

How old was she when she started playing? *At five I start playing recorder 'blokfluit'*

If she can play another instrument which one would it be?

I graduated first at the Conservatory Maastricht with Electronic Organ.

What motivated her to play trombone? *Because I knew the secret of the three valves , but not the one of a slide without any marks...*

Did she ever think of quitting trombone? *yes... but not really, neverrrrr, I tell more about that...*

Why does she like jazz? *If you listen to Ella Fitzgerald, Luis Armstrong or Frank Sinatra (the Capitol Years) probably you feel why...*

How many pieces doe she know by heart? *I have a veeeeeeery big heart! I love a lot of music. I want to know what exactly you mean with : 'knowing by heart'.*

What was her favorite part she composed?

I don't see myself as a composer. I composed the song for Carnival (entitled : don't give up) when I was 17 and a lot of other songs for special occasions (which I wasn't paid for...) But I do arrange and

then I got the Fiesta Latina repertoire I did for Big Band Beeg which is very special for me.

How long does she practice ever day? *Now: one to two hours*

Since how long have you been playing? *I played flute from 5 until 9 years, then I got a horn (I wanted to play trumpet, but the band had trumpets enough and they gave me a French Horn in Es. When I was fifteen I changed to the trombone. In the meantime I already was playing Electric Organ (when I was 13 , I think so)*

What's your favorite song? I have thousands of favourite songs! My friends get crazy, whenever I shout: this is my favourite song!!!!
(Frank Sinatra (the cd's of the Capitol Years) I thought about you, I love Paris, I've got you under my skin (check this trombone solo!)
Ella Fitzgerald: (CD) The best is yet to Come
Ella with Duke Ellington

Carl Fontana: Emily etc. etc. ; The Emotions: The best of my love;
Earth , Wind and Fire: September, Star; Eddie Palmieri: Oyelo qué te conviene; Conjunto Libre: Malagueña;

Why do you play trombone rather than any other instrument?

Because I like the human voice so much. And the trombone is the instrument who comes the most near (Frank Sinatra imitated Tommy Dorsey's trombone playing, he said)

How many trombones do you have?

The one my father bought me when the Band didn't want to buy me a trombone (they said: that's nothing for a girl) a Courtois, a King 3 B from the old factory, my Conn Constellation from 1956, you going to see it, at my bass trombone a Bach 62H , so four.

If you didn't pick trombone, what instrument would you have picked?

Why? well, I was playing Electric Organ. I would have been a singer!!

What do you do in your free time?

I think, I listen to music, I observe people, I write about it (www.caribemagazine.nl Reisjournaal) I cook! and I love sharing the stage with other musicians (so I play at least two times a week) And in the Caribbean I go to the beach and meditate, and I teach, organize and arrange.

How long do you practice per day?

one hour warming up in the morning, afterwards another hour jazz.

Do you play any other brass instrument? I play bass trombone.
(But I don't play trumpet, because my sound is bad)

How long do you practice for a concert?

I do my daily program for the concert. The two days before an important event I take care I don't force my lips too much.

Does it get annoying that trombone is mostly all the time background instrument?

No, mi amor. In Jazz and Caribbean music the trombone isn't a background instrument! There is always a place that you have to play a solo. And in the big band section every part is important.

Can you play humbly?

Ooooh, no. If I see one I kill it.. ha, ha. Remember that I studied at the Light Music Department at the Conservatory Hilversum (classic I studied as a supplement: the Cello Suites from Bach for example)

How many concerts have you played?

haaaaaaa, I really don't remember. I am a professional trombone player ever since 1990, so we can count in eighteen years. I played for eight years with the Glenn Miller Orchestra in Europe (we were two months a year in France) I was a member of Ronald Snijders, the Extended Band (twenty concerts a year),

The Cubop City Big Band (twelve years) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IaxBXCgd6wk>

Last year I played with Elías Lopés: Trompetas y Trovadores (with Luís Perico Ortíz) in Puerto Rico, twenty in nine months.

The concerts with the Maestros of the Conservatory of Puerto Rico (ten) And a lot of last minute, freelance concerts, people call me: pop, salsa, bigband and trio.

Do you play for charity events? It depends what kind of charity it is. We've always got paid.

Who inspired you to play the trombone? The secretary of the band who considered it as a pure male instrument!

I am willing to answer more questions live