Kick Jazz– 10 Years of Jazz "Made in Austria"

Vienna, November 3, 2025

Curtains up for Austrian jazz: On December 3 and 4, the KICK JAZZ Festival returns to the main stage of Porgy & Bess, bringing forward some of the country's most exciting emerging jazz acts and shining a spotlight on the strength and creativity of the local scene.

On December 3rd and 4th, 2025, AUSTRIAN MUSIC EXPORT and PORGY & BESS will celebrate the 10th anniversary of their joint festival with an outstanding line-up from the young jazz scene.

What began in 2016 as an initiative to promote Austrian jazz, has developed over the last decade into one of the most important showcase festivals for young talent. Many of the musicians (Sophie Abraham, David Helbock, Mario Rom's Interzone, etc.) who have performed here are now playing on major international stages.

This year, AUSTRIAN MUSIC EXPORT and PORGY & BESS are once again presenting six extraordinary formations that showcase the diversity of contemporary jazz in Austria – from conceptualized free jazz to cross-genre sound experiments.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMM

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 – 8:30 p.m.

CHEZ FRÍA – This ensemble demolishes genre boundaries. From Johann Sebastian Bach to jazz – with synthesizers, percussion, trumpet and recorder, they re-interpret and expand musical styles while always remaining true to themselves.

DUO VOGELLETTNER – Structured improvisation: Georg Vogel and Andreas Lettner stand for energetic improvisation, full of creativity and surprising twists.

PURPLE MUSCLE CAR – Urban jazz meets hip-hop, indie and club culture: a rousing sound experience between the freeway and the Milky Way.

Thursday, December 4, 2025 – 8:30 p.m.

HALS – Four voices that take a cappella music to new heights – unaffected, intense, and always a little daring.

ALPHA TRIANGULI – A Viennese quartet with a unique musical style, rooted in jazz but focused on creating unforgettable atmosphere.

MEL*E – Three strong, distinctive voices of contemporary jazz: acoustic, electronic, hypnotic – with depth and urgency.

10 years of Kick Jazz – a success story

Over the past ten years, Kick Jazz Festival has presented more than 60 local acts, thereby contributing significantly to the international visibility of Austrian jazz. This has resulted in numerous festival bookings, as well as Austrian highlights at clubs and festivals such as Alto Adige Jazz Festival, Tampere Jazz Happening, Münsterland Festival, Zug Jazz Night, Ljubljana Jazz Festival, Trondheim Jazz Festival, Club Unterfahrt Munich, Opus Budapest, Stadtgarten Cologne and Club Dekadenz Brixen.

As a showcase festival, it offers promoters from international festivals and music agencies, as well as journalists, an excellent opportunity to get a taste of the quality of the scene and to engage in direct exchange with the musicians.

What do audiences, musicians, and promoters have in common? A passion for musical diversity and the joy of experimentation – on a stage that has long since become an institution in its own right.

KICK JAZZ 2025 is a joint project of Austrian Music Export and Porgy & Bess. The BMEIA – Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs supports the event as well.

The concerts start promptly at 8:30 p.m. and will be streamed live on the Porgy & Bess website.

PORGY & BESS – Riemergasse 11, 1010 Vienna
TICKETS & ADVANCE SALES: ticket@porgy.at | www.porgy.at
PRESS PHOTOS & INFO: https://www.musicexport.at/press/

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BAND BIOGRAPHIES AND LINE-UP

Chez Fría

Lorenz Widauer – trumpet
Felix Elias Gutschi – recorder
Ferdinand Rauchmann – keyboards
Maximilian Rehrl - bass, keyboards
Paul Widauer - drums

From Hildegard von Bingen to Johann Sebastian Bach, twelve-tone music, and all the way to electro, funk, and jazz – Chez Fría transcends genre boundaries and dares to fuse the most diverse musical styles. In search of sounds, harmonies, and rhythms, they explore centuries of music and interpret them with a contemporary pulse. With synthesizers, percussion, trumpet and recorder – playfully yet always with unwavering dedication to the music.

Website: https://chezfria.com/
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=duXUSuzZn_U&t=50s

DUO VOGELLETTNER

Georg Vogel - piano, claviton, keyboards
Andreas Lettner - drums

This project represents the special production process they have embarked on. Spontaneously improvised playing is transcribed, reassembled, arranged, placed in a rhythmic environment, and then re-recorded on their instruments. VOGELLETTNER stands for energetic, structured improvisation, full of creativity and surprising twists.

Website: https://www.georgvogel.net/PROJEKTE-ANDREAS-LETTNER-GEORG-VOGEL.htm
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnQ8j3CG14I

Purple Muscle Car

Fabian Rucker – saxophones
Alois Eberl – trombone
Philipp Nykrin – keyboards
Herbert Pirker – drums

Purple Muscle Car have been on the road since the end of 2022, taking their audiences on musical journeys. These often take them to the urban regions of the world, where the sounds of jazz cafés, hip hop, indie and EDM clubs as well as large concert halls merge into an exciting mix. Chases on winding coastal roads followed by reconciliation in a beach café are just as much a part of the program as leisurely cruising with cruise control on the freeway towards the sunset in order to catch the midnight special at the American Diner. The disco ball on the inside of the car roof can be activated at any time, and the imaginary journey towards the Milky Way can be continued late at night with the telescope from the trunk.

Website: https://purplemusclecar.bandcamp.com/album/purple-muscle-car
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4cd25gHPAs&t=1s

HALS

Anna Anderluh - vocals
Amina Bouroyen - vocals
Verena Loipetsberger - vocals
Anna Laszlo - vocals

The unaffected and touching performance of the four women of HALS is characterized by their natural expressiveness and directness, which defies the a cappella perfection mainstream. They aren't afraid to take risks.

From their original compositions, they plunge into collective improvisations with pinpoint accuracy. Inspired by this creative daring and the energy of the audience, their music unfolds a new access with each performance.

Website: https://www.halsmusic.at/
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-N6S9jluJg

Alpha Trianguli

Alois Eberl - Trombone
Florian Klinger - Vibraphone
Philipp Kienberger - Bass
Jakob Kammerer - Drums

Motivated by the curiosity of the four musicians to let themselves fall and be carried away, the band sounds sometimes earthy and energetic - as if approaching a planet - sometimes calm, floating, wondering. At the same time, the interplay of the Vienna-based quartet gives the impression that it is a micro-cosmos itself. For while the destinations of the quartet's journey lie in the unknown, the necessary direction of our everyday activity has long been known.

Website: https://www.alphatrianguli.com/
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_gDqo_v-keY

Mel*E

Viola Hammer – Keys/Synth
Judith Ferstl – Bass
Judith Schwarz – Drums

Three strong, unmistakable voices in jazz - Mel*E combines virtuoso interplay with innovative sound research. Their sound fuses acoustic and electronic elements to create hypnotic, driving music that sets the mind and body in motion.
Wide melodic arcs float over energetic grooves, danceable rhythms meet spherical soundscapes - Mel*E plays with contrasts and combines the virtuoso with the immediate, the analog with the digital. Powerful and sensitive, rousing and introspective - always with depth and urgency.

Website: https://judithferstl.com/projekte/mel_e-music/
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slvCVTMrgTM?rel=0

Wanna hear more? Visit our **Kick Jazz 2025 Playlist** for music from this year's artists: https://open.spotify.com/playlist/1ik7wQKjJLDYKeZqxSEIq0?si=mXsmM-LoR5uYykJh_2QTUA