



Xango Music
celebrating three decades distributing
local music from all over the world

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XANGO MUSIC NEWSLETTER #5 – 2026



Hugo Race + Fatalists: I made It All Up For You (street date: March 20th, 2026)

GRAMCD 2601 / 5050580866706 / label: Gusstaff Records / format: CD / Australia – Popular

GRAMLP 2602 / 5050580866713 / label: Gusstaff Records / format: LP / Australia – Popular

GRAMLIM 2602 / 5050580868342 / label: Gusstaff Records / format: LP+10" / Australia–Popular

I Made It All Up For You is an epic album with his Italian band Fatalists - existential songwriting framed by the band's signature fusion of roots music, electronica, Italian soundtracks and desert rock.



Etenesh Wassie Trio: Arada (street date: March 20th, 2026)

844056 / 3760159750429 / label: Absilone / format: CD / Ethiopia – Popular

By inviting other musicians to play on a few tracks, the trio becomes a quartet with Fabien Duscombs from Le Tigre des Platanes on drums and sometimes a quintet with Mathieu Werchowski on violin. The warmth of the double bass and the depth of the acoustic bass complement Etenesh's deep voice, while the bow also recalls the messenqo, the traditional Ethiopian single-stringed violin that accompanies all the traditional songs excels.

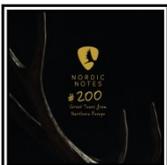


Chambao: 25 Aniversario

SATKCD 430 / 8435307621153 / label: Satellite K / format: 2CD / Spain – Flamenco

SATKLP 430 / 8435307621146 / label: Satellite K / format: 2LP (2 colors) / Spain – Flamenco

Chambao is celebrating its 25th anniversary with an album of a lifetime; a real party that includes a previously unreleased song and 24 re-recordings in collaboration with some of the most renowned artists on the international scene: Alejandro Sanz; Ricky Martin; Rosario Flores; Camilo and many more. [Listen.](#)



Various: Nordic Notes #200 Great Tunes From Northern Europe (street date: March 27th, 2026)

NN 200 / 4251329506421 / label: Nordic Notes / format: CD / Various – Folk

Anniversary compilation is not intended as a classic retrospective, but as a snapshot of a musical universe that has grown organically over time. It brings together voices, moods and signatures that have shaped Nordic Notes for two decades - while also pointing clearly toward the future. Nordic Notes is not a closed chapter, but an ongoing dialogue between tradition and the present, between regional roots and international openness.



BCUC: The Road Is Never Easy (street date April 3rd, 2026)

OHCD 42 / 0880918278551 / label: Out Here Records / format: CD / South Africa – Popular

OHLP 42 / 0880918278568 / label: Out here Records / format: LP / South Africa – Popular

The Road Is Never Easy is BCUC's fifth album and their debut on Outhere Records. On this new offering, BCUC take listeners on another Afro-psychedelic journey into the soul of Soweto. It feels like a gospel sermon colliding with a punk concert, "guaranteed to touch untapped corners of your soul" (OkayAfrica).



Fauna: Taiga Trans (street date: April 10th, 2026)

GBCD 183 / 4030433618325 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: CD / Sweden – Avantgarde

GBLP 183 / 4030433618318 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: LP / Sweden – Avantgarde

Electronic textures whoosh like solar winds. Quiet percussion sighs and chatters. A jaw harp sets up a twanging bounce. An ancient saz introduces a taut riff. Suddenly a high-strung electric guitar scorches and a deep, booming bass groove drops with a four-to-the-floor kick drum thud.



