

Biographies Eva Klesse Quartett

Eva Klesse, born in 1986, started playing drums at the age of eleven. She studied jazz at the colleges of music in Weimar, Paris and Leipzig, where she obtained a double diploma (artistic/pedagogical) with distinction. From 2014 to 2016 Eva completed a master's degree at the jazz department of New York University supported by a scholarship of the German Academic Exchange Service. Her main teachers over the last years are and have been among others Heinrich Köpperling, Richie Beirach and Ari Hoenig.

Eva is working in various musical projects, among others with Julia Hülsmann Octet, Trillmann, Jorinde Jelen Band, Sarah Chaksad Orchestra and her own quartet (with Evgeny Ring, Philip Frischkorn, Stefan Schönegg), for which she is also composing. Several concert tours led her to China, Chile, Argentina, Switzerland, Turkey, Serbia, Spain, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Nicaragua, Belgium, Guatemala, Mexico, El Salvador, France, the United States, Egypt and Malaysia.

In 2013 she won the „Leipziger Jazznachwuchspreis der Marion-Ermer-Stiftung“ (Leipzig award for young jazz musicians).

With her quartet she has been playing numerous concerts since its founding in 2013, among others at Berlin, Leipzig, Münster, Freiburg and Dortmund jazz festival, at 12 Points festival, Buenos Aires Jazz Festival, ChilEuropa Festival and several live radio shows for major german radio stations. The debut album of the „Eva Klesse Quartett“ („Xenon“) was released in october 2014 on enja Records and won the Jazz Echo 2015 (German Music Award) in the category „Newcomer of the year“. The second album „Obenland“ was released in 2016, the third one, entitled „miniatures“, in 2018, the third one „creatures & states“ in 2020.

In 2017 Eva was awarded with the Westfalen-Jazz-Preis (Westphalia Jazz Award), in 2019 with the JTI Trier Jazz Award.

In 2018 Eva was appointed as professor of jazz drumset at Hochschule für Musik, Theater and Medien Hannover.

Evgeny Ring is a German-Russian jazz saxophonist based in Cologne, Germany. Heavily influenced by the American jazz tradition, Evgeny has developed a strong individual style in playing and composing. He possesses the rare ability to combine elegiac melodies with complex rhythmic structures. He also uses the entire dynamic range, and a wide range of timbres of his instrument and creates so great narrative structures. As a bandleader he has the ability at the same time to lead to music, and on the other hand also fit in an orchestral sound structure.

Evgeny Ring was born in 1987 in Rostov-on-Don in Russia. At the age of 7 he began his musical studies on the saxophone at the Kim Nazaretow-Kids Jazz School where he played in the Children's Jazz Bigband under the direction of Andrey Machnew. He has toured throughout Germany and many neighbouring European countries. In October 2007, Evgeny decided to come to study to Leipzig at the Academy of Music and Theatre "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" with saxophonist Uwe Plath and later with Prof. Johannes Enders. During this time he also received lessons from Richie Beirach and participated in numerous master classes among others, Billy Hart, Dave Liebman and Mark Turner. Based on these enriching experiences, he decided then to spend several weeks in New York. During this time he took lessons with Dave Liebman and met, among others on musicians like Randy Brecker and Phil Markowitz. 2015 Evgeny moved to Cologne and studied composition at HfMT Köln.

Evgeny has participated in numerous competitions. He has won the Grand-Prix of the Russian Young Artists Jazz Award 2007", the "Jazz Award of the City of Leipzig in 2015". With his Quartett he won Prizes at the "International Jazz Competition Burghausen" and the "Jazz Competition Hoeilaart Belgium". The "Eva Klesse quartet", of which he is a member, won the Echo Jazz Award as best newcomer band of the year 2015.

As a musician in various bands he played at the most important german festivals, such as Jazzfest Berlin, Burghausen Jazzwoche, Leipziger Jazztage, and as well at many international festivals in Kairo, Buenos Aires, Santiago de Chile, Mexico, Kuala Lumpur, Getxo, San Sebastian, Novi Sad, Prague, Belgrade, Rostov, Prague and many others.

Philip Frischkorn was born in Munich in 1989. He began to play piano at the age of six. Alongside his two brothers, who both play string instruments, he was introduced to chamber music at an early age. He participated in several 'Jugend Musiziert' competitions as an accompanist. He started to play jazz piano autodidactically. When studying at the musical high school in Munich he had first classes in jazz piano, theory and arrangement. During this time he started to write own compositions and arrangements. 2009 he began to study philosophy in Berlin and took jazz piano classes with Larry Porter. From 2010 to 2014 he was studying jazz piano in the class of Richie Beirach at the Conservatory for Music and Theatre in Leipzig. Since 2014 he is a master-Student with Prof. Michael Wollny. 2014 he won with Trio.Diktion the newcomer-award for Jazzmusicians Leipzig. In different formations he has been playing concerts throughout Germany, France and Switzerland, amongst others at Jazz Festival Leipzig and 'Jazzfest Dortmund' and for several different german radio stations.

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Stefan Schönegg, born in Heppenheim, grew up in Konstanz. Studied classical double bass and Jazz double bass in Berlin and Cologne, lives and works in Cologne. Working in between improvised music, Jazz, contemporary classical. Founding member of the Cologne collective for improvised and contemporary music IMPAKT.

Stefan is a demandend sideman and plays internationally. He worked amongst others with: Arto Lindsay, Theo Bleckmann, Eve Risser, Tom Rainey, Ingrid Laubrock, Simon Nabatov, Sebastian Sternal, Jonas Burgwinkel, Philip Zoubek. Besides his own projects, the quartet „Enso“ and the octet „BIG Enso“, which deal with quiet intensities in between free improvisation and composition, he plays in different projects as: Eva Klesse Quartett, Schmid's Huhn, Die Fichten, Totenhagen.

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