



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

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XANGO MUSIC NEWSLETTER #14 – 2026



Hilal Kaya: Sumbul

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

CPLCD 82 / 4251329504182 / label: CPL-Music / format: LP / Denmark-Turkye – 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.



Melkutis 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.



Various: Slovakia – Folk to Global (street date: September 18th, 2026)

CPLCD 89 / 4251329500894 / label: CPL-Music / format: CD / Slovakia – Popular

This sampler presents a contemporary side of the Slovak music scene that remains deeply rooted in its musical heritage while looking outward. Slovak traditional songs meet influences from Ruthenian, Ukrainian, Hungarian, Jewish, German and Roma cultures. Traditional melodies are reinterpreted, acoustic instruments encounter modern sounds, and original compositions enter into dialogue with inherited musical traditions.



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

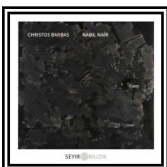
There are few groups in contemporary music whose work becomes more unpredictable with time. Fewer still who, after thirty years of existence, sound more adventurous, stranger and more radical than ever before. BaBa ZuLa belongs to that rare category. [Listen](#).



Lamia Yared: Zalzalain 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](#).



Constantinople & Kiya Tabassian & A Filetta: Clair-Obscur (street date: September 25th, 2026)

CONS 262 / 3770001243146 / label: Absilone / format: CD / Various – Traditional

Clair-obscur is born of the desire for deeper dialogue on the part both of the musicians of Constantinople and the singers of A Filetta, the preeminent ensemble of Corsican polyphony. They have created a poetic and musical suite, mixing polyphonies created by the well-versed singers of A Filetta with songs and tunes composed and arranged by Kiya Tabassian. A profoundly touching combination. [Listen](#).



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".



Tengerton: Ilch (street date September 25th, 2026)**BUDA 860415 / 3341348604152 / label: Buda Musique / format: CD / Mongolia – Traditional**

Tengerton's music draws on two iconic elements of the Mongolian musical tradition: the morin khuur horsehead fiddle and thekhoomii overtone singing. From Mongolia to the West, Tengerton has established itself as a major international group, a leading force in the promotion of traditional Mongolian music. A new musical wind is blowing across the steppe.



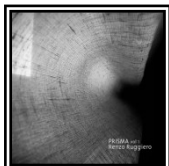
Alekos Vretos: Mediterranean Echoes (street date: October 9th, 2026)**TCCD 90 / 5200138620889 / label: Thinkbabymusic Coll. / format: CD / Greece – Mediterranean****TCLTD 90 / 5200138620872 / label: Thinkbabymusic Coll. / format: LP / Greece – Mediterranean**

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.



Catherine Graindorge & Hugo Race: Long Distance Operators (street date: October 25th, 2026)**GRAMLP 2607 / 5050580880740 / label: Gusstaff Records / format: LP / Various – Avantgarde****GRAMLIM 2607 / 5050580880764 / label: Gusstaff Records / format: LP+7" / Various–Avantgarde**

A collaboration between Hugo Race and Catherine Graindorge. The music of is an intensely atmospheric dreamweave of violins, electronics and Hugo's darkly evocative voice. The duo explores metaphysical lyrics, experimental sounds and retro-baroque orchestrations in a romantic, song-based context. [Listen.](#)



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.](#)



Romo Agri Messiez: Con Todo**CLUBLP 241 / 8435753200407 / label: Club Del Disco / format: LP / Argentina – Tango**

The trio comprising Horacio Romo, Pablo Agri and Emiliano Messiez; a project that offers a contemporary take on tango through the interplay between the bandoneon, violin and piano. The album brings together original compositions by the group's members alongside fresh interpretations of the genre's repertoire, combining moments of great collective intensity with solo passages that highlight each performer's musical identity.



