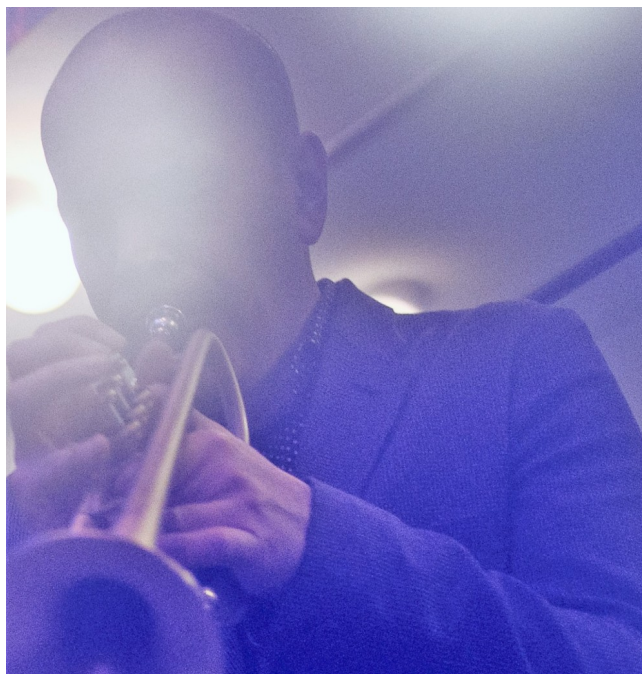


MARTIN DAHANUKAR

NEWS
WINTER 2025/26

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The programme alternates rhythmic numbers with an emphasis on line and attack, and more impressionistic sketches: Dahanukar has a genius for pacing an album.

– **Jazz Journal, England**

About Martin Dahanukar you can say, what every jazz musician wishes to be: he is an original character.

– **Ueli Bernays, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zurich**

Martin Dahanukar is one of the most exciting musicians working today in Europe, and one of the most precious: for his individuality, for having the courage to inhabit his own imaginative world, and for daring to work without obvious commitment to a single style or to a rigid modernity.

– **Brian Morton, editor of The Penguin Guide To Jazz, London**

Those who embark on his tangled melodies, will discover a poetic storyteller.

– **Tom R. Schulz, Hamburger Abendblatt**

Martin Dahanukar has a nice warm open horn sound, with a very lyric heart that he wears easily on his sleeve without ever once sounding trite...The group's music is enjoyable and expansive, with the genuine sound of discovery in it, always tonal but new and exploratory as well.

– **Phillip McNally, Cadence, New York**

Ce qui ressort du trompettiste Martin Dahanukar, c'est sa sonorité limpide puissante à la manière d'un Paolo Fresu.

– **Mathieu Durand (Jazz Magazine, Paris)**

Here is Jazz as it should be. Dahanukar's compositions are strong, melodic, questioning, challenging. Dahanukar's trumpet is serious, as is his band.

– **Ranjona Banerji (DNA, Mumbai)**

Go to complete [press clips](#)

»I know, who *You* are, because I heard *You* playing ... Jazz is who we are«

ACTIVITIES

MARTIN DAHANUKAR & THE MAVES – With this new combo together with two longtime musical associates we recorded a new album »*Morpho*« at Studio Basel/ Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen SRF which was released in 2025.

[Further concert announcements](#)

SOUS LES ÉTOILES – STEADY GIG PROJEKT – From October 2014 until April 2015 my steady-gig-series »Sous Les Étoiles« took place for a first time, smack in the middle of the old town of Bern. These Monday concerts were a big success. Together with my house band half a dozen of younger Bernese musicians had guest appearances. Since then ten other editions of »Sous Les Étoiles« took place. A 12th series started on 24th October 2025 and will last until 3th April 2025.

www.facebook.com/JazzSousLesEtoiles



DIARY

Noir Est La Mer – Reminiscences of family holidays at the Southern French mediterranean near Perpignan. Quelle fête: by day the radio stations play only rock and pop, unlike at home in Switzerland. Under blatant loudspeakers we siblings play ping-pong for hours. Meanwhile the concrete and warmed up new town overflows with native vacationers. Every night rock gigs with French bands take place at the end of the corniche. Girls scurry by, in their eyes this incredible look: incroyable! And behind this youth paradise the black sea foams, churned by mountain winds. Only a few days later I nearly drowned out there, and was thrown back to the beach and to life by the waves in the very last moment. I had already given up, before my eyes a moss-covered gravestone. What moments in the life of a sleepy fifteen-year-old from Bern! The song »Noir Est La Mer« recalls this Southern French August and is now again part of the band repertoire.

My Street – And everything crumbles into dust. One day, just before christmas, soft ice fog hangs in the air of my street. And it feels supernatural to cross this in the sunlight glinting haze. But by noon all the spell has gone and from the sky gapes the pale and austere winter light.

