

KO·AX

Press release

With a genuine blend of musical influences, unconventional original compositions and energetic live performances, the Austrian trio KO·AX explores the boundaries of Contemporary Jazz.

Starting from reduced compositions, the three musicians fuse Jazz and Improvisation with borrowings from Rock, Electronic Music, New Music, etc. to create a rousing mixture that knows how to unfold its effect – especially live. Minimal Music elements encounter synthesizer pads, twelve-tone rows converge with energetic grooves and catchy melodies meet the fragile sound world of Contemporary Jazz.

KO·AX has so far released the two albums „Loose Frames“ (Freifeld) and „immersion“ (Listen Closely) and has played numerous concerts at renowned venues (e.g. Porgy & Bess Vienna, Treibhaus Innsbruck, Osterfestival Tirol, Radiokulturhaus).

In mid-2025, the band will be presenting their new program and celebrating their tenth anniversary on stage – a milestone that will be used as an opportunity to process past, present and future events and developments in their compositions. In "wohin", KO·AX bring personal highlights of the band members as well as commentaries on current political events to life in their very own instrumental trio language.

Lukas Leitner – piano, synthesizer
Walter Singer – double bass
Lukas Laimer – drums



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Reviews of previous releases

*„Music, which in a wonderful way has to be nothing and can be everything“
(translated from Johann Kneihs, Radio Ö1).*

*„Great postmodern playground (...): Intricate grooves unite with repetitive patterns, twelve-tone structures, poppy keyboard sounds as well as dissonant cluster interjections to form a surprisingly rich musical whole. (...) Together, the three musicians rethink the traditional form of the Piano Trio in a carefree way. Worth listening to!“
(translated from Andreas Felber, Radio Ö1)*

*„An album that goes for Lo-Fi and complex, enigmatic rhythms - and in this setting ignites ravishing creative explosions again and again“
(translated from Christoph Irrgeher, Wiener Zeitung)*

*„On its second album, the trio processes a whole variety of different influences in a Contemporary Jazz bracket: something from Electronic Popular Music, Rock, but also New Music or Minimal Music. [...] This is all done in an extremely concise manner; the level of craftsmanship is high. The result is consistently as if from a single mold, and Leitner, Singer and Laimer can definitely claim the status of originality for their trio.“
(translated from freiStil magazine).*

*„KO-AX paves its own way and artfully transfers the language of Contemporary Jazz into a stylistically expanded form“
(translated from Michael Ternai, Music Information Center Austria).*

*“...wonderfully inspired piano trio (inter)action...”
(translated from Christoph Cech, Anton Bruckner Private University Linz).*



© Victor Malyshev

Lukas Leitner (Piano, Synthesizer)

Studied Jazz Piano and music education at the Tyrolean State Conservatory, the Anton Bruckner Private University and the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna.

Is active in various formations in and between the fields of Jazz, Improvisation, Pop and Electronic Music as a pianist, keyboardist, composer and/or arranger, currently including: Piano trio KO·AX, Burgtheater Vienna, Little Rosies Kindergarten (Porgy & Bess Stageband 2021/22), Oliver Steger's Olive Grove, Ulrich Drechsler's Liminal Zone, Ray Chenez's BroadyRAY!

Concert activity in Israel, Palestine, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland, among others. Highlights: Jazz Festival Saalfelden, Burgtheater Vienna, Pancevo Jazz Festival, UNESCO Jazz concert in Gaza City.

Releases: KO·AX - Immersion (Listen Closely, 2023), Ulrich Drechsler - Azure (Liminal Zone Records / Enja, 2023), Olive Grove - r (cracked anegg, 2022), Little Rosies Kindergarten - Jeder gegen jeden (Listen Closely, 2020), Klangzeug Orchester - stuff (Listen Closely, 2018), KO·AX - Loose Frames (Freifeld, 2017), Little Rosies Kindergarten - selftitled (Listen Closely, 2017).

Born 1987 in Innsbruck, living in Vienna.

www.lukasleitner.com

Walter Singer (Double Bass)

Studied double bass in Innsbruck, Cologne and Linz.

2008-2014 and 2017-2020 Lecturer at the Klangspuren workshop "lautstark" for children and young people.

Freelance work in the Classical field: Balthasar-Neumann-Ensemble, Innsbruck Symphony Orchestra, Feldkirch Festival Orchestra, Academy St. Blasius, Windkraft, Salzburg Festival....

