

Paul Janoschka

Born and raised in the southwest of Germany, Paul Janoschka began his formal musical education with classical piano lessons taught by his father. As a young teenager, he took his first jazz piano lessons with **Jörg Schöllhorn**, while simultaneously producing hip-hop beats at home on his MPC1000 non-stop, deeply influenced by the sound of 1990s hip-hop he got to know through his older brother.

He went on to study jazz piano with **Prof. Joerg Reiter** and **Prof. Rainer Böhm** at the **University of Music and Performing Arts Mannheim**. Subsequently, he continued his studies at the **City College of New York**, where he completed a two-year master's program as a **DAAD scholarship recipient**, studying with **Fred Hersch**, **Kevin Hays**, **Mike Holober**, and **Steve Wilson**. This intensive period in New York profoundly shaped his artistic development and deepened his connection to the city's vibrant jazz scene.

Now based in **Frankfurt am Main, Germany**, Paul Janoschka is a highly requested sideman in European and international ensembles, while also acting as the creative force behind his own projects, including his trio and the band **kapelle17**, with whom he has been active for more than eight years.

Through his monthly concert series "**circuits**", Paul Janoschka brings together musicians from different scenes for creative encounters, seeking to realize his vision of jazz as a living, collaborative exchange. His musical work is characterized by a sensitive yet powerful and open approach to playing, combined with a clear and distinctive compositional voice.

Since **2023**, Paul Janoschka has held a teaching position in **piano as a secondary instrument** at the **JAZZCAMPUS of the University of Music Basel**, where he aims to pass on his experience from academic study, concert practice, and continuous artistic reflection — along with his deep love for music — to the next generation of musicians.

Paul Janoschka's musical language is shaped by the fusion of classical jazz tradition with contemporary influences. His playing combines melodic sensitivity with rhythmic flexibility, creating a sound that connects tradition and modernity in an inspired and organic way. He is part of a new and emerging generation of jazz artists who integrate traditional jazz elements with influences from hip-hop and beat-based music, impressionistic sonorities, and free improvisation.

Paul Janoschka is a **prizewinner of the Yamaha Jazz Piano Competition 2016** and was a scholarship holder of the **Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now Foundation Rhein-Neckar** from **2016 to 2020**. In **2017**, he was a finalist at the **International Jazz Contest Mechelen** in Belgium and in **2020** he received a **project grant from the State of Rhineland-Palatinate**.

Paul Janoschka's trio debut album "**TRIO**" featuring Simón Willson on bass and Jonas Esser on drums will be released on **August 14, 2026**, on **Endectomorph Music**.