Riff-raff – Always at the beginning of summer the ash trees in the alley are surged by bee swarms. This nearly thrilling sensation is of three days short length. But this swoosh echoes long afterwards, even when it is bygone and still again above the treetops.

The Duke – What a thrill it is, again and again, to hear how Ellington's musicians added their characters to the whole band sound. Radiant the bouquets serrated in the air by the clarinet. And below the band, a wuthering beehive and saturated sponge, sweating out wildest scents.

Levitation – Rolling organ sounds from the black Bernese minster, always on tuesday nights. While fog wafts around the church house, dissonances scale high up in spirals. It then feels like the building would levitate.

Slow motion– Dreamed of ink, which dripped very slowly on blotting paper, where it spread gingerly in dark circles.

Community – Music clubs must be pilgrimage sites of humanity. Crossroads and not enclosed containments of commerce only serving narcissistic pettiness and empty clownerie.

Homegrown – Osamu, the little bespectacled Japanese, always dressed with a baggy linen jacket and a seasoned hat, crossed himself when asked after the best Bernese fish dealer for his sushi. Like back home in Osaka only the best local ingredients came into question, thus in Switzerland polenta instead of rice, in place of fish cervelat and salami, everything wrapped round with lettuce leaves.

Pauses – We solists get paid to play, but also for not to play, to release ourselves from the stream. To play and not to play is a fifty-fifty-thing. To heed the silence between musical phrases, this is it.

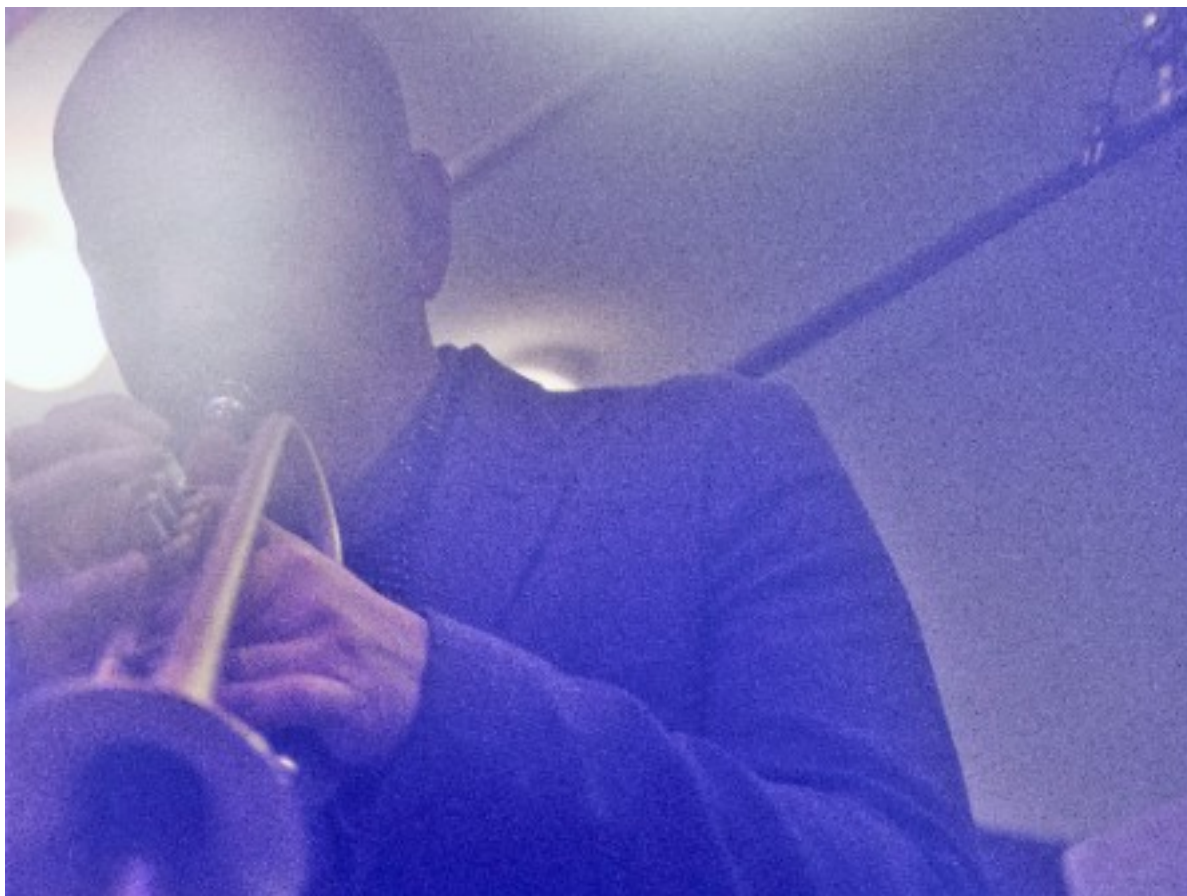
The Last Time – On my my catwalk way home at night time alongside the Thun street. Don't wonder, how many times still I'll go this way, despite the precise number must be written down somewhere far out from here. But feel no fear before this ongoing countdown. Have to be in motion for not to perish. Like a shark, who has to keep up swimming, to avoid sinking down to the seabed and to be drowning.

