

DE-PHAZZ `JELLY BANQUET`



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The best parties are never planned. When friends spontaneously drop by with other people in tow, that you don't even know, but will have learned to love by the end of the evening. And everyone contributes to the buffet: a popular classic dish, an unfamiliar delicacy, or a surprising specialty that makes you gasp: `What on earth is that?` with delight.

The mood of De-Phazz's 17th studio album, with which the band is celebrating its 25th anniversary, is similarly relaxed and joyful. Host and sample scientist **Pit Baumgartner** shares Quincy Jones' attitude: "When you bring together what does not go together, you can only win." He combines gritty rock vocals with a church choir, an alphorn (traditional alpine horn) with Ethno-Jazz, enhances new tunes with fragments of retro-sound-elements, thus enabling the exceptional voices to shine even brighter. "Pure moments of joy" are those when the various musical elements intertwine, and **Baumgartner** realizes: This works!

But `Jelly Banquet` isn't only a party, it is also a journey through the landscapes of pop music, sometimes humorous and soul-stirringly full of longing ("Mexico Lindo"), sometimes filled with Nashville-cheek (`Where to Go`), or the swanky-snobish: `I Cannot Sleep in a Motel, They Can't Spell My Name` (`Cougar`). And yet the goal of creating Cool Jazz always remains the same: `It's an attitude towards life`, says **Pit Baumgartner**: `Remaining calm and not losing your sense of humour, even in times of crisis. I know that isn't always easy, especially right now, but if we stopped making music the world would surely be a little dreary at times.`

Among familiar collaborators such as **Pat Appleton**, **Karl Frierson**, **Barbara Lahr**, or **Sandie Wollasch**, new musical guests have found their way to the `Jelly Banquet`. **Carol Schuler**, for example, who plays the police inspector in the Swiss version of `Tatort` (a popular crime TV-Show in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria) and doesn't only look a little like Amy Winehouse but can also sing just as well as her. Or the icon of Blues-Rock, **Inga Rumpf**. **Pit Baumgartner** still raves about her like a teenager when he remembers her performance in the 70s with her band Atlantis: `She entered the stage and we, being kids from the suburbs, were absolutely blown away.` And he also hasn't been able to forget the voice of **David Thomas**, singer of the avantgarde band

Pere Ubu, for decades. For **‘Jelly Banquet’** he decided to give the artist from the U.S. a call. And the result of that call can be listened to here.

Various languages can be heard on **‘Jelly Banquet’** - French, Spanish, Lithuanian, or Latin. You can’t necessarily understand all of them, but, according to sound-pioneer **Pit Baumgartner**, that’s beside the point: **‘I don’t always have to know what the lyrics are about. Sometimes the sound of the voice is enough to feel, or even to understand, the meaning of a song.’**

The following artists contributed to the ‘Jelly Banquet’ :

‘Need To Be Strong’ -De-Phazz feat. Ola Onabule

This voice- gentle, unique, and full of longing reminds us of the great Soul and Jazz singers of the 60s and 70s. Londoner with Nigerian roots Ola Onabule is passionately committed to merging Soul, Jazz Pop, and Afro-Beats in all their facets in his creative process.

‘I Was There’ - De-Phazz feat. Sandie Wollasch

Sandie Wollasch has worked with various artists: Helmut Hattler, George Gruntz and the Concert-Jazz-Band from New York as well as with bands such as Six was Nine, Tab Two and 4yourSoul. As a soloist of the SWR-Big Band she graced the stage with Paul Carrack and Götz Alsmann. Her jazz vocals are among the best-known in the south of Germany, clear as a bell and wonderfully distinctive. She is currently touring with Peter Kraus.

‘Suddenly’ - De-Phazz feat. Karl Frierson

Karl Frierson- flagship vocalist and founding member of De-Phazz- decided to become an international entertainer at the age of nine. He wrote and sung De-Phazz’s first chart successes **‘Hero Dead and Gone’** and has also become a well-known solo artist.