Bomba Estereo: Estalla**3054838 / 4250330548383 / label: Polen Records / format: LP / Colombia – Popular**

Estalla is Bomba Estereo's debut album and the record that brought the band to international attention thanks to its innovative blend of electronic cumbia, champeta, dancehall and Afro-Colombian rhythms. It features some of their most iconic tracks, such as *Fuego*, *Cosita Rica*, *La Boquilla* & *Juana*. Reissued on vinyl by Polen Records, this LP is an essential reference point for contemporary Latin music. [Listen.](#)



Pernett: Cumbia Galactica**PNT 1 / 8435307621658 / label: Polen Records / format: LP / Colombia – Popular**

Pernett is a Colombian known for fusing elements of Caribbean and Colombian music with electronic music. 'Cumbia Galactica' was released by in 2006. It is a highly sophisticated fusion of cumbia, bullerengue, champeta, Jamaican dope and elements of chill-out; a five-track album that includes a tribute to the master Joe Arroyo and a champeta cover of the Latin rap classic by Wilfredo y la Ganga. Now re-issued on LP. [Listen.](#)



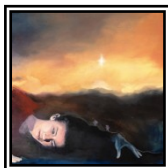
Various: Exotico Riddims Vol. 1**8133393 / 4006381333931 / label: Polen Records / format: LP / Colombia – Popular**

This album is the result of a collective creative process centred on the 'Ritmo Exotico'; a musical genre that emerged 12 years ago in Choco (on Colombia's Pacific coast) and which is becoming increasingly prominent on the contemporary Colombian urban music scene. According to its producers, the 'Ritmo Exotico' represents a form of resistance expressed through dance. Re-issue. [Listen.](#)



Mucho Indio: Mucho Indio**MCH 1 / 8435307621634 / label: Polen Records / format: LP / Colombia – Popular**

Mucho Indio's debut album, which features melodies from the Arhuaco, Nasa, Kankuama, Huitota and Wayúu; when performed by urban musicians using indigenous instruments alongside modern musical instruments and techniques, they form the 'Paleofuturist Laboratory', which creates a new sound – a new art form born of a fresh cultural fusion that incorporates indigenous wisdom.



Manuela Ocampo: Ocasos Y Albas**493036 / 4066004930367 / label: Polen Records / format: LP / Colombia – Popular**

Ocasos y Albas is the second album by Colombian singer-songwriter Manuela Ocampo; a deeply sensitive work that explores the cycles of life through soundscapes inspired by dawn and dusk. Blending singer-songwriter music, poetry and profound symbolism, the album invites listeners on an introspective journey back to our origins and our connection with nature and the universe. [Listen.](#)



Chico Trujillo: Chico De Oro**SATKLP 512 / 8435307621740 / label: Satellite K / format: LP / Chile – Popular**

Chico de Oro brings together some of the most iconic songs from Chico Trujillo's repertoire, combining classics from his early years with new versions and recordings. The album reflects the unmistakable blend of cumbia, ska and Latin American popular music that made the band led by El Macha one of the leading figures of the new Chilean cumbia scene. [Listen.](#)



Chico Trujillo: Cumbia Chilombiana**SATKLP 513 / 8435307621757 / label: Satellite K / format: LP / Chile – Popular**

Cumbia Chilombiana captures all the festive energy of Chico Trujillo, one of the leading bands on the new Chilean cumbia scene. With a vibrant blend of cumbia, ska, reggae and Latin American sounds, the group offers an irresistible repertoire for dancing and celebrating. An essential album for lovers of contemporary cumbia and fusion music with its own distinct identity. [Listen.](#)



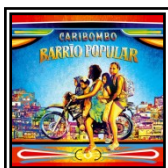
Chico Trujillo: Mambo Mundial**SATKLP 514 / 8435307621764 / label: Satellite K / format: LP / Chile – Popular**

Mambo Mundial cemented Chico Trujillo's international reputation and showcased his unique take on Latin American cumbia. Recorded following years of intensive touring, the album blends cumbia, mambo, ska and tropical rhythms with the overwhelming energy that characterises the Chilean band. A key work for discovering one of the most influential groups on the new Latin American scene. [Listen.](#)



Chico Trujillo: Plato Unico Bailable**SATKLP 515 / 8435307621771 / label: Satellite K / format: LP / Chile – Popular**

One of Chico Trujillo's most iconic albums and a cornerstone in the consolidation of the new Chilean cumbia. This album marked a turning point in the Latin American music scene thanks to its unmistakable blend of cumbia, ska, rock and traditional Latin American rhythms. With a vibrant sound and overwhelming energy that has made Chico Trujillo one of the most influential bands in contemporary Latin music.



