

HIJAZ 10 YEARS

ALBUM OUT FEBRUARY 2017



Live Recording

Vinyl Only

Zephyrus Records



Hijaz, a close quartet exploring differences and similarities in Mediterranean cultures in order to create harmony, warmth and musical beauty.

Which they did on a first milestone called Dunes (2008). On a second CD Chemsî (2011) the group showed a mature approach with a strong emphasis on jazz. On the next album Nahadin (2014), Hijaz reinvented itself reducing the number of musicians on stage to the essence and the source of the musicality and compositions.

In this new form Hijaz recorded old and new material during two live sessions where the group is letting go all boundaries, all grip, Hijaz indulges into music. No more verse, chorus and bridge, just organic music that flows like water and enchants the listener.

Hijaz, a multi-ethnic group based around the dialogue between the oud and the piano. Hijaz is an Arabic musical scale but also holds a clear reference to jazz. Where Arabic music is the starting point, jazz is the open attitude towards diverse musical cultures, hence collaborations with singer Abir Nasraoui, Claron McFadden, violin player Tcha Limberger, percussionists Carlo Rizzo and Edouard Prabhu.



HIJAZ

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NAHADIN

نهادين



Moufadhel Adhoum (oud) was born in 1965 in one of the most popular neighbourhoods of the old Medina of Tunis. At the age of 12 he was introduced to the art of the oud by the great master Abderrahmane El Mehdi. Once in Belgium he started to teach the oud and collaborated with Tunisian singer Ghalia Benali with whom he has been playing since then.

Hijaz is his own project and the outfit in which Moufadhel can express his own musical feelings. He is the main composer, a very sensitive person and a virtuoso musician. Moufadhel is a teacher of oud, choir and also Arabic calligraphy in Belgium.



Niko Deman (piano) started playing the piano at the age of 8. In his teens the Greek background of his mother motivated him to play the bouzouki in his own rebetika group before shifting to jazz in 1997. He studied at the Jazz Studio in Antwerp but never forgot his Greek roots which can be heard in his compositions, the rhythms of Hijaz and his humor.

Together with Moufadhel, Niko is the driving force of Hijaz, their vehicle for musical extasy that comes from the symbiosis of Mediterranean musical cultures. Niko is teacher of Jazz at the Antwerp University.



Rui Salgado (double bass, bansuri) was born in Porto where he started his career in rock before the double bass, jazz and classical music took over. In 2006 he came to Belgium and studied at the conservatory which he finished in 2009. Since then he played in various formations in both jazz and worldmusic.

Rui composes for his own fado outfit Comtradição and occasionally for Hijaz in which he also plays the Indian bansuri. Rui is definitely the spiritual force in the group Hijaz. Rui is teacher at the Royal Atheneum Crommelynck and the Music Academy of Laeken.



Chryster Aerts (drums / percussion) started playing latin percussion at the age of 15 and later moved to drums, jamming with friends in metal, punk, grunge and rock. Inspired by drummers and percussionists from all around the world, he enrolled in the Antwerp Conservatory studying jazz. With a strong interest in West-African percussion Chryster developed his own way of playing and his personal approach. 'Mixed percussion set-ups are a second nature nowadays, inspiring many young students in local music schools in Antwerp (Belgium).'

HIJAZ





Dunes
Zephyrus Records
2008



Chemsi
Zephyrus Records
2010



Nahadin
Zephyrus Records
2014



Rough Guide to Arabic Jazz
World Music Network
2014

CD compilation
Bonus CD Hijaz - Chemsi



Hijaz - 10 Years live recording
Zephyrus Records
February 2017

HIJAZ DISCOGRAPHY