Tamikrest: Assikel (street date: May 15th, 2026)

GBCD 184 / 4030433618424 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: CD / Mali – Touareg

GBLP 184 / 4030433618417 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: CD / Mali – Touareg

The iconic Saharan rock bands sixth album, Assikel, is by turns intimate, raw and deeply atmospheric. Recorded on analogue tape, with the band playing live and direct, the album fully captures their instinctive interplay and hypnotic presence. Featuring: Ibrahim Ag Alhabib (Tinariwen). [Listen.](#)



Mariana Sadovska & Vesna: You Should Live! (Street date: April 17th, 2026)

CPLCD 83 / 4251329500832 / label: CPL-Music / format: CD / Ukrain – Folk

Mariana Sadovska & Vesna create an acoustic east-western road movie: a meeting of cultures in poetry and melodies, which tells of the confrontation of love and death, of despair and hope - always in search of freedom and identity. After the Russian invasion of Ukrain music felt irrelevant. After months Mariana found a poem by Olena Teliha, who was executed in the second World War. This poem became the basis of this album. [Listen.](#)



Driving Mrs. Satan: Late Ever After**LBW 17 / 0199900513540 / label: Liburia Records / format: CD / Italy-England – Popular**

An intense, layered album that maintains the band's identity while taking it into a more adult dimension, where anger and fragility coexist, and urgency gives way to clarity. The album opens with Ozzy Osbourne's "Breaking All the Rules" and closes with Iron Maiden's "Only the Good Die Young", two iconic songs that embody Driving Mrs. Satan's philosophy.



Souad Massi: Zagate**BTCD 2 / 0199584143514 / label: Backing Track Production / format: CD / Algeria – Popular****BTLP 2 / 0199584143712 / label: Backing Track Production / format: LP / Algeria – Popular**

At the helm once again is guitarist and producer Justin Adams. Congolese rapper Youssoupha and Rwandan French rapper Gael Faye make guest appearances alongside a stellar band, which includes John Baggott on keyboard (Massive Attack, Robert Plant), Billy Fuller (Robert Plant) on bass and Howey Gill on drums. [Listen.](#)



Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino: Il Mito**PONCD 175 / 8030482004380 / label: Ponderosa / format: CD / Italy – Folk**

Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino (CGS) presents Il Mito. Eleven tracks recounting fifty years of history of the oldest and most influential folk music group in southern Italy. Led by Mauro Durante (vocals, violin and tamburello) with the current line-up, responsible for the group's latest international successes, revisits some of the songs that have marked its artistic and human journey. [Listen.](#)



Aly Keita: Balafon Evolution**AKONE 26 / 0199806772201 / label: One World Records / format: CD / Ivory Coast – Popular****AKONEVI 26 / 0199806774434 / label: One World Records / format: LP / Ivory Coast – Popular**

On his new album he explores new horizons for his instrument in improvised music. Together with his Berlin-based trio, he conquers the peaks of balafon possibilities one by one, wandering between groovy African rhythms, spectacular polyphony and elements of jazz, and combining them into a fusion.



Lena Jonsson & Johanna Juhola: The Power Of Polska**NNCD 199 / 4251329506384 / label: Nordic Notes / format: CD / Sweden-Finland – Folk**

Bringing together a Swedish fiddle icon and a Finnish accordion innovator, the duo explores the driving force, vitality and expressive depth of the polska through original compositions and traditional tunes. The album highlights the strong musical connection between two distinctive artistic voices and presents polska as a powerful meeting point between tradition, innovation and personal expression.



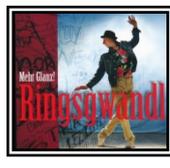
Yinon Muallem: Aegina's Secret**GMV 143 / 4250095888717 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Middle East – Orient**

The idea for Aegina's Secret was born after a visit to the island of Aegina, one of the Saronic Islands near Athens. The encounters I had there, the diverse people I met, and the unique atmosphere of the island inspired me to begin composing and recording. At that time, I already had a few demos, and the experience motivated me to complete the rest of the album. [Listen.](#)



Georg Ringsgwandl: Andacht & Radau**GMVGRG 13 / 0190759138229 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Germany – Popular**

Once again, the raucous noise. Sex & drugs & rock "n" roll & funk & punk & May devotions. A visit to the lively songs of the early years. Not an oldies devotional, but a high mass for excited spirits in a musical madhouse. A mature gentleman, led by impetuous youngsters, and the old classics are finally played as they should have been 20 or 30 years ago.



