

## Seminar #4 Part II

# Carte Blanche Masterclass

(11th to 19th of October 2023)

The masterclass "Carte Blanche" is dedicated to the jazz music. One of the leaders of the masterclass is the professor Vladimir Nikolov, who will educate the students about the secrets of making jazz music. Alongside the students, he will work on one of his compositions. This work is a featurette of arranging gestures in the worldwide pop and jazz orchestral projects that surpassed the compositions with their expressiveness. By releasing them from the foreground (usually a pop or jazz band with soloists), one can discern that these gestures contain their own drama and development, but they still hold a magic connection to the original music. Based on this model, the compositions were further refined so that we recognize their initial purpose, but gradually, through the 11 movements of this suite, they become the main story with a special character. What was 'out of focus' is suddenly in front. Musical styles are organically intertwined in what becomes this suite's trademark. One could hear jazz, Balkan and African folk dances, elegiac backgrounds of dance music, film music, as well as contemporary classical movements with a chamber touch. Through rehearsals and recording of this piece the participants will gain valuable knowledge and experience in performing contemporary music based on rhythm and harmony, popular music and jazz, without having to deal with the challenges of playing 'behind' a rhythm section.

## Vladimir Nikolov



### Short bio

[Vladimir Nikolov](#) is a composer whose works cover a wide range of musical languages and genres, using backgrounds in classical music and jazz as point of departure. He has been 'behind the scenes' of worldwide orchestral projects as arranger for some time now, while also frequently performing as conductor, pianist and guitarist with renowned soloists and ensembles. He was born 1979 and raised in Skopje, Macedonia. He started music at the age of 14, beginning with the guitar. Soon after, he enrolled in classical guitar studies, graduating with an original composition. Meanwhile, Vladimir began cross-over composing and arranging, mentored by Ilija Pejovski. After departing for the Netherlands in the autumn of 2002, he started jazz composition and arranging studies at the Conservatory of Amsterdam. He finished his Master's studies in 2005 with focus on symphonic writing. As composer and arranger, Vladimir worked with ensembles such as the Metropole Orchestra, Brussels Philharmonic, Heritage Orchestra, BBC Radio Orchestra. Among the collaborative artists, he worked with: John Clayton, Randy Brecker, Vince Mendoza, Chaka Khan, Jules Buckley, Donny McCaslin, Jacob Collier, to name but a few. He's a co-leader, composer/arranger of the ensemble Nikolov-Ivanović Undectet, with which he published two studio albums. In the words of JazzTimes, this is one of the most creative large ensembles in Europe, while Downbeat said that the music of this ensemble contains rhythmically complex, harmonically evocative compositions, all impeccably arranged. The ensemble won a prize at the Made in New York Jazz Competition in 2019. He also orchestrated and arranged music for several film projects, among which 2012 Oscar winner "The Artist". His compositions and arrangements have won numerous international prizes, including four first prizes for original compositions and five first prizes for arrangements.

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The upcoming orchestral masterclass, "After the Wildfire," promises to be a groundbreaking experience that blends the talents of renowned composers Arve Henriksen and Jan Bang. Conducted by Dzijan Emin, and featuring the FAMES Institute Orchestra, the piece will make its debut on October 19 at the Skopje International Jazz Festival. Henriksen and Bang, who first shared a stage at the 2009 Skopje Jazz Festival, continue their collaborative journey, which has seen Bang in various projects, most recently with Hamid Drake's Turiya project honoring Alice Coltrane. "After the Wildfire" is a complex ensemble of eight compositions featuring an eclectic mix of instruments such as trumpet, sampler, kaval, zurla, and voice. Adding to the diversity are percussion virtuoso Ingar Zach, North Macedonian singer Vera Josofovska Miloševska, and kaval players Robert Angelovski and Andrej Trajkovski. Commissioned by Oliver Belopeta and the Skopje Jazz Festival, the project has received substantial support from Tono, Nopa, Music Norway, the Fund for Performing Arts, and Komponistenes Vederlagsfond. This masterclass is not just a concert; it is a symbiosis of musical cultures, artistic innovation, and world-class talent.

