting" with Bega Blues Band at Show Factory

2009 "Songs for the Queen of Bohemia" with Eldad Tarmu, Queen of Bohemia

2006 "New Fleas" with Bega Blues Band to BBB

2006 "All of Us" by Moody Stuff to Show Factory

2004 "Christmas with Moody Stuff" at Show Factory

2002 "Sponsor you " with Bega Blues Band to BBB

2000 "Paul Weiner Trio Live at Garana"

1999 "Brautwahl Suite" op. 45 and "Garnische Suite" op. Ferruccio Busoni 34, at Timpani

1999 'Rhapsody in Blue, "" Concerto for Piano and Orchestra "and" An American in Paris "by George Gershwin, Bayer Records

1999 " Sumiko " by Gunter Buchwald at the OnVox

1998 Piano Concerto no. 2 Fr. Chopin and "Pictures of an Exhibition" by Mussorgski at Gema

1997 Piano Concerto in G major and B flat major by Mozart, J.-F Antonioli at Plant Tecval

1995 "Amphion " melodrama and L'Imperatrice aux Rochers "suites 1 and 2 for orchestra by A. Honegger, at Timpani

1994 Oratorio "De Profundis" and Concerto for cello and orchestra by J. Perrin, the Claves

1993 "Blues Timișoara" with Bega Blues Band, Soft Studio Recording System

1992 "Leçons des Ténèbres" by Marcel Landowski at Chamade-Salabert

1991 concerts for clarinet and orchestra by Weber, with Fr. Rapin, at the Timpani

1990 rarities For clarinet and orchestra: L. Spohr - Concerto no. 3 BH Crusell - Grand Concerto, A. Schibler - Concertino, with Elisabeth Ganter, the CS-SD

1984 "Jazz made in Romania" with Johnny Răducanu, at the Electrecord

## COMPOSITIONS

2000 to 2017: Embargo, Song for Sasha, Kaiser Sauze, White Roses, Overture, Sketches of Other Oriental Woods Variations upon Fields (CD Bega Blues Band 20), Finkenstein Strut, Brassica Oleracea, Borangic de Mozambic, Pagan Thracian Dance. The cycle of jazz duets for equal voices instruments comprising parts such as Holograms, Paradigms, Gentle Touch, sharing Bop, the Septuagint, Tandem Bop, Carambolesque, Double Statement. Borangis de Mozambic, Breezin 'Bee, African Vine, Pagan Thracian Dance.