



12 - 15 September 2024, Ghent, Belgium

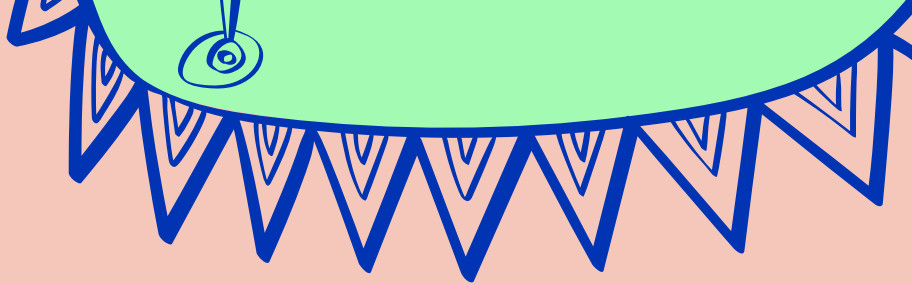
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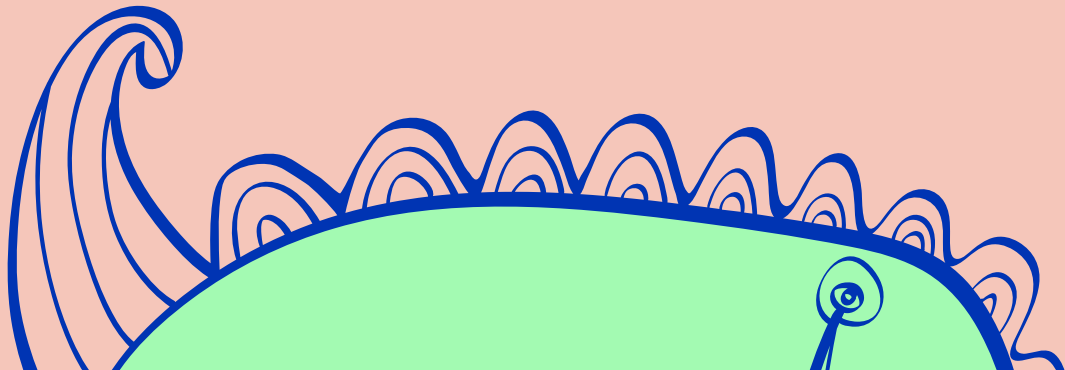
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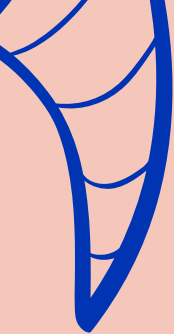
JAZZ
LAB

HA
concerts



TOMORROW comes **TODAY**





The opening of the Gorillaz song ‘**Tomorrow Comes Today**’ includes a Latin verse from a Gregorian chant, almost unnoticeable: ‘cum vix iustus sit securus’, meaning ‘when even the righteous may hardly be safe’ (Dies irae; 1215).

The song gives this year’s Conference its title, and a hint of the theme. Ghent is the **2024 European Youth Capital**, and **young people** will be at the centre of the **10th European Jazz Conference in Ghent, Belgium**.

The gloomy initial verse of the Gorillaz song reflects the feeling that many young people have today: trapped with no future, or at least a very grim one. The younger generation inherits circumstances that they have had no role in creating, confronted with challenges beyond their control. Students are out on the streets demanding social justice and concrete actions to save our planet.

This is in contrast to the way we often think of young people as the generation of hope. In our music sector, we rely on young musicians to bring change, to break barriers and surprise us with new sounds and creative approaches. Young audiences are obviously our audiences of the future, and we look forward to young professionals entering our sector for it to become more just, inclusive and balanced.

During our Conference, these contrasting views on youth will be ever-present. We will hear from young people about their concerns on the climate crisis, and about the lack of inclusivity and generational exchange in our structures. Together, we will discuss intergenerational programming, the necessity of sustainable reforms, new ways to share our events and reach out to new audiences, and the opportunities and challenges that new technologies like AI will bring.

In line with the theme, we invite EJM members and professionals to **bring younger team members with them**, to take part in the discussions about the future of creative music in Europe and beyond - **their future**.

Join us in Ghent for the 10th anniversary of the European Jazz Conference!