Youth – Years ago I gaspingly careened up the Thun street on the bike through driving snow at midnight. Swallowed with every deep breathe icy snow flakes. Soon my airways were so deaf, that I meant to be tossed down with every draw of breathe. Finally at home in my bitter cold student digs at the Ostring I could hardly get down a slice of buttered bread. In the flat it seemed even colder than outside and the blanket was starched and didn't warm. Shivering I dropped off to a dreamless sleep of no temperature.

[More diary entries](#)

ABOUT THE MUSIC

MARTIN DAHAUKAR & *The Morpho*



»

Dahanukar is one of the most exciting musicians working today in Europe, and one of the most precious ... He has a genius for pacing an album.

*Brian Morton, **Editor of the Penguin Guide to Jazz, England***

«

SOULFUL, GROOVY, DREAMY & PSYCHEDELIC

Hypermelodious Jazz—à la Nouvelle Vague

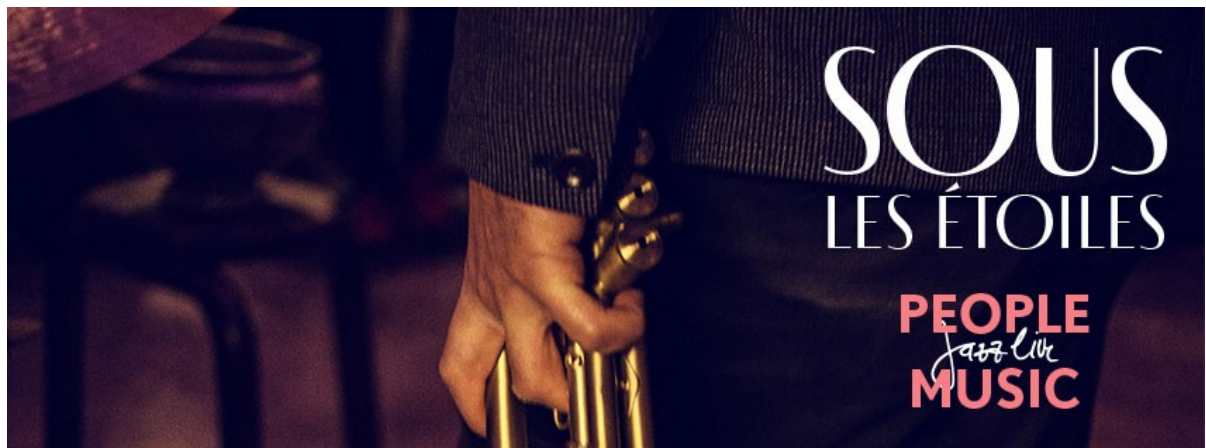
Our Sound of the Day is presently casting a huge spell over audiences at all our live shows. The trio MORPHO (made up of keyboard/fender rhodes, drums, trumpet) surprises with a jazzy cocktail with danceable grooves, mystic-ethereal ambiances and a shot of R&B. Our sound originates from a gut feeling.

Living to play the music—The originals by Martin Dahanukar reflect intense moments in life. The explosive heart beats are rolled out by drummer Pierre

Horisberger while Mike Haudenschild on keyboards gives the music groovy and impressionistic space for the glowing trumpet cries to escape. Sound with a touch of a Film Noir.

Martin Dahanukar, *trumpet*
Mike Haudenschild, *piano*
Peter Horisberger, *drums*

SOUS LES ÉTOILES



»

Dahanukar's music is as poetic as the name of the series: lost in reverie, floating, nostalgic. What matches better with an ordinary Monday evening?

Martin Burkhalter, **Berner Zeitung**

«

Our home base since over 10 years is some kind of a chapel welcoming thirsty souls named »Cava Hispania«, located at the Junkerngasse 1 in Bern/Switzerland.

The poetic name »Sous Les Étoiles« stands for our music jour fixe of Bernese night life, and for melodious jazz full of blue notes highlighted with danceable grooves. All this at the bistro-pub »Cava Hispania« in the old town of Bern.

Always on Fridays, from 5pm to 7.30pm, we celebrate there our people music. We will resume our series from 24 October 2025 until 3 April 2026.

