

RIVER

CHAMELEON CIRCUIT

INFO SHEET

ALBUM RELEASE 2024



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CONTACT

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BANDMEMBERS

Robert Unterköfler tenor and soprano saxophone, flute, composition

Erik Asatrian keys, composition

Nina Feldgrill e-bass, composition

Simon Springer drums, composition

GENRE / DESCRIPTION

jazz, fusion, instrumental, sounds, improvisation, original music

DEMO-VERSIONS – ALBUM (not final mixes, masterings; please do not hand over to a third party)

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/t4rqvs1w66o9a0odwmh9x/h?rlkey=c9af7wzuemg7phq8mdetwy1su&dl=0>

YOUTUBE-LINKS

Live-Recording at the Oe1-Radio-Session: <https://youtu.be/Axrh96TBLKo> („Chameleon Circuit“)

Live-Recording at the Oe1-Radio-Session: <https://youtu.be/711VUmG-YLU> („Grief“)

Live Performance at Jazzcafé ZWE: <https://youtu.be/bevDSBEkmJo?feature=shared> („Grotewel“)

INSTAGRAM

river: <https://www.instagram.com/riverquartet/>

BANDTEXT - PRESS

river is a formation founded by saxophonist Robert Unterköfler and electric bassist Nina Feldgrill. Together with their band-colleagues Erik Asatrian on keys and Simon Springer on drums the quartet presents originals by all bandmembers. The music can be classified as fusion-jazz, however, the individual and artistic personality of each member leads to an overall distinctive band-sound. The audience awaits virtuosic, wild moments, which in combination with soft spots create a special listening experience.

BAND-CONCEPT

The band was founded in March 2022 by Nina Feldgrill and Robert Unterköfler. Soon it was noticed that the bandmembers had a similar concept of how the music should sound, whereby the interplay has been very natural from the very beginning on.

The musical and also compositional ideas of the four bandmembers complement one another in reference to style, however, also present the individual musical personality of each member at the same time. An important aspect about the band-work is the process of creating arrangements together, most of the times through experimenting with parameters such as sounds, dynamics, forms, instrumentation or through trying out some musical concepts, like acoustical cues.

These collective developments of our pieces also characterize our interaction on stage.

PRICES / IMPORTANT PERFORMANCES

- In 2023 *river* was honored with one out of three art-sponsorships “arte4artists”, which was initiated by the Arte Hotel Company. The band was invited to perform therefor at the Arte Hotel Salzburg.
(Link: <https://www.arte-salzburg.at/news/artists-place-mit-der-arte4artist-gewinnerin-nina-feldgrill>)
- The quartet had the chance to record four original compositions for the Oe1-Radio Session at ORF Funkhaus in Vienna. The program was streamed on the 26th of February in 2023.
(Link: <https://oe1.orf.at/programm/20230226/709628/Packendes-Hoererlebnis-River>)
- In March 2024 *river* has been asked to perform as the main act at the concert hall “Ehrbar Saal” in Vienna in the course of the “Jazz for Hope”-organization.
(Link: <https://ehrbarsaal.at/konzerte/jazz-for-hope/>)
- Festivals: Carinthian Jazzfestival “Jazzhochburg Kärnten” (2022), Viennese Jazzfestival “ViennaJazzFloor” (2023)
(Links: <https://kulturforumvillach.at/events/jazzhochburg-karnten-teil-2>,
https://viennajazzfloor.at/files/IG-JAZZ_Kalender_23-web.pdf)

ALBUM RECORDING

“Chameleon Circuit” is the title of the first album by *river*. It was recorded on the 22nd and 23rd of November 2023 at the Marianne Mendt Studio in Vienna. The album consists of 8 tracks, which are all original compositions by the band members. It was recorded by producer Maximilian Walch and is mixed and mastered by Robert Unterköfler. The CD-production is supported by SKE.

Track-list (not final order):

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|--|--|
| 1, Try and See (comp. by Nina Feldgrill) | 5, Chameleon Circuit (comp. by Nina Feldgrill) |
| 2, Le Giret (comp. by Simon Springer) | 6, Into Wild (comp. by Robert Unterköfler) |
| 3, Grief (comp. by Erik Asatryan) | 7, Holy Shit (comp. by Robert Unterköfler) |
| 4, Rain Center (comp. by Nina Feldgrill) | 8, 16 (comp. by Robert Unterköfler) |

BANDMEMBER BIOS AND CREDITS

Robert Unterköfler (*1992, Villach)

Robert Unterköfler is an Austrian saxophonist and composer. Besides the saxophone as his main-instrument, he also plays clarinet, flute & electronic wind instruments.

Robert holds a Bachelor-degree from the Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien (MUK) and finished his Masters at the Jam Music Lab University. For his studies he also was living in Groningen and Rotterdam.