Georg Ringsgwandl: Mehr Glanz!**GMVGRG 11 / 0888837257725 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Germany – Popular**

We all work hard, each doing our best, but we are constantly haunted by the feeling that things could be better. More recognition at work, children doing better at school, wives being friendlier, husbands being tidier, better figures. Life could run more smoothly, everything could shine a little brighter. That's what it's all about: we all deserve better. Our lives should be brighter: more glamour. [Listen.](#)



Georg Ringsgwandl: Alle Reisser Verreckte Geschichten**GMVGRG 9 / 0828766992328 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Germany – Popular**

"I used to think that a proper concert consisted of a series of songs played as cleanly as possible. But when I went on stage, our music was so ramshackle that people were grateful for a humorous announcement between songs. In the course of touring the villages, this developed into more or less crooked stories. And it is precisely these that Ringsgwandl has condensed into a new programme that is bursting with bizarre humour." [Listen.](#)



Georg Ringsgwandl: Der Scharfste Gang**GMVGRG 8 / 0828768786024 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Germany – Popular**

Georg Ringsgwandl's eighth album, Der schrfste Gang, reveals a milder but musically more mature musician and songwriter. With Florian Anselm Schmidt and drummer Manni Mildenerger, Ringsgwandl has brought two new younger musicians on board to support him alongside his long-time collaborator Nick Woodland on guitar and mandolin. [Listen.](#)



Armas E. Leopold: Sumussa**ECD 2025255 / 1998060678194 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Folk**

Armas E. Leopold is an ethno-groove band from North Karelia, where poetry and modern rhythms come together in a powerful expression. They convey a life lived to the fullest, tinged with dark tones. At times, they raise a toast to disappointment, and at other times, they exult in the charm of wild love. They rejoice in life, marvel at the beauty of nature, and occasionally disappear into a mystical veil of mist. [Listen](#)

**Niillas Holmberg & Pauli Lyytinen: Naarattu Lauulu****ECD 2025250 / 6428830241355 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Avantgarde****ELP 202577 / 6429830241362 / label: Eclipse Music / format: LP / Finland – Avantgarde**

Sami poet-musician Niillas Holmberg and saxophonist-composer Pauli Lyytinen release their long-awaited collaborative album Naarattu Lauulu. This album is a deeply evocative sonic work that fuses joik, spoken word, saxophone, percussion and live electronics into a mythic and poetic soundscape. [Listen](#)

**5th Season: Live****ECD 2025253 / 6429830281108 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Rock****ELP 202580 / 6419830241393 / label: Eclipse Music / format: LP / Finland – Rock**

As a band 5th Season combines the talents of top musicians in the Finnish rock scene. Featuring, in classic prog rock style, epic length showcase pieces like the instrumental track "In Memoriam." and the suites "On the Dark Side of the Moon, parts 1-2", the album is a real treat for all fans of classic 70s prog rock. [Listen](#)

**Mikko Pettinen Why Not: Patient Patient****ECD 2025249 / 6429830241331 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Jazz****ELP 202576 / 6429830241348 / label: Eclipse Music / format: LP / Finland – Jazz**

Mikko Pettinen wanted to express the stages of emotional turmoil caused by hearing loss over a period of three years in the form of new music. The worsening of his symptoms and uncertainty about his diagnosis could have been a crippling experience for an active musician, but Mikko, ever the optimist, turned it into a victory. [Listen](#)

**Juhani Aaltonen & Raoul Bjorkenheim: Nostalgia****ECD 2026260 / 6429830281177 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Jazz**

Juhani Aaltonen is a living legend of Finnish jazz music, a true icon of free improvisation, whose soulful playing spans a respectable six decades. Known as a tenor saxophonist and flutist, Aaltonen, nicknamed Junnu, focuses on flutes in his collaboration with Raoul Bjorkenheim and creates a lyrical musical world. Bjorkenheim paints colorful sounds into their joint musical world with his 6-12 string double-neck electric guitar. [Listen](#)