PROGRAMME

Thursday, 12 September 2024

Ha Concerts

- FOR EJN MEMBERS ONLY -

- 14:30 - Registrations for EJN members
- 15:30 - 15:45 - Opening & welcome of EJN members
- 15:45 - 17:30 - **Group discussion** on the future strategy of the network & **presentation of EJN activities**
- 17:30 - 17:45 - Coffee break
- 18:00 - 20:30 - **FORMAL EJN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- OPEN TO ALL -

- 20:00 - 00:00 - **YOUNG CURATORS programme** at De Centrale (more info TBA)
- 23:00 - 01:00 - **FRINGE concerts** in five clubs around the city (two sets each):

1- Hot Club Gent: **NΔBOU**

Nabou Claerhout: trombone
Roeland Celis: guitar
Trui Amerlinck: double bass
Mathias Vercammen: drums

2- Club Telex: **Black Flower**

Nathan Daems: saxophones, kaval, washint
Jon Birdsong: cornet, conch shells
Karel Cuelenaere: keyboards
Filip Vandebril: electric bass
Simon Segers: drums

3- Mississippi: **Le Monde Merveilleux de Pépito**

Pierre-Antoine Savoyat: trumpet
Simon Groppe: piano
Fil Caporali: double bass
Oscar Georges: drums

4- Bar Lume: **Under the Reefs Orchestra**

Clement Nourry: guitar
Jakob Warmenbol: drums
Marti Melia: bass saxophone

5- Trefpunt: **Camille-Alban Spreng's ODIL feat. Nina Kortekaas**

Camille-Alban Spreng: fender rhodes, keyboards
Nina Kortekaas: vocals, fx
Sam Comerford: tenor saxophone
Tom Bourgeois: alto and soprano saxophone
Geoffrey Fiorese: keyboards
Paul Berne: drums



- 09:30 - Registrations for everybody
- 10:30 - 11:00 - **Official opening** & welcome speeches
- 11:00 - 11:45 - **KEYNOTE SPEECH: Lisette Ma Neza** (BE)
Lisette Ma Neza, at 25, is a Vice-World Champion slam poet (Flup, Rio de Janeiro) and songwriter. With roots in Rwanda, she is the current city poet of the city of Brussels, writes newspaper columns, and works across theatre and music.
- 12:00 - 12:30 - **SHOWCASE: Eve Beuvens 'Lysis'**
Eve Beuvens: piano
Lynn Cassiers: vocals, electronics
Lennart Heyndels: double bass, electronics
- 12:30 - 14:00 - Lunch
- 14:30 - 15:00 - **SHOWCASE: Wajdi Riahi Trio**
Wajdi Riahi: piano
Basile Rahola: double bass
Pierre Hurty: drums
- 15:15 - 17:15 - **Five parallel DISCUSSION GROUPS** on the Conference theme:
#1 - The future is green
This discussion group will focus on eco-anxiety among young musicians who are questioning pursuing their careers in the face of the climate crisis and are concerned about their future in the music sector. How can we support them positively while working together to create a more sustainable music industry?

#2 - The invisible hand

Can AI help the work of a music programmer? Artificial intelligence-based tools are quickly becoming part of our everyday life, and it is easy to be confused or intimidated by them. There have been attempts to use some of these tools to help with festival programming, administration and project planning, resulting in increased capacity and reduced workloads. Is this something we can explore for our sector?

#3 - Nice work if you can get it

What are the opportunities and restrictions the young workforce see when thinking about career opportunities in our sector? How are roles changing? What are the needs and expectations of the next generation of programmers, directors, managers and leaders, and the barriers they face? We often work long and extra hours at the expense of our work-life balance: should this be acceptable?

#4 - Curating for all

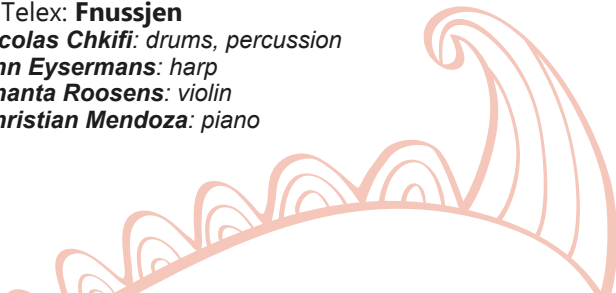
How can we ensure that our audiences include both younger and older generations? Building our audience of the future isn't only about concerts for children and families, it's about programming with an intergenerational approach, presenting projects that involve and appeal to both young and old. By exploring new formats and innovative ways of presenting and producing creative music, we can enrich the world of music available to children and young people.

