



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

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XANGO MUSIC NEWSLETTER #13 - 2026

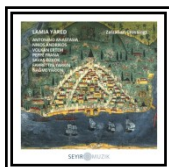


BaBa ZuLa: XXX (street date: September 25th, 2026)

GBCD 188 / 4030433618820 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: CD / Turkey – Popular

GBLP 188 / 4030433618813 / label: Glitterbeat Records / format: LP / Turkey – Popular

There are few groups in contemporary music whose work becomes more unpredictable with time. Fewer still who, after thirty years of existence, sound more adventurous, stranger and more radical than ever before. BaBa ZuLa belongs to that rare category. [Listen.](#)



Lamia Yared: Zalzalani Crossings (street date: October 30th, 2026)

2GN 43 / 0745125354323 / label: Seyir Muzik / format: CD / Lebanon – Traditional

At the crossroads of Istanbul, Florence, and the Mashreq, the album unfolds as a musical journey shaped through both collective and individual arrangements. Rarely performed works from the muwashsha tradition by composers such as Omar al-Batch and Ali Darwish, placed in dialogue with earlier sources including and reinterpreted through Byzantine manuscript traditions alongside medieval Florentine repertoire. [Listen.](#)



Christos Barbas & Nabil Nair: Fam (street date: September 18th, 2026)

2GN 44 / 0745125354330 / label: Seyir Muzik / format: CD / Various - Traditional

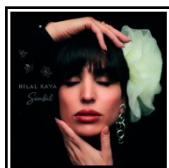
Fam is the debut album by Christos Barbas - ney & piano - and Nabil Naïr - clarinet & piano. Fam reflects a juxtaposition between a profound personal desire for change, creation, and connection, and a wider awareness of humanity in crisis and the fragility of the natural world. Across the album, themes of place, memory, childhood, loss, freedom, and vulnerability emerge subtly in each composition. [Listen.](#)



Various: Bardentreffen 2026

FG 9 / 4251329504250 / label: Folk Galore / format: CD / Various – World

In the summer of 2026, Nuremberg will celebrate a double anniversary: 50 years of Bardentreffen world music festival and the 450th anniversary of the death of Nuremberg's Meistersinger Hans Sachs, in whose honor the Bardentreffen was founded in 1976. Two jubilees that uniquely connect the past and present of the art of songwriting. Folk Galore has selected 17 artists and brought them together in a vibrant compilation.

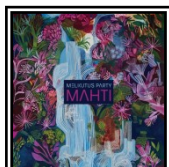


Hilal Kaya: Sumbul (street date: August 28th, 2026)

CPLCD 82 / 4251329500825 / label: CPL-Music / format: CD / Denmark-Turkey – Popular

CPLCD 82 / 4251329504182 / label: CPL-Music / format: LP / Denmark-Turkey – Popular

Turkish-Danish vocalist, songwriter and composer Hilal Kaya debut album "Sumbul" is rooted in Turkish folk music, the album blends elements of rock, jazz and psychedelia while reimagining traditional Anatolian sounds through a modern and free-spirited musical approach.



Melkutus Party: Mahti (street date: September 18th, 2026)

NNCD 201 / 4251329596391 / label: Nordic Notes / format: CD / Finland – Folk

NNLP 201 / 4251329506407 / label: Nordic Notes / format: LP / Finland – Folk

Mahti takes the listener from somber meditations to hectic party-bangers, and back. In the center of the album is the Finnish traditional lyre kantele, of which sound seamlessly fits into genres like drum n bass, ambient, trance and electronica. Time to settle down and relax, or enjoy a night full of clubbing - we are here with you.



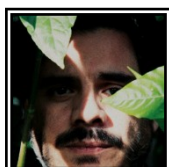
L'Antidote – Bijan Chemirani & Redi Hasa & Rami Khalife:

Sound Sketches – An Elegant and Profound Original Soundtrack (street date: 25-09-2026)

PONCD 184 / 8030482005011 / label: Ponderosa Music Records / format: CD / Various – Fusion

PONLP 47 / 8030482004991 / label: Ponderosa Music Records / format: LP / Various – Fusion

L'Antidote are back with a new project. The music for "Sound Sketches" was created to accompany the exhibition "Giorgio Armani Privé 2005-2025: Twenty Years of Haute Couture".

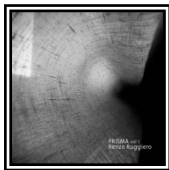


Alekos Vretos: Mediterranean Echoes (street date October 9th, 2026)

TCCD 90 / 5200138620889 / label: Thinkbabymusic Coll. / format: CD / Greece – Mediterranean

TCLTD 90 / 5200138620872 / label: Thinkbabymusic Coll. / format: LP / Greece – Mediterranean

At its core lies a sound that is lyrical, spacious and deeply interactive, where composition and improvisation remain in constant dialogue. With the oud at the centre and an ensemble without drums or percussion, the album builds its pulse through melody, breath, listening and the inner movement of the group itself.



