

Born in 1971 in Rome, Italy, Till experienced his outset with the help of Louis Armstrong and Charlie Parker: "Hearing Bebop for the first time, Charlie Parker; that set the whole thing off for me. I was 13 years old and it was an almost erotic sensation. I thought that it was indecent. The music was like a woman having a go at me." After a well-protected childhood, he enjoyed a classical education followed by a study of the Jazz trumpet at Cologne's Music Academy.

At the age of 22, he raised more than one eyebrow with *Generations of Jazz*, being both a classic mainstream recording and his debut as a band leader that featured the legendary Ray Brown on bass and Jeff Hamilton on drums. By the time he released *German Songs*, his third album of old German film songs, arranged for Jazz quartet and the German symphony orchestra, he was the talk of the trade. In 1998 he was signed by Verve Records.

In his career he has worked with the likes of Dave Brubeck, Tony Bennett, James Moody, Monty Alexander, Alan Bradbent, Christian McBride, Nils Landgren, Klaus Doldinger, Joe Sample, Michael Brecker, Mark Murphy, Lee Konitz, Thomas Quasthoff, Peter Erskine, Madeleine Peyroux, Pee Wee Ellis, Benny Golson, Hildegard Knef, Mousse T, Bootsie Collins, Bob Brookmeyer, Silje Nergaard, Nicola Conte, Al Di Meola and many others.