

# About Next Generation Orchestra

## N.G.O. the liveband

Christian Schmid (electric bass, fender rhodes, casiotone, loops)  
Rico Baumann (drums, microkorg, loops)

+ Daniela Sarda (voc)

Next Generation Orchestra is a phenomenon – a two-man band that sounds like a full-blown orchestra; two exceptional musicians who are rewiring their pile of instruments, their tools and equipment before a backdrop of wide open stylistic drawers and shattered genre barriers, thus making their own stage on which to play music for themselves and for the world at large. Since September 2009 Next Generation Orchestra has been playing live with the incredibly soulful singer Daniela Sarda.



## N.G.O. history

When the two young musicians were engaged as an accompanying duo by violinist and chansonnier Simon La Bey in 2001, it immediately became apparent that a perfect match had been made. Even though Christian Schmid later devoted a lot of time to the classical double bass and afterwards went to Amsterdam to check out the electric bass there,

while Rico Baumann was diving straight into the Swiss jazz scene, they have never lost track of each other and have continued to put their very own idea of pop music into reality with N.G.O.

Merely calling this band versatile would be a gross understatement: In 2006 they recorded an entire EP of playful instrumentals, they have written and performed the music for two plays, they have contributed music to a film documentary and have provided free improvisation for the experimental music short „Videos“ (contained on their eponymous album) to visuals by the graphic artists of Foederation. And that still leaves the gigs in selected venues such as Moods in Zurich, the Vidmarhallen or the Jazzwerkstatt in Bern. Next Generation Orchestra do whatever they want to do. There is enough utterly predictable music out there.

### **The album „Videos“**

It was in late 2008 when N.G.O. entered the tiny but cosy Audiokonzept studio of Sāmi Baur (drummer with Stop The Shoppers, Shirley Grimes, Gus McGregor and others) to record an album of vocal and instrumental songs.

Surrounded by a variety of vintage instruments and odds and ends, the two musicians set about creating their very own sound, going beyond all clichés and always managing to keep the immediate and exciting feeling of live music in the making, despite the elaborate production.

The singers Elina Duni (CH/Alb), Daniela Sarda (CH/I) and Jo-Anne Vissers (NL) lend the songs their distinctive voices and sometimes even their own languages, each in her own way.

In „Videos“ Christian Schmid and Rico Baumann never hide their great love for pop music. Their own version of it is catchy without being simplistic, always on the look-out for that very personal sound and yet expressive enough to reach out to a large number of discerning music lovers.

Such a multi-faceted musical cosmos, rich in detail but coherent and self-contained really does make one sit up and listen.

„Videos“ was celebrated with a glittering release concert on January 31st 2010 at the sold-out Bee-Flat club in the Progr, Berne.