Renzo Ruggiero: Prisma Vol. 1 (street date: September 18th, 2026)**LBW 21 / 0823000603947 / label: Liburia Records / format: CD / Italy – Mediterranean**

Following more than twenty-five years devoted to early and traditional music, Ruggiero presents a deeply personal work that blends contemporary composition with the rich musical heritage of different cultures. More than an album title, Prisma represents the central concept behind the project. Like a prism refracting light into countless colors, the music transforms according to each listener's perspective.



Marcos Coll: Ronsel (street date: September 25th, 2026)**GMC 122 / 4250095801228 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Spain – World**

Marcos Coll's new album "Ronsel" includes guest stars like Charlie Musselwhite and where he covers spanish, latin and galician rythms making a crossover with Blues and Jazz. Touring and recording with blues legends such as Mick Talyor (Rolling Stones) or Buddy Miles (Jimmy Hendrix) and sharing bills with all time greats such as Buddy Guy, John Mayall or Chuck Berry formed Marcos harmonica sound.



Georg Ringsgwandl: Woanders (street date: September 25th, 2026)**GMCCD 123 / 4250095801235 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Germany – Popular****GMCLP 123 / 4250095811234 / label: Galileo Music . format: LP / Germany – Popular**

Woanders is a studio album by the well-known German cabaret artist and musician Georg Ringsgwandl, released in 2016. The album features 11 tracks, including well-known songs such as "Sitz di her", "Dorf" and the title track "Woanders". [Listen.](#)



Various Artists: Peace Anthems**RHCD 1010 / 5391538080677 / label: Red Hook Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz****RHLP 1010 / 5391538080684 / label: Red Hook Records / format: LP / USA – Jazz**

In celebration of Red Hook Records' 5th year anniversary a multi-artist album gathering under a single, urgent theme: the pursuit of peace. The record brings together thirteen exceptional musicians spanning generations and disciplines, each contributing original works that approach peace as both subject and sonic practice.



Zaccai Curtis: Sonoluminescence**TRRC 100 / 0714651954437 / label: Truth Revolution Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

The album draws from a rich palette of influences, among them Ahmad Jamal, Herbie Hancock, Lonnie Liston Smith, Idris Muhammad, Santana, War, Mandrill, and Roy Ayers. The music leans into pocket grooves and Afro-Caribbean rhythms while leaving room for extended improvisation and compositional storytelling. Curtis has a fondness for long-form pieces where the soloists have space to develop ideas fully.



Eva Cortes: La Malinche**TRRC 92 / 0714651954376 / label: Truth Revolution Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

La Malinche is an historic figure. Her son is the first mix raced child/person mentioned in the chronicles of the conquest/genocide of the Americas led from the Spaniards. From Ushuaia (Argentina) to Utqiagvik (Alaska) we are all indigenous from Turtle Island. We are the same people, no matter who came from where to erase us. WE survived, we are strong and we are here to stay and to reclaim our destiny. [Listen.](#)



Michael Eckroth & Minas Messengers: New Paths**TRRC 93 / 0714651954390 / label: Truth Revolution Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

The project brings together an impressive group of musicians, including bassist and co-producer Eneias Xavier, guitarist Magno Alexandre, drummer Cyrano Almeida, percussionist Talles Bibiano and a special guest whose presence alone commands attention: Minas Gerais guitar legend Toninho Horta. In reality, however, New Paths is the product of a much broader collective effort. [Listen.](#)



Paul Carlon: Between Us Three**TRRC 90 / 0714651954338 / label: Truth Revolution Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Led by acclaimed saxophonist and composer Paul Carlon, the trio features Grammy-nominated conguero Wilson "Chembo" Corniel and bassist Alex Ayala, blending Afro-Latin rhythms, modern jazz, and adventurous improvisation. Emerging from New York City's legendary jazz scene and inspired by Sonny Rollins chordless trio concept, the group delivers an energetic and deeply rhythmic live experience. [Listen.](#)



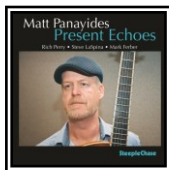
Cathrin Pfeifer: Upside Down (street date: September 11th, 2026)**GMV 147 / 4250095889363 / label: Galileo Music / format: CD / Germany – Jazz**

A diverse range of original compositions, ranging from tango-esque waltz melodies to African voodoo blues, flamenco-esque shakti rhythms and meditative minimal music, imaginary soundtracks and invented folklore set to danceable grooves... Modern accordion playing that embraces both complex rhythms and jazzy arrangements.



