

Giacomo Zanus

Guitarist/composer/improviser

Date of birth: July 21, 1994

Place of birth: Valdobbiadene (TV), Italy

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Ph. by Luca. d'Agostino © Phocus Agency

Giacomo Zanus (1994) is an Italian guitar player, composer and improviser, currently based in Bologna where is attending a master degree in Electroacoustic Improvisation at the Conservatory of music "G.B.Martini". He is also graduated in jazz guitar at Conservatory "G.Tartini" of Trieste where he studied among the others with Riccardo Chiarion, Giovanni Maier, Klaus Gesing and Matteo Alfonso. The interest for jazz and improvised music led him to follow several workshops as Umbria Jazz, Siena Jazz and masterclass with Steve Swallow, Nick Bärtsch, Michele Rabbia, Giancarlo Schiaffini, Federico Casagrande.

In 2018 he has been selected to participate at the "Experimental Music Camp" at the RMC Conservatory in Copenhagen studying with some important figures of contemporary experimental Danish scene such as Søren Kjærgaard, Kresten Osgood, Jacob Anderskov and the American composer Michael Pisaro. This experience together with the "Permanent Laboratories of Musical Research" held by Italian pianist Stefano Battaglia at Siena Jazz University allowed him to focus on his artistic needs even more deeply, giving him a further opportunity to share ideas and music with many excellent improvisers.

In 2019 during a period of residence in Oslo he took private lessons with Norwegian drummer Thomas Strønen and the guitarist Kim Myhr.

Zanus is active in the realm of contemporary improvised and experimental music with different projects like "Inside a frame" on solo guitar plus live electronics and his first Lp on solo will be release during 2022 by the experimental Dutch label Esc.Rec.

He is also active with his current main project, the quartet KORA. The group has released during 2021 its debut album which has been selected among the 20 best jazz album of 2021 by the Italian web-magazine "Il Giornale della Musica", receiving also a lot of positive responses from media and critics.

Giacomo Zanus has also been nominated among the best "new Italian talents" from the referendum - Top Jazz - held by the magazine "Musica Jazz".

From 2021 he is also part of AWEN, a trio shared with the pianist Stefano Battaglia and the singer Natalia Rogantini born inside the Laboratories of Research at Siena Jazz University. The project represents a socio-cultural and musical research around the Gaelic culture and its traditional material.

Education:

2021 – now	Master degree on Electroacoustic Improvisation, “G.B. Martini”, Bologna, Italy
2018 – now	“Permanent Laboratories of Musical Research”, Siena Jazz University, Siena, Italy teacher Stefano Battaglia
2018-2019	Private lessons with Jacob Anderskov and Kim Myhr, Copenhagen and Oslo
2018	“Experimental music camp”, Copenhagen, Denmark
2015	“International Summer Workshop - Siena Jazz”, Siena, Italy
2014	“Umbria Jazz clinics”, Perugia, Italy
2013-2016	Bachelor studies on jazz guitar, “G.Tartini” Conservatory, Trieste, Italy

Current projects:

Solo - Giacomo Zanus, guitars, live electronics, field recordings

Kora - Giorgio Pacorig – piano, Rhodes, electronics;
Mattia Magatelli – doublebass;
Marco D'Orlando – drums;
Giacomo Zanus – guitars, electronics, compositions

Trio - Giacomo Zanus – guitar, electronics, compositions
Mattia Magatelli – doublebass
Marco D'Orlando – drums

Awen - Natalia Rogantini – voice
Stefano Battaglia – piano
Giacomo Zanus – guitars, electronics

Through his musical path Giacomo is interested in finding ways to merge composition with (free) improvisation and to explore his own instrument by working with different structures, approaches and languages.

Although his main form of expression is the music, he may also name himself as a listener, an art and nature lover with a true and open-minded curiosity/passion about other different form of human expression like photography, poetry and literature.

Giacomo's working aim as musician is to erase every form of stylistic musical, cultural and social boundaries, expressing himself freely and discovering a personal form of communication through composition and improvisation.