

JOËL VAÏSSE is well known to orchestras and audiences as one of the leading trombone players of our times. Principal Trombone of the Florida Orchestra under Michael Francis since November 2017, Joël was previously Principal Trombone of all the major French orchestras (Orchestre National de France from April 1999 to July 2013 under Daniele Gatti, Kurt Masur and Charles Dutoit; Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France under Marek Janowski ; Orchestre de Paris under Christoph von Dohnanyi and Frans Brüggen; Orchestre National de Lyon under Emmanuel Krivine and Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse under Michel Plasson).

As a soloist, he performed the French premiere of the Double concerto for Trumpet and Trombone by Siegfried Matthus with the Orchestre National de France under Kurt Masur's direction, which was originally commissioned by the New York Philharmonic, as well as the French premiere of the "Symphony for Trombone" by Ernst Bloch, which was recorded live and was subsequently released on CD. In October 2021, he gave the world premiere of « Contrastes » Concerto for Solo Trombone and Orchestra by the French composer, Thierry Caens with the Florida Orchestra, commissioned by the TFO and Michael Francis. Recently he also gave the world premiere of « Pinocchio's Nose » by Thierry Lancino with the Orchestra of the Opera of Marseille. He appeared with the Atlantic Chamber Orchestra at the Santander International Festival, the Orchestre National de Lyon, the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande and the I Solisti Veniti.

Since October 2013 Joël resides in the USA and has been playing with many American symphony orchestras such as St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, Mainly Mozart Festival as well as the Metropolitan Opera. He has performed under the batons of many notable conductors such as Riccardo Muti, Seiji Ozawa, Daniel Barenboim, Kurt Masur, Semyon Bychkov, Yuri Temirkanov, Sir Georg Solti, Georges Pretres, Yevgeny Svetlanov, Christoph von Dohnanyi, Frans Brüggen, Charles Dutoit, Myung-whun Chung, Daniele Gatti, Yannick Nezet-Seguin, Mikko Franck, Andris Nelsons and many others.

As a professor, he taught at the National Conservatory of Versailles and has given numerous masterclasses in France, throughout Europe as well as in Japan, Taiwan and the United States at Boston University, Manhattan School of Music, UCF Orlando and USF Tampa. Since January 2005, at Maestro Riccardo Muti's invitation he has coached the brass section of the youth orchestra « Cherubini » in Piacenza, Italy. Also, at Maestro Riccardo Muti's request, he participated in July 2002 in a commemorative concert for the victims of 9/11 in New York City.

An active chamber music player, he is a member of the Lincoln Center Trombones and the New York Filmharmonic brass septet created in 2015. Their first CD together with music by John Williams was released in June of 2016. He was a member of the trombone quartet "MILLIERE" as well as a member of the sextet "IBY6".

A native of Marseille, France, Joël started taking trombone lessons at the age of 10 with his father André VAÏSSE at the National Conservatory of Marseille. He was then invited by the Florida State University on a full scholarship to study with William F. Kramer in Tallahassee before pursuing his studies at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris where he graduated with a first prize with merits. He is a winner of the Prix D'Honneur of the International Competition of MARKNEUKIRCHEN and took 3rd prize at the International Trombone Competition in Geneva.

Joël Vaïsse released his first solo album « Tranquille » on the DistriClassic label, which includes works by Ernst Bloch, Enrique Crespo, Nils Landgren and Thierry Caens. He has appeared on several other Cd's with his quartet and as a soloist with works especially commissioned for him. He is a Buffet Group USA Artist performing on a Antoine Courtois trombone.