

Stichting New Amsterdam Jazz

2023



About New Amsterdam Jazz

Stichting New Amsterdam Jazz (NAJ) was founded in 2020 with the mission to support and amplify the jazz scene that is based in the Netherlands and connect it to jazz scenes across the globe.

New Amsterdam Jazz 1) supports, 2) develops, and 3) advises. Activities include, but are not limited to, organizing concert series, supporting the creation of albums, co-creating musical projects and platforms, facilitating educational programs, advising other organizations and foundations about the jazz landscape in the Netherlands, and establishing (inter)national partnerships.

New Amsterdam Jazz believes that an effective way to help musicians progress to the next phase in their careers is by having the opportunity to play on bigger stages with more renowned musicians, which is why mentorship and intergenerational pollination are two core values of the organization.

New Amsterdam Jazz has a creative advisory board that advises the directors regarding programming and artistic quality. In each of the projects NAJ supports, NAJ looks at whether the project is diverse & inclusive and whether our support can have a domino effect to catalyze more opportunities in the career development of the musician(s). New Amsterdam Jazz is a Public Benefit Organization (ANBI), which means that serving the public good is central to the mission and projects that New Amsterdam Jazz supports and/or develops.

In this activities report, you will find some of the activities of 2023:

1. Open Calls

- Promo Fund 2.0
- The Amsterdam-Basel Creative Collective

2. Talent development trajectories

- The Fried Seven
- Peter Somuah Group

3. NAJ around the world

- NAJ Artist Residency New York - Ian Cleaver
- Amsterdam x ClasiJazz

4. Educational projects

- Jazz Express Rotterdam
- Junior Jazz Cats

5. Supported Stages, venues, albums

- Workshop
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- Omer/Govreen

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1. Open Calls 2023

Promo Fund 2023

In October 2023, New Amsterdam Jazz launched its second Promo Fund which provided financial grants to selected musicians to support the promotion around their album or release. The fund aimed to provide support to create promotional materials to build out grantees' audience, increase the visibility and catalyze further career opportunities. From more than 70 applications, 13 grantees were selected who each were awarded a grant of €1500,-. Funds were directed to promotional support from a PR professional, promotional video/photo shoots, creating an EPK, social media plugging, etc.

The selected grantees were *(all pictured on next pages)*:

1. **Diana Dzhabbar Quartet**
2. **Matthias van den Brande Trio**
3. **Imaginarium**
4. **Ella Zirina Trio**
5. **Bahghi**
6. **Teis Semey Quintet**
7. **Valvetronic**
8. **Maria Mendes**
9. **Lucas Figueiredo feat. Adam Quartet**
10. **Juliana Martina**
11. **Liva Dumpe Quintet**
12. **Kotokid**
13. **Amarea**

External reviewers for this fund were Jurjen Mooiweer and Anna-Maria Nitschke.





The Amsterdam-Basel Creative Collective

In collaboration with the Conservatory of Amsterdam and the JazzCampus Basel, New Amsterdam Jazz organized the first Amsterdam-Basel Creative Collective: an exchange program between two Higher Music Education institutions, artistic scenes, and cultures.

Under the guidance of acclaimed professors Lionel Loueke of the Jazz Institute of the Hochschule für Musik Basel FHNW at JAZZCAMPUS and Tineke Postma of the Conservatorium van Amsterdam, current MA students and recent graduates (graduated MA-alumni in 2018 or later from the Hochschule für Musik Basel FHNW or BA/MA-alumni graduated in 2018 or later from the Conservatorium van Amsterdam) were invited to apply and take part in a carefully curated ensemble consisting out of 5 students/alumni of each school. The Creative Collective focuses on composition and improvisation for said ensemble during two exchange weeks.



During the first Exchange Week (November 2023), the ensemble rehearsed, performed and recorded at the facilities of the Conservatorium van Amsterdam, and during the second Exchange Week (March 2024), the ensemble rehearsed, performed and recorded at JAZZCAMPUS Basel.

An impression of the first project week to be found [here](#)

Participants were selected by an advisory commission with representation from New Amsterdam Jazz, Hochschule für Musik Basel FHNW at JazzCampus and the Conservatory of Amsterdam.



2. Talent Development Trajectories

New Amsterdam Jazz works with selected bands on longer-term talent development trajectories. In these trajectories, New Amsterdam Jazz provides advice and financial support to advance the careers of these musicians.

The Fried Seven

The Fried Seven are an international group of young musicians based in Amsterdam who are united by their shared passion for Early Jazz.

