



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

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XANGO MUSIC NEWSLETTER #8 – 2026

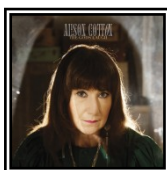


Tamikrest: Assikel (street date: May 15th, 2026)

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.](#)



Alison Cotton: The Gods Laugh (street date June 19th, 2026)

GBCD 185 / 4030433618523 / label: tak:til / format: CD / England – Avantgarde

GBLP 185 / 4030433618516 / label: tak:til / format: LP / England – Avantgarde

Alison Cotton's fifth solo album is a mesmerizing weave of haunted atmospheric and avant-folk songcraft. Built around her viola, harmonium, and transportive vocals, the album moves between stark drone passages and more layered arrangements with piano, percussion, and synths. [Listen.](#)

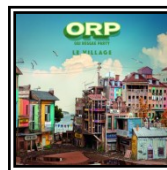


HK: Le Coeur Au Vent (street date: May 15th, 2026)

EDPCD 6 / 3760063733136 / label: Irfan / format: CD / France – Popular

EDPLP 6 / 3760063733143 / label: Irfan / format: LP / France – Popular

HK has his heart on his sleeve! With this new album, our street performer, surrounded by his lifelong friends, reveals himself more than ever before. The drums pound, the bass rumbles, the violins soar, the accordion wanders, the brass has fun, the guitars rebel... And HK's voice resonates, again and again, stubbornly.



ORP (Oai Reggae Party): Le Village (street date: May 22nd, 2026)

ITSCD 13 / 3760063733006 / label: Irfan / format: CD / France – Reggae

ITSLP 13 / 3760063732993 / label: Irfan / format: LP / France – Reggae

Get ready to groove to the sound of reggae made in Marseille! ORP is here to recharge your batteries and get you dancing with an explosive mix of fiery beats and legendary flows. Imagine a dash of Oai Star, a splash of Massilia, an explosive dose of Toko Blaze, a cloud of Raspigaous, all sprinkled with fresh riddims.

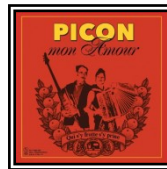


Marty: Le Dernier Des Vivants (street date: May 22nd, 2026)

ECHCD 1 / 3760063733051 / label: Irfan / format: CD / France – Folk

EHCLP 1 / 3760063733069 / label: Irfan / format: LP / France – Folk

At the age of 50, MARTY has released a solo album marking a new beginning, guided by a desire for authenticity and acoustics where you can hear the wood resonate. The album is part of a French-language folk tradition that links the intimate with the landscape. [Listen.](#)



Picon Mon Amour: Qui S'y Frotte S'y Prine (street date: May 22nd, 2026)

PMA 60 / 3760063733167 / label: Irfan / format: 2CD / France – Popular

This double album brings together the first two albums by the famous duo Picon mon amour. Qui s'y frotte s'y prine and En route pour la joie, released in 2017 and 2019 respectively. It includes their famous cover of the song 3-0 by Les Ogres de Barback. [Listen.](#)



Gaoussou 'Sobra' Kouyate: Sobra Dance (street date: May 15th, 2026)

GKONE 2026 / 0820200521651 / label: One World Records / format: CD / Mali – Popular

The rhythm-driven album carries the listener through eight distinct compositions that draw on the deep kinship between Mande griot music and the blues, rock, and Latin styles that share its roots. Sobra Dance takes the listener on an amazing journey from the rivers to the desserts of Mali and crossing the ocean to the Americas, from South to North.



Mah Damba: Taabolo Koura (street date: May 22nd, 2026)

MAHONE 26 / 0199806943434 / label: One World Records / format: CD / Mali – Popular

This new record deepens the musical partnership with guitarist and arranger Thierry Fournel, who has worked alongside the Damba family for twenty years. Together they have built something intimate and unhurried - an acoustic architecture of guitar, djeli ngoni, accordion, calebasse, and guembri that serves the voice rather than decorating it. Mah Damba's voice remains the centre of gravity on every track.



Berima Amo: Rhythms Of Love (street date May 22nd, 2026)**EUCD 2982 / 5019396298224 / label: ARC Music / format: CD / Ghana – Popular**

Amsterdam-based Ghanaian trumpeter, composer and bandleader Berima Amo blends highlife, Afrobeat, traditional West African rhythms, jazz and soul into a rich, contemporary sound. Rhythms of Love is a heartfelt tribute to the music and icons that shaped his journey-exploring love, unity and cultural pride through hypnotic grooves, expressive trumpet lines and soulful melodies.



