



Hildegard lernt fliegen

"Hildegard lernt fliegen" is currently one of the most creative music projects Switzerland has to offer: rarely has any other jazz ensemble put so much wit and imagination into their compositions and performances.

The sextet around composer and singer Andreas Schaerer exhibits great aesthetics: strong brass sounds and astounding voice acrobatics create the unique band charisma. The arrangements for the unusual instrumentation – harmony instruments are intentionally left out – are sometimes intricate, sometimes subtly woven, sometimes lusciously rhapsodic in character, fitting the theatrical vaudeville note of their energetic performance. Whether the style is to be clearly assigned to jazz cannot be answered: its beat box or noise art elements, morbid polka and off-key ballad extracts, and the occasional scent of Frank Zappa or the poetry of Kurt Weill make it impossible to find the accurate description. In any event – "Hildegard lernt fliegen" is a musical sensation for all senses!

Founded in 2005, the band's has been a very successful journey: they have performed at some of the most renown jazz locations like the Desdner Jazztage, Cully Jazz, jazznojazz Zurich, Offside Festival, Langnau Jazznights, Suisse diagonales, A-Trane Berlin, Moods Zurich. They have toured in Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Russia and Switzerland. The Czech national radio station, the Bayrischer Rundfunk as well as the Swiss national radio SR DRS2 have broadcast live concerts.

Amongst many other titles, awards and prizes, the sextet won the most important newcomer prize in Switzerland, the so called ZKB Jazzpreis in 2008. In 2011 they received a grant from Pro Helvetia for the priority promotion of jazz music which is the most important jazz award in Switzerland.

"Hildegard lernt fliegen" has recorded two CDs and is currently working on their third recording project, including a CD of a live concert as well as a DVD documentation of their recent tour to Russia. The CD/DVD will be released in October 2011.

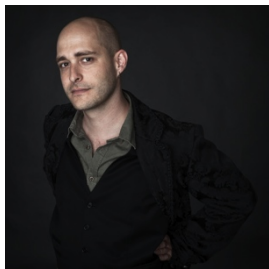
Upcoming tours:

August	20 – 21	Switzerland
September	16 – 18	Czech Republic
October	3 – 9	Russia
	10 – 15	Italy
	16	Germany
Dezember	7 – 11	Germany, Austria
January	8 – 13	France
	20	Switzerland
April – May	25 – 6	Germany, Austria, Poland, Netherlands

Links

Check www.hildegardlerntfliegen.com for sound samples, videos and press reviews

The Band Members



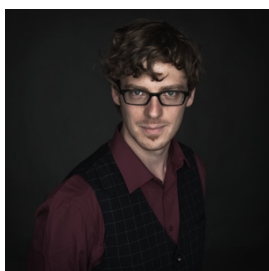
Andreas Schaerer (lead, vocals, beatboxing, composition) – studied at the Berne University of arts. He is one of the three founders of the Jazzwerkstatt Bern. He performed with Bobby McFerrin, Soweto Kinch, Adam Motta, Joey Blake, Bänz Oester, Joe Haider, Kaspar Ewald, Lucien Dubuis, Colin Vallon, Dejan Terzic, Christy Doran's Newbag and played many festivals: National arts festival Southafrica, Silent revolution jazz Festival Cape Town, Offside Jazzfestival, Dresdner Jazztage, Cully Jazz and many more. He is professor at the Berne University of Arts, and a sought-after studio musician.



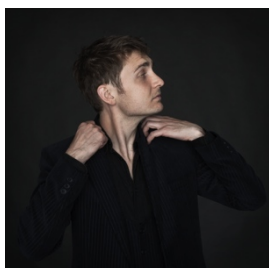
Christoph Steiner (drums, percussion, typewriter) – studied in Bern with Billie Brooks and Jan Fabricky. He has toured around Europe, performed at the Montreux Jazz Festival, Jazzfest Wien, Offside Festival Geldern, BeJazz Winterfestival, Cully Jazz and has collaborated with Das Beet, Lucerne Jazz Orchestra, Jazzwerkstatt Bern, Vincent Vegas Last Dance, Loraine Cotting, Benoit Piccand Project, Werner Hasler, Le Rex, Montreux Young Talents Band, Nucleus Torn and others.