‘Drop The Ball’ – De-Phazz feat. Eliana Burki

The alphorn (traditional alpine horn) player Eliana Burki is regarded as one of the most successful representatives of her craft. She has played with Talvin Singh, Niladri Kumar, Angelique Kidjo, Joss Stone, Beck, as well as being a soloist for the Philharmonic Orchestra Stuttgart. By herself, or with her band **‘I Alpinisti’**, she continuously taps into new repertoire for her instrument by combining the vibes of her favourite trumpet player, Miles Davis, with the influences of international Folk music.

Roy Story- De-Phazz feat. Roy Randolph

Roy Randolph, long-standing De-Phazz percussionist, having Cuban roots, introduced Latin-American grooves into the sound cosmos of De-Phazz. He passed away several years ago. With **‘Roy Story’** the band members are paying their respects to this exceptional musician.

‘Cougar (Remix)’ - De-Phazz feat. Barbara Lahr and Tubilah

No stranger to the De-Phazz universe: Barbara Lahr’s voice radiates, in all its warmth, a clear and inherent authority. In **‘Cougar’**, she is being supported by Tubilah: Guitarist Jörn Heilbut, who is currently celebrating a huge comeback with his band **‘The Jeremy Days’** after a 27-year break.

‘Kartoji Man (Remix)’ – De-Phazz feat. Giedre

Giedre is a renowned Lithuanian singer, songwriter, and vocal coach. Her career has been active for more than 25 years and covers a broad spectrum of musical styles. She sings in her mother-tongue, her native language, one of the most ancient European languages which rings unusual and fascinating in our ears. She was honoured as Lithuanian Singer of the Year in 2013.

‘Mr. Minky (Remix)’ – De-Phazz feat. Dauner/Dauner

It does not suffice describing Wolfgang Dauner, who passed away at the age of 85 in the year 2020, as one of the best German jazz pianists. Or as a successful film score and opera composer, Free-Jazzer, or world musician. Furthermore, he has served the development of New Jazz in Germany like no other. In the song `Mr. Minky` his son Florian is on drums.

`Vare Por Vare` - De-Phazz feat. Ganes

Light, dreamy and flowing: The three Ganes musicians sing in Ladin, a Romanic language, that is spoken by a small group of people in South Tyrol. This trio's music sounds magical and ethereal, gently settling somewhere between Pop, Folk, Jazz, and classical music.

`Which Way to Go` - De-Phazz feat. Caro Trischler

Cari Tischler's special feature are the soft sounds that resonate calmly in English and Portuguese. The singer completed her studies as a jazz vocalist at the `Hochschule für Musik` (university for music) in Mainz at the beginning of 2019. She is a fixed member in three bands and a guest vocalist in various projects. Her first album, `North e Sul`, on which she collaborated with the jazz pianist Ulf Kleiner, was released in the summer of 2020.

`Mexico Lindo` - De-Phazz feat. Lily Dahab

Lily Dahab excites us with her unparalleled vocal artistry: Effortless intonation combined with crystal clear expression from delicate melancholy to beguiling fire. Having grown up in Buenos Aires, the Berliner by choice often finds her way back to the musical roots of her Argentinian home country.

`Love Doesn't Care` - De-Phazz feat. Pat Appleton and Karl Frierson

If you utter the name De-Phazz, you must also mention Pat Appleton. Be it as a singer, composer, or lyricist: She is, without a doubt, an essential part of the band's success. She has also skilfully contributed to other projects, to the Jazzkantine, for example, Ministry of Sound or `Airmate`. In 2011 she released the long player in German: `Mittendrin`. `Love doesn't care` is a wonderful duet with Karl Frierson.

