

KATHRIN PECHLOF
harpist, improviser, composer
Berlin

LONG VERSION (3513 characters)

The concert performer, improviser and composer Kathrin Pechlof is one of a very small number of harpists who integrate the sound of the harp into contemporary jazz and improvised music. She chooses her very own path, disregarding conventional stylistic categories.

Kathrin Pechlof has studied classical harp w. Gudrun Haag in Munich and jazz composition and improvisation w. Joachim Ullrich and Frank Gratkowski in Cologne.

Her compositions "oscillate with rare conviction between the seemingly cold, abstract world of neotonicity and the improvisatory spheres of jazz" (Jazz Podium).

Her vision of a synthesis between improvised and composed music attracted international attention after the release of IMAGINARIUM the debut CD of her trio with Robert Landfermann and Christian Weidner, on the Munich PIROUET label in 2013, as well as the following album TOWARD THE UNKNOWN, released 2018 as well on Pirouet. The Trio is performing regularly together nationally and internationally over the last 10 years.

Apart from the long lasting work with her trio partners Robert Landfermann and Christian Weidner, Kathrin has collaborated and recorded with many renowned musicians from Germany's and European jazz scene include Pablo Held (GLOW – Pirouet), Niels Klein (LOOM – Jazzwerkstatt Berlin), Benjamin Schäfer (QUIET FIRE – nWog-records w. Max Andrzejewski, Igor Spallati, James Wylie), Meinrad Kneer, Frank Gratkowski, Almut Kühne and Uli Plessmann (Unit Records), Peter Ehwald Septett (w. Richard Koch, Almut Kühne, Stefan Schulze, Matthias Nowak, John Schröder – Jazzwerkstatt Berlin), Frank Gratkowski & Fo(u)r Altos, Nils Wogram's MUSE Quartett with Hayden Chisholm and Gareth Lubbe (NWog Records)
She also has performed with Jonas Burgwinkel, Sebastian Gille, Lucia Cadotsch, Elisabeth Coudoux, Kit Downes, Tom Arthurs, Philipp Gropper, Jozef Dumoulin, Christopher Dell, Christian Lillinger, Melt Trio and many others and contributed harp sounds to the work of Petter Eldh and Otis Sandsjö.

She also occasionally performs solo, such as at the Klaeng Festival 2020, which was broadcast by WDR.

She also appears from time to time as guest artist in crossover projects like the Brandt Brauer Frick Ensemble (Pitch Festival Amsterdam, Mutek Festival Mexico City 2013, Atonal Festival Berlin, Beethoven Fest Bonn 2015, etc.), Andromeda Mega Express Orchestra (10 years anniversary tour 2016, a.o. Roskilde Festival, Festspiele Mecklenburg Vorpommern), Novoflot Opernkompagnie (2020, Kunstfest Weimar, 2021 Copenhagen Opera Festival) and has played with pop acts Max Herre (MTV Unplugged 2013) and Emiliana Torrini (XJazz Festival 2014). 2017 and 2019 she performed with EOS Kammerorchester Köln her own compositions, written for her trio and chamber orchestra.

Before shifting completely into jazz an improvised music, she has in her early career also performed as a substitute musician for various orchestras including the Stuttgart Philharmonic, the Orchestra of the Ludwigsburg Festival, the South-West German Philharmonic Orchestra in Constance, the Munich Chamber Orchestra, and the Beethoven Ensemble Bonn. She was also a member of the Taschenphilharmonie chamber orchestra in Munich for almost ten years.

Her work has been documented in numerous radio, TV, and CD productions.

Together with Christian Weidner she was co-curator and organiser of the SERIOUS SERIES, an independent concert series for contemporary jazz and improvised music in Berlin from 2013 to 2019.

She is doing cultural policy work, 2016 -2019 as a member of the board of IG Jazz Berlin, a syndicate representing the interest of the Berlin jazz scene, from January 2020 on as the syndicate's executive secretary. She contributes to committees and juries such as Jazzpreis Berlin, Musikfonds and Årvore Foundation.

From July 2016 - June 2020 she was a fellow of the Årvore Foundation.

In 2021 she was one of three nominees of Deutscher Jazzpreis in the category of Special Instruments as well as with her Trio in the category of best radio production.

Kathrin Pechlof lives in Berlin, she's married to saxophonist Christian Weidner and mother of a daughter.

(Okt 21)

SHORT VERSION (1357 characters)

The concert performer, improviser and composer Kathrin Pechlof is one of a very small number of harpists who integrate the sound of the harp into contemporary jazz and improvised music. After studying the classical harp in Munich and jazz composition and improvisation in Cologne she chooses her very own path, disregarding any conventional stylistic categories.

Her vision of a synthesis between improvised and composed music attracted international attention after the release of IMAGINARIUM, the debut CD of her trio with Robert Landfermann and Christian Weidner on the Munich PIROUET label in 2013, as well as the following album TOWARD THE UNKNOWN, released 2018 again on PIROUET.

Apart from the almost 10 years lasting work with her trio she was invited all over the years to collaborate with numerous renowned musicians and she is lucky to perform with many protagonists of Germany's and European jazz scene at prestigious clubs and festivals.

Her work has been documented in numerous radio, TV, and CD productions.

Together with Christian Weidner she was co-curator of the SERIOUS SERIES, a concert series for contemporary jazz and improvised music in Berlin from 2013 to 2019.

Since 2016 is doing cultural policy work with IG Jazz Berlin, a syndicate representing the interest of the Berlin jazz scene and she contributes to committees and juries such as Jazzpreis Berlin, Musikfonds and Àrvore Foundation.

In 2021 she was one of three nominees of Deutscher Jazzpreis in the category of Special Instruments as well as with her Trio in the category of best radio production.

Kathrin Pechlof lives in Berlin.

(Okt 21)

SUPER SHORT VERSION (834 characters)

The concert performer, improviser and composer Kathrin Pechlof is one of a very small number of harpists who integrate the sound of the harp into contemporary jazz and improvised music.

The release of IMAGINARIUM, the debut of her trio with Robert Landfermann and Christian Weidner (PIROUET 2013) attracted international attention as well as the following album TOWARD THE UNKNOWN (PIROUET 2018).

Apart from the almost 10 years lasting work with her trio she worked and recorded with numerous renowned musicians and ensembles of the German and European Jazz Scene.

With Christian Weidner she was co-curator of the SERIOUS SERIES, an independent concert series in Berlin from 2013 to 2019.

She is engaged in cultural politics and contributes to committees and juries such as Jazzpreis Berlin, Musikfonds and Àrvore Foundation.

In 2021 she was one of three nominees of Deutscher Jazzpreis in the category of Special Instruments as well as with her Trio in the category of best radio production.

(Okt 21)