Robert has been collaborating with musicians all over the world. He is a very versatile musician and therefor part of many different projects such as *Orjazztra Vienna*, lead by **Christian Muthspiel**, *Slowklang*, founded by the Austrian singer **Amina Bouroyen**, or the **Valentin Duit Quartett**. With his own projects **Rote Welt Quintett**, **zwölf nach vier** and his latest solo-project **Sidrat** he was able to celebrate great achievements.

Awards:

- Bruno-Gironcoli-Prize (2022)
- Oe1-Jazz-Scholarship (2018)

Latest Releases:

- Album "Bernstein in Vienna" with **PETER ERSKINE** (Origin Records), 2024
- Album "Synergy" with **Alan Bartus** (Quinton Records), 2024
- Album "La Melodia della Strada" with *Orjazztra Vienna* (Col-legno), 2023
- Album "Conspiracy" with **Tobias Hoffmann Jazz Orchestra** (MONS Records), 2022

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/robertunterkoefler/>

Website: <https://www.roteweltrecords.com/robert-unterkoefler/>

Erik Asatrian (*1997, Klagenfurt)

Erik Asatrian is an Austrian / Armenian piano player and producer, who specializes in the field of electronic sound-design.

He holds a Bachelor-degree from the Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien (MUK) and is currently teaching Pop-Keyboard and Production at the Gustav Mahler Privatuniversität (GMPU) in Klagenfurt.

Through the mixture of different influences from jazz, classical music, Armenian folk music and electronic elements, Erik created his own, individual musical language. He can be heard in many projects such as the

Joander Cruz Quartet or in his collaboration **EXEA** with the Iranian singer **EMMA**, in which he mainly acts as an producer and sound-designer. With this project they could celebrate great achievements, as they were invited to perform in San Francisco, LA and London.

Latest Releases:

EP „The Last One“ with **EXEA**, 2023

EP „Run Away With You“ with **EXEA**, 2023

EP „Cookin‘ Up“ with **LOKY**, 2023

Album „Native“ with the **Joander Cruz Quartet**, 2023

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/asat_erik/

Website: <https://www.erikasatrian.com/>



Nina Feldgrill (*1999, Vienna)

Nina Feldgrill is a Viennese electric bass player. She studied BA Jazz-Bass at the Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien (MUK) and is currently pursuing her Masters at the Jam Music Lab University, where she is honored with an overall-scholarship.

Nina has been collaborating with musicians from the Austrian Jazz-scene such as **Thomas Kugi**, **Herwig Gradischnig**, **Oliver Gattringer**, **Mario Gonzi**, **John Arman** etc. in different kinds of projects, such as the *Werner Feldgrill Project* or *George Benson Collaboration* since the age of 15.

She is currently part of several projects such as **VIBERQUEEN**, founded by Austrian vocalist **Magdalena Hahnkamper**, *Planet Yoni*, founded by Australian saxophonist **Alana McPherson** and is collaborating with the famous Iranian singer **EMMA**. Besides *river* she also leads the duo-project *Unterköfler/Feldgrill*.

Latest Releases:

EP “Papageier Playa” by **VIBERQUEEN**, (Unit Records) 2024

EP “Indigo” by **VIBERQUEEN** (Unit Records), 2024

EP “Kraftkonsum” by **VIBERQUEEN**, (Unit Records), 2024

EP “Turn Left” by *Unterköfler/Feldgrill*, (Rote Welt Records), 2023



EP "Who Knew?" by *Unterköfler/Feldgrill*, (Rote Welt Records), 2022

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/f.n_i_na/

Website: <https://www.roteweltrecords.com/nina-feldgrill/>

Simon Springer (*1991, Innsbruck)

Simon Springer is an Austrian drummer. He holds a Master from the Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien (MUK).

Simon is a big part of the Austrian Jazz, Fusion and Contemporary Music-scene (**Jakob Zimmermann Trio**, **Gene Pritsker**, **Rens Newland**, etc.) as well as the Austrian Pop-scene (**Wolfgang Ambros**, **Gert Steinbäcker**, **Franz Morak**, etc.) and has been performing all over the world (Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, Poland, Romania, USA, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, India).



Awards:

Winner of the Hansjürg Hensler Jazz Award (GER) with Tiktaalik (2018)
First place with distinction at the 1st Tyrolean Drummer Contest (2016)
Best Newcomer at the academy of the MeranOJazz Festival, Italy (2014)
Young Master of the Outreach Music Academy (2011)

Latest Releases:

Album „Singles, Grooves & Memories“ with Rens Newland (Jive Music), 2022
Album „Resistance“ with *Jakob Zimmermann Trio*, Edition Oe1 (ORF), 2021
EP „Be Yourself“ with *KØLEEN*, 2021
Album „Blues Indeed“ with Rens Newland & Fuse Bluezz (Jive Music), 2021

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/simonspringer_music/

Website: <https://www.simonspringer.online/>