

JAZZDOR SERIES

PRESS RELEASE

JAZZDOR SERIES #22 CLAUDIA SOLAL & BENJAMIN MOUSSAY *PUNK MOON*

RELEASE ON 7 MARCH 2025



Claudia Solal, vocals, lyrics, compositions
Benjamin Moussay, piano, keyboards, compositions

More than 20 years after their debut as a duo, after *Porridge Days* et *Butter in my brain* (qualified as a masterpiece in *Le Monde*, 4 F in *Télérama*, nominated for the 2018's *Victoires du Jazz*), after *Room Service* (Spoonbox quartet), **Claudia Solal and Benjamin Moussay are back again with Punk Moon, a flaming new repertoire**, the fourth part of their collaboration. Recorded at Studio Sextan in november 2023, **the album will be released in spring 2025 on Jazzdor series' record company.**

For this completely original program, Claudia wrote ten poems in English, with suggestive titles (*Slow war, Tomorrow I sleep, Battle dress, Punk moon...*). The whole project gives birth to lunar and chimeric orchestral pop songs, a music in orbit...

Art house songs for borderless free music.

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JAZZDOR SERIES

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INTENTION NOTE

A hymn to the Moon, a hymn to women...

Protesting woman, disturbing, volcanic, indocile, powerful, sexual, wild woman... Chiaroscuro woman. Primitive or urban, cosmic, universal woman. Woman in search of identity, invoked, repressed identity or exposed for everyone to see. Woman who is a prey to doubts and mixed feelings, given over to her own violence, her desire, her capacity or inability to love, to her basic duality (to quote Anaïs Nin) : "There were always in me, two women at least, one woman desperate and bewildered, who felt she was drowning and another who would leap into a scene, as upon a stage, conceal her true emotions because they were weaknesses, helplessness, despair, and present to the world only a smile, an eagerness, curiosity, enthusiasm..."

The texts have a war-like nature, and draw on romantic, sexual, intimate fields. They talk about our world. They were partly inspired by the post-war american movement called confessional poetry, which includes Anne Sexton, Sylvia Plath, Robert Lowell, W.D. Snodgrass...

Claudia Solal



UPCOMING CONCERTS

March 26, 2025, Budapest Music Center
Budapest, Hungary

March 27, 2025, Atelier du Plateau
Paris, France

April 25, 2025, Jazzdor
Strasbourg, France

LINER NOTES

With *Helium Balloon*, as the first wave of words and sounds rushes into our ears, we are plunged into the singular world of a duo born a little more than 20 years ago, that tells about the universe, about flesh and bodies surrendering to love, as capsized vessels.

Claudia writes her poems in English, her mother's tongue, as if to anchor in the breeding ground of constantly questioned original stories.

The duo's music sounds like a confidence, as we immerse ourselves in those totally assumed pop songs which unfold their narratives of mingled feelings - desire, otherness, self-transformation, the struggle to build oneself, to reach emancipation.

One can feel like a groundswell which carries the whole thing, an underground groove which gradually forges a course evoking life, its restlessness, the distance left to reach unsuspected shores on which a bare foot will at last be able to leave its mark.

The duo's unique, elaborate, yet immediately moving sound due to its obviousness, its fluidness, mixes piano, modular synth, voice, mastered effects, and tells even more of the mystery of a musical world revealing itself to us, as it unfurls.

Because it's truly about a journey.

Well settled in this almost lunar vessel, which comfortably transports us while jostling us at the first detours, and tells us without really telling us, we embark for hopefully adventurous dreamlands.

Talk to me, into the deep

Philippe Ochem, director of JAZZDOR




CLAUDIA SOLAL

Singer, songwriter

Claudia Solal is an untamed and adventurous musician. As a singer, songwriter, she has been performing for over 25 years in France and abroad. Her singular collaborations, her numerous artistic experiences played a large part in building a unique and captivating vocal language, in between written material and improvised songs.

After her highly acclaimed first records, *Butter in my brain*, a duo with Benjamin Moussay, receives in 2017 a resounding welcome. In 2020, *Hopetown*, quoted as a radical success in *Le Monde* newspaper (*CHOC Jazzmagazine* / *4F Télérama*), confirms the continuity of her collaboration with Benoît Delbecq that begins in Chicago in 2015. She currently performs in a trio formed with Didier Petit and Philippe Foch (*Les Ferrailleurs du ciel* - Grand Prix de l'Académie Charles Cros 2018 / tours to Mexico, China, Korea, Baltic countries, Finland...), with Françoise Toullec (*La Banquise*), Christophe Rocher (*Nautilus Ensemble*), in a trio with Jean-Charles Richard and Marc Copland. *Cérémonie de thé*, a new trio with Hasse Poulsen and Simon Drappier debuts in 2024.


Claudia Solal has also been involved in voice teaching since 1998 (workshops, master classes). She ran a class at the CRR in Strasbourg from 2005 to 2023, and currently teaches at the PSPBB in Paris.

 claudiasolal.com

BENJAMIN MOUSSAY

Pianist, composer, ECM artist

Graduated from Conservatoire National Supérieur of Paris and prizewinner at Martial Solal international jazz piano competition, the pianist and composer Benjamin Moussay explores his unique and poetic musical universe. Besides his regular collaborations with major artists of the jazz scene (Louis Sclavis, Daniel Humair, Michel Portal, Claudia Solal, Aïrelle Besson, ...) he leads his own projects in solo, duo and trio. For his last album *Promontoire* released in 2020, he was the second French pianist to make a piano solo recording for prestigious label ECM. His talent for improvisation, lyric and telluric, has contributed to build year after year a very special musical world, between jazz and avant-garde, sometimes with electronic flavors, never ceasing to develop his sense of musical discourse and his sonic identity.

 benjaminmoussay.net

CREDITS

Songs composed and arranged by Claudia Solal & Benjamin Moussay

Lyrics by Claudia Solal

Recorded November 29 to December 1, 2023,

mixed and mastered, winter and spring 2024 at Studio Sextan, Malakoff by Arthur Gouret

Production: Claudia Solal, Benjamin Moussay, Jazzdor with the kind complicity of Studio Sextan

Executive producer: Philippe Ochem

Photos: Tatiana Chevalier - Text: Philippe Ochem - Graphics: Helmo