

Arifa

Ancient musical traditions from the Middle East and Balkans are blended with jazz and contemporary improvised music through a Western frame of mind.



Bence Huszar - cello (HU)

Franz von Chossy - piano (DE)

"Danubian voyage"

Arifa's secret lies in the creative chemistry between its four members. Coming from Bulgaria, Hungary, Turkey, the Netherlands and Germany their music is just as diverse as their origins, moving from traditional Turkish and Balkan sounds to jazz and contemporary music. Although Arifa is based in the Amsterdam - Netherlands, this quartet truly matches the spirit of the European Jazz.

"Meeting with its members originally hailing from Romania, Turkey, the Netherlands and Germany. Their music is just as diverse as their origins, moving from traditional Turkish and Arabic orient sounds to jazz and classical music. Arifa's inspired arrangements and inventive compositions create an intense, radiant atmosphere". Jazzahead 2013

“ **A BRIDGE OF SOUNDS BETWEEN THE ORIENT AND THE OCCIDENT** ”

Arifa was founded in 2010. Since then they have performed in 24 countries worldwide and 5 continents at international festivals and venues such as the Jazzahead, Concertgebouw, London Jazz Festival Southbank Centre, Kennedy Art Centre USA, Ethnoport Festival, Off Womex, Jarasum International Jazz Festival, Chicago World Music Festival, Amsterdam Roots, Bimhuis, Garana Jazz, Havana Jazz, Istanbul Akbank Festival, Shanghai World Music Festival, de Roma, Barbican's Transcender Festival, Glatt & Verkehrt Festival, Ollin Kan Mexico, BBC Broadcasting House London. They have collaborated in the past with amazing artists as Aynur Dogan, Arto Tunçboyacıyan, Theodosii Spassov, Laka Khan, Alex Simu, Osama Abdurazol, Mehmet Polat, Waed Bouhassoun, "Voices from the East" featuring Niusha Barimani, Meng Xiaoxu, Vanya Valkova, that resulted in concerts, recordings and tours.

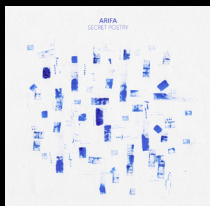


Zhirko Vasilev - kaval (BG)



Sjahin Daring - percussion (TR/NL)

“ A bridge of sounds between the Orient and the Occident ”



Their CD “**Beyond Babylon**” was released in 2010, “**Anatolian Alchemy**” in 2012, “**Voices from the East**” in 2014 and their fourth album “**Secret Poetry**” in 2019. They were consecutively awarded the title “**best world music release**” in the Netherlands to five star reviews and highly acclaimed internationally. Arifa has released 5 albums which all are received with very high reviews and attention from the media and audience. Awarded as best world music releases in the Netherlands consecutively and distinguished with 5 stars by various publications. You can read reviews from speciality magazines as **Songlines**, **Transglobal World Music Chart**, **All About Jazz** and many others.



Songlines UK

“Arifa strikes gold. This is music that can make you shiver with delight”

Havana Libre

“The group “Arifa,” which was founded in Amsterdam in 2010 and appeared two years ago in Cuba, returned with their mix of Eastern music and jazz. It was a special moment for many people to hear such intense and emotional music, equally powerful and so different to the passion that characterises to Cuban works.”

Volkskrant - NL

“Words, nor stars, can do this record justice. The only option is to remain in silence. Beyond Babylon, the first album of this exquisite quartet, was already delightful, and Anatolian Alchemy easily exceeds it.”

Songlines UK

Arifa combines the musical heritage of Babylon, Istanbul, Bucharest and Amsterdam with electronics and contemporary improvisations. The result transcends the sum of its parts and a journey far into the realm of imagination.

Mondomix FR

“The alchemical formula of this band resembles of some poetic productions of ECM label”

Mixed World Music Magazine - NL

Beyond Babylon - voted best world music release of 2010 Made In The Netherlands.

Volkskrant - NL *****

In its exquisite beauty this debut album holds up to the level of the best works of Anouar Brahem.

Music Center Netherlands

Dutch quartet Arifa is currently one of the most promising Dutch world music ensembles around. Moving between traditional oriental sounds, jazz and improvised music.

Jazzahead - DE

“Their music is just as diverse as their origins, moving from traditional Turkish and Arabic orient sounds to jazz and classical music. Arifa’s inspired arrangements and inventive compositions create an intense, radiant atmosphere.”

VPRO magazine - NL

“The music of this unconventional ensemble is not just animated, its thrilling, it’s not obtrusive but intrusive. Arifa was the biggest surprise of the 2010 Dutch Jazz & World Meeting.”

Parool - NL

“Ancient wisdom from the East is reinterpreted through an enlightened Western conceptual framework, resulting in splendid musical alchemy.”