Andrew Rathbun & Gary Versace: Episodes (street date August 21st, 2026)**SCCD 34024 / 0716043402427 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Tenor saxophonist Andrew Rathbun and pianist Gary Versace meet for the first time as a duo on Episodes, revealing a striking new dimension in their musical partnership. Versace's chameleon-like ability to shift color, texture, and groove pairs seamlessly with Rathbun's ever-evolving compositional voice, whose pieces here range from unmetered shapes to baroque-tinged counterpoint and driving ostinati.



Matt Panayides: Present Echoes (street date: August 21st, 2026)**SCCD 34008 / 0716043400829 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Guitarist/Composer Matt Panayides makes a compelling SteepleChase debut with Present Echoes, a vibrant quartet session featuring tenor saxophonist Rich Perry, bassist Steve LaSpina, and drummer Mark Ferber. Written in the wake of drummer Anthony Pinciotti's passing, the album presents a full program of originals shaped by reflection, momentum and deep musical heritage.



Vito Dieterle: Nerve Case (street date: August 21st, 2026)**SCCD 34002 / 0716043400225 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

His working band of guitarist Kris Kaiser, bassist Griffin Fink, and drummer Aaron Seeber shares a rare chemistry that drives the album's mix of standards, jazz gems, and two originals. Dieterle's tone bold and clear leads the groups interplay to a conversational flow. From the Tristano-tinged opener "Split" to the soulful ballads and the bluesy title track, Nerve Case introduces a mature, distinctive voice and ensemble sound.



Thad Jones: Three And One (street date: August 21st, 2026)**G 1197 / 0716043119714 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: LP / USA – Jazz**

Thad Jones (1923 - 1986) was best known as the leader / composer / arranger of one of the best big jazz bands of the 1960s and 70s. But Thad was also a superb instrumentalist in smaller settings. This was Thad's first quartet recording in 30 years (recorded in Copenhagen, October 1984). The newly remastered 24-bit/96 kHz 180g vinyl edition draws a vivid, intimate portrait of Jones the storyteller: reflective, free, and full of tunes..



Phil Seamen: The Late Great Phil Seamen Vol. 2 (street date: September 18th, 2026)**SWP 74 / 9789077-68755 / label: SWP Records / format: CD / England – Jazz**

Phil Seamen, was one of the great jazz drummers of the world. Phil had an innate ability on the drums but alas, he was also a born raver – drug addiction increasingly dogged his career, and it cut short his life. Amongst others Kenny Clarke, Louis Bellson, Joe Morello, Philly Joe Jones were all big fans, Sir James Blades called him a 'percussion genius', to Ginger Baker he was 'God'.



Lucian Ban & Elevation: Rush (street date: August 14th, 2026)**SSC 1775 / 0016728177528 / label: Sunnyside Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

"Rush" is the new album by Romanian-American jazz pianist Lucian Ban, "Elevation" is the name of his acclaimed modern jazz quartet. Lucian Ban's quartet, Elevation, features Abraham Burton (sax), John Hbert (bass), and Eric McPherson (drums). The group has released critically praised albums with Sunnyside Records, most notably Songs From Afar, which was a mainstay in the Downbeat Critics Poll.



Ran Blake & Dominique Eades: Roots and Byways (available soon)**SSC 1813 / 0016728181327 / label: Sunnyside Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

The duo's newest work, Roots & Byways, was recorded in their favored performance space in Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory of Music over two sessions in August 2023. The recording presents the duo performing fourteen pieces (plus two solo piano interpretations by Blake) of a diverse range of standards, pop songs, film music, and folk tunes. [Listen.](#)



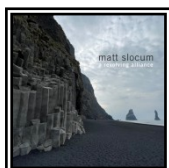
Gaia Wilmer Large Ensemble: Parabolico – Reflections On Gilbert (street date: August 14th, 2026)**SSC 1808 / 0016728180825 / label: Sunnyside Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Gaia Wilmer's music draws on Brazilian traditions while staying rooted in contemporary jazz and improvisation. A key part of Gaia's projects is reworking music by Brazilian composers such as Egberto Gismonti, Caetano Veloso, and Gilberto Gil in ParabAlico. Gilberto Gil the Brazilian singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and politician, is one of the central figures in Brazilian popular music. [Listen.](#)



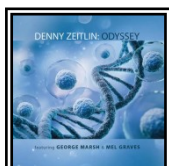
Mat Maneri Quartet: Mist (available soon)**SSC 1809 / 0016728180924 / label: Sunnyside Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