New Amsterdam Jazz supports The Fried Seven in a longer-term talent development trajectory, which includes recording music videos and career strategy around the release of their debut album and tour(s). The debut album 'Late To The Party' will be released on Rivermont Records on January 26th, 2024.

THE FRIED SEVEN are:

Trombone: Matteo Paggi

Cornet: Pablo Castillo

Reeds: Pepijn Mouwen

Reeds: Martí Mitjavila

Drums, traps: Carlos Ayuso

Double bass: Simon Osuna

Banjo, guitar: Cem Karayalçın

Vocals: Laura Dooge

Want to get to know The Fried Seven? New Amsterdam Jazz made a small portrait about this amazing bunch! Watch it [here](#).



Peter Somuah Group

Peter Somuah is a young, promising trumpeter hailing from Accra, Ghana and currently based in Rotterdam. In his danceable grooves you can hear traces of jazz, funk and electronic music, as well as West-African styles and traditional Ghanaian rhythms.

In an earlier collaboration with New Amsterdam Jazz, Peter Somuah Group won an Edison Jazz Award 2022 for his debut album *Outer Space*. It includes an ode to Roy Hargrove ('Dedicated to Roy') and collaborations with rappers Amazumi and Delasi. A 'masterpiece' according to the jury of the Edison Jazz Awards: *'With this self-written album he takes the listener to a musical cosmos, crossing lines and pushing boundaries. He connects the new to what already exists, creating his own sound.'*

This year's endeavors and NAJ's support focus on preparing the recording of their third album emphasizing West-African Highlife music. The band will be traveling in 2024 to Berlin and Accra, Ghana to record. Next to the group, there will be guest performances from Ghanaian artists. In collaboration with their new label and agency Act, one of the leading companies in the jazz space, Peter and his group are preparing a tour to China and Japan in the summer of 2024.



3. NAJ around the world

NAJ New York Artist Residency: **Ian Cleaver**

Supported by the Amarte Fonds, New Amsterdam Jazz organized its first New York Artist Residency. Trumpeter Ian Cleaver was selected as NAJ's first NYC Artist in Residence during which he composed and recorded new material. New Amsterdam Jazz worked together with the legendary National Jazz Museum in Harlem which kindly offered rehearsal space. Ian recorded his album in the phenomenal Rudy van Gelder Studios. The Artist in Residence will conclude in 2024 with the release of the record.



Trumpeter Ian Cleaver is one of the greatest promises coming out of the European jazz scene. Born and raised in Amsterdam, he started improvising and performing at a young age with various projects with the likes of Han Bennink, Reginald Workman, Jorge Rossy, George Coleman, John Engels, Dick Oatts, Ben van Gelder, Jesse van Ruller, Jason Marsalis a.o.



Graduated from both Conservatorium van Amsterdam (BA) and Manhattan School of Music (MA), where he studied with the likes of Buster Williams and Jon Faddis. Cleaver is currently residing in New York City and plays around frequently. Already present on many albums as a sideman, Cleaver co-led his first release of "Volume 1" (Dox Records) together with saxophonist Gideon Tazelaar in Spring 2021. In 2022 "ZILT feat. Jasper Blom & Ian Cleaver" (Just Listen Records) was released.



Amsterdam Meets ClasiJazz

In August 2023, New Amsterdam Jazz went to Almeria, Spain! Together with non-profit *ClasiJazz*, NAJ organized “Amsterdam Meets ClasiJazz”, a 2-day long festival connecting the Spanish and Dutch jazz scenes.

The program included performances at 4 different venues across Almeria, an educational program intended to inspire children and time for the musicians to jam and improvise.

Participating musicians included:

The Netherlands

Reinier Baas - Guitar
Ben Van Gelder - Saxophone
Xavi Torres - Piano
Mauro Cottone - Double Bass
Bruno Calvo - Trumpet
Sun-Mi Hong - Drums



Spain

Enrique Oliver - Saxophone
Julián Sánchez - Trumpet
Daahoud Salim - Piano
Andreu Pitarch - Drums
Jose Diego Sarabia - Trombone
Rafa Sibajas - Double Bass

Watch an impression of
Amsterdam Meets ClasiJazz [here](#)

4. Educational Projects

Jazz Express

Together with the Prinses Christina Concours and Aslan MuziekCentrum, New Amsterdam Jazz organized the first edition of the Jazz Express, the world's first concert hall on wheels. For 2 weeks, the Jazz Express introduced jazz to primary school children in Amsterdam Nieuw-West. Per day, The Jazz Express hosted 3 educational jazz concerts of approximately 45 minutes each. During these interactive and dynamic concerts, children were introduced to the most important concepts within jazz music. They learned about improvisation, experimentation and thinking outside the box. Jazz is about freedom of thought, creativity, exploration and experimentation; skills and character traits essential to healthy development of children.