#5 - Tell me a (new) story

How can we communicate jazz and creative music to a young audience? Do we need to rethink the way we tell the story? Is the poster with the saxophone still the best choice? What can we do to communicate in a way that resonates with the younger generation? How can we find new ways to connect with them and what types of content will appeal to them?

- 17:30 - 18:00 - **SHOWCASE: Donder**
Harrison Steingueldoir: piano
Stan Callewaert: double bass
Casper Van De Velde: drums, percussion
- 18:00 - 19:00 - Free time / networking

- 18:00 - Late registrations at Ha Concerts
- 19:00 - 21:00 - Dinner at Sint Pietersabdij
- 21:30 - 22:00 - **SHOWCASE** at Ha Concerts: **Stéphane Galland & The Rhythm Hunters**
Stéphane Galland: drums
Shoko Igarashi: tenor saxophone
Sylvain Debaisieux: alto saxophone
Pierre-Antoine Savoyat: trumpet
Louise van den Heuvel: electric bass
Wajdi Riahi: piano
- 22:15 - 22:45 - **SHOWCASE** at Ha Concerts: **GingerBlackGinger**
Yannick Peeters: double bass
Frederik Leroux: guitar
Frans Van Isacker: saxophone, clarinet
Tom Rainey: drums
- 23:00 - 01:00 - **FRINGE concerts** in five clubs around the city (two sets each):
 - 1- Hot Club Gent: **Aleph Quintet**
Akram Ben Romdhane: oud
Wajdi Riahi: piano
Théo Zipper: electric bass
Marvin Burlas: violin
Max Aznar: drums
 - 2- Club Telex: **Fnussjen**
Nicolas Chkifi: drums, percussion
Ann Eysermans: harp
Ananta Roosens: violin
Christian Mendoza: piano
 - 3- Mississippi: **Vitja Pauwels' Early Life Forms**
Vitja Pauwels: guitar, pedal steel guitar, roncoco
Frederik Leroux: guitar, baritone guitar
Laurens Dierickx: hammond organ
Casper Van De Velde: drums



4- Bar Lume: **MDCIII**

Mattias De Craene: saxophones, flutes, electronics

Simon Segers: drums, modular drums

Lennert Jacobs: drums, electronics

5- Trefpunt: **Karen Willems 'Terre Sol Four'**

Karen Willems: drums, percussion, vocals

Marc De Maeseneer: baritone saxophone

Vincent Brijs: baritone saxophone

John Snauwaert: tenor saxophone

Saturday, 14 September 2024

De Bijloke

- 10:00 - Registrations for everybody
- 10:30 - 11:30 - **PLENARY PANEL DEBATE: Tomorrow comes Today**
During the debate we will hear from young people about their concerns on the future of our planet, and our music ecosystem. The looming environmental crisis is self-evident, and social and economic disparities are growing within our societies in Europe, where young people, especially from disadvantaged backgrounds, struggle to find their place. The creative music sector cannot exist in isolation, and young musicians are confronted with these challenges when thinking about their future career. The panel will bring together the perspectives of activists, youth workers and young artists to discuss possible solutions that address these challenges towards a more just, sustainable and inclusive future.
- 11:30 - 12:15 - **Celebration of EJM Awards & ZENITH AWARD 2024** concert: **Liv Andrea Hauge Trio** (NO)
Liv Andrea Hauge: piano
Georgia Wartel Collins: double bass
August Glännestrand: drums
- 12:15 - 12:30 - Group photo

