

Orientation • Oriental Soul (Turkey, Iran, Berlin)

Orientation blends soulful funky beats together with desperately longing “arabesque” music (the Turkish definition of “the Blues”). Orientation creates melodies with a reminiscence to Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Turkey, interpreting it with new urban spirit. Orientation calls it “Oriental Soul”.



On speciality of Orientation is he Turkish wedding Rhythm, a 9/8, which sounds new and maybe even “odd” for the Western ear.

But Orientation manages to create Reggae and funky vibes in a 9/8 that reinvent those styles and gives them a completely fresh flavour!

Orientation has earned its reputation and fame in countless concerts all over Europe. They have toured with **Tarkan** and the new Superstar **Muhabbet**. They represented Germany and their home town Berlin at the EXPO 2000 and in Hong Kong. In 2009 Orientation won the famous “**Creole**” award for Berlin and became finalist for Germany.

Orientation has contributed their music for various **Soundtracks** (e.g. **Fatih Akin**) and both feature films and documentaries as well as TV-sequels. Orientation has been featured on numerous **compilations**, such as “Oriental Garden“, „Obsession Lounge“, „Play Up“, „Tokyo Lounge“, „Klassik Lounge Night Flight“, “From East to West”, just to name a few.

Orientation live is fun and a playful happiness. It is new and surprising arrangements. Orientation live is dance and joy. Orientation does not know nationalities and physical borders. They simply play great music. Voilà!

Discography

- „I show you crazy“, Blue Flame 2010
- „Orientation.biz“, Akuma 2008
- „9 in Istanbul, 8 in Berlin“, Blue Flame 2006
- „Bosporus Bridge“, Doublemoon 2002

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Orientation are:

- **Bekir Karaoglan** (Istanbul/Berlin): Bekir is a breathtaking musician, he is the main vocalist of the band, plays piano and keyboard, electric percussion, violin and ney (arabian flute).
- **Andreas Advocado** (Berlin): Bassplayer and Mr. Funk himself. Performed with so many artists and bands such as Zsa Zsa Buschkow, Shank, Tanmoy Bose, Richard Howell, Sultana.
- **Babak Akhoondi** (Teheran/Berlin): guitar player of the Teheran cult-band "Rumi Music", he himself is an icon of the Iranian underground-independent scene.
- **Enno Kuck** (Berlin): drummer, also for Drum Connection, Beat'n Blow and other bands "Made in Berlin".
- **Serdar Dagdelen** (Istanbul/Berlin): Virtuoso of the Kanon (Turkish zither), connoisseur of the traditional Turkish wedding and classical music.

The new Album: I show you crazy

Bekir Karaoglan and Andreas Advocado, operating the musiclab ORIENTATION (Orient kisses Occident), show with "I show you crazy" that they do not fit into any categories or any clichés. Their last album with Blue Flame Records "9 in Istanbul, 8 in Berlin" (and "Orientation Biz" released by Akuma) featured Bekir as a singer with straight ahead funky Pop songs, but this time they are presenting 12 purely instrumental milestones proving that ORIENTATION are masters of Art as musicians, Sound Designers, composers and producers. „I show you crazy“ presents a wide range from funky dance tracks to plain Electro and desperate ballads.

"I show you crazy" was planned from the very beginning as a concept album. The tracks were not done one after the other but created simultaneously in three different phases in three different seasons of the year 2009. The first sketches of composition were done in late summer, with temperatures above 30 degrees Celsius and long nights in outdoor bars of Neu Kölln. In autumn Bekir and Advocado designed the sound of the album and in winter 2009/2010, covered in snow and temperatures around -15 degrees Celsius the final arrangements and mixdowns were made.

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The Media

„When Reggae-Sounds and Gipsy's-Rhythms collide, no foot remains still and no hip motionless". *young Hurriyet, 2010*

„Orientation **dances between the musical traditions** of the occident and orient.“
Zitty (Berlin)

„The **first real homogenous mixture** of oriental and occidental music „Made in Berlin“ *Tagesspiegel (Berlin)*

„The line-Up of Orientation is as **extraordinary** as their music: it blends funk with soul, hip-hop with Oriental Sounds.“ *Berliner Kurier*

„The band Orientation demonstrates how these turkish-german musicians use the **multicultural infrastructure provided by the city of Berlin**. With their mixture of Jazz, Arabesk and Clubbeats this band can easily perform at World Music festivals as well as in Jazz clubs, in Turkish bars as well as on the stages of big arenas.“
Berliner Zeitung

„indeed these musicians perform the bitter-sweet turkish traditional melodies together with Jazz and Club vibes. **A remarkable performance!**“ *Tip (Berlin)*

„...a grooving Band by the – telling – name of Orientation, who **inspired and galvanised** the audience.“ *Spiegel-online*

“...those who love soulful, funky Grooves and also what people call World Music **MUST listen to Orientation** and shall not miss one of their rare performances...”
Numblog.de

“Orientation.Biz offers the kind of music that only can be created in a city like Berlin and only within a **true and heartfelt joint venture** of turkish and german musicians.”
Salaazy.org

“...some of their songs used the traditional 9/8 rhythm and turned it into Reggae and Funk. What a **unique and new mixture...**“ *Neue Osnabrücker Zeitung*

References (choice)

Festivals

- CREOLE (Finalist Bundeswettbewerb)
- Addis Abeba (Addis Glow)
- LabFest Stuttgart
- Museumsuferfest Frankfurt
- Myfest Berlin
- Morgenlandfestival Osnabrück
- Filmfestival Cottbus
- Bergmannstraßenfest, Berlin
- Expo 2000 (Hannover, live broadcast at public TV ZDF)
- „Berlin - Hong Kong“, Hong Kong (with Aziza A)
- Fete de la Musique, Budapest

best **Clubs** where:

- Paradiso, Amsterdam
- Malkasten, Düsseldorf
- Das Bett, Frankfurt a.M.
- Quasimodo, Berlin
- DotCLub, Berlin
- Central Station, Darmstadt
- Bahnhof (Wuppertal)
- E-Werk Köln (with Muhabbet)
- Alte Fabrik, Hamburg