

beyond borders band

Contemporary World Music



Beyond Borders – overcoming all obstacles

Crossing borders requires courage, creativity and openness for a new form of social and musical composition. The four members of the Beyond Borders Band are united in the dream to overcome those borders. They break up cultural boundaries, surpass geographical barriers and social and political stereotypes in order to connect the arabic and the western world. These characteristics lead to their self-composed, original music. Sensually ambitious and fully intoxicating, this unique sound makes the young group stick out among the contemporary musical collectives combining Orient and Occident.

Fadhel Boubaker – Oud

Niko Seibold – Saxophone

Jonathan Sell – Double Bass

Dominik Fürstberger - Drumset

Contact:

Jonathan Sell
Booking Germany/International
Mobil: +49 157 77 382 497
jonathan@beyondbordersband.de



www.beyondbordersband.de
www.houtrecords.com

Niko Seibold
Booking Switzerland
Mobil: +41 78 806 33 59
niko@beyondbordersband.de

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„With all the soloists of Beyond Borders Band, it is simply flying high. Composition-wise, there is a consistency, a coherence, originality and innovation.“

La Presse Tunis (2014), Khaled Tebourbi

„A real musical silversmith work and, essentially, no "plating" of oriental and western phrasing. Nothing overdone or juxtaposed but different sounds meeting and even merging into one another, precisely as they are intended to be.“

La Presse Tunis (2016), Khaled Tebourbi

„With a combination of oud, double bass, percussion and saxophone the four musicians create an intricate web of european jazz beats and arabic music tradition which overcomes all musical styles.“

Süddeutsche Zeitung (18th August 2017) , Barbara Hordych

„This music is very mature. It takes a lot of talent and skills to create and play arrangements such as these. Maybe it takes a certain amount of life experience to understand and feel the message. For us this is a huge discovery. What we've seen today is avantgarde and an expression of freedom.“

Mehdi Lariani (29th March 2015), Visitor of a concert in Tunis

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Band Biography

The story of Beyond Borders Band begins in a small town in Germany with a meeting between occidental and oriental culture. It was the intensity and suddenness of the moment that led to the presentation of the first composition, „*Un Coup Du Destin*“ which became the title of the self-released debut album in 2013. Following the power of the moment, the band started to create its young history, a history of shared experiences, of brotherhood and of advancing in the great tradition of trans-cultural understanding through music. After many years of being active between Tunisia, Germany and Switzerland we now want to introduce our sound and energy to music lovers worldwide. That is why we proudly announce the release of our second album „*It Just Happens*“ in November 2018 on the Swiss label HOUT records. While the influences for this band vary from traditional maqam to rock, blues and modern jazz, the inspiration comes from the constellation of its members and their musical backgrounds. We all share a love for improvised and composed music but more importantly we share the same curiosity to discover as well as the determination to create something meaningful. In the process of almost seven years of developing a unique style through numerous concerts and endless time in planes and on the road it can be said that we reached a deeply personal and musical relationship. This allows us to trust each other musically in every situation and to really take the music through the roof on stage!



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Fadhel Boubaker – Oud

Fadhel started to play oud with his teacher Slaheddin J'aïbi. From early on he was fascinated by the number of possibilities this instrument offers. He mastered the repertoire of Tunisian Malûf. After discovering Western music he started improving his own musical language, bringing to his instrument western music aesthetic elements and building a stronger acknowledgement of harmony, jazz



improvisation and composition. At the University of Music in Tunis he wrote his final thesis on 'The intercultural exchange between jazz and maqam music'. In 2003 he began composing for international projects and thereby crossing the borders between Jazz and Arabic music. Fadhel is currently lecturing on 'Instant Composing' and 'Jazz-Fusion' at the High Institute for Music in Tunis.

Niko Seibold – Saxophone

After spending one year as a Composition Major at renowned Manhattan School of Music in New York, German Saxophonist and Composer/Arranger Niko Seibold now works in and out of Switzerland, living in Basel on the border to France and Germany. The international and creative scene there led to the creation of several ensemble like his main quartet *SEiBOLZiNG*, the harp & sax duo



Harpkissax with Geneva based Harpist Esther Sévérac, the 11-piece chamber jazz group *Elfton Ensemble* and the NY based *Niko Seibold Big Band*. As a performer he has worked with Guillermo Klein, Jorge Rossy and Mark Turner among others. Furthermore he has gained more attention as an arranger for big band and orchestra which brought him commissions from Grammy-nominated percussionist Bobby Sanabria and the internationally acclaimed Metropole Orkest with American Singer Kandace Springs. Apart from his creative output he also passes on his knowledge to those interested in his knowledge. He co-founded the *Toskana Intensiv Jazz Workshop* where he teaches instrumental groups, improvisation and music theory. Niko holds a bachelor's degree from the conservatory of Mannheim and a master's degree from Jazzcampus Basel, Switzerland, both in musical performance. Niko Seibold believes in the importance of balance between intellect and emotion, head and body, inspiration and aspiration in music. His compositional work reflects and stays true to this philosophy.