`Destiny Around the Corner` - De-Phazz feat. Sandie Wollasch & Stephan Zobeley

One of the most sought-after guitarists in the Rhine/Neckar region: Stephan Zobeley has been working with Herbert Grönemeyer since the 90s, has toured Europe with influential artists of Soul music such as Chaka Khan, Lydie Auyray, Uwe Ochsenknecht, Edo Zanki, Christina Lux and the Blackbyrds. He has also composed film and theatre scores with Zobeley.

`Still going` - De-Phazz feat. Inga Rumpf

The `Rolling Stone` once wrote about Inga Rumpf: `Germany's only rock-, soul-, and gospel singer on a world-class level.` In her long career Inga `The Voice` Rumpf has made a name for herself as a Jazz Blues, R&B and Soul singer with her band the City Preachers- but most of all as a rock singer for Frumpy and Atlantis: Bands that wrote German rock-history in the 70's. In 2021 Inga Rumpf celebrated her 75th birthday.

`Entre Le Sol Et Le Ciel` - De-Phazz feat. Vanille

Her father, Julien Clerc, is held in high regard as one of the great French chansonniers. His daughter Vanille is following in his footsteps: Her first album `Amazona` was released in 2019, landing a summer smasher with the song `Suivre le soleil`. And no wonder: The nostalgic sound that reminds us of Jane Birkin's airy and breathy chansons of the 70s is super catchy.

`Go To Hell` - De-Phazz feat. Carol Schuler

Carol Schuler performs regularly, for example with her soul-boogaloo band El Cartel and the 20's swing band Les Enfants Terribles. She is also one of the most sought-after German speaking actresses being a fixed member of the Berliner Schaubühne's ensemble, having been a part of the six-part series `Skylines` on Netflix and playing the police inspector in Switzerland's `Tatort`.

`Nia En Bun Om` – De-Phazz feat. Ganes & Ecomoreno

The film score composer and arranger Eckart Volker, `Eckes` Malz, is the artist behind `Ecomoreno`. He has worked with various artists as a studio and live musician, such as Donald Tillmann, Volker Striffler, Six Was Nine, Freddy Wonder and Lydie Auyray. He composed the song `Nia En Bun Om` in collaboration with Pia Baumgartner, which is interpreted by the band Ganes.

`Faking News` (Remix) – De-Phazz feat. Hattler & Fola Dada

Helmut Hattler set the bar for Krautrock in the 70s with his band Kraan. Especially striking is his distinctive bass playing: Even at the age of 70 he still unleashes the most unusual sounds while playing in various projects. In `Faking News` he can be heard with Fola Dada: The singer and recipient of the German Jazz Prize 2022 in the category `Vocal National` loves Jazz just as much as Afrobeat of Nigeria, which is her father's home country.

`The Actress` – De-Phazz feat. David Thomas

In 1975, singer David Thomas co-founded the US avant-garde band Pere Ubu, which found it's stylistic home somewhere between Rock, Punk and Free-Jazz. His idiosyncratic, high, and resonating vocals coined the style of the band significantly. He is also very active in various other projects.

`Higher Kraut` – De-Phazz feat. Mani Neumeier & Jan Fride

A collaboration of two legends - much to the delight of all fans of Krautrock. With his cult-band Guru Guru Manfred "Mani" Neumeier has played round about 3.700 concerts world-wide in over 52 years, recorded hundreds of songs and more than 30 albums. Just with his main band, he has collaborated with over 40 musicians. But the name Jan Fride Wolbrandt also shines brightly: The musician that was a founding member of the band Kraan in the 70's is regarded as one of the most significant drummers in Germany.

`Open Skies` – De-Phazz feat. Pat Appleton & Joo Kraus

Jazz trumpeter and composer Joo Kraus plays an integral part in the current German music industry. He became well-known through the Hip-Jazz project Tab Two but is also a warmly welcomed collaborator with artists and bands such as Jazzkantine, Kinderzimmer Productions, Die Happy, Laith al Deen, Peter Herbolzheimer and Tina Turner. As a solo artist he has been exploring his love of Cuba and silky-soft tropical melodies.