

Name: Kornelis (**Niels**) Bijl

Date and Place of birth: 30-12-1971, Enschede, Netherlands

Citizenship: Dutch, **permanent Australian resident** via Australian Partner Visa (309)

Languages: Dutch (native speaker); **English (near native)**; German (basic), French (rusty)

Bio

For Niels, it's all about musicality and integrity. Whether he's playing Bach on the baritone, JacobTV on the alto, Baldwyn on the soprano or original pieces written for him on his beloved tenor saxophone, it's all about bringing the music to life. Niels Bijl is an exceptionally versatile saxophonist. His major projects include CDs with repertoire for tenor saxophone, the Aurelia Saxophone Quartet, The Four Baritones and the Baritone Institute as well as his collaboration with Ronald Moelker and many other varied musicians from accordion to harp to string quartet.

Highlights of his career include his recent series of his AXES Ensemble concerts in the Netherlands, Germany and Australia. Also his tour of New Zealand in 2010 with pianist Diedre Irons (through Chamber Music NZ) and his international Solo Tenor Saxophone recitals with contemporary music written for him interwoven with Telemann Fantasies. Valeri Gergiev requested his participation with Sir Georg Solti's World Orchestra for Peace (Prokofiev, Romeo and Juliet). The theatre production of *Ik ben niet bang* with René Groothof received the Silver Krekel Prize for Best Children's Theatre Production in the Amsterdam Theatre Festival 2012. As part of his integrity he gives back to young musicians, in private sessions, masterclasses, ensemble coaching and regular invitations to conservatoriums from Manchester to Sydney. All these activities have given Niels the opportunity to give concerts and masterclasses almost everywhere in Europe as well as Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Brazil, Canada and America.

Education

1996 – 1998	Masters Conservatorium Enschede , Saxophone Performance
1997	Intensive Music Training Course (incl. Scholarship), Centre for the Arts, Banff, Canada
1990 – 1996	Bachelor of Music, Conservatorium Enschede, Saxophone

Teaching

2020-present	saxophone teacher - chamber music coach Conservatorium Melbourne (VCA)
2014 – 2019	Academia Musica (private bachelor program), saxophone, chamber music
2010 – 2017	ArtEZ conservatorium , Saxophone and chamber music
1999 – 2012	Music School Hengelo, Saxophone and ensemble
1999 – present	Regular invitations as examiner and guest professor/chamber music coach at Conservatorium van Amsterdam, Royal Conservatorium The Hague, Fontys Tilburg, Artez Arnhem and Enschede, Prins Claus Conservatorium Groningen
1995 – 2002	Music School Denekamp, Saxophone and ensemble

Prizes

2012	Silver Krekel (Silver Cricket) for <i>Ik ben niet Bang</i> - Best Children's Theatre Production in the Amsterdam Theatre Festival
2002	Nominated for Edison Award for <i>Fugue in C of Dog</i>
1998	Dagblad Tubantia <i>Prijis</i>
1998	Kunstkring Meester-Gezel <i>Prijis</i> (Masters exam award)

Activities as Professional Musician*Ensembles*

- 2018 - present **Axes ensemble**, saxophone quartet and choir, Soprano Saxophone
 2018 - present Duo with pianist Martijn Blaak
 2014 - present Rood Verlangen, childrens theatre with accordion and actors
 2012 - present **Baritone Institute**, Baritone Saxophone
 2012 - 2018 Duo with Fred Oldenburg (piano), Tenor Saxophone
 2010 - present Quinétique sax and strings (Tenor saxophone and string quartet)
 2010 - present Eagle Sun – Eagle Moon, with Ronald Moelker and Adriana Breukink (recorder), all Saxophones
 2009 - present Sh**t Music, collaboration with Jazz Pianist Rob Horsting
 2008 - present Duo with Jay Byrnes, all Saxophones
 2000 - 2017 **Aurelia Saxophone Quartet**, Alto Saxophone
 1999 - present **The Four Baritones** (founder), Baritone Saxophone
 1998 - 2011 Duo with Hans-Erik Dijkstra (piano), Tenor Saxophone
 1998 - 2004 Edition Sax, Adolphe Sax Quartet with Leo van Oostrom (Royal Conservatorium The Hague), Alto Saxophone
 1996 - 1998 Helikon Saxophone Quartet, Tenor Saxophone
 1989 - 1992 The Bastards of the Universe
 1985 - 1992 Cuban Heels (founder), Tenor Saxophone

Orchestral soloist:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Radio Chamber Orchestra | Gelders Orkest |
| Limburg Symphony | Asko/Schönberg |
| Netherlands Symphony Orchestra | |

Orchestras:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Anima Eterna | Radio Chamber Orchestra |
| Balletorkest | Radio Philharmonic Orchestra |
| Brabants Orchestra | Residentie Orkest |
| Gelders Orkest | Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra |
| Limburg Symphony Orchestra | Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra |
| Netherlands Philharmonic | World Orchestra for Peace (Georg Solti// |
| Orkest van het Oosten/Netherlands | Valery Gergiev) |
| Symphony Orchestra | |

Theatre Productions

- 2018 - 2019 Rood Verlangen: *Het Geheim van de Koning* (secret of the King) with Daniëlle Meijboom
 2016 Douwe Eisenga's *De Schrijver, zijn Vrouw, haar Minnares* (The writer, his wife, her lover), with Aurelia Saxophone Quartet
 2014 - 2019 Rood Verlangen: *Schaap met Laarsjes* (Sheep in Boots) with actor Pieter van Terheijden
 2013 - 2019 *De Rijke Bramenplukker* (The Rich Berrypicker) with René Groothof
 2010 - 2012 *Ramona* with the Netherlands Symphony Orchestra
 2009 *Onder de Tafel* (Under the Table) with puppeteer Cristel Hakvoort en Francis Faas
 2009 - 2014 *Ik Ben Niet Bang* (I am not Scared) with René Groothof
 2008 - 2010 *Circus van Niets* (Circus of Nothing) With Aurelia Quartet, René Groothof, organised by Concertgebouw Amsterdam

