

## Xango Music

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### **NIEUWE RELEASES NR. 11 - 2023**

Faizal Mostrixx: Mutations

GBCD 141 / 4030433614129 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: CD / Uganda – Popular GBLP 141 / 4030433614112 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: LP / Uganda – Popular

Musically, his expression builds first on a Ugandan heritage, particularly its varied rhythmic patterns and the specific style of music played at the kadodi, an ancient circumcision ceremony that Mostrixx describes as being 'about a tribe creating this energy of bravery to get into a trance.' These antique local rhythm patterns are balanced with influences from further afield: downtempo, deep and Afro House elements melded with sub-heavy dub, footwork and amapiano, East and South African polyrhythms, modern urban styles, and age-old chants from the Nile Basin. Horizons are further expanded with field recordings from Uganda, Congo, Ethiopia and Tanzania, some by Mostrixx and others, from the 1950s. Listen to a track.



Omara Portuondo: Vida (CD out now; LP out on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

OMONE 123 / 0197188539450 / label: One World Records / format: CD / Cuba - Son OMONEV 123 / 0197188699260 / label: One World Records / format: LP / Cuba - Son

"VIDA" is the latest album release by Omara Portuondo, the grand Cuban Lady of Feeling. In 1997, at the age of 67, Omara became The Diva of Buena Vista Social Club. At the age of 90, Omara found her self stuck in Havana due to the pandemic had to put the tours on hold. Known for her compassion and her sense of humanity, Omara naturally chose to express herself through music in those significant times of human history. She invited life long friends and colleagues to participate in a long distance project, a way to keep each other close. Omara's son, Ariel Jimenez Portuondo organised the recordings. This album is a tribute to Omara's musical legacy. On "VIDA" Omara sings together with a stellar line up of legendary singers. Anyone who has loved Cuban and Latin music of the last 50 years will recognise the beauty of the timeless songs. "VIDA" reflects Omara's thoughts and feelings during this heavy period, as well as being a general homage to life. Listen to a track.



Neculai Florea & Nicolae Amarandei & Valentin Balasoiu: Moldavia – Peasant Tunes From The Old Land Of Harlau (out on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

Buda 860385 / 3341348603858 / label: Buda Musique / format: CD / Romania - Folk

Near Harlau, a town in Romanian Moldavia, live the three traditional musicians who took part in this project: Neculai Florea, Nicolae Amarandei and Valentin Balasoiu. The recordings are based around the cobza, a plucked string instrument, and the rural repertoire. Cobza, violin and shepherd's flute accompany dance tunes (hore, sarbe, batute...) and songs that are often satirical or drawn from bardic folk tradition. This album carries us back to the golden age of Romanian peasant music.



## Michalis Kouloumis & Tristan Driessens & Miriam Encinas: Music for Shepherds and Sultans HOME 4446263 / 5425015552637 / label: Home Records / format: CD / Various – Traditional

It was during a residence on the San Giorgio Maggiore Island of Venice, back in May 2013, that Cypriot violinist Michalis Kouloumis and Belgian oud player Tristan Driessens first played together. They have been working side by side ever since, increasingly exploring their common interest in modal music of the Eastern Mediterranean and beyond. With the recording of Music for Shepherds and Sultans, the duo embarks on what is just the beginning of a closer partnership, with Catalan multi-instrumentalist Miriam Encinas joining them on frame drums. The album organically fluctuates from original compositions in classical Ottoman style to anonymous rural dances of Cyprus. With this choice of repertoire and especially with their way of interpreting it, Michalis Kouloumis, Tristan Driessens and Miriam Encinas bridge a gap between classical and folk music. Listen.