Questions such as the following were addressed:

- *Improvisation*
 - What is improvisation? How can a "jazz standard" be played in so many different ways? The same jazz standard can be played both as a ballad and uptempo swing.
- *Interaction & Collaboration*
 - Every jazz band consists of a rhythm section and the melodic section - which instrument does what? What role does each musician have and how do you work together harmoniously?
- *Tradition & Experimentation*
 - Jazz is a style of music rooted in the concept of tradition, yet each solo invites a musician to experiment. How do the two merge?



- o Popular styles of music among children - hip-hop, R&B, certain pop artists, find their roots in jazz music. How did it evolve from traditional jazz music to the styles these kids often already know?

In this second edition, the Jazz Express reached approximately 800 primary school children. In organizing the Jazz Express, NAJ aimed to reach primary school children coming from less privileged backgrounds who usually would not have access to such initiatives



Click [here](#) to get an impression

Musicians: Anna Serierse, Linus Eppinger, Tomek van Leeuwen, Eva van der Sterren, Ties Laarakker, Tijn Koenen



Junior Jazz Cats - MidWest

In collaboration with the Junior Jazz College, the young talent department of the Conservatorium of Amsterdam, MidWest organizes a monthly recurring concert series: MidWest Radio x JJC: The Junior Jazz Cats. An educational concert series aimed at bringing together the youngest generation of jazz musicians in Amsterdam, students from the Junior Jazz College and musicians who have been active in the Amsterdam jazz scene for many years.

The initiators, Linus Eppinger, a teacher at the Junior Jazz College, and Flora Dekkers, a former JJC student and music programmer and project coordinator at MidWest, combine their energy and experience in this project.

The juniors sign up for one of the four evenings and will then, in consultation with the seniors, create a repertoire, rehearse, and perform a 45-minute set per band. Each evening will feature two bands, a smaller lineup consisting of two juniors and one senior, and a larger lineup consisting of three juniors and two seniors.

Linus Eppinger: *"The most important part of the development of a young musician, in my opinion, is performing. Performing with friends and bandmates, but also with more experienced musicians. This is how generations of jazz musicians have learned their craft."*

Flora Dekkers: *"For each concert, we invite two well-known names from the jazz scene. In the past series of concerts, we had none other than Benjamin Herman, Eric Ineke, Reinier Baas, Marta Arpini, and Ben van Gelder."*



5. Supported Albums, Stages & Venues

As part of New Amsterdam Jazz' mission to amplify the jazz scene in the Netherlands, we also support the development of a number of local stages and venues.

Govreen/Sever Quartet

Govreen/Sever Quartet is an Amsterdam based group led by Omer Govreen (Double bass) and Aleksander Sever (Vibraphon), with Floris Kappeyne on piano and Wouter Kühne on drums. With the help of NAJ, they recorded their second album in Reservoir studio (sound engineer James Yost) in New York City, which will be released under the renowned NY-based label JMI. The album is a study of how to reach the light on a particularly dark day.

Each piece represents a different attitude, some more successful than others, but luckily in music darkness is just as beautiful as light.



Listen to a sneak preview [here](#)

De Kring

Home to the oldest jam session in Amsterdam, de Kring is a beloved and respected stage in Amsterdam for many jazz musicians. Every Wednesday De Kring hosts their weekly jam session, led by saxophonist Benjamin Herman.