Brigian feat. Torgeir Vassvik: Voci De Mare E Di Vento (street date: May 8th, 2026)**LBW 16 / 0823000026388 / label: Liburia Records / format: CD / Italy – Fusion**

The new album by Brigian, "Voices of Sea and Wind" was born from a crossing-one that is not only geographical, but also sensory and human. The project emerged from the meeting between the Italian ensemble and Sami musician Torgeir Vassvik, developed during an artistic residency in the far north of Norway. Rather than attempting to explain a place,



Neha!: Svetu (street date: May 22nd, 2026)**CPLCD 84 / 4251329500849 / label: CPL-Music / format: CD / Slovakia – A Cappella**

Neha! is more than a vocal ensemble - it is a living portrait of friendship, courage, and artistic freedom. Six women, each unique, profound, and complex, blend their voices into a polyphonic tapestry that transcends boundaries and touches hearts. The album features ten traditional songs from six countries, reflecting the groups artistic journey.



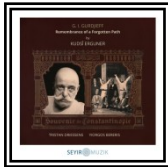
Slavyk: 11 Songs Of Love & Suffering (street date: June 12th, 2026)**CPLCD 85 / 4251329500856 / label: One World Records / format: CD / Poland-Serbia – Popular**

Slavyk is the sonic offspring of an ever-evolving international music theatre project. The Polish-Serbian quartet brings together Silesian and Serbian musical traditions alongside English lyrics, blending jazz, pop, and white voice singing with a progressive psychedelic edge and trance-like ritual elements. Their music is driven by intelligent lyrics filled with dramatic twists, exploring themes of love, suffering, nature, and human connection.



3'Ain: Unland (street date: May 29th, 2026)**CHOU 2603 / 5425003680878 / label: Choux de Bruxelles / format: CD / Belgium – Fusion**

3'Ain is a trio in which trumpet player Yamen Martini (Ashtabiez), upright bass player Otto Kint (Otto Kintet, RVB Quartet,...) and accordion player Piet Maris (Jaune Toujours, Mec Yek, Choux de Bruxelles Artist Collective,...) join forces: they bring a unique blend of worldwide jazz with influences from the Swana region (South West Asia and North Africa).



Kudsi Erguner, Tristan Driessens & Yiorgos Bereris: Remembrance Of A Forgotten Path (street date: June 26th, 2026)**2GN 34 / 0745125354231 / label: Seyir Muzik / format: CD / Turkey – Traditional**

This album is deeply rooted in the music Gurdjieff encountered during his travels, particularly in Constantinople around 1920-1921. These pieces were created during a pivotal time in Gurdjieff's life as he established his teaching in Western Europe, often reflecting spiritual, dervish, and folk melodies of the East. [Listen.](#)



Bulgarian Voices Angelite: Heritage**JARO 4374 / 4006180437410 / label: Jaro Medien / format: LP / Bulgaria – folk**

Heritage features popular pieces by the composers with whom this choir has always enjoyed working: founder Philip Koutev, Nikolai Kaufman, Petar Lyondev and Ivan Spassov. It is no coincidence that the album also includes two Orthodox Christian songs, as researchers have discovered that traditional singing has influenced ancient religious music. After decades, this choir has lost none of its power. [Listen.](#)



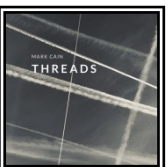
Francois Moity: Alone Together**BUDA 260329 / 3341342603298 / label: Buda Musique / format: LP / France – Popular**

After a first career as a performing musician then a second composing for film and advertising, Francois Moity returns to his roots - alone at the piano - to share some previously unreleased tracks and give us a new interpretation of pure gems from classical music, cinema and song. "These wonders have been with me for ever, so it was time, with this album, to pay a simple and fitting tribute to their creators." - Francois Moity [Listen](#)



ZOJ: May The Devil's Ear Be Deaf (street date: May 1st, 2026)**PREC 22 / 0724133188236 / label: Parentheses Records / format: CD / Australia-Iran – Avantgarde**

Music made in a single breath. Recorded live, without overdubs, each piece holds the fragile moment where a sound might disappear, or stay with you. Voice, kamancheh, and drums move through silence and resonance, leaving space for the air between notes and the emotion inside them. Nothing is polished or repeated.

