

Nomad SoundSystem • Oriental Future Pop (Berlin)



„oriental fusion style in perfection!“



Nomad SoundSystem chooses different styles for its musical repertoire, as varied as the cultural background of its members: **Rai, oriental-electronics, Drum & Bass, Rock, Dub, Pop** and **Gnawa –Trance** are merging effortlessly to a highly original urban mixture hard to compare. Hard hitting western Dance grooves and soulful eastern melodies...Or was it the other way round? The handful of Sound Nomads first gathered in a practice room in late 2002 and has been on their unusual musical trip ever since, making them a big exception in the German music scene.

Call it ethnic or eclectic, their full on dance performances are definitely electric. Because of their fusing together electronica with ethno influences, Nomad SoundSystem feel equally at home in both the club scene and world music festivals not getting tired of touring for an constantly growing cheerful, dancing audience.

Nomad SoundSystem were presented the newcomer **RUTH awards** at TFF Rudolstadt in 2005, won the **award CREOLE** Berlin/Brandenburg 2006 and played support gigs for Rachid Taha, Nitin Sawhney or Transglobal Underground. In summer 2006 Nomad SoundSystem released their catchy Hit-Single "Sidi Khouya" feat. P.R. Kantate, which has been on hot rotation on nearly each relevant German radio station. Their first Longplayer-CD was released in May 2007 and shows the band as versatile pioneers of a new german-global pop culture. Invitations to play at **New York's Carnegie Hall's** 'Berlin in Lights' Festival (Nov.07) or to perform in front of a 15.000 people crowd at **Espantapitas Festival** (Andalusia) followed and show the international interest in Nomad SoundSystem. Their innovative performances, the joy of playing live and a highly unique sound show they are a force to be reckoned with.

Diskography

- € 2006 - RELEASE OF THE SINGLE „SIDI KHOUYA“ FEAT. P.R. KANTATE
(Label: Stock & Stein / Distribution Groove Attack)
- € 2007 - RELEASE OF "NOMAD SOUNDSYSTEM" ALBUM
(GERMANY / AUSTRIA / SWITZERLAND, Label: Stock & Stein / Distribution Groove Attack)

Compilations:

- € ORIENTAL GARDEN VOL. 5 (Lolas World, Germany 2007)
- € DJ CLICK FLAVOR (No Fridge, France 2007)
- € INDIA CLUB 3 (High Note Records, Taiwan 2007)
- € BERLIN CALLING (Piranha, Germany 2007)
- € TRAVEL COMPILATION (Piranha, Germany 2007)
- € ELECTRONICA ALBUM (Platibus Records, U.K. 2007)
- € SOUNDTRIP: NORTHER AFRICA (Reise Know-How Sound, Germany 2008)
- € 5 JAHRE FOLK'N'FUSION (Flowfish Records, Germany 2009)

Nomad im Internet: www.cross-culture-music.de/nomad

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References (extract):

2009 // 12. IAAF Leichtathletik WM @ Kulturstadion am Brandenburger Tor

// **Goethe Institut Ägypten** - Kairo, Alexandria

// Karneval der Kulturen

// **Francophonic Festival** support Rachid Taha @ Kesselhaus Berlin

2008 // popdeurope Festival @ Arena, Berlin

// Nil Keller, Potsdam

// **Rock for People Festival**, Prag

// Kaffee Burger, Berlin

// Cafe Nepomuk, Reutlingen

// **Haus der Kulturen der Welt**, Berlin

// Nacht vor Ramadan, Berlin

// Festival contre le racisme, Potsdam

// Maifest @ Bunte Platte, Berlin

2007 // Berlin in Lights Festival / Carnegie Hall (NYC, nov.07)

// Münsterland Festival

// **ESPANTAPITAS** Festival (Vera / ES)

// Paradiso (Amsterdam, NL)

// Oerol Festival (Terschelling / NL)

// **Roots Festival** (Amsterdam / NL)

// World Music& Dance Center (Rotterdam / NL)

// **CREOLE** Bundeswettbewerb, Domicil (Dortmund)

// Espantapitas Festival (Berlin)

// Lido (Berlin)

2006 // Award CREOLE 2006 Berlin / Brandenburg

// Francophonic Festival 2006 (Berlin with Rachid Taha)

// **Globaltica Festival** (Gdynia / Polen)

// Mundomix (Berlin) | LAB Festival (Stuttgart)

// Brotfabrik (Frankfurt/Main)

// **Stanser Musiktage** (CH)

// Isle of Music (Lindau)

// Al Globe / Potsdam

// Desi / Nürnberg

// Kaffee Burger / Berlin

// Terrabeats / Berlin

// Globalista! / Berlin

2005 // Award RUTH 2005

// MS Stubnitz (Rostock)

// Maschinenhaus / Kulturbrauerei (Berlin with Transglobal Underground)

// Karneval der Kulturen der Welt , Bazaar Oriental Bühne (Berlin)

// **IN TRANSIT** Festival, Haus der Kulturen (Berlin)

// Kemnade International (Bochum)

// Fusion Festival (Lärz)

// **Tanz & Folkfest Rudolstadt**

// Afrika Festival (Potsdam)

// Morgenland Festival (Osnabrück)

// Museumsinsel Festival (Berlin)

// **Popdeurope Festival**, support Nitin Sawhney (Arena, Berlin)

