

# Pino Klijn Duo <sup>2</sup>Press Kit

# Unscripted Melodies: Sylvie Klijn & José Pino Live and Improvised

**The distinct resonance of Sylvie Klijn's voice and José Pino's guitar delivers an enchanting repertoire that seamlessly intertwines the soulful essence of traditional jazz and the vibrant rhythms of Latin American music. This captivating fusion is further enriched by their original compositions, adding a unique and innovative dimension to the musical experience.**

With each performance, audiences are invited on a journey through time and culture, where familiar melodies are reimagined and new harmonies are born, creating an irresistible allure that captivates the senses and leaves a lasting impression.

This project has emerged from a spontaneous collaboration aimed at refining the musical language developed by each musician over the years. It has grown naturally, without the need for prior preparation of a specific repertoire. Instead, José and Sylvie have allowed their shared musical language to guide them.

# About Sylvie Klijn

Sylvie Klijn, a versatile singer and composer, maintains a presence in both Switzerland and the Netherlands. She holds master's degrees from the Fontys Conservatory (NL) with a specialization in composition, piano, and singing, as well as a master's degree in Arts and Society from the University of Utrecht (NL). From 2019 to 2021 she pursued a master's program in jazz voice and composition at the Haute École de Musique Lausanne in Switzerland. She has been selected for a residency at the prestigious organization L'Abri Genève for the academic year 2022-2023. In addition, she has been granted participation in the music talent development program of Noord-Brabant (Netherlands), Music Hub Brabant, throughout 2024.

Sylvie embarked on her musical journey as a classical pianist, achieving acclaim with victories at the Selection National Competition and the Princess Christina Competition. Subsequently, she received invitations from the Dutch embassy in Tunisia to showcase her talents through concerts. Transitioning from her classical roots, Sylvie delved into jazz and pop music, seamlessly blending these genres in her compositions. Her works evoke distant realms through wordless melodies or convey narratives with subtle influences. Notably, with her Dutch ensemble, the **Klijn Kwartet**, Sylvie has graced prestigious venues including the Grachtenfestival, radio 4, jazz stage Paradox, TivoliVredenburg, and concert hall Willem II. The group's album "Safe Ground" was released to critical acclaim in June 2019.

As both a vocalist and composer, Sylvie is involved in numerous projects based in Switzerland. Notably, she co-founded the trio **Vagalumes** alongside percussionist Samuel Boutros and guitarist Paul Alberto Gonzalez Ostos, with a primary focus on Brazilian music. Drawing inspiration from the works of poets Fernando Pessoa and Florbela Espanza, Sylvie incorporates their poems as lyrics in her compositions. The trio's exceptional talent was recognized when they were awarded the prestigious Coup de Coeur prize during the JazzContreBand competition in October 2021. Furthermore, in February 2024, they celebrated the release of their debut album under the ANUK label.

Sylvie collaborates with accordionist Lea Gasser, forming the duo **OXEON**. With a shared classical background, they reimagine classical works through arrangements and improvisations, while also incorporating their original compositions and expanding their sound with effects pedals. OXEON's talent has been recognized with a selection for the semi-finals of the Lavaux classique competition. The album "Somewhere Far" (2023) is a testament to their partnership, signed with both the Dutch SONNA Records and the Swiss ANUK label.

Sylvie's versatility extends to her roles as a sidewoman or lead singer in various ensembles, including the **Bigband Jazzin' Fribourg** and the **Antoine Brochot Quartet**.

Sylvie had the opportunity to participate in the Keep an Eye Summer Jazz Workshop at the Conservatory of Amsterdam, as well as a course at the Complete Vocal Institute in Copenhagen. In Switzerland, she has showcased her talents at esteemed events such as the JazzOnze+ festival, Cully Jazz Festival, Antigél festival, and NovaJazz festival. Additionally, Sylvie has had the honour of performing her original compositions on Swiss radio.

### **Find out more**

listen | [sylviekljn.nl](http://sylviekljn.nl)

# About José Pino

José Pino embarked on his musical journey at a young age as a singer and guitarist, honing his skills under the guidance of renowned mentors such as **Camilo Santacruz** and **Carlos “Chino” Cando** in Quito, Ecuador. Over time, he expanded his musical horizons by mastering wind and percussion instruments. He specialised in Brazilian jazz guitar, receiving tutelage from luminaries like **Romero Lubambo** and **Lula Galvão**.

In Switzerland, his country of choice, José Pino pursued higher education in Computer Music and earned a Master's degree in Music Theory and Composition from the Zurich University of the Arts, specialising in electroacoustic composition. Graduating with honours in 2020, he furthered his studies in arrangement under the mentorship of **Fernando Corrêa** from the Brazil Jazz Symphony in São Paulo.

Focusing on instrumental compositions that range from solo pieces to orchestral arrangements, José Pino's music is deeply rooted in the rich traditions of jazz and Latin American folk music, and expands into the electronic and electroacoustic genres. With a rich background in arranging and composing for full jazz ensembles, exemplified by compositions like “Trébol” and “Rojo” (2022), José Pino brings a wealth of expertise to the table. His 2022 big band rendition of “500 Miles High” further highlights his mastery in this genre.

In recent years, José Pino's work has garnered international acclaim, being featured at prestigious venues around the globe, from Havana to Shanghai.

A seasoned music educator, he currently teaches at the Musikschule St. Gallen, the Musikschule Zürcher Oberland in Switzerland, and serves as a guest lecturer for the Conservatorio Mozarte in Quito among others.

Through the non-profit initiative **La casa de nadie** he co-founded in 2019 in Zurich, José Pino actively engages in music production, music journalism and cultural promotion, as evidenced by the initiation of the **Zurich Jam Session** in 2024, with an impressive line-up from the national and international scene.

## Find out more

listen | discography | video production | catalogue | publications | [josepino.org](http://josepino.org)

# Booking

The project is open for presentation at festivals, theatres, and cultural events. Feel free to get in touch and book the **Pino Klijn Duo** for an authentic musical experience that captures the essence of organic encounters and expressive performance.

**Contact José Pino**

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