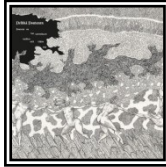


Mark Cain: Threads (street date: May 1st, 2026)**PREC 23 / 0726529864762 / label: Parentheses Records / format: CD / Australia – Avantgarde**

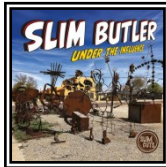
The record features fifteen solo pieces for soprano saxophone that venture to the outer edges of the instruments range, resonance and expressive vocabulary. Entirely improvised and each track recorded in a single continuous process, Threads captures music in its most immediate state. Each piece unfolds in the moment - without second takes, editing or overdubs.

**Vilma Talvitie: Olio / Alien****ECD 2026263 / 6429811798014 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Popular**

Talvitie's one-woman orchestra and live concept PianoBodyPercussion merges voice, piano, body rhythm, percussion, and dance-like movement into a single embodied whole, blurring the boundaries between music, dance, and theatre. Her nomadic folk-inspired solo album offers intimate, deeply moving Finnish-language stories about encounters, dreams, and the longing to be part of something greater than oneself.

**Pelkka Poutanen: Jossain On Kai Sateenkaari Vaikkei Sita Tahan Nay****ECD 2026261 / 6429830281184 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Folk****ELP 202682 / 6429830281191 / label: Eclipse Music / format: LP / Finland – Folk**

Poutanen has composed, played, and sung everything you hear, and she also handled the production and recording herself. The kantele and percussion are definitely present and there's some electronics as well. Vocally, we hear versatile singing, recitation, and wordless vocal artistry. [Listen.](#)

**Slim Butler: Under The Influence****SLIMCUTS 1005 / 6429830281160 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Blues**

Jarmo Puhakka needs no further introduction as one of Finland's most experienced and accomplished blues musicians. This guitarist has been performing under the stage name Slim Butler since the early 2010s. Accompanying him is the SlimCuts band, composed of seasoned blues professionals, whose slightly varying lineups have also played on all four of the soloists' previous full-length albums.

**Kanvas: Varit****ECD 2025259 / 8202003866634 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Jazz**

At the core of Kanvas music lies interaction - a sensitivity between the musicians, a sense of space, and a shared musical direction. The compositions blend the expressive power of jazz with the direct emotional accessibility of pop, resulting in a work that is both approachable and artistically ambitious. Kanvas has emerged as a notable name on the Finnish music scene.

**Kanvas: Suunnat****ECD 2026262 / 8202002280240 / label: Eclipse Music / format: CD / Finland – Jazz**

Kanvas is a jazz ensemble strongly influenced by pop songwriting. With Suunnat, the band further develops its distinctive sound, where melody, storytelling, and improvisation coexist naturally. The album is built from compositions that function both as standalone pieces and as part of a broader network of moods and perspectives.

**David Janeway Trio: Live At Blue Llama (street date: May 8th, 2026)****SCCD 34003 / 0716043400324 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

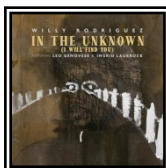
Captured live at Ann Arbor, Michigan's renowned jazz club Blue Llama in June 2024, David Janeway presents himself at the height of his powers, joined by the world-class rhythm team of Robert Hurst III and Billy Hart. A Detroit-bred musician with a deep lineage in that city's storied jazz tradition, Janeway channels decades of mentorship, swing, and blues-rooted expression into both powerfully modern and historically grounded. [Listen.](#)

**Anthony Ferrara: Straight Into The Sun Vision (street date: May 8th, 2026)****SCCD 34005 / 0716043400522 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

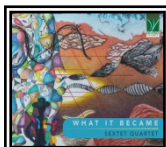
Anthony Ferrara's fourth SteepleChase release, Straight Into The Sun Vision, marks a striking new chapter for the rising tenor saxophonist. After three acclaimed albums with his "dream team" veteran rhythm section, Ferrara now leads a working quartet of peers whose shared history brings a fresh cohesion to his music. In a familiar group of contemporaries, the performances took to a newly open personal level of expression.

**Dexter Gordon: Stable Mable (street date: May 15th, 2026)****G 1040 / 0716043104017 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: LP / USA – Jazz**

A no-frills blowing date where Gordon's imagination, authority, and melodic wit shine without disguise. Joined by Horace Parlan, Niels-Henning Ørsted Pedersen, and Tony Inzalaco, Gordon navigates standards like Just Friends, Misty, Red Cross, and So What with a mix of relaxed confidence and fiery invention. His soprano reading of In a Sentimental Mood adds a rare, reflective touch.

