

»NICA exchange« at Cologne Jazzweek

European exchange project by NICA artist development /
Stadtgarten Cologne in cooperation with Cologne Jazzweek
2022

Press information: July 01th 2022

This summer, »NICA exchange« will take place for the first time as part of Cologne Jazzweek at Stadtgarten Köln. The cooperation project between the [NICA artist development](#) program and [Cologne Jazzweek 2022](#) enables European musicians, especially from the fields of jazz and improvised music, to perform on the stages of the Cologne festival. The focus of the concert series is to create spaces of exchange for a young, experimental generation of musicians, to encourage sustainable networking and creative exchange, and at the same time, in the context of the festival, to initiate a connection with an audience open to new discoveries.

This year the countries involved are France, the Netherlands, Poland, and Belgium. The selected artists for »NICA exchange« were chosen in cooperation with local NICA partner organizations (Bimhuis Amsterdam, RAUW Festival Rotterdam, JazzLab Belgium, INTL Jazzplatform Poland and AJC Jazz France), which in turn invite NICA artists and support them in research, networking and presentation.

The project focuses, in addition to international acquaintance, the stage as a place of encounter. This is the case with the concert Deman meets Coudoux/Muche on August 15th in the Green Room of the Stadtgarten, where the Belgian musician Berlinda Deman (tba/srp) meets the German musicians Matthias Muche (trb) and Elisabeth Coudoux (vclo).

NICA artist development is a support program for outstanding musicians in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, produced by the European Center for Jazz and Contemporary Music in the Stadtgarten Cologne. The program aims to support artists in their development as individually as possible. The funding is initially for one year and can be increased to a maximum of three years. More information: www.nica-artistdevelopment.de or www.stadtgarten.de.

Cologne Jazzweek has been taking place in downtown Cologne since 2021. For a full week, the diverse program offers its audience a cross-section of the Cologne, as well as German and international jazz scene. In addition to the stages at Stadtgarten Köln, concerts will also take place at the WDR Sendesaal, CBE, Sartory Saal and Open Air at Ebertplatz.

»NICA exchange« concerts at Cologne Jazzweek:

15.08. 18:00 Green Room

Demian meets Coudoux/Muche (DE/BE)

Berlinde Deman (serpent, electronics), Elisabeth Coudoux (cello), Matthias Muche (trombone)

15.08. 19:00 Green Room

Bonsai Panda (NL)

Jimmi Jo Hueting (drums, bariton sax), Louk Boudesteijn (trombone, moog synth), Nicolò Ricci (saxophone), Romain Bly (trumpet, french horn), Jelle Roozenburg (guitar)

17.08. 22:30 JAKI

Sun-Mi Hong Quintet (NL)

Nicolò Ricci (saxophone), Alistair Payne (trumpet), Alessandro Fongaro (double bass), Chaerin Im (piano), Sun-Mi Hong (drums, composition)

19.08. 18:00 Green Room

Charley Rose Trio (FR)

Charley Rose (saxophone, voice), Enzo Carniel (piano, keyboards), Ariel Tessier (drums)

19.08. 19:30 Green Room

Amalia Umeda Quartet (PL)

Amalia Umeda (composition, violin), Franciszek Raczkowski (piano), Michał Aftyka (double bass), Michał Szeligowski (drums)

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Information and press material about the NICA artists and the programme itself can be found on the website www.nica-artistdevelopment.de.