



HEINRICH VON KALNEIN

SAXOPHONIST, FLUTIST, COMPOSER

From his work with the prestigious Vienna Art Orchestra, to heading his own groups, to managing his own label, Heinrich von Kalnein has amassed a wealth of experience that spans over three decades. As a saxophonist / flautist, he has earned much critical acclaim and respect as a high-profile artist in Austria and throughout Europe. He has amassed a large fan base and performed all over Europe, the Americas, Australia, Russia, India and Sri Lanka.

„After more than three decades of active playing, he has become one of the best tenor saxophonists and flutists not only on the European continent; he is characterized by an unusual sense of melody, which he does not leave even during the freest improvisations.”

Patrick Spanko – skjazz.sk

As an artist he is very much in demand, both as a soloist and ensemble member, appearing on over forty recordings to date. From 2002 until 2019 he was co-leading the internationally acclaimed *JBBG Jazz Bigband Graz*. On invitation by the German *jazzahead* Festival in 2023 he was leading, performing and recording with the Austrian / German All Star ensemble *Alpine Air*. His current artistic activities include the trios *Kalnein / Lopez / Schwarz - Into The Now!* and *Polycrisis* (with guitarist Kenji Herbert and drummer Jan Krizanic), the quintet *JBBG Smål* with long-time Jazz Bigband Graz partner Horst-Michael Schaffer, his collaboration with Brazilian guitarist Emiliano Sampaio and his *Meretrio* as well as his Argentinian *Quarteto Internacional* with saxophonist Andrés Hayes.

From 1992 until 2025 he was a member of the renowned jazz institute of the University of Music Graz (KUG). In 2004 he was appointed Professor of Jazz Saxophone and founded the KUG Saxophone Quartet. He retired in 2025.

2020 he published his compositions for saxophone quartet with the Viennese publishing house *Doblinger*. In 2012 he founded his own label *NATANGO MUSIC* on which up to now he released 16 productions.

COLLABORATIONS:

Iain Ballamy, Django Bates, Kevin Brady, Wayne Brasel, Carla Bley, Bob Brookmeyer, Jay Clayton, Wayne Darling, Gil Evans, Heiner Goebbels, Jerry Granelli, Ronan Guilfoyle, Doug Hammond, Peter Herbolzheimer Bigband, Marc Johnson, Sheila Jordan, Chaka Khan, Nguyễn Lê, Rene Lussier, Rick Margitza, Charlie Mariano, Bob Mintzer, Phil Minton, Glen Moore, Wolfgang & Christian Muthspiel, Simon Nabatov, Ed Neumeister, Marc Ribot, Paquito d'Rivera, Steve Swallow, Dave Taylor, Arto Tunçboyacıyan, the Vienna Art Orchestra and the ORF Radio Sinfonieorchester (Austrian National Public Radio Symphony Orchestra) among others.

FESTIVALS:

Jazzfest Berlin (GER), Jazzfest Bonn (GER), Bolzano (I), Bremen (GER) jazzahead (2008 and 2023), Hofheim (GER), Snow Jazz Gastein (A), Gdynia (PL), Gelsenkirchen (GER), Guimaraes (P), Graz (A), Hamburg (GER) Elbjazz, Lisboa (P), Madrid (E), Magdeburg (GER), Maribor (Slo), Melbourne (AUS), New Delhi (IND), IAJE Conference 2006 New York (USA), Perth (AUS), Ploiesti (Ro), Rostock (GER), Saalfelden (A), Salzac (GER) Jazz Baltica, Salzburg Jazzherbst (A), Sibiu (Ro), St.Ingbert (GER), St. Petersburg (RUS), Strasbourg (F), Udine (IT), Usti Nad Labem (CZ), Trencin (SK), Vienne (F), Warsaw (PL), Weilheim (GER), Wien (A), Wiesbaden (GER), Wiesen (A) and Wroclaw (PL).

PRESS:

„One of the most accomplished saxophonists of the Austrian scene, Heinrich von Kalnein knows how to produce both high impact jazz and masterful lines with a lyrical feel. Highly recommended! ...”

Ljubisa Tosic - DER STANDARD (A)

“A lovely player on both tenor saxophone and alto flute, always melodic in his improvisations, always conversational in tone.” Peter Bacon, The Jazz Breakfast

„...Jazz definitely can't sound more world-embracing, modern and organic. A feast for the ears... Kalnein is a master of catchy cadences; his imagination produces ear worm potential of the finest quality...highest entertainment and musical arrangements, which make you dive into a sound cosmos.”-CONCERTO (A)

“Heinrich von Kalnein's tone alone, this warm, cuddly, lovely sound of his tenor - which sounds even more haunting live - is a feast for the ears.”

Steff Rohrbach - Jazz'n'More Magazine

„There's a drive and melodic beauty to the music of Kahiba that makes this European trio simply infectious.... and it's a hit. ...The group's ability to be in the pocket and take the music outside, too, creates surprise after surprise. Overall, this is an album that's satisfying and intriguing. I love this trio.“ Frank Alkyer - DOWNBEAT MAGAZINE Online 08.10.2014 – Editor's Pick about KAHIBA's „The Sixth Sense“.

www.heinrichvonkalnein.com

<http://natangomusic.com>



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