- 12:30 - 14:00 - Lunch
- 14:30 - 15:00 - **SHOWCASE: aki**
 - Anke Verslype: drums*
 - Marjolein Vernimmen: harp*
 - Ruben De Maesschalck: electric bass*
 - Willem Heylen: guitar*
 - Joachim Badenhorst: clarinet, electronics*
 - Niels Van Heertum: euphonium*
- 15:15 - 16:15 - **Wrap-up & presentation of the European Jazz Conference 2025**
- 16:15 - 16:45 - **SHOWCASE: Orchestra Nazionale della Luna**
 - Manuel Hermia: saxophone, flute*
 - Kari Ikonen: piano, moog*
 - Sébastien Boisseau: double bass*
 - Teun Verbruggen: drums*
- 17:00 - 18:30 - Free time / Networking
- 18:30 - 20:30 - Dinner at Sint Pietersabdij
- 21:00 - 21:30 - **SHOWCASE at Ha Concerts: De Beren Gieren**
 - Fulco Ottervanger: piano, fx, synths*
 - Lieven van Pée: double bass, electric bass*
 - Simon Segers: drums, fx*

- 21:30 - 22:00 - **SHOWCASE** at Ha Concerts: **Julien Tassin Quartet**

Julien Tassin: guitar

Nicolas Thys: double bass

Dré Pallemmaerts: drums

Hermon Mehari: trumpet

- 22:30 - 01:00 - **SPECIAL IMMERSIVE CONCERT** at Wintercircuit (+ afterparty): **schntzl**

Hendrik Lasure: keyboards, electronics

Casper Van De Velde: drums, electronics

Sunday, 15 September 2024

- 10:30 - **Cultural tours & activities**

The Conference hosts are organising multiple exciting cultural tours in Ghent on Sunday, the 15th of September! Extend your stay and immerse yourself in another full day brimming with music, culture and unforgettable moments. Don't miss out!

To know more details
about the bands
check out
the Belgium Booms
website:





Meet our hosts of the 2024 Conference

The 10th festive edition of the European Jazz Conference will take place in Ghent, Belgium from 12 to 15 September 2024! JazzLab, Ha Concerts and VI.BE together with De Bijloke and the city of Ghent are hosting this amazing event.

Ha Concerts

Ha Concerts is a vibrant concert hall in the heart of Ghent, presenting music for all ages. Enjoy this monumental setting while discovering a wide range of genres, from jazz to pop/rock and global sounds. With events catering to a wide audience, it serves as a local, national, and international music venue, promoting inclusivity and sustainability.

VI.BE

VI.BE is the support centre for artists and the music industry in Flanders and Brussels - from beginner to professional, from local to international, regardless of genre. VI.BE builds bridges between genres and levels, supports talents and puts them on the map. VI.BE also welcomes artists seeking tailored advice, keeps music professionals up to date about the latest trends and developments and promotes Belgian artists both locally and abroad under the banner 'Belgium Booms'.

JazzLab

In thirty years, JazzLab has become a key organiser of jazz concerts in Flanders and took on an active role in building a structured Belgian jazz scene, with the (co-)organisation of networking events and an increasing focus on the development of new projects. In recent years, JazzLab also co-founded initiatives with a focus on sustainable talent development for young creators, giving interesting new jazz projects the oxygen they need to ignite. In 2023 JazzLab merged with Arts Centre nona in Mechelen.



EJN & the European Jazz Conference



Europe Jazz Network (EJN) is a Europe-wide association of promoters, presenters and supporting organisations who specialise in creative music, contemporary jazz and improvised music created from a distinctly European perspective. Its membership currently comprises 196 organisations (festivals, clubs/concert venues and national/regional support organisations) from 37 countries in Europe and beyond.

The European Jazz Conference is the leading annual gathering of professionals from the creative music sector in Europe, in particular promoters, cultural managers, agents and support organisations. Each year is organised by Europe Jazz Network together with one of its members.

The European Jazz Conference is composed of inspiring keynote speeches, high-level discussion groups and workshops, networking sessions for professionals of the creative music sector, cultural visits and a showcase festival of the best artists from the host country, Belgium for 2024.

The European Jazz Conference is a unique event, the only one of its kind in Europe, centred on building long-lasting relationships, developing new projects and artistic collaborations, sharing expertise and getting up to date with the newest management and programming trends. Moreover, the Conference is about learning about music scenes and best practices from all around the world, including countries beyond Europe.

Previous editions of the European Jazz Conference took place in Marseille, France (2023); Sofia, Bulgaria (2022); Tallinn, Estonia (2021); Novara, Italy (2019); Lisbon, Portugal (2018); Ljubljana, Slovenia (2017); Wroclaw, Poland (2016); Budapest, Hungary (2015) and Helsinki, Finland (2014).

10th European Jazz Conference

12-15 September 2024

Ghent, Belgium

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