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Jonathan Sell – Double Bass

Jonathan Sell plays in a wide range of styles, from western classical music to progressive rock, from jazz to oriental maqam. In July 2017 he finished his master studies of jazz-double-bass with Prof. Thomas Stabenow in Mannheim with distinction. His final concert was performed with a band project that connected arabic music, indian music, Jazz and Rock . A central characteristic of



his play is the interpretation of music as the universal language that overcomes cultural, national and stylistic borders. He is a member of the Orientalische Musikakademie Mannheim, where he commits himself to cultural exchange through music. Beside *Beyond Borders Band* the following groups are his most important means of expression: *The Swindlers* (Prog Rock & Jazz), *NeckarGanga* (Indian Jazz), *Tuyala* (Spoken Word & Jazz), and *Fityan* (Oriental Jazz Rock).

Dominik Fürstberger – Drumset

Dominik Fürstberger is a drummer, composer and producer. Working intensely on a hybrid instrument of acoustic drums and live-electronics with the goal of giving acoustic sounds a totally new sonic dimension has been shaping the focus of his artistic activity over the last years. This idea is being realized in various groups including the german tunisian band Haz'art Trio, the electronic pop duo FLEEB, the techno orchestra VKKO and the Beyond Borders Band. The border-crossing work has also become important during Dominik Fürstberger's theatre works. At Staatstheater Mainz he was on stage as drummer and sounddesigner during the productions *Die Sirenen des Titan* (2015) and *Das Käthchen von Heilbronn* (2016/2017) and was composing and producing the music for *Orestes* (2017).



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2018

07. September	Kulturforum Altrip	Germany
30. October	CD Release Concert <i>It just happens</i> Enjoy Jazz Festival – Alte Feuerwache Mannheim	Germany
09. November	Kreuz Kultur Solothurn	Switzerland
16. November	Lichtmeile Mannheim – Tag der Musik	Germany

2019

01.- 23. January	Residency <i>uncool Festival</i> in Poschiavo	Switzerland
07. February	Jazzclub Armer Konrad	Switzerland
06. June	Jazzkultur Korntal-Münchingen	Germany

Past Concerts

2017

02. September	<i>Jazzcampus Basel</i>	Switzerland
05.-14. August	Artists in Residence <i>Festival young Artists Bayreuth</i>	Germany
12. August	<i>Kloster Speinshart</i> Roots to the Future	Germany
10. August	<i>Europasaal</i> Bayreuth Roots to the Future	Germany

2016

23. September	<i>Stiftskirche St. Arnual</i> Saarbrücken	Germany
28. May	<i>Festival Gmünder Sommer</i> Schwäbisch Gmünd	Germany

2015

10. September	<i>Goethe Institut</i> Tunis	Tunisia
30. March	<i>Maison de la Culture</i> Cheikh Idriss Bizerte	Tunisia
29. March	<i>Salle de Mondial</i> Tunis	Tunisia
28. March	<i>L'Agora</i> La Marsa	Tunisia
26. March	<i>Centre des Musiques Arabes et Méditerranéennes</i>	Tunisia
25. March	<i>Basilique d'el Kef</i> Festival Cinema de la Paix	Tunisia

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2014

19. October	<i>Oriental Music Academy Musikakademie Mannheim</i>	Germany
18. October	<i>Die Fabrik Frankfurt</i>	Germany
21. July	<i>Festival International de Hammamet</i>	Tunisia
23. May	<i>Elbjazz Festival Hamburg</i>	Germany
26. March	<i>Le Festival de L'Herbe Tunis</i>	Tunisia
24. January	<i>Theater im Pfalzbau Ludwigshafen</i>	Germany

2013

14. October	<i>Acropolium Carthage Tunis</i>	Tunisia
12.- 22. August	<i>Artists in Residence Festival young Artists Bayreuth</i>	Germany
10. August	<i>Oriental Music Academy Musikakademie Mannheim</i>	Germany
	<i>CD Release Concert Un Coup Du Destin</i>	

2012

17. August	<i>Dar Cherif Jerba</i>	Tunisia
14. August	<i>Centre des Musiques Arabes et Méditerranéennes</i>	Tunisia

2011

18. December	<i>Centre des Musiques Arabes et Méditerranéennes</i>	Tunisia
23. August	<i>Orient meets Okzident Bayreuth</i>	Germany



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