

Tom Brunt

Guitarist, composer and project leader



Born in Geneva in 1989 to English and Dutch parents, Tom Brunt is a guitarist, composer and project leader whose work explores the areas of friction between contemporary jazz, improvised music, European folk and sound experiments.

Trained in Geneva under Vinz Vonlanthen, Maurice Magnoni and Ohad Talmor, he then pursued composition studies at the University of Montreal, before obtaining a Master's degree from HEMU in Lausanne.

As a composer and leader, Tom Brunt develops several long-term projects. He notably directs Tom Brunt's Acoustic Space and Tom Brunt's Extended Acoustics, acoustic string ensembles at the crossroads of chamber music and contemporary improvisation. In these ensembles, he has created an original language, combining open forms, precise writing, and evolving acoustic textures inspired by electronic sound processing. The latest album from the sextet Extended Acoustics was released in June 2025.

He is also the founder of the Black Buoy Project, which blends original compositions and arrangements of William Blake's poetry (two albums released). Since 2024, he has co-led the Brunt/Marquez Quartet with Parisian saxophonist Melvin Marquez, a rising star of contemporary jazz in France, performing a repertoire of original compositions influenced by modern New York jazz. Alongside his leadership projects, he is active as a sideman in several groups, notably in the "Nuit" sextet of French saxophonist Louis Billeste.

His creative work also extends to other formats: music for film (Prayer for a Lost Mitten, winner at the Hot Docs 2020 festival) or an electronic project (Noisy Pocket). His activity as a composer is at the heart of each of his artistic approaches, which he always conceives within a collective dynamic and sonic research.



Charles Fréchette

guitar

Born in 1988, Charles Fréchette is a musician and composer from Montreal, Canada. A professional musician since 2004, Charles is known primarily as a guitarist but also as a composer, singer, mandolinist, and jazz educator.

French-Canadian guitarist Charles Fréchette, based between Vevey and Padua, has performed in over 30 countries worldwide, notably with his band Tcha-Badjo, totaling more than 600 concerts. Winner of the Montreal Guitar Grand Prize (2012) and a two-time scholarship recipient at the Montreal International Jazz Festival (2011, 2012), he holds a degree in jazz guitar from the University of Montreal and a Master's degree in music pedagogy from HEMU Lausanne.



Marc Crofts

violin

Geneva-based violinist Marc Crofts, of English, Ashkenazi, and Sephardic descent, creates music nourished by travel, tradition, and encounters. Trained at the HEM in Lausanne after studying philosophy, he explores world music, from jazz and klezmer to flamenco. He founded the trio NOMADIM in 2018, whose first album was released in 2021, and has been playing with the flamenco ensemble NASMA since 2015. In parallel, he develops the flamenco violin duo FALSETAS with Yardani Torres Maiani. He teaches violin at eMa (Geneva) and directs a klezmer ensemble.



Pierre Balda

bass

Geneva-based double bassist and composer Pierre Balda currently lives in Geneva. After training in classical guitar, he discovered jazz at the AMR (Association Musicale de Genève) and then continued his studies at the Amsterdam Conservatory. He founded his own quartet and collaborated with numerous musicians such as Madeleine Peyroux, Joris Roelofs, Simon Rigter, and Mikael Asmundsson. He also participates in transdisciplinary projects with Raphael Rodan and Mayke van der Veldhuizen, performed at international dance festivals. Holding a Master's degree in music pedagogy from HEMU Lausanne (2021), he has developed a practice that blends contemporary jazz, composition, and stage performance.