**Willy Rodriguez: In The Unknown (I Will Find You)****SSC 1797 / 0016728179720 / label: Sunnyside Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

New York composer-drummer Willy Rodriguez presents his profoundly thoughtful second album as a leader, In The Unknown (I Will Find You), shaped by grief, memory, and the search for spiritual reunion. Deeply personal in origin yet expansive in sound, the music reflects a journey toward connection in the absence of certainty, with music serving as the sole space where reunion feels possible.

**Sextet Quartet: What It Became****C 1143 / 0746160919850 / label: Da Vinci Jazz / format: CD / Italy – Jazz**

In "What it Became" the Sextet Quartet, a quartet with a deliberately oblique name, sets down its calling card in nine original pieces. Tenor saxophone, guitar, double bass and drums pursue one another as communicating rooms: threshold-themes, obstinate cells, sudden clearings. [Listen.](#)



Marco Sinopoli: Extradiction – Apres Ravel**MPRCD 201 / 8052141492406 / label: Parco della Musica / format: CD / Italy – Jazz**

With Apres Ravel, Marco Sinopoli creates a project that brings the music of Maurice Ravel into dialogue with the language of contemporary jazz and improvisation, allowing Ravel's music to speak through contemporary jazz, without rewriting or forcing. A composer and multi-instrumentalist, Sinopoli leads the group Extradiction in a work born from the need to identify common ground between classical music and jazz.

Available from the Quinton Records Jazz back catalogue

**Wolfgang Puschnig: Chants****Q 1022 / 0800679010221 / label: Quinton Records / format: CD / Austria – Jazz****Wolfgang Puschnig: World Embrace – Live At Wiener Konzerthaus****Q 2101 / 0800679210126 / label: Quinton Records / format: 4CD / Austria – Jazz****Wolfgang Puschnig, Linda Sharrock & The Chants Band: Late Night Show Part II****Q 5042 / 0800679050425 / label: Quinton Records / format: CD / Austria – Jazz****Muthspiel – Johnson – Blade: Real Book Stories****Q 1012 / 0800679010122 / label: Quinton Records / format: CD / Austria – Jazz****Muthspiel – Johnson – Blade: Air, Love & Vitamins****Q 4022 / 0800679040228 / label: Quinton Records / format: CD / Austria – Jazz****Gavino Murgia Trio & Michel Godard & Patrice Heral: L'Ultima Mattanza****Q 1402 / 0800679140225 / label: Quinton Records / format: CD / Various – Jazz****Shilkloper – Correa – Breinschmid: Mauve****Q 1062 / 0800679010627 / label: Quinton Records / format: CD / Austria – Jazz****Vienna Art Orchestra: A Centenary Journey****Q 1042 / 0800679010429 / label: Quinton Records / format: CD / Austria – Jazz**

Transglobal World Music Chart May 2026

- # Souad Massi: Zagate (Backing Track Production) BTCD 2 / BTLP 2
- # BCUC: The Road Is Never Easy (Outhere Records) OHCD 42 / OHLP 42
- # Stelios Petrakis: Lyric (Buda Musique) BUDA 860413
- # Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino: Il Mito (Ponderosa Music) PONCD 175
- # Ablaye Cissoko & Contantinople: Estuaire (Ma Case Prod) CONS 2502
- # Raul Refree & Maria Mazzotta: San Paolo Di Galatina (Galileo Music) GMCCD 120 / GMCLP 120
- # Kuljit Bhamra: Desi - The Soul Of Punjab (ARC Music) EUCD 2989
- # Catrin Finch: Notes To Self (Bedigedig) BENDI 13
- # Mama Sissoko: Diamond Fingers (One World Records) MSONE 26
- # Tuuletar: Maammo (Nordic Notes) NNCD 198 / NNLP 198

World Music Charts Europe May 2026

- # Souad Massi: Zagate (Backing Track Production) BTCD 2 / BTLP 2
- # BCUC: The Road Is Never Easy (Outhere Records) OHCD 42 / OHLP 42
- # Mariana Sadvoska & Vesna: You Should Live! (CPL-Music) CPLCD 83
- # Raul Refree & Maria Mazzotta: San Paolo Di Galatina (Galileo Music) GMCCD 120 / GMCLP 120
- # Fauna: Taiga Trans (Glitterbeat Records) GBCD 183 / GBLP 183
- # Stelios Petrakis: Lyric (Buda Musique) BUDA 860413
- # Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino: Il Mito (Ponderosa Music) PONCD 175
- # Ablaye Cissoko & Contantinople: Estuaire (Ma Case Prod) CONS 2502

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