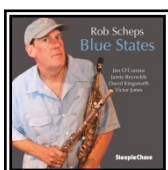
Caribombo: Barrio Popular**CCBP 1 / 8435307621597 / label: Galletas Calientes Records / format: LP / Venezuela – Popular**

Barrio Popular is an eclectic journey that draws on the French African and South-Asian diasporas musical cultures to create colourful pieces of Dance music inspired by the artist's Colombo-Venezuelan heritage. Cumbia, Dub, Afro-House, Afro-Venezuelan music, UK Bass, Favela Funk, Salsa and Hip-Hop are among the numerous genres Caribombo explores with brillo in this new, mature and surprisingly coherent project. [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.



Rob Scheps: Blue States (street date: September 18th, 2026)**SCCD 34004 / 0716043400423 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Blue States, a vivid new chapter for the long-running Core-tet. Drawing on the same sharp instincts praised in earlier reviews - his "big-toned" authority and the "loose, inviting allure" of his soprano - Scheps expands his palette here with an unexpected but compelling front line of trumpet, soprano saxophone, and flute. The result is a sound world both airy and electric, shaped by Scheps' gift for uncovering overlooked gems.



Michael Eckroth: Contrafacto (street date: September 18th, 2026)**SCCD 34009 / 0716043400928 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Grammy-nominated pianist/composer Michael Eckroth equally at home in Latin traditions and straight-ahead jazz makes his long-awaited SteepleChase debut as a leader with Contrafacto, joined by veteran bassist Ron McClure and dynamic drummer Steve Johns. Long known on the label as a versatile sideman, Eckroth steps forward with a trio project that highlights his refined touch, melodic clarity, and the breadth of his musical life.



Spike Wilner: Bird's Words (street date: September 18th, 2026)**SCCD 34020 / 0716043402021 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: CD / USA – Jazz**

Spike Wilner makes a striking debut as a leader with Bird's Words, an album that distills the essence of Charlie Parker into something both reverent and freshly alive. Recorded in France with longtime colleagues Dmitry Baevsky, Yves Brouqui, Paul Gill, and Joe Strasser, the session embraces bebop's original discipline: concise, melodic soloing and a shared commitment to speaking Bird's language without modern embellishment.



Shirley Horn: The Garden Of The Blues (street date: September 18th, 2026)**G 1203 / 0716043120314 / label: SteepleChase Records / format: LP / USA – Jazz**

SteepleChase originally released in 1984 this Shirley Horn's live tribute to songwriter Curtis Lewis (1918 – 1987) who was one of the first black composers and lyricists to emerge on the Broadway scene in the early 40s. Shirley Horn (1934 – 2005) long connected to Lewis's music brings deeply personal readings of "He's Gone Again," "Old Country," and "Roaming Lover," before unfolding story-like suite The Garden of the Blues.



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**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.



Gaia Wilmer Large Ensemble: Parabolico – Reflections On Gilbert**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.](#)



Frankfurt Radio Big Band: Jim McNeely Expeditions**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.

Transglobal World Music Chart September 2026

- # Tamikrest: Assikel (Glitterbeat Records) GBCD 184 / GBLP 184
- # Hilal Kaya: Sumbul (CPL-Music) CPLCD 82 / CPLLP 82
- # Souad Massi: Zagate (Backing Track Production) BTCD 2 / BTLP 2
- # Tengertron: Ilch (Buda Musique) BUDA 860415
- # Elkhan Mansurov: Bayati-Isfahan Dastgah (Felmay) FY 8298
- # Ablaye Cissoko & Contantinople: Estuaire (Ma Case Prod) CONS 2502
- # Nana Osei Twum Barima: Journey to the Unknown (Zephyrus Records) ZEPCD 78 / ZEPLP 78
- # Stelios Petrakis: Lyric (Buda Musique) BUDA 860413
- # Mah Damba: Taabolo Koura (One World Records) MAHONE 26

World Music Charts Europe September 2026

- # L'Alba: Vivu (Buda Musique) BUDA 860416
- # Hilal Kaya: Sumbul (CPL-Music) CPLCD 82 / CPLLP 82
- # 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
- # Riccardo Tesi & Paolo Zampini: Camerock (Visage Music) VM 3065

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