As these challenging years creep by, it becomes necessary to look for hope on the horizon. Often, the picture of the future isn't clear but remains obscured or hazy. But it is the belief in a brighter time ahead that helps imagine a better place through the mist. Violist, improviser, and composer Mat Maneri captures that feeling on Mist, the final installment of a musical trilogy that he recorded with his quartet of longtime collaborators. [Listen.](#)



Matt Slocum: A Revolving Alliance (available soon)**SSC 4041 / 0016728404129 / label: Sunnyside Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Slocum has been on his own path for many years, unconcerned with anything outside of cultivating, composing and performing music which represents his own artistic aesthetic and vision; music which resonates with and stimulates his fellow musicians; and music that _nds music lovers yearning to hear master musicians in their prime. He has accomplished all of this and more with this new recording. [Listen.](#)



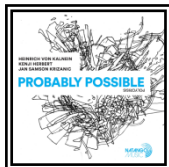
Denny Zeitlin: Odyssey (available soon)**SSC 1816 / 0016728181624 / label: Sunnyside Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Denny Zeitlin has long compared music making to setting out on a journey. The legendary pianist, composer, and sound synthesist has been combing his archives for years, finding tremendous, exploratory recordings in an array of settings, along with capturing new recordings from his home studio. His new collection, Odyssey, highlights three long-standing projects.



Frankfurt Radio Big Band: Jim McNeely Expeditions (street date: August 21st, 2026)**SSC 1795 / 0016728179522 / label: Sunnyside Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

In 2025, the jazz world lost one of its beloved talents in the arts of composing and arranging with the passing of Jim McNeely. But before he left, McNeely completed and recorded a suite of original music for his long time favored collaborative ensemble, the Frankfurt Radio Big Band. This is quite a journey, as the music suggests adventures through sound for individual musicians that McNeely had devised unique environments for.



Heinrich von Kalnein: Probably Possible (street date: September 25th, 2026)**NATCD 476282 / 4250095889448 / label: Natango Records / format: CD / Austria – Jazz****NATLP 476281 / 4250095889431 / label: Natango Records / format: LP / Austria – Jazz**

For over 30 years, this German saxophonist and flautist, who lives in Austria, has been one of Europe's leading musicians. He has appeared on over 40 CDs, both as a bandleader and as a sideman, many of them under his own name.



Rien Faire: Le Defile**DDCD 82 / 3521383504475 / label: Dur et Doux / format: CD / France – Pop-Rock****DDLTP 82 / 3521381604481 / label: Dur et Doux / format: LP / France – Pop-Rock**

With their third album, Rien faire continues to blaze a trail in the somewhat strange new French music scene that is difficult to categorize. And they still have that desire to stay on the edge. Their music is sophisticated and naive, like a tightrope walker. [Listen.](#)



Le Grand Sbam: Janus**DDCD 76 / 3251383506165 / label: Dur et Doux / format: CD / France – Avantgarde**

With humor and poetry, JaNuS pays a triple tribute to a courageous scientist, a revolutionary biologist-philosopher, and a powerful spirit of the Innu people. By choosing to write the libretto with his brother, sociologist Thomas Arnera, Antoine—nourished by early music and the energy of rock—delivers music steeped in the wild worlds of biology and astrophysics." [Listen.](#)

Transglobal World Music Chart August 2026

Souad Massi: Zagate (Backing Track Production) BTCD 2 / BTLP 2

Tamikrest: Assikel (Glitterbeat Records) GBCD 184 / GBLP 184

Nana Osei Twum Barima: Journey to the Unknown (Zephyrus Records) ZEPCD 78 / ZEPLP 78

Mah Damba: Taabolo Koura (One World Records) MAHONE 26

Hilal Kaya: Sumbul (CPL-Music) CPLCD 82 / CPLLP 82

Berima Amo: Rhythms of Love (ARC Music) EUCD 2982

Stelios Petrakis: Lyric (Buda Musique) BUDA 860413

Ablaye Cissoko & Contantinople: Estuaire (Ma Case Prod) CONS 2502

World Music Charts Europe August 2026

L'Alba: Vivu (Buda Musique) BUDA 860416

Mah Damba: Taabolo Koura (One World Records) MAHONE 26

Nana Osei Twum Barima: Journey to the Unknown (Zephyrus Records) ZEPCD 78 / ZEPLP 78

Maria Kalaniemi & Timo Alakotila: Morgondimma (Akerö) AKEROCD 30

Tamikrest: Assikel (Glitterbeat Records) GBCD 184 / GBLP 184

Slavyk: 11 Songs Of Love & Suffering (CPL-Music) CPLCD 85

Gaoussou 'Sobra' Kouyate: Sobra Dance (One World Records) GKONE 2026

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

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