Soolmaan: Kashgul

2GN 22 / 0745125354132 / label: Seyir Muzik / format: CD / Various - Traditional

In 2022, Tristan Driessens wrote a cycle of new compositions as part of his creative trajectory as an artist-inresidence at the Concertgebouw of Bruges. For this occasion, Soolmaan became a six piece ensemble with established musicians coming from Greece, Turkey, Luxembourg, Italy and Belgium. The Kashgul album line-up consists of the Belgian jazz saxophonist and flutenist Nathan Daems, the Greek ney virtuoso, pianist and singer Christos Barbas, Italian tamburello pioneer Andrea Piccioni, Turkish doholla virtuoso Levent Yildirim and cellist from Luxemburg Annemie Osborne. The album presents new compositions where powerful contrasts and improvisations are at the center, inspired by the music from India, Persia and the contemplative, but ever rhythmical approach.



Hialosa: Scanian Very Old Pop

#### GO 1123 / 5705934005293 / label: Go'Danish / format: CD / Sweden - Folk

The sound of violins in three octaves, feet stomping and intense voices, a journey through dance music, spirituality, dreams and death. The music is based on traditional music material, fragments, songs and new compositions. Traditional, disruptive and honest. Songs about life and death, remembrance of a past, looking towards the future. In the middle of the pandemic lookdown in 2020, three experienced folk musicians from the southern Swedish region of Skane (Scania) met for the first time. They shared a vision of creating a new sound for their local tradition and presenting it to an international audience. After digging in old manuscripts and composing new material they started to work with two dramaturgs Maria Clauss och Claes Peter Hellwig (Professor in creative processes). Teaser.



Tingo: Kvartetten Fra Verdens Ende

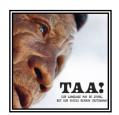
#### GO 1023 / 5705934004814 / label: Go'Danish / format: CD / Denmark - Folk-Jazz

Tingo is an acoustic Jazz/Folk quintet digging through the depths of Nordic folk music treasures, and combining them with jazz improvisation. It's a new Nordic tendency, with a jazz vibe we bring new life to old folk melodies and revitalise tradition...a graceful game of mixing the genres, with tender care for the northern melodies. Original compositions by the band members stand side-by-side with existing folk-tunes. When Tingo plays, it sounds like jazz and folk music were made for each other. Saxophonist Cecilie Strange and trumpeter Tim Ewé are joined by Benjamin Gower-Poole on bass and Per Rask Tingsted on drums. Listen to a track.



Various Artists: Taa! – Our Language May Be Dying, But Our Voices Remain (Botswana) (out on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023) GBCD 140 / 4030433614020 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: CD / Botswana – Traditional

Mesmerizing field recordings from Botswana. Producer/recordist/Grammy winner Ian Brennan ventured to an end-of-the-road location to document songs sung in Taa, a rich language on the verge of extinction. This captivating music is created by solo and layered voices, handclaps, found percussion and thumb piano. Shamanic, ghostly ballads from the farthest reaches of Southern Africa. The Taa language in Botswana possesses 112 sounds, the most of any language in the world. In contrast, English has approximately 44 sounds, Italian 32. But there are only around 2,500 Taa speakers remaining and the language is dying. The songs on this album are mostly mantras— prayers that repeat the same words or phrases over and over again. The song titles tell entire stories by themselves, and with the Taa language's heavy use of click consonants, the sounds carry the meaning as much as the words.



Ottoman empire. Listen.

#### Mehmet Polat Quartet: Embodied Poetry (out on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023)

#### MP 23 / 7436907033019 / label: Aftab Records / format: CD / Turkey-Netherlands - Fusion

Inspired by life's twists, turns, and ever-changing rhythms, master oud player and composer Mehmet Polat brings a brand new band on board to present Embodied Poetry. Uniting pianist Mike Roelofs (NL), drummer Martin Hafizi (BG) and bassist Daniel van Huffelen (NL), Polat selected musicians decorated in both jazz and world music, allowing their timbres and musicianship to shine through 12 original compositions. Guests Gijs Levelt on trumpet, and Vardan Hovanissian and Sukru Kirtis on duduk and ney flutes complete Polat's lineup. Polat's new quartet blends jazz with rich musical traditions from Polat's many previous crossover projects. Showcasing the work of a gifted composer and bandleader, he allows his band members to shine alongside him, raising their own musical voices in perfect harmony with the oudplayer's signature