**South West Oldtime All Stars: Celebrating 100 Years Hot5****GMV 144 / 4250095888847 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Germany – Jazz**

Since their formation in 2018, the South West Oldtime All Stars have established themselves as a fixture on the European traditional jazz scene. The musicians originally come from the south-west of Germany (The Land), are all trained jazz musicians and love all variations of classic jazz. With their new album, they celebrate 100 years of Louis Armstrong's Hot5! [Listen](#)

**Lalo Zanelli y La Orquesta Modulable La Buena Union: Solar****BUDA 860414 / 3341348604145 / label: Buda Musique / format: CD / Argentina – Jazz**

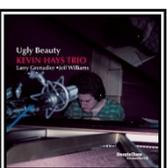
Lalo Zanelli named the album "Solar" after one of the tracks. Solar as in hope, the light that always returns, guiding us through life. He would like to dedicate it to that, to the hope for a better world. This album is a collection of microcosms, written over the last four or five years. These pieces are true to the world in which Lalo Zanelli blends the musical forms that are dear to him, that naturally inspire him.

**John Hart: New Mantra****SCCD 31998 / 0716043199822 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

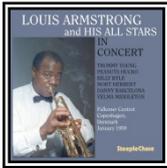
Guitarist John Hart returns to the classic guitar-bass-drums trio format. After several adventurous outings, New Mantra marks a melodic homecoming, reuniting Hart with longtime collaborators Bill Moring and Tim Horner. Known for his lyrical phrasing and harmonic depth, Hart emphasizes melody and clarity, crafting originals like "Think" and "Abyss" alongside fresh takes on standards such as "Stella by Starlight" and "Some Other Time."

**Kirk Knuffke: Brother****SCCD 31999 / 0716043199921 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Kirk Knuffke's warm, distinctive cornet tone-played on the rare double shepherds-crook horn-anchors a program balancing tradition and innovation. Standards, early jazz gems, and soulful classics are transformed through collective improvisation, while Knuffke's originals sparkle with wit and lyricism. This new release confirms his stature and offers another dazzling chapter in his ongoing story.

**Kevin Hays: Ugly Beauty (street date: March 20th, 2026)****G 1297 / 0716043129713 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: LP / USA – Jazz**

Recorded with bassist Larry Grenadier and drummer Jeff Williams, the album marked Hays's first trio outing—an ensemble format that would become central to his artistic identity. The program blends jazz standards with Hays's original "The Well," showcasing his lyrical touch, harmonic depth, and rhythmic drive. The session captures Hays's youthful brilliance while foreshadowing the maturity and originality that define his later work.



Louis Armstrong And His All Stars: In Concert Falkoner Centret 1959 (street date: April 17th, 2026)**SCCD 36513 / 0716043651320 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Experience Louis Armstrong at the height of his powers with this definitive 1959 Copenhagen concert, captured just months before his life-changing heart attack. Drawn from famed Falkoner Centers "In Concert" tapes, showcases Armstrongs All Stars in explosive form-fiery "Tiger Rag," soulful "Basin Street Blues," and joyous favorites like "Mack the Knife" and "When the Saints Go Marching In."



Dick Sisto & Fred Hersch: Love Grows Deep (street date: April 17th, 2026)**SCCD 34001 / 0716043400126 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

"Love Grows Deep" reunites vibraphonist Dick Sisto and pianist Fred Hersch in a luminous duo setting. Sisto - a deeply melodic player shaped by Chicagos golden-age jazz scene and decades of artistic life in Louisville - finds an ideal partner in Hersch, whose lyricism and harmonic imagination have made him one of modern jazzs most celebrated pianists.



