



# AMALIA UMEDA QUARTET

Amalia „Umeda” Obrębowska – violin  
Franciszek Raczkowski – piano  
Michał Aftyka - double bass  
Michał Szeligowski - drums





# BIOGRAPHY

Amalia Umeda Quartet formed in the turn of 2020 and 2021. Members of the band are mainly connected with a jazz environment of three polish cities - Warsaw, Cracow and Katowice. The leader - Amalia Obrębowska chose exactly these musicians to her group, because their way of improvising and feeling music matches particularly to her artistic vision.

The group performs compositions written by the leader, but they're barely canvas for major purpose of the band - **collective and intuitive improvisation**. Main idea of the quartet is creating wide range of musical and emotional spaces; Which is obtained by using large variety of **harmonic colors**, by diverse approach to time **layer** and by being opened for different, unplanned version of every single piece.



Musicians try to cross borders of conventional ways of treating each instrument in the band. A listener can notice **influences** of **classical contemporary music**, **traditional slavic** music and **experimental** music.

All members of the band participate in other projects and have won **awards at various competitions** (Seifert Competition, Jazz Juniors, Jazz nad Odrą, Krokus Jazz Festival, Blue Note Poznań Competition, Hanza Jazz Festival, RCK Pro Jazz, Novum Jazz Festival). They performed on many jazz stages in Poland and abroad, including Jazz Against the Machine, Warsaw Summer Jazz Days, Sokołowski Jazz feat. Tomasz Stańko Days, NiCa Jazz Festival, Jazz Jantar, Złota Tarka, Wschód Piękna, Krakowska Noc Jazzu, Emanacje Festival).





# BIOGRAPHY



**Amalia „Umeda” Obrębowska** - improvising violinist, composer, arranger. She has been playing the violin since the age of 7. Her adventure with improvisation started at the end of 2013 and a year later she discovered her enjoyment and drive towards creating and performing her own works. Her main assumption during the process of creating music is to show various emotional states. She studied jazz violin faculty in classes of two great polish violinists - Henryk Gembalski and Mateusz Smoczyński. The winner of the audience award and special award at The International Zbigniew Seifert Jazz Violin Competition 2018, 2nd prize (soloist category) at the Blue Note Poznań Competition 2020.

**Franciszek Raczkowski** – a jazz pianist and a composer.

He released his debut album - “Apprentice” (Franciszek Raczkowski Trio) in 2015. He is also a cocreator of many jazz collectives, including Raczkowski/Kostka Duo, Theos & Vincents, Stanisław Słowiński Project, Semiotic Quintet, Maciej Kitajewski Trio. A graduate of two faculties - classical and jazz piano at the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice. An award-winner of many jazz competitions. In his opinion, the most important feature of music is its organicity.







# BIOGRAPHY



**Michał Aftyka** - a double bassist, composer, a student of Academy of Music in Katowice. Ministry of Culture and National Heritage scholarship-holder.

He cocreates several bands - Theos & Vincents, JAH Trio, Ola Błachno Quartet, Aga Gruczek Trio. He is the winner of the 2nd place at the Krokus Jazz 2020 (Aga Gruczek Trio), the individual award at the RCK Pro Jazz 2019, and the honourable mention at the Blue Note 2019 (JAH Trio). He is an author of music of the spectacle "Legendy Warszawskie" in Syrena Theatre in Warsaw.

**Michał Szeligowski** - drummer, member of Przemysław Chmiel Quartet, Monika Malczak Quintet, Robert Wypasek Trio.

He especially values fact, that music allows people to communicate in abstract way, and that dealing with this sort of art gives them an opportunity to get out of scheme of daily life. A graduate of the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice in the class of Adam Buczek and Paweł Dobrowolski. He received 2nd prize (band category) at Blue Note Poznań Competition 2018 with Przemysław Chmiel Quartet, with whom he recorded an album "Witchcraft" in 2020.





# SHOWS

**2022**

Oslo Jazz Festival – Oslo, Norway

**2021**

Jazztopad Festival – Wrocław, Poland

Klub wytwowania – Łódź, Poland

# PRIZES

**2021**

Footprints Europe Artist

Young Crokuz Jazz Festival Contest

Milestones – Narodowe Forum Muzyki oraz Arts & Parts

Intl Jazz Platform

Intl Jazz Platform Oslo

**2020**

2nd prize (soloist) at the Blue Note Poznań Competition

**2018**

Audience award and special award at The International Zbigniew Seifert Jazz Violin Competition

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# DISCOGRAPHY (TO UPDATE)



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# CONTACT

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**Facebook :** <https://www.facebook.com/Amalia-Obrębowska-607713529630770/>

**Bandcamp :** <https://amaliaumedaquartet.bandcamp.com/releases>

**Instagram :** <https://www.instagram.com/amalkerium/>

**Youtube :** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIrHTCVL4mk>

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