Mokoomba: Tusona – Tracings In The Sand (out on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

## OHCD 37 / 0880918260822 / label: Outhere Records / format: CD / Zimbabwe - Popular OHLP 37 / 0880918260815 / label: Outhere Records / format: LP / Zimbabwe - Popular

Five years after the release of their last album 'Luyando', Zimbabwe's most celebrated music export returns with their long-awaited album 'Tusona - Tracings in the Sand'. The six musicians from Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe have come up with their most danceable album to date: This production is recorded in Zimbabwe and sees them refining their unique sound: Infectious Afro grooves deeply connected to Zimbabwe's cultural DNA. The collective from Zimbabwe put in all the experiences made over the previous years and have forged their music into a unique Zimbabwean sound. On popular demand from their fans in Zimbabwe they have even rerecorded three songs from their last more acoustic album 'Luyando' turning them into dancehall bangers. In short this album is more Mokoomba than any of the ones before.



Now available on Vinyl

Juanfe Perez: Prohibido El Toque

#### GTFKLP 12 / 8435307616470 / label: Gutifunk I Achilisound / format: LP (Spain - Flamenco

Juanfe Perez, bass player, guitarist, composer and producer. He studied classical guitar at the Conservatorio Profesional Javier Perianes in Huelva (ES), flamenco guitar at the Conservatorio Superior Rafael Orozco in Cordoba (ES) and World Music at Codarts (WMDC) in Rotterdam (NL). At the same time, he is directing his dissertation towards the analysis of the role of the bass guitar in flamenco. The synthesis of all these paths makes that the language of the flamenco bass is quickly absorbed by him to be able to participate in various flamenco projects in different formats, from traditional to instrumental flamenco. <u>Listen.</u>



#### Pel De Gall: Forces D'Atraccio

#### RGB 18923 / 8436605950150 / label: RGB Suports / format: CD / Spain-Catalunya - Popular

The fifth studio album of the popular Menorcan formation reinforces its commitment to a cheerful and vitalistic pop-rock. This is modern, fresh and festive pop-rock with a wide variety of styles and nuances, including some touches of urban music and even electronica. The theme of the songs is the usual of the group: varied lyrics full of party, joy, optimism, life, love and friendship, with stories and situations of everyday life with which it is easy to feel identified. In the same vein as with the single 'Terra i Sal', which had the collaboration of Eric Verges, Xavi Sarria and Xanguito, in this new album we can also enjoy the collaborations of renowned artists within of the Catalan music scene, such as Guillem Sole (Buhos) and Jazzwoman. Listen to a track.



#### Joan Rovira: El Meu Lloc Preferit

#### SATKCD 337 / 8435307616357 / label: Satelie K / format: CD / Spain-Catalunya - Popular

Camarles singer-songwriter Joan Rovira has recorded the fourth album, El meu llo preferit (Satelite K), a work with ten tracks in Catalan and one in Spanish, which is a version of the piece that gives the album its name with the invaluable collaboration of his sister Carol Rovira. The result is a collection with a cheerful side and a more introspective one. An album that combines the most intimate and delicate essence of the singer-songwriter with the most festive and Latin rhythms. This time, the artist has recorded and self-produced his album from home, achieving a much warmer and closer sound. This album comes at a vital moment for Rovira, when he connects with his roots, his land, his music and the people he loves. Listen.



