

Kalle Kalima, Guitarist

Touring

Last 25 years have been busy years for Kalima, touring mostly in Europe but also in Africa, Asia and Americas. Kalle Kalima (b. 1973 in Helsinki, Finland) has worked with trumpeters Tomasz Stanko and Leo Wadada Smith, sax players Juhani Aaltonen, Anthony Braxton, Frank Gratkowski and Mikko Innanen, trombonist Conny Bauer, bass players Greg Cohen, Sirone and Chris Jennings, guitarist Marc Ducret, composers Michael Wertmüller and Simon Stockhausen, pianist Jason Moran, drummers Jim Black and Tony Allen and singers Andreas Schaerer, Jelena Kuljic, Theresa Kronthaler, Claron Macfadden, Linda Sharrock as well as with Ensemble Resonanz, B'Rock, NDR Big Band and Jazzanova DJs.

Recordings

Kalimas has been working intensively with the Swiss virtuoso vocalist Andreas Schaerer in last years. They released „Evolution“ (ACT) with Tim Lefvebre in 2023 and toured in trio and duo. Further new releases in 2024 are „Halogen“ (We Jazz) by Lampen (duo with drummer Tatu Rönkkö) and „Ilmonique“ (Tyx records) by duo with pianist Achim Kaufmann. The album „Flying like Eagles“ with Knut Reiersrud on guitar, Jim Black on drums and Phil Donkin on bass was released in 2019 and the record release concert was in the Philharmony of Berlin. Kalima's Trio „Long Winding Road“ with bass player Greg Cohen (Tom Waits, Ornette Coleman) and Max Andrzejewski was touring in 2016 with the „High Noon“ album (ACT). The group Klima Kalima with Oliver Steidle and Oliver Potratz won „Neuer Deutscher Jazzpreis“ in 2008 and has released five albums. The sixth one will be released in 2025. Kalima is member of „A Novel of Anomaly“ (w Andreas Schaerer, drummer Lucas Niggli and Accordionist Luciano Biondini). The group is releasing their second album „Anthem for No Man's Land“ in 2025. Kalima is a member of ROKC quartet (album ROWK) with Ronny Graupe (gtr), Oli Steidle (drs) and Chris Pitsiokes (sax). The trio „Johnny La Marama“ with Eric Schaefer (drs) and Chris Dahlgren (bs) has released 4 albums and has collaborated with Novoflot Opera company.

Prizes and Educational work

Kalima is also leading K-18, a Finnish group with quarter-tone accordion that won Jazz-Emma in Finland in 2013. With his solo program „Pentasonic“ he plays guitar through electronics into 5 amps surrounding the audience. Kalima received the „Ted Curson“ prize of Pori jazz festival (FI) in 2016. He is a member of the group „Kuu“ with Christian Lillinger, Jelena Kuljic and Frank Möbus which claimed positive resonance with their second album „Lampedusa Lullaby“ and the third one „Artificial Sheep“. They were nominated for German Jazz Prize in 2022. He has a trio „Tenors of Kalma“ with Jimi Tenor, Finnish underground pop star. Their first album „Electric Willow“ was released in early 2015 and brought Kalima „Echo –Jazz“ Prize nomination in 2016 and the second one „Sounds of Salo“ was also positively received. Kalima was nominated for German Jazz Prize for Guitar in 2022. Kalima is a professor of jazz guitar at the university of Lucerne since 2017.

Press

„Kalle Kalima & K-18 are harmonic chameleons changing colors, textures and lyrical direction at will to effectively captured the cinematic moods of the various films while working strictly in the audio format, the visuals are left up to the listener, 5 stars.“ Brent Black, Critical Jazz.com 6/14

„Kalima is a virtuoso who can do anything from single lines to electronically altered hyper

slide guitar..." (Thomas Wörtche, Jazzpodium 4/03)

"A record that documents Kalle Kalima's flexibility, ability and amazing maturity both as a guitarist and as a band-leader" (Jazzdimensions.de 2001, Carina Prange about "Hippycone").

"...with his guitars Kalle Kalima proves to be a far reaching story-telling talent" (Jazzpodium Nr. 2 02/01, Frithsjoef Strauß)

"Presenting a combination of reckless abandon and structural thinking, Kalle Kalima (b. 1973) is one of the most fascinating Finnish musicians at the moment. ...the guitarist has managed to formulate a unique sound both as a musician and as a tunesmith. Currently residing in Berlin, Kalima plants the roots of his music deeply in the Nordic landscapes and the hectic urban life of the German capital." (Helsinki happens 01/01, Petri Silas, Finland.)

Selected Discography

Nuijamiehet . (2000) Fiasko Records FRCD-2.
Momentum Impakto. "Haw Haw" (2000) Jazz4ever LC 065
Kalima Trio with Marc Ducret. "Hippycone" (2000) Silence-0004
Johnny La Marama (2003) Meta Records
Soi: "Pehmeä" (2003) Texicalli Records
Kalle Kalima (2004) "Klima Kalima Helsinki on My Mind" Zyx Music
Johnny La Marama (2006) "...Fire" Traumton
Soi: "Koiperhonen" (2006) Texicalli
Klima Kalima: "Chasing Yellow" (2007) Enja
Jazz Paracites: "Very Early" (2008) Jazzwerkstatt
Kalle Kalima Pentasonic: "Iris in Trance" (2009) La Lune
Johnny La Marama: "Bicycle Revolution" (2009) Traumton
Kalle Kalima with K-18: "Some Kubricks of Blood" (2009) TUM
Klima Kalima: "Loru" (2010) Enja
Kalle Kalima with K-18: "Out to Lynch" (2012) Tum
Klima Kalima : "Finn Noir" (2013) Enja
Kuu: "Sex gegen Essen" (2014) Shoebill Records
Kalle Kalima with K-18: Bunuel de Jour (2014) Tum
Johnny La Marama: Il Purgatorio (2014) Traumton Records
Tenors of Kalma: Electric Willow (2015) Enja Records
Kronthaler: Living loving Maid (2015) Sony Classical
Kalle Kalima: High Noon (2016) ACT
Kuu!: Lampedusa Lullaby (2018) ACT
Kalle Kalima & Knut Reiersrud: Flying like Eagles (2019) ACT
Kuu!: Artificial Sheep (2021) ACT
Klima Kalima: "Live on Planet Berlin" (2022) Enja
Andreas Schaerer with Kalle Kalima inviting Tim Lefvebre: Evolution (2023) ACT
Tenors of Kalma: Sounds of Salo (2023) Enja
Kronthaler: Some Call Him Johnny Grey (2024) BMC
Achim Kaufmann and Kalle Kalima: Ilmonique (2024) Tyx Records
Lampen: Halogen (2024) We Jazz Records

www.kallekalima.com