Matthias Wenger (alto saxophone, soprano saxophone) – studied in Bern with Andy Scherrer, Frank Sikora and Kaspar Ewald. He arranged music for and performed it with Enrico Pieranunzi in Rome. He worked as the leader of the Jazzorchestra Vorarlberg with Peter Madsen and Peter Herbert as well as the Jazzwerkstatt Wien. He also performed at the Ocho Rioz Jazz Festival in Jamaica.



Andreas Tschopp (trombone, sousaphone) – studied in Basel with Adrian Mears. He is a member of the Swiss Jazz Orchestra, Zurich Jazz Orchestra, Starch, Kaspar Ewalds Exorbitantes Kabinett, (na)PALMT(h)REE, Le Rex, Vertigo trombone quartet, twopool, Spox + Brutus Interruptus. He performed with Bob Brookmeyers, Herbie Hancock, Chaka Khan, James Moody, Al Jarreau, Kenny Werner, Dick Oatts, Gary Smulyan, Johannes Lauer, Tyshawn Sorey, Nils Wogram, Hans Feigenwinter, Colin Vallon, Heidi Happy, Patent Ochsner.



Benedikt Reising (baritone saxophone, bass clarinet, alto saxophone) – studied with Andy Scherrer and Bert Joris and took masterclasses with Myron Walden, Dick De Graf, Michael Brecker, Dave Liebman. He toured around Europe and played at the Jazzfestival Cully, Montreaux Jazzfestival, Jazzfestival Schaffhausen, Stanser Musiktage, Feldkirch Festival, La Défense Jazz Festival Paris. He performed with Lucas Niggli, Bob Mintzer, Billy Cobham, Lucien Dubuis, Swiss Jazz Orchestra, Philippe Catherine. He works as a studio and theater musician.



Marco Müller (upright bass) – studied in Bern with Thomas Dürst, Peter Frei, Patrice Moret, Andy Scherrer, Bert Joris. He is a member of Wawawa, Marc Perrenoud Trio, Die Pilze, Thali. He has performed with Enrico Pieranunzi, Rico Baumann, Colin Vallon, Stefan Aeby, Bert Joris, Marc Perrenoud, Elina Duni, Donat Fisch, Lukas König.

Press reviews

Basler Zeitung

"Hildegard lernt fliegen" is like a cure for mainstream-congested ears!

Badische Zeitung / Jazzpodium

The explosively fascinating concoction of styles, distinctively home-brewed, is performed with exceeding joy and bravura.

der Bund

"Hildegard lernt fliegen" from Bern, Switzerland, miraculously manages to wrap subtle humour, traditionally frowned upon by jazz insiders, into captivating music.

Basellandschaftliche Zeitung

An artfully composed mixture, evoking Frank Zappa or John Zorn at times... very commendable as a soothing companion against winter depression!

Berner Zeitung

"Hildegard lernt fliegen", with their picturesque compositions, bring to mind Ernst Krenek, Kurt Weill and others reeling in the optimistic spirit in Berlin in the 1920ies.

Jazz n`more

No one is left unaffected by the sometimes lusciously painted, sometimes finely outlined images.

New York Cadence

Vocalist Andreas Schaerer has produced one of the cleverest and most interesting recordings I've heard in a while. It is a fine recording, worth seeking out.

Monsters and critics

A bandleader of rare quality, a band equipped with extravagant musicians.

Sound and image

A refreshing opposite to demure Jazz orchestras.

Jazzthetik

Fun music, saturated with subtle humour, from the lands of the goblins.

Berner Zeitung

Concerts of "Hildegard lernt fliegen" are more than just another jazz night. They are vaudeville and fairy tale at once.

Monsieur Délire – Canada

And if you like your jazz subversive and wacky, twisted by a retro-anarchist prism, look no further. Powerful singing, strong arrangements, creative solos.

Jazzthing

"Hildegard lernt fliegen" proves that avant-garde can be lighthearted at times and that humour doesn't necessarily have to be silly.

Jazzeit

Not only the extraordinary sound of the band but also Schaerer's virtuoso beat box art, his incredible scat technique and his astounding trumpet imitation make the band's concert a real delight.

Jazzthing

The imaginatively vital music of "Hildegard lernt fliegen" is a treat for the curious and 'open-eared'.

Concerto

"Hildegard lernt fliegen" is far off mainstream – their music goes under your skin, tickles your bones and is sure to bring every concert hall to a boil.