## Jan Bang



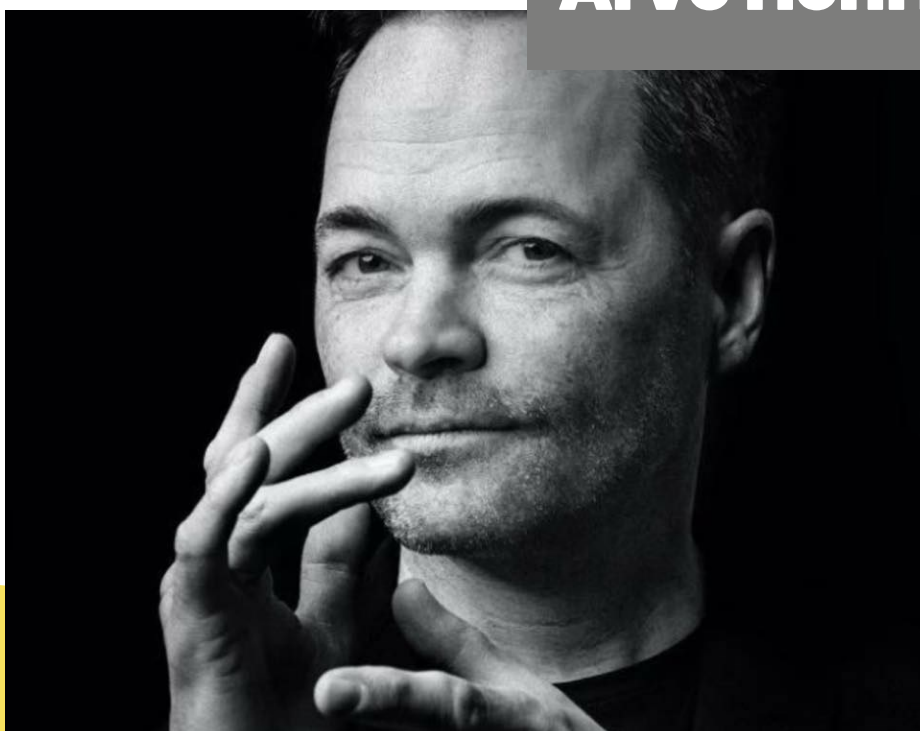
## Short bio

**Jan Bang** (b.1968) is an internationally acclaimed Norwegian musician, composer, record producer and Professor. Bang is the artistic director of the internationally renowned Punkt festival, which in addition to the mother festival in Kristiansand has visited 27 cities internationally, including London, Tallinn, Tokyo, Prague, Mannheim, Dusseldorf, Montreal, and Paris. Bang is one of Norway's most accomplished and influential producers and the kind of musical innovator and bridge-builder who consistently manages to balance progressive thinking with popular appeal. He is always looking for ways of moving music and people forward, and by creating new meeting places and musical intersections. He is one of the leading figures in the development of the live sampling method and has extensive experience in leading complex and often interdisciplinary artistic projects, for example as the co-Artistic Director of the internationally-acclaimed PUNKTFestival, The installation *The Height of the Reeds*, commissioned by Opera North as part of 2017 Hull City of Culture in the UK as well as a record producer/composer/performer with a vast range of artists including Arve Henriksen, Nils Petter Molvær, Sly & Robbie, Ensemble Modern, Sidsel Endresen, Jon Hassell, David Sylvian, Eivind Aarset, Hamid Drake, and David Toop.

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## Arve Henriksen



### Short bio

Born in 1968, **Arve Henriksen** studied at the Trondheim Conservatory from 1987-1991, and has worked as a freelance musician since 1988. Henriksen has worked with a vast array of musicians, including Jon Balke Magnetic North Orchestra/Batagraf, Edward Vesala, Jon Christensen, Marilyn Mazur, Nils Petter Molv er, Arild Andersen, David Sylvian, Jon Hassell, Hope Sandoval, Laurie Anderson, John Paul Jones and Ryuichi Sakamoto. He has composed and commissioned music for festivals, films and documentary programs, and has a discography counting over 180 records in total on various record labels. Arve Henriksen has been the artist in residence at Moers Jazzfestival 2006, OIOI-festival in Bergen 2008 and at Molde Jazz Festival 2009. From 2004-2006 he was a part of the European Jazz Launch project. He has received Norsk Jazzforums Buddy Award 2005, Radka Toneffs Memorial Award 2007, Paul Acket Award at the North Sea Jazz Festival 2011 and DNB and Kongsberg Jazzfestival's Musician Award 2011.

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## Ingar Zach



## Short bio

**Ingar Zach** is known for his research in sound production and alternative techniques in contemporary percussion. During his career he has developed a unique style using the Gran Cassa as the main source of sound exploration where he employs transducers with various objects to make the drum vibrate. He works in the field of contemporary music and is regularly touring worldwide and recording with his fixed ensembles; Dans les arbres, Huntsville and O3 alongside his solo- and collaborative projects. As a composer he is active in his regular ensembles, and he is continuously working with developing his solo work. In recent years he is composing for ensembles like Ensemble MusikFabrik, Quatuor Bozzini, Speak Percussion, Pinguins and Ludus Gravis. His solo work is used in different genres, such as film, dance, and art performances. Ingar Zach is currently a Ph.D. candidate in artistic research at the Academy of Music in Oslo.

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## Dzijan Emin

conductor



## Short bio

Born in Skopje, **Dzijan Emin** is a versatile musician with a vast experience. For over a decade he was the principal horn player of the Macedonian Philharmonic, in the meantime working as a multi-instrumentalist and composer of music for different ensembles, theatre productions and film. In his very versatile career Dzijan has collaborated with renowned musicians, some of which were awarded an Academy Award or a Grammy: A. R. Rahman, Frank London, Bob Stewart, Francesco Bearzatti, Luca Aquino, Gianluca Petrella, Malcolm Burn, Damo Suzuki, Derrick May, Juan Atkins, Jeff Mills, Gloria Estefan, the music duo Air, the producer of Daft Punk and many others. As a conductor he has lead orchestras such as: The Macedonian Philharmonic, The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Parisian Orchestre Lamoureux, Flanders Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra de Cannes, Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra, Danubia Orchestra Obuda in Budapest, performing music which he has composed or arranged.