George Colligan: Activism (street date: April 17th, 2026)**G 1382 / 0716043138210 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: LP / USA – Jazz**

At just 25, Colligan emerged as one of New Yorks most in-demand pianists, and this trio recording captures the full force of that promise. Joined by bassist Dwayne Burno and drummer Ralph Peterson, he approaches works by Wayne Shorter, Duke Pearson, Horace Silver, Thelonious Monk, Fats Waller, and Freddie Hubbard with the assurance of a seasoned bandleader. [Listen.](#)



Elakelaiset: Humpan Kuninkaan Hovissa (street date: April 3rd, 2026)**NNLP 196 / 6429811224445 / label: Nordic Notes / format: 2LP / Finland – Popular**

Humpan kuninkaan hovissa 1994-95 (At the Court of the King of Humpan 1994-95) was a compilation album released by Elakelaiset, featuring songs previously unreleased. The bonus track includes a sample of the band's other rehearsals, among other things. For the first time, this album by Elakelaiset is being released on vinyl. The album comes in a gatefold cover, on colored vinyl, at 45 rpm, and also includes the Humppaloly EP.



Elakelaiset: Humppa Of Finland (street date: April 3rd, 2026)**NNLP 197 / 4251329506377 / label: Nordic Notes / format: 2LP / Finland – Popular**

On the album, the band performs humppa versions of Finnish songs originally sung in English. The album features guest appearances by the original performers of the songs, as well as many others. There are nearly 150 guest artists, each of whom plays the triangle once on the album. Finally, the album Humppa of Finland is available as a double LP. Side D includes the Humpaporraonen EP. First time on vinyl, limited to 300 copies.

Transglobal World Music Chart March 2026

- # Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino: Il Mito (Ponderosa Music) PONCD 175
- # Stelios Petrakis: Lyric (Buda Musique) BUDA 860413
- # Catrin Finch: Notes To Self (Bedigedig) BENDI 13
- # Tuuletat: Maammo (Nordic Notes) NNCD 198 / NNLP 198
- # Ablaye Cissoko & Contantinople: Estuaire (Ma Case Prod) CONS 2502
- # Raul Refree & Maria Mazzotta: San Paolo Di Galatina (Galileo Music) GMCCD 120 / GMCLP 120
- # Noura Mint Seymali: Yenbett (Glitterbeat Records) GBCD 177 / GBLP 177
- # Mama Sissoko: Diamond Fingers (One World Records) MSONE 26
- #Either/Orchestra & Ethiopian Guests: Éthiopiennes 32 - Nalbandian l'Éthiopien (Buda Musique) BUDA 860412
- # Lamia Yared & Efrén López: From Minho to Euphrates (Worlds Within Worlds Records) WWWCD 31
- # Muluken Mèllèssè: Éthiopiennes 31 - Muluken Mèllèssè (Buda Musique) BUDA 860411

World Music Charts Europe March 2026

- # Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino: Il Mito (Ponderosa Music) PONCD 175
- # Raul Refree & Maria Mazzotta: San Paolo Di Galatina (Galileo Music) GMCCD 120 / GMCLP 120
- # Tuuletat: Maammo (Nordic Notes) NNCD 198 / NNLP 198
- # Stelios Petrakis: Lyric (Buda Musique) BUDA 860413
- # Maria Kalaniemi & Pekko Käppi: Tareportens Parla - Kynnelportin Helmi - Tears To Pearls (Aker) AKEROCD 29
- # Nancy Vieira & Fred Martins: Esperanza (Galileo Music) GMCCD 118
- # Mama Sissoko: Diamond Fingers (One World Records) MSONE 26
- # Muluken Mèllèssè: Éthiopiennes 31 - Muluken Mèllèssè (Buda Musique) BUDA 860411
- # Aly Keita: Balafon Evolution (One World Records) AKONE 26 / AKONEVI 26
- # Julia Kozakova: Manusa II (CPL-Music)
- # Lina & Marco Mezquida: O Fado (Galileo Music)GMCCD 115 / GMCLP 115
- #Wör x Kongero: Songbooks Live (Nordic Notes) NNCD 195
- # Catrin Finch: Notes To Self (Bedigedig) BENDI 13

[For live music in the BeNeLux check out concerts!](#)