2004 // Beursschouwburg, **Klinkende Munt Festival** (Brüssel, Belgien) | Musikens Hus, Club Barbes (Göteborg, Schweden) | Karneval der Kulturen, Berlin | Festival Impuls (Dornbirn, A) | Oranges Fest, Bauhaus Dessau | Francophonic Festival 2004 (Berlin with Rachid Taha) | TransVocale, Frankfurt /Oder | **Yeni Melek Concert Hall** (Istanbul with Rebel Moves)

Resident Band: Mudd Club, Berlin

Musicians

Karim Sfaxi (Tunisia) – vocals, percussion, melodica

Karim Sfaxi from Tunisia is a highly talented and charming lead singer and front man, whose expressive and soul – colorful voice is taking audiences by storm. Young of age but an experienced singer and versatile percussionist alike – he’s thought to have a bright future on his path, as Sfaxi does not need to hide from comparisons with the likes of Khaled and Cheb Mami but found his own style already.

David Beck (Berlin) - guitars, guembre, oud & percussion.

Guitar player David Beck is familiar with culture jamming, as founder of the intercultural Moroccan-German project Gnawa Impulse he’s been connecting eastern rhythms with western texture and electronic structures since years. He is a masterful multi - instrumentalist who also plays Arabic Oud, Guembre and percussion. He has been at the inner core of the Berlin oriental underground scene for years always researching for roots and culture.

Tomoki (Japan) - laptop, FX

David joined up forces with Tomoki Ikeda from Japan, who has worked several years as producer in Tokyo before arriving to Berlin in 2000. Tomoki creates and edits beats, loops and samples on his laptop building a strong base and the rhythmical backbone for the progressive Nomad sound. On stage more in the background, he is the man whose ideas are often blueprints for the group compositions. He’s also engineering and does remixes for other projects.

Miloud Messabihi (Algeria) - percussion, accordion & vocals

Hailing from the motherlands of Rai music, Algerian born Miloud Messabihi is a percussionist of mediterranean passion and impulsiveness. He has played and recorded with several Rai legends like Bellemou or Tassili. On accordion at heart with Arabic scales and tunings, he is responsible for causing the oriental hip-swing. He has also been seen rapping on stage lately.

Thorsten Lastinger (Kassel, Berlin) - E bass

The experienced tour bassist Thorsten Lastinger already laid down his solid rolling foundation for Stolle&Band, Hamid Baroudi or Joachim Deutschland and many others.

Press Cuts (selection)

“An urban mix that **chronicles Berlin’s multicultural beat in unique manner** and invites to dance.”

Goethe Institut Kairo 2009

“**It’s the kind of melting-pot ensemble you find in futuristic novels, but rarely in the wild.** ... And its music is equally polyglot: electronic beats and effects sweep through its sound, but the heart of its sound is in Mr. Sfaxi’s strong, melismatic singing and in the textures produced by the “real” instruments: guitar, bass and an arsenal of North African drums. Hints of rai, reggae, electronica and plain rock mingle freely and in shifting proportions.”

The New York Times, by Allan Kozinn Nov. 6, 2007

“**Is it world music? No. Is it drum&bass? Nope. Is it rai? Nopers. It’s Nomad SoundSystem.**”

Amsterdam Weekly

“Cool electrical sound, irresistible Grooves, Rai singing, Trance of the Gnawa brotherhood, forward-driving of guitar reef, Drum'n'Bass and each quantity of Maghreb flavours merges the system into one mixes, which it calls Oriental Electronics. Radio Multikulti before longer time had an eye already thrown on the eclectic five.... the **Nomad SoundSystem, not only electrically, but really electrifying.**”

Radio Multikulti: CD of the week! 05/2007 by Peter Rixen

“The diversity of musical styles and instrumentation brought together in the band is in one sense derivative, however; the miracle of the group is **the sheer fact that they can communicate with each other, let alone play music together.**”

Carnegie Hall Blog by Noah Block-Harley

“... Nomad SoundSystem from Berlin showed how the gap between Ethno, Pop and Electronic can be bridged over. ... The contemporary eclectics consequently work on a well-contrived fusion of personal roots, traditional instruments and current technology. **It’s especially those formations who own the globalized future.**”

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, by Norbert Krampf 08 June 2005

more Press Cuts (selection)

“...Two o'clock at night in Heinepark at the award winner concert: the Tunisian proved not only having an excellent voice, but also the potential of being an very entertaining front man. The five musicians from Berlin call their dance sound “Oriental Fusion Style”; you could name it as well Elektro-Rai. **This band is much more colourful than Berlin itself...**”

taz, by Christian Rath 5 July 2005

“Cool oriental tunes aimed at the club-dance floor, but with potential also in the pop market is the trademark of the polycultural quintet fronted by Tunisian singer Karim Sfaxi....No wonder their debut album is now represented as a **round, well crafted piece of art, well balanced between underground attitude and pop appeal, tradition and high tech.**”

Blue Rhythm Magazine by Tobias Maier

“... Music for **closing the eyes and listening to, for ecstatic dancing and rocking to.** The band left the stage by passing through the audience by drumming heavily and laughing satisfied ...”

Skug, Journal for Music, Vienna; November 2005

“... (The) hot-tempered concerts are a **vital evidence for quality** which is inherent in intercultural dialogues when participants are listening to each other seriously and their individual roots remain present ...”

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 13 Oktober 2005