Freelances in the field of Jazz and Improvised Music: Played with Doug Hammond, Stephane Payen, Wendell Harrison, Florian Bramböck, Jean Toussaint, Bob Degen, Julia Lachersdorfer, Franz Hautzinger, Alan Praskin, Zoltan Lantos, Rishab Dhar, Mira Lu Kovacs, Didi Kern, Martin Brandlmayr, Peter Tuscher, Gilad Dobrecky...

Has been and is a member of bands and ensembles: Schmieds Puls (FM4 Amadeus Award winner 2016), die_freakshow, Prozorov Trio, Whyrauch, (collaboration with Gerhard Polt), Matador, Oberian, PianoForteBrass, WoodairQuartett, ZINQ,....

A Tyrolean native, Walter Singer currently lives in Vienna.

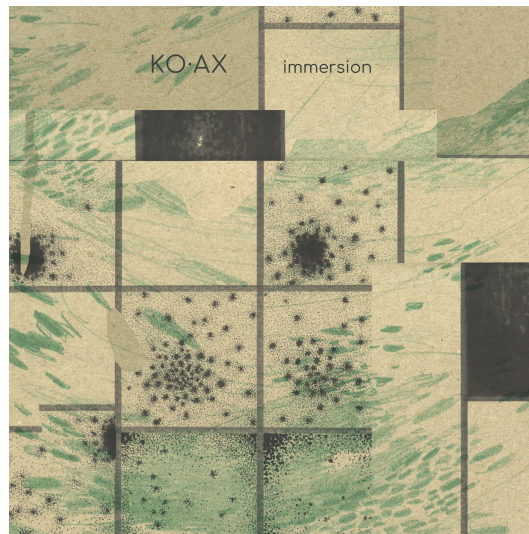
Lukas Laimer (Drums)

Studied drums at the Tyrolean State Conservatory and the Anton Bruckner University Linz

Is active as a versatile musician in the fields of Jazz / Improvised Music, Contemporary Music, Rock and Pop, among others.

Collaboration with, among others: Martin Nitsch Trio/Quartet, Roland Heinz Trio, Syntony, Electric Superwolves, Manu Delago Ensemble, Sarah Köll and many more. Resident in Innsbruck.

Audio & Video



Album „immersion“ (2023, Listen Closely)



Album „Loose Frames“ (2017, Freifeld Tonträger)



Live recording sessions at Treibhaus Innsbruck (2022)

Past concerts (selection)

05-12-24 Kulturcafé Max, Vienna
07-03-24 Cantina Vecchia, Innsbruck
08-09-23 Proberaum, Scheibbs
15-06-23 Radiokulturhaus, Vienna
21-01-23 Porgy & Bess, Vienna
31-01-23 Alter Schlachthof, Wels
02-02-23 Kunsthaus Hafenstraße, Linz
07-02-23 Treibhaus, Innsbruck
19-02-23 Jazzkaffee, Schwaz
03-03-23 Galerie b, Salzburg
04-03-23 Pritzlwirt, Burghausen

11-08-22 Café im Erzspeicher, Hall i.T.
30-05-22 Porgy & Bess (Strenge Kammer), Vienna
28-01-22 Alte Schmiede, Vienna
24-06-21 Osterfestival Tirol, Salzlager, Hall i.T.
27-11-19 Sonic Lab, Linz
28-09-18 Audio Manufaktur, Vienna
19-04-18 Urban Bloom Festival, Vienna
20-01-18 Plattenzimmer, Altötting
19-01-18 Music Lab, Brno
16-01-18 Treibhaus, Innsbruck
13-01-18 Tube's, Graz
12-01-18 Brick-5, Wien
11-01-18 Kunsthaus Hafenstraße, Linz
15-09-16 Jazzclub 1019, Vienna
10-06-16 Sonic Lab, Linz
21-05-16 Kramladen, Vienna
20-05-16 Tunnel, Vienna
03-03-16 Club Dual, Vienna
18-01-16 Porgy & Bess (Strenge Kammer), Vienna
05-11-15 Die Bäckerei, Innsbruck
02-09-15 Celeste, Vienna
06-06-15 El Tren, Vienna
31-03-15 Wilderin, Innsbruck
16-01-15 OK Deck, Linz

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Contact & Social Media

Booking

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