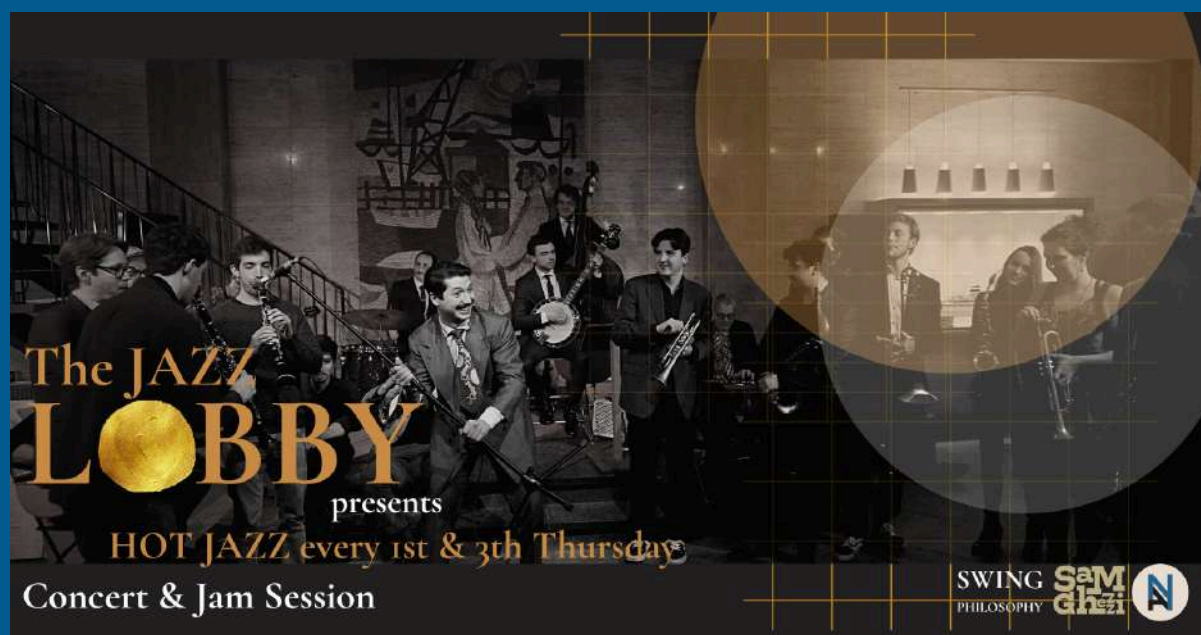
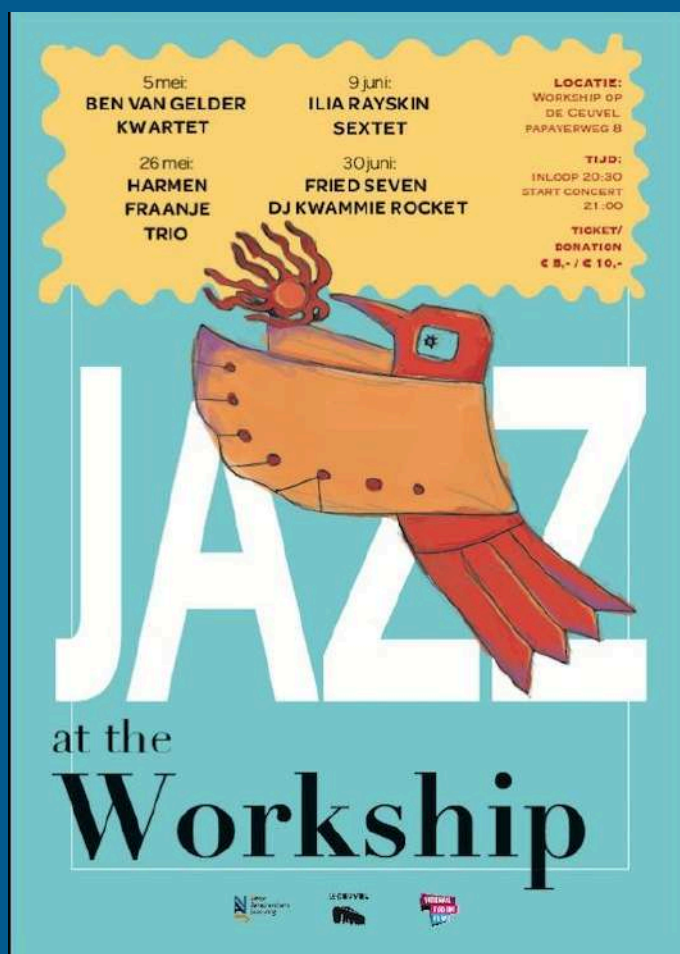
De Workshop

NAJ supported the development of De Workshop, a new stage on a houseboat located at De Ceuvel in Amsterdam Noord which welcomes musicians to experiment, rehearse, perform and record. De Workshop organized a number of jazz nights giving stage to some of Amsterdam's most promising up-and-coming bands.

Jazz Lobby at de Kompaszaal

NAJ supported the development of "The Jazz Lobby" at De Kompaszaal in Amsterdam, a new place for swing, hot jazz, New Orleans jazz, pre-war jazz, Manouche jazz, Dixieland with a new concept jam session every 1st & 3th Thursday of the month.