Concert / Project Organisation

- 2016 - 2018 Business/production Manager Stiff International Music Festival
 2015 - present Coach-coördinator jongNBEoost (regional talent program Dutch Wind Ensemble)
 2013 - 2017 Instigator/Artistic Director *Buitenplaatsconcerten* (Mansion Concert series)
 2012 - Present Programmer Chamber Music Series Kunstkring Haaksbergen

Selection of Festivals

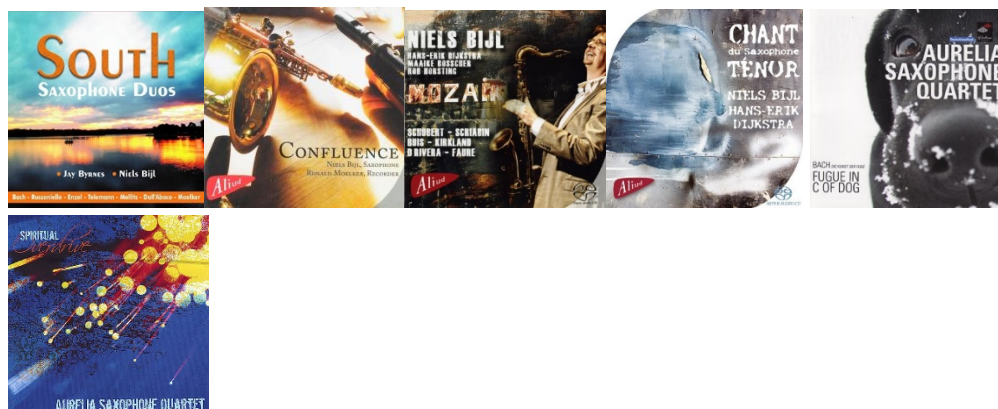
Grachtenfestival, Oranjewoud, Andorra Sax Fest, Sax 14 Amsterdam, World Saxophone Congress Scotland, SaxOpen, Strasbourg, Uitgast

Reviews and Articles

- Alastair Elliott (2010) Bijl retained mastery – Concert Review, Blenheim, New Zealand, , The Marlborough Express Newspaper
 Hedy Hempe (2010) The Saxophone conquers the World (De saxofoon verovert de wereld) Twente Life Magazine pp. 85-87
 Henk Pruijsen (2008) An Absolutely Fantastic Concert (Een absoluut Topconcert) – Review, Wieringer Courant Newspaper
 Jabra Latham (2010) Mesmerising phrasing and tone, Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music
 James Nightingale (2008) A virtuoso demonstration, *The Australian Clarinet and Saxophone*, Volume 11, No 1,
 John Miller (2011) Schubert might well have called "bravo", <https://www.hraudio.net/showmusic.php?title=6899#reviews>

Discography

- 2017 South, with Jay Byrnes (recorded in Bermagui, 2016)
 2016 Confluence, with Ronald Moelker
 2013 Ties Mellema and friends: Nora Fischer, The Four Baritones
 2012 Lars Niederstrasser and Four Baritones
 2010 MOZAIK, with Hans-Erik Dijkstra and others
 2007 Tangón (Aurelia Saxophone Quartet)
 2007 Spiritual Overdrive (Aurelia Saxophone Quartet)
 2007 Chant du Saxophone Ténor, with Hans-Erik Dijkstra
 2006 Fugue in C of Dog (Aurelia Saxophone Quartet)



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CURRICULUM VITAE
NIELS BIJL

Selection of commissions (approx. 150 works)

Title	Composer	Nationality	Instrumentation	Year
<i>In de wind</i>	Marguerite Boland	Australia (Netherlands)	Axes Saxophone quartet & Choir	2019
<i>Flying with Dürer</i>	Allan Walker	Australia	Alto Sax solo	2019
<i>Duo, Lento e Rubato</i>	Ronald Moelker	Netherlands	Saxophone Duo	2018
<i>Close to the edge</i>	Christoph Enzel	Germany	Axes Saxophone Quartet & Choir	2018
<i>Two Pass North</i>	Nicholas Russoniello	Australia	Saxophone Duo	2016
<i>Angel of Insanity</i>	Vera van der Bie	Netherlands	Tenor Sax & String Quartet	2014
<i>Megalania</i>	Nicholas Russoniello	Australia	Tenor Sax solo	2014
<i>Tipperary Concerto</i>	Jacob TV	Netherlands	Aurelia Saxophone Quartet & Symphony Orchestra	2014
<i>Do We, We Do</i>	Konrad Koselleck	Germany	Four Baritone Saxophones & Voice	2013
<i>Elated blues for the progeny</i>	Ilja Reijngoud	Netherlands	Branford Marsalis & Aurelia Saxophone Quartet	2013
<i>Little Bird, Depressed</i>	Jan Menu	Netherlands	Tenor Sax solo	2013
<i>The Second Thing</i>	Jabra Latham	Australia	Tenor Sax solo	2013
<i>Mansions</i>	Folkert Buis	Netherlands	Concerto, Tenor Sax & Wind Orchestra	2012
<i>AXE</i>	Michael Jamieson	New Zealand	Tenor Sax & Piano	2010
<i>Dream Fugue</i>	David Rowland	UK	Aurelia Saxophone Quartet	2005
<i>Blow!</i>	Perry Goldstein	USA	Aurelia Saxophone Quartet	1998

Pinter

Shane Fage

Canada

Tenor Sax solo

199

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