

Media information

2023 JTI Trier Jazz Award

JTI Germany and the City of Trier present award for outstanding Jazz music for the 14th time

The award winner's concert within the context of this year's JTI Trier Jazz Award took place at the Trier Chamber of Industry and Commerce Conference Centre on **August 25 at 8 p.m. Nils Wogram** was presented with the award for his musical mastery. The audience enjoyed an outstanding concert, which is a very special part of the 2023 Moselle Music Festival.

"Nils Wogram fundamental in an incidental way. Because the trombonist, composer and bandleader – originally from Braunschweig, but living in Zurich – is on a quest to open up new forms of expression for his instrument without having to neglect tradition in the process", was the reasoning of the jury (freelance journalist and Chairman of the Jury Dr. Peter Kleiß, freelance journalist Ralf Dombrowski and Jazz musician Olivia Trummer), commenting on the awarding process. "He roots himself both in the ensemble sound within the context of his own established bands and in historical experiments, is able to let the tonal certainties of his instrument roam before then transitioning to a full, versatile, lyrically-witty sound. Overall, his idea of the trombone is interspersed with profound vitality and the circumspection of understanding improvisation as a space of opportunity and inspiration as an invitation to not dwell of the known. With this, Nils Wogram has developed into a leading instrumentalist and a conceptual forward thinker of his generation who inspires Jazz beyond the scene with lots of fun and captivating creative power".

Wogram performed with his ensemble *Muse*, the line-up alone promising an extraordinary evening. Harp (*Kathrin Pechlof*), viola (*Gareth Lubbe*) and alto saxophone (*Hayden Chisholm*) complement his impressive trombone playing – musical lyricism and a form of improvised chamber music whereby contemporary classical, Folk, Jazz and film music create a unique dream-like world.

Nils Wogram commenting on his award: "I always really look forward to the award winner's concert at the Brunnenhof venue. I have many things in common with Trier. I have often experienced wonderful concerts here, including those with Aki Takase and Thomas Bracht, among others."

Heike Maria Lau, Member of the JTI Germany Management Team: "This year, the Moselle Music Festival is once again all about first-class musicians. JTI has been cooperating with Rhineland-Palatinate's largest and oldest music festival for 16 years

now. In collaboration with the City of Trier, we are presenting the JTI Trier Jazz Award for the 14th time. We are thrilled to be able to make such a contribution towards improving the quality of life of those living in the regions in which we operate – with music as a universal language that everybody understands and that brings people together. We see this engagement as a commitment to Trier.”

Previous award winners:

To date, the JTI Trier Jazz Award has been presented to the following musicians:

Marilyn Mazur (2010) > Percussion, piano
Oliver Strauch (2011) > Percussion
Toots Thielemans † (2012) > Harmonica, guitar
Pascal Schumacher (2013) > Vibraphone
Stefano Bollani (2014) > Piano
Nicole Johännngen (2015), > Saxophone
Iiro Rantala (2016) > Piano
Markus Stockhausen (2017) > Trumpet
Ferenc Snétberger (2018) > Guitar
Eva Klesse (2019) > Percussion
Julia Hülsmann (2020), > Piano
Nubya Garcia (2021) > Saxophone, flute
Jelena Kulić (2022) > Singing

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