The Jazz Lobby is situated in the entrance/foyer of the unique monumental/art deco Kompaszaal, which used to be the waiting hall of the Dutch Royal Steamship Company, in the East of Amsterdam.



6. Partners

Netherlands

[Royal Conservatory of The Hague](#)

[Conservatorium van Amsterdam](#)

[CODARTS Rotterdam](#)

[BIMHUIS](#)

[Beroepsvereniging van Improviserende Musici \(BiM\)](#)

[Amarte Fonds](#)

[Amarte Studio Concerts](#)

[Studio150 / Bethlehemkerk](#)

[De Roode Bioscoop](#)

[Good Music Company](#)

[Aslan MuziekCentrum](#)

[Dox Records](#)

[ZenneZ Records](#)

[Prinses Christina Concours](#)

International

[National Museum of Jazz in Harlem](#)

[Jazz at Lincoln Center](#)

[The Jazz Gallery](#)

[JazzCampus Basel](#)

7. Team

Tamar Guttmann (Co-founder, Director)

Tamar Guttmann is an entrepreneur, (impact) producer, and advisor from Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She is very passionate about the intersection of arts and social impact and aims to amplify voices and stories that need to be heard. She founded the non-profit organization New Amsterdam Jazz in 2020, which aims to support the jazz scene based in the Netherlands and connect it to scenes around the globe, through the (inter)national development of concert series, artist residencies, albums, talent development projects, and educational activities. She has (co)-produced a number of award-winning (short) film productions and developed the accompanying impact campaigns, including Umama, which won the Gold at the Student Academy Awards. Tamar is the former head of the Coalition for Impact, a unique collaborative network that aims to mobilize trillions of USD toward impact between 6 of the leading social impact (investing) networks and foundations; BMW Foundation, NEXUS, Toniic, Center of Sustainable Finance and Private Wealth, Katapult, and The ImPact. Tamar sits on the Board of Creative Capital, one of the leading grantmaking institutions in the United States, which has deployed over \$55m to groundbreaking artists since 1999, and serves on the Advisory Boards to three-time Nobel Peace Prize Nominee Dr Scilla Elworthy, *Business Plan for Peace*, and Princess' Irene of the Netherlands' non-profit organisation, *Berglaas*. She is the Netherlands Country Ambassador for NEXUS Global and frequently hosts and moderates impact events, such as the PYM Women Wealth Matters sessions. Tamar holds a B.A. degree from Tisch School of the Arts and Stern School of Business (New York University). In her free time, Tamar can be found in a jazz club or learning a new language in a nearby cafe.

Isla van Hout (Co-founder, Head of Production)

Isla Van Hout is a jazz vocalist, concert producer, and (tour)manager residing in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She graduated Cum Laude from the Conservatory of Amsterdam in 2020 with a degree in Jazz Performance (Jazz Voice) and has played with many prominent jazz musicians from the Netherlands. In her original compositions, she combines her love for soul, jazz, and pop music resulting in *Bring It On*, her solo debut released on November 13th, 2020.

As a producer, Isla works at one of the most prominent jazz venues in the Netherlands, BIMHUIS. Among other things, she is the primary contact for bands from all over the world, responsible for drafting contracts, overseeing logistics, and produces concerts on a daily basis. She was head of production at Theater de Roode Bioscoop and led successful projects such as *De Roode Bioscoop Sessies* and *Shorter Days*. Isla was selected as the Dutch agent to take part in *Footprints Europe*, a 4-year programme to support young European artists and agents in order to improve the skills and know-how of new professionals in the music sector. Focusing on the social, ecological and economic aspects of artistic careers. She works closely with Øyvind Larsen, artistic director of Oslo Jazzfestival. As a freelancer, Isla is active as (tour)manager for several bands such as *Blackbird* and *Fuensanta*. Being a musician as well as a producer makes Isla an expert in all areas of the work field in the jazz scene.



Board and advisors

Tony Roe (Chairman)

Yolanda Felderhof (Secretary)

Jasper Snoek (Treasurer)

Stichting New Amsterdam Jazz is an ANBI (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling).

Kamer van Koophandel nr: 78033314

RSIN: 861239829

Bank account: NL05 TRIO 0320 0041 12 t.n.v. St New Amsterdam Jazz

Address: Brouwersgracht 105 H, 1015 GD Amsterdam

Telephone: +31 6 25 15 92 88

E-mail: info@newamsterdamjazz.com

Website: www.newamsterdamjazz.org

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