

Lucas Niggli ZOOM

Nils Wogram	trombone
Philipp Schaufelberger	guitar
Lucas Niggli	drums, percussion

“Highly inspired flights of the imagination: ZOOM” (Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Switzerland).

“Three artists on a high wire” (Tages Anzeiger, Switzerland).

The trio of the Swiss drummer Lucas Niggli unifies three strong-willed musicians of the young generation who have been influenced by the most varied musics and who simultaneously blaze their own path through a new obscurity that the Postmodern and current tendencies have triggered.

With ZOOM, Lucas Niggli can unify his numerous likings for Jazz (the drive, the energy, and the idiomatic-improvisatory freedom) as well as that for new music (tonal and interpretational culture). With ultimate concentration, this small and agile group speeds through the heights and depths of today’s music: here a nod at tradition, there a jump into the unknown, always up to tricks, all of which guarantees that seriousness will never turn into solemnity.

The compositions of Lucas Niggli are tonally balanced, play with the most various dramaturgies and energies, are relaxed and simultaneously highly energetic. The joy of playing, embedded in a beautiful “group chemistry” allows the pieces to ring out freshly again and again.

Lightness is a central point in Lucas Niggli’s music. Via this “filigreed” grouping with two tenor instruments (trombone and guitar) and drums, as well as with the excellent musicians Schaufelberger (a great tonal aesthete) and Wogram (THE complete trombonist), complex, even abstract passages sound light as a feather.

Lucas Niggli Drums, Percussion

From the press:

“Brilliant and rousing,” “intuitive, lithe and spontaneous like few others” (Tages Anzeiger, Switzerland).

"An extraordinary drummer" (Corriere del Ticino, Switzerland).

“A dream dancer with a plan,” “ playfully and joyfully overcomes all kinds of limits,” “his playing is carried as much by an overwhelming joy of playing and imagination as it is from a near pedantic perfectionism” (Jazztime, Germany).

"A fabulous purveyor of rhythm" (Tribune de Genève, Switzerland).

"Niggli's emphatic and witty playing" (NZZ, Switzerland).

Lucas Niggli was born in Cameroon in 1968, now lives in Uster near Zurich (Switzerland). He is a member of Steamboat Switzerland (Avant-Core Trio with Dominik Blum (Hammond organ) and Marino Pliakas (electric bass), of Pierre Favre's "Singing Drums" (with Michel Godard and Roberto Ottaviano) and of Pierre Favre's "European Chamber Ensemble," of "Roots of Communication" (a trio with two Alpine horn players), of Sons of Sludge (with Stephan Wittwer, Marino Pliakas), and he plays in a duo with Pierre Favre as well as one with Sylvie Courvoisier. Since 1999 he has had his own formation: Lucas Niggli's ZOOM, with Nils Wogram (trombone) and Philippe Schaufelberger (guitar).

Tours with various formations have led him through Russia, the U.S.A., Egypt, Sudan, and all through Europe. He has participated at numerous jazz festivals (like those in Berlin, Willisau, Rome, Nuremberg, Talos, Zurich, etc.).

Parallel to this, he has performed works from contemporary composers (Kagel, Polanski, Cage, Rzewski, Gunther Schuller, Sam Hayden).

Participation in many interdisciplinary projects have led to cooperation with musicians and ensembles like those of Butch Morris, Trevor Watts, Fred Frith, Hans Koch, Peter Kowald, Peter Waters, Samul Nori, Tom Cora, Ikue Mori, Tenko, Michel Doneda, Michel Wintsch, Collegium Novum, Urs Leimgruber, Arkadij Shilklopper, Jean-Luis Matinier and many others.

Nils Wogram Trombone

From the press: "A New Trombone Light" (wo?)!!!!

“The trombonist goes his own way, even when he is dealt with as a worthy successor to Albert Mangelsdorf” (Der Spiegel, Germany).

“And suddenly there is only this music...” (Die Zeit, Germany).

Nils Wogram was born in Brunswick in 1972, today lives in Cologne. Without a doubt, he belongs to one of the most watched newcomers of the German and European jazz scene. With its three CD releases and numerous tours, his own quartet (with Simon Nabatov, Henning Sievert-und and Jochen Rückert) has matured into a unmistakable ensemble. Next to his own quartet, he is one of the most sought after German solo trombonists and performs in groups such as Jazzkantine, Underkarl, Gunter Hampel's Next Generation and others.

Nils Wogram has won numerous prizes, such as the Jazz Prize of Nuremberg and the Jazz Prize of the state of North-Rhine Westphalia. He has already played with well-known musicians such as Kenny Werner, Herman Forster, Nils Landgren, Tomas Stanko, Ed Schuller, Illinois Jaquet, Michael Formanek, Brad Shepik and George Garden.

"Schaufelberger shines with his quirky, Frizzle-like voicing and phrasings on inventive reworkings of two Monk tunes" (Down Beat, U.S.A.).

"Schaufelberger's exemplary fundament. A discreet highlight" (Der Bund, Germany).

Philipp Schaufelberger was born in Gottingen, Germany in 1970.

He has played in various formations in jazz and in the collapsing borders of its related forms. Thus, in Giancarlo Nicolai's guitar orchestra, "ZAP" (with Hans Feigenwinter, Bänz Oester and Kaspar Rast), in "Boxer" (with Mich Gerber and Fab Kuratli), Banff Jazz Orchestra with Kenny Wheeler, concerts in Canada

Since 1994 he has been a member of the Harald Haerter Quartet, toured with Dewey Redman in Europe and the USA, Festival tour '96 (North Sea, Leverkusen, Montreux, Lugano Jazz festivals), tour in 1997 with Michael Brecker, Jazz in Willisau, and concerts with Jim Black, Bill Stewart, Joey Baron, Klaus Dickbauer, Hans Koch and many others.

Cooperation with Daniel Mouthon "Säugers Flug" and "Air à l'enverre," a multi-medial Opera together with the Ensemble for New Music, Zurich. Currently also a member of "Chanteurs à Voix" (with Doro Schürch) and of Pierre Favre's European Chamber Ensemble.