**David Rees: Culturama** 

615916 / 8435307615916 / label: T-sunami / format: CD / Spain - Popular 615909 / 8435307615909 / label: T-sunami / format: CD / Spain - Popular

Spanish singer-songwriter known for his original songs full of light and personality, his musical phenomenon with his ukulele and a great trajectory in social networks. He follows a musical line guided by a pure and luminous pop sound loaded with lyrics faithful to his poetry and originality. He has always been accustomed to transmitting light and magic with his music, with optimistic and poetic lyrics, but over the years he has also written much darker and equally poetic songs that have never seen the light of day. And the time is now. It's an energetic and profound new work, with songs to dance to and songs to cry to. An ode to culture, to pop, and the use of metaphor throughout 13 songs. Each one on a different theme and exploring new musical styles. Teaser.



#### Ton Risco E Marcos Teira: Circum

#### YOUKALI 222 / 7427251171168 / label: Youkali Music / format: CD / Spain - Flamenco-Jazz

Guitarist Marcos Teira says on his website that Galicia is not the land of flamenco, but neither is it a place where jazz vibraphonists abound. And look, that even so, sometimes it happens and, in fact, Marcos Teira and Ton Risco have been playing together for ten years. A constant dialogue in search of a common language. From that conversation, comes this album 'Circum', on which they wrap a bundle of original pieces and arrangements of South American and Galician music. Although this album draws on musical influences as varied as the careers of the two musicians who make it, the languages of jazz and flamenco are fundamental to the discourse in 'Circum'. Listen to a track.



#### Swing Ton Ni Song: No Hay Dos Swing Tres

#### YOUKALI 223 / 7427251171175 / label: Youkali Music / format: CD / Spain - Jazz

Swing Ton Ni Song is a musical formation born in 2015 that has its origins in the roots of jazz, swing and Dixieland of the 20-30s of the 20th century, in the purest style of the old and classic New Orleans shows. The group is a quintet made up of: Aurora Samino (vocals), Juanlu Gonzalez (alto sax), Gonzalo Barrera (guitar), Luis Sanz (double bass) and Rafa Huertas (drums). With a wide repertoire, now they present their third album 'No Hay Dos Swing Tres', an album recorded live with which they have wanted to maintain the essence and magic of live music, respecting the improvisation of the moment. Listen.



#### Dave Burrell: Harlem Rhapsody

#### MPRCD 154 / 8052141490617 / label: Parco della Musica / format: CD / Italy - Jazz

Dave Burrell is an artist of exceptional calibre on the international contemporary music scene: his original style and bold approach to composition, deeply rooted in the African-American tradition but employing the broadest musical and cultural inspirations, provide a unique reading of American music and history. Harlem Rhapsody represents the synthesis of his music and at the same time a glimpse into the future. There is no fixed style, but a continuous interchange and exchange of information, invention and passion, between past and present, present and future: a dialogue of incessant exploration and excitement, from inside to outside, from ragtime to no-time.



### Mario Corvini & New Talents Jazz Orchestra: Entropy

#### MPRCD 153 / 8052141490587 / label: Parca della Musica / format: CD / ltaly – Jazz

For the first time, Enrico Pieranunzi's compositions are being performed and recorded in Italy by a jazz orchestra made up of young talents, the New Talents Jazz Orchestra conducted by Mario Corvini. Pieranunzi has done many works for large orchestral jazz ensembles, starting in the 1980s for Art Farmer up to his recent work with the Brussels Jazz Orchestra. His music has an adaptability to multiple interpretations: whether in trio or big band, his melodies inspire new colours in orchestrations. The tracklist consists of music by Pieranunzi with arrangements by the composer himself and conductor Mario Corvini, rediscovering musical gems like the Roman pianist and composer's Night Bird, Soft Journey, and The Real You. Listen.



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#### Costanza Alegiani Folkways: Lucio Dove Vai?

