

About the group:

This international trio of three leading voices in jazz, and also three great friends, started with a simple, casual Brooklyn roof-top concert in which they covered songs by The Beatles. This performance, enjoyed by a few dozen live, and by hundreds of thousands of people online, initiated the same spirit they will have now as they are going on their debut tour: their love for songs. They will play original music and covers, all in that spirit.

Gilad Hekselman

Gilad Hekselman is one of the leading voices in jazz guitar. Only a few years after his arrival to NY in 2004, this native Israeli was already sharing stages with some of the greatest artists in the New York City jazz scene including Chris Potter, Eric Harland, Mark Turner, Anat Cohen, Ari Hoenig, Esperanza Spalding, Jeff Ballard, Ben Wendel, Gretchen Parlato, Ben Williams, Avishai Cohen, Tigran Hamasyan, Aaron Parks and Becca Stevens among many others.

In May 2019, Hekselman featured his quartet at the legendary NYC venue The Village Vanguard. He has also been playing all other major jazz clubs in New York City, including the Village Vanguard, Blue Note, The Jazz Standard, Dizzy's Club and Smalls. He is constantly touring world-wide and has played most noteworthy jazz festivals and venues including Montreux, North Sea, Montreal & SFJazz and many more.

Hekselman has released 9 critically-acclaimed records as a band-leader, many of which have made it into 'best of the year' lists on NY Times, Downbeat Magazine, Amazon, All About Jazz and many other publications. His 10th upcoming record, *Far Star*, will be released on Edition Records in May 2022. It's an all-original album in which Hekselman plays many instruments, and it features special guests such as Eric Harland, Shai Maestro, Ziv Ravitz and more. The record release will be celebrated with a week-long engagement at the Village Vanguard in NYC at the end of March 2022.

Gilad is the recipient of several prestigious awards and recognitions. In 2017, Gilad placed first in the Rising Star category of Downbeat Magazine. That same year, he won the 7 Virtual Jazz Club international competition 2017. In 2018 Gilad was asked by guitar legend Pat Metheny to perform as part of his NEA Award ceremony at The Kennedy Center, alongside some of Metheny's other favorite young guitar players. Gilad is also the winner of the 2005 Gibson Montreux International Guitar Competition, which led to a string of performances including opening for guitar legend Paco de Lucia with his trio at the Montreux Jazz Festival in 2006.

In 2009, Gilad recorded three tracks for Walt Disney Records, one of which was included in the record Everybody Wants To Be a Cat (2011). The album features versions of Disney songs played by a top-shelf lineup of musicians including Dave Brubeck, Joshua Redman, Esperanza Spalding, Diane Reeves, Roy Hargrove, Kurt Rosenwinkel, The Bad Plus and many other jazz legends.

Petros Klampanis:

Declared a “bass ace” by Bass Player Magazine, acclaimed bassist, composer and producer Petros Klampanis grew up in Greece, surrounded by the confluence of Mediterranean and Balkan folk music. Now living between New York and Athens, Greece, he is curious in his approach, always seeking unique ways to integrate elements from multiple genres, ranging from classical music to pop. His varied musical life journey marries aggressive melodicism, beautiful intonation, and uniquely personal sound on all the projects he leads or produces.

Klampanis has collaborated with world-acclaimed artists such as Greg Osby, Jacques Morelenbaum, Oded Tzur, Arooj Aftab, Anoushka Shankar, Shai Maestro, Gilad Hekselman, Jean-Michel Pilc, Ari Hoenig, Snarky Puppy, Kinan Azmeh, Dimitra Galani, Maria Farantouri and Mario Frangoulis, among many others. His extensive list of performance credits includes Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, The Blue Note, The Kennedy Center, the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA NYC), Barbican (London), Roskilde (Denmark), Glastonbury (UK), Rock in Rio (Lisbon), JazzAhead (Bremen), Jazzkaar (Tallinn), Athens Jazz Festival, XJazz Festival (Berlin), as well as Megaron Mousikis Athinon, Megaron Mousikis Thessalonikis, Onassis Foundation (NYC) and the Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center.

Since 2011, Klampanis has recorded five albums as a leader, receiving praise for his playing and composing. His 2022 album *Tora Collective* features a compact hybrid jazz/Greek folk ensemble interpreting popular Greek songs as well as originals. Using traditional Greek music to discover a common new voice, the project aims to build dialogue, spark creativity, cultivate respect for the past, pave a path forward, discover a new musical storytelling powerful enough to reach and touch audiences in many countries. This is an experiment that bridges worlds: the east and the west, the traditional and the modern, the nostalgic and the forward-looking, using the power of music and improvisation.

Klampanis’ debut album *Contextual* was released by Greg Osby’s Inner Circle Music. His second album *Minor Dispute* was selected as one of the best jazz records of 2015 by National Public Radio. His third album, *Chroma* (*Motéma*), was named Best Live Album of 2017 by the Independent Music Awards and was featured in major international radio and press outlets including WBGO, FIP and TSF in France), Jazz, DownBeat and JazzTimes. His fourth album (and first trio album) *Irrationalities* (*Enja/Yellowbird*), featuring longtime collaborators Kristjan Randalu and Bodek Janke, was recognized at the 2020 Independent Music Awards in three categories, and hailed by JazzTimes as “a dazzling, multifaceted thing of beauty.” His fifth album *Rooftop Stories*, a solo bass project recorded in Athens during the pandemic, highlights the imaginative musical universe of Klampanis using the bass as both a melodic and percussive instrument, as well as his voice.

Ziv Ravitz:

Ziv was born in Beer-Sheva, Israel to a family of musicians; he was drawn to music at an early age, playing the guitar, piano and drum. When he was 9 years old he started focusing on drums and by the age of 13 begun his professional career, playing the drums at various clubs in Beer-Sheva and Tel Aviv and acquiring experience in a variety of musical styles, such as Jazz, rock and avant-garde. Ziv moved to the US in the summer of 2000 to expand his musical experience and to grow as a Jazz composer. Since then he has been performing and recording with numerous ensembles, both as a freelancer and as an artist using his own compositions, which reflect his individual and unique sound. At Dec 2004 Ziv graduated from Berklee School of Music with a Jazz Composition Degree.

Ziv has been a member of the Lee Konitz Quartet, Shai Maestro Trio, Omer Klein Trio, Avishai Cohen Quartet, Omer Avital Quintet, Yaron Herman Projects.

Ziv also had the opportunity to perform with musicians such as Hal Crook, Joel Frahm, Joe Lovano, Tomasz Stanko, Eli Dejibri, Ralph Alessi, George Garzone, Ben Monder, Aaron Goldberg, Aaron Parks, Donny McCaslin, Jason Linder, Esperanza Spaulding, Greg Osby, Mark Turner and many more. Today Ziv resides in New York City and is one of its most sought-after drummers.