

SUNDROPS

Bios



Yara Schmitter - Vocal

Yara Schmitter sings since she can think with much joy and enthusiasm. In her school time at the upper school Flawil she could realize herself for the first time with a school band on a stage and got to know her passion for musicals and theatre in the school theatre, both subjects under the direction of the then music and theatre teacher Urs C. Eigenmann. Since 2012 she has regularly taken singing lessons with Sabrina Sauder.

In addition to weddings and funerals, which Yara Schmitter accompanies musically, she is also a vice-president of the association Musicalfieber Flawil full of joy. Yara Schmitter has already participated in several productions not only on stage, but also behind the scenes, most recently in the Swiss premiere of "9 to 5" in the role of Doralee Rhodes.

Now to work together with professional music makers, she takes as a chance to develop herself personally and musically and is looking forward to an exciting and exciting time.



Leandra Wiesli – Vocal

Leandra Wiesli discovered her passion for the stage at an early age. She certainly can't remember the time "before" music. Singing always belonged to the life of the 27 year old. After years of singing lessons and participation in school band and school theatre she was a choir member in the musical Space Dream. It followed small appearances in the context of weddings, vernissages or funerals. For some years she has been working in the musical society Flawil and already impersonated Morticia

Addams from The Addams Family or Violet Newstead from 9 to 5 - Das Musical. To be on stage with a band and to inspire people with it - for the young singer Sundrops is a big dream come true.



Markus Bittmann - Saxophone

After a classical trumpet training, he switched to the saxophone shortly before entering military music. At the age of 17, he was a finalist in the DRS3 band contest and has since played over 1000 concerts with rock and funk bands such as Soap Soup, Waterproof, Fritz and Tino, Hotwash, Wilde 13, Elias Bernet, Wilden Tiger, Bigband 14u, Amazonas Chor, RumbleFish, BossAffair and at places like Open Air St. Gallen, Arbon, Bischofszell, Jazzfestival Montreux, Pentorama, Panem. Today he is currently a member of the bands Red Cube, Zuccherino&Friends, Santandrea Band, recently also with soulshine and Markus Bittmann is on the road with various other projects. He says: "Music was my first love".

www.bittmann.ch



Alex Steiner – Guitar

teaches guitar and choral singing as a diploma music teacher in the region of St.Gallen. He is trained at the Jazz School St.Gallen. It plays with the well-known band "Red Cube" and in other various other groups, as well as with Simon Johnson's "Bluesonix" and as a studio musician.



Urs C. Eigenmann – Piano, E-Piano, Hammond XK-1c

Urs is mainly a self-taught musician. However, he did study at the Jazz School Graz (A) and Bern (CH). In 1967, he established the Urs Carl Eigenmann-Trio, a true Blues band. Shortly after, in 1968, he formed the legendary band off&out. With this band, Urs played many concerts, among others, several times at the Jazzfestival Zürich. In addition, Urs formed the band Umamaca with which he performed at the Open Air St. Gallen, in 1985. Urs has also been a successful composer. Two of his major works include the commissioned work Open Opera (1993), as well as the total work of art Alli Zäme (1998). In 2008, he initiated the international festival Jazzin which he has been organizing regularly. „The list of musicians who were part of off&out is long and impressive. And by the way, but not to forget: Urs C. Eigenmann made real Swiss Jazz history. It cannot be another 50 years, but as long as this „fellow“ exists, we can expect a lot more of off&out – and we are looking forward to it!“, wrote the journalist Richard Butz.

www.uc-eigenmann.ch



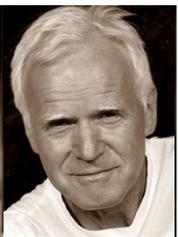
Marc Ray Oxendine – E-Bass

was born in Manhattan, New York City... 1982-1985 Grandmothers Love, Pueblo de las Vacchas tristes, First Take, etc...Switzerland. 1985-1989 Peter Wollbrandt and Jan Fride Wollbrandt (Kraan) Germany. Various bands and studio recordings. Switzerland, Jazz School St. Gallen CH. 1989-1990 Half Moon Cut USA Musicians Institute, Hollywood CA. 1990-1994 Hoochie Coo with David Glick and Johnny Angel Scaglione (Talas) USA, EGG with Dan Blanzky and Callum Benepe LAPD with Nucci Solazzo, Danny Merritt, Mark White and Steve De Marchi, Ant Bee with Mothers of Invention USA, etc...

1995-2017 Recordings, tours and concerts with Just Two, Saft, Elias Bernet, Nuuk, Freda Goodlett, Mr. Mmmhhhhh, Kalpana Rao, Birds of Paradise, Get Wet, Christine Lauterburg, Fundamental Groove Family, Gerhard Gabriel, Los Grecos, Saihou, Jimmy Skizzo, Gee K, Holiday Bluegrass Jam, Heloiza & Pau de Lei, Mizan, BBFrances, Wait & See, Donmax, members of Kraan, Overhead, Urs C. Eigenmann, Malcolm Green, Ceravolo Brothers, Reggie Saunders, Permanent Party, Cesar & Go West, Myron, Andy Egert, Dalls Hodge, Days of Yonder, Red Cube, off&out, The \$elfies, Phil Gates, Karl Frierson & Soulprint...

US-Speaker for Head, Leica, DRS3, Radio Argovia...

www.marcrayoxendine.com



Andy Leumann - Drums

After his studies at the Swiss Jazzschool in Bern with Billie Brooks, Andy started his career as a professional drummer in 1978 with the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation ORF. 1980 he meets the pianist U.C. Eigenmann in his band off&out for the first time. With bassist and singer Pino Buoro he plays almost at the same time in the formations Infra Steff and Soul Set. All three meet for the first time in Eigenmann's band Umamaca.

www.andyleumann.com/