#### MPRCD 152 / 8052141490556 / label: Parco della Musica / format: CD / Italy - Jazz

"Lucio Dove Vai?" is the new album by singer Costanza Alegiani, entirely dedicated to the figure of Lucio Dalla. With this album Costanza Alegiani has not only re-involved her Folkways trio, composed of Marcello Allulli on sax and Riccardo Gola on double bass, joined by two excellent guests Antonello Salis on accordion and Francesco Diodati on guitar, but has also carefully chosen eight tracks that preserve the irreducible, uncompromising and anarchic soul of Lucio Dalla, who would have turned 80 today. Listen to a track.



#### Camilla Battaglia: Calor

#### MPRCD 149 / 8052141490532 / label: Parco della Musica / format: CD / ltaly - Jazz

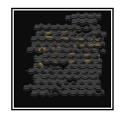
The new album by musician Camilla Battaglia is recorded at the Casa del Jazz in September and October 2022. A project born after years of research and collaborations with various musicians from the international scene in Berlin. A classical line-up with voice and piano trio to experiment on the contrary with balances and morphological axes in the dialogue between instruments that are unexpected, fragile, but necessary to recreate in timbre and harmonic textures the multiformity of texts. Four instruments and four voices for a series of compositions that tell the story of how body and thought communicate, fight, merge or are born from each other, barricading themselves behind weak walls of mutual defence. Listen.



### Otwinowski / Sikorski / Witkowski:n Spalona Ziemia

#### GRAMCD 2308 / 5050580805378 / label: Gusstaff Records / format: CD / Poland – Avantgarde

The trio is a perfect composition for broadly understood improvised music, sufficient in terms of minimum and generally reflecting to the maximum what the musicians want to convey to the listener. In the case of the Wrocław-based trio Marek Otwinowski, Michal Sikorski and Marcin Witkowski, this "width" of understanding improvisation is particularly visible. This is not a classic free-jazz band or even free-improv, because the musicians go far beyond these frames, touching noise, avant-garde, industrial or even metal. The music here is a metaphorical sediment on the filter that stops genre stereotypes, codes and clichés. It is a triple improvisational sieve, in which, among the remnants, you can find traces of noise, metal, avant-garde, futuristic electronics, collage soundscapes as well as scraps of dreamlike ambients or narrative animations that make you smile. Music extracted from ruins and ashes? Yes. Listen.



#### Kristen: Kristen

#### GRAMLP 2306 / 5050580807419 / label; Gusstaff Records / format: LP / Poland - Rock

Kristen were one of the first who creatively transferred to Poland the fascination of the American independent guitar scene, such phenomena as math-rock, post-rock or whatever we call it. Today, they are often referred to as "one of the most important Polish alternative bands" or "the best band in the country from the circles of broadly understood independent music". The decision to reissue the debut, but for the first time on vinyl, was on the one hand dictated by the more and more frequent questions from fans, and on the other the publisher's conviction that this album has not grown old and should finally be released as it should be. The material has undergone a new mastering (Stefan Betke, Scape) and is released as an ultra-heavy 200-gram pressed vinyl.



#### Remont Pomp, Mikolaj Trzaska & Adam Zuchowski: Sam Jestes Pompa Vol. 2 FRAMLP 2305 / 5050580805460 / label: Gusstaff Records / format: LP / Poland – Avantgarde

Remont Pomp (repair of pumps) is a band playing ethnic, avant-garde and improvised music. The band's inspiration is ethnic music with an emphasis on the richness of African music. Remont Pomp also discovers the space of experimental music by playing unusual instruments and objects not usually associated with music. At the end of 2022, the band recorded the third album "Sam Jest Pompa Vol.1" and as the title says, at least one more part from this recording session will be released later. Thanks to these meetings, the band's music on the albums gained a more free jazz, improvised character. This is the second part of the session "Sam jestes pompa" ("You are the pump yourself") on 180g vinyl.



#### **RECENSIES**

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Alma Menor: Em Tons De Aquarela	WWP 2539669
Ruben Monteiro & Carla Costa: Kairos	WWP 111222

#### For live music in the BeNeLux check out concerts!