Martin Dahanukar, *trumpet*
Jérôme De Carli, *piano*
Sam Joss/Valentin von fischer, *double-bass*

And surprise guests: Mareille Merck (g), Jonathan Salvi (vib), Tiziana Greco (voc), Valentin von Fischer (b), Miss C-Line (voc), Sam Mösching (g), Michael Haudenschild (keys), André Pousaz (b)

www.facebook.com/JazzSousLesEtoiles

BIOGRAPHY

Martin Dahanukar – musical worlds



Born in Munich, raised in Bern. Takes up the electric guitar at 12. Playing this *talking drum instrument* subsequently opened doors to many sound spheres of different cultures. After further steps in classical music the focus becomes eventually jazz of the late sixties. Originally an autodidact later completion of studies at the jazz department of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

From age 20 beginning of concert performances throughout Switzerland and abroad – Germany, Austria, France and India. The discography over the last 25 years includes a dozen recordings.

Sources of inspiration

Duke Ellington: a book of open sounds and rhythms, **Wayne Shorter:** what misterious long tones out of nowhere he's able to play, what spaced out pieces he wrote!, **Ahmad Jamal:** so much space and freedom due to his effective use of pauses, **Bobby Hutcherson:** his music has this haunting feel of the sixties, like a film noir, **Roy Haynes, Stan Getz:** this man is melody!, **Miles Davis:** of course: the man is the music is the man!, **Lee Morgan:** so groovy phrasing, **Eddie Henderson, Sly Stone & The Family Stone:** Melting Pot! **Roy Hargrove:** this guy is so in the moment and that a hyper organic band player: Kind Of Miles, **Prince:** Kind Of Duke, **Beethoven:** permanent outburst from conventions, **Haydn:** witty, full of unexpected ideas or **Estrella Morente:** this voice! Musicians with fire, unique phrasing, melodic

expression and risk taking performance styles, including their sensitivity for other concepts of combining tone and rhythm.

Occidental classical interpreters such as **David Oistrach** as well as more recently **Thomas Zehetmair's string quartet** and violinist **Patricia Kopatchinskaja**, have left ever lasting impressions on Martin Dahanukar.

My albums for *the* Island

- Ahmad Jamal, At the Pershing & The Awakening
- Miles Davis: My Funny Valentine – in concert & Nefertiti
- Wayne Shorter Quartet: Beyond the Sound Barrier & Speak No Evil
- Duke Ellington, Afro-Bossa & Such Sweet Thunder
- McCoy Tyner, Plays Ellington
- Prince: Dirty Mind, Sign o' the Times, Piano & A Microphone
- James Brown, Soul on Top
- Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, Claude Debussy – Préludes/Images & Children's Corner
- Nina Simone: At Town Hall & Little Girl Blue
- Bobby Hutcherson, Albums Oblique & Happenings
- Bill Evans Trio, Trio '65
- Solomon Cutner, Beethoven, Adagio Sostenuto from 'Hammerklavier' & Arietta from the last piano sonata Op. 111
- Sviatoslav Richter, Tokyo Recital 1979
- Shirley Horn, May The Music Never End
- Sly Stone & The Family Stone, Stand & There's a Riot Goin' On
- Estrella Morente, Mi cante y un poema
- Surashri Kesarbar Kerkar, Original Sound Recordings made by The Gramophone Company of India
- Ustad Bade Gulam Ali Khan, Original Sound Recordings made by The Gramophone Company of India
- Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, Bhairavi Bhatiyar Ragmala (Signature Series/Vol. 2)
- Zehetmair Quartett, Béla Bartók
- Patricia Kopatchinskaja / Fazil Say play Beethoven, Ravel, Bartók
- Hampton Hawes, Here and Now
- Buika, Niña del Fuego
- Frank Ocean, Channel Orange
- Maria Tipo, Scarlatti, Sonata in B minor, L 449 (recorded 1955)
- Astor Piazzolla, Tango, Zero Hour
- Erykah Badu, Baduizm & Mama's Gun
- Donald Brown, The Classic Introvert
- D'Angelo, Voodoo
- Parliament, Mothership Connection
- Vicente Amigo: Memoria De Los Sentidos
- Tomasz Stańko: Lontano
- Isaac Hayes: Shaft & Hot Buttered Soul
- Jon Hassell: Maarifa Street
- Earth, Wind & Fire: That's The Way Of The World
- A Tribe Called Quest, People's Instinctive Travels and the Paths of Rhythm
- The Roots, Things Fall Apart
- Nitin Sawhney, Beyond Skin
- Zaho de Sagazan, La symphonie des Éclairs
- The Meters, Rejuvenation
- Beach House, Teen Dream

CONCERTS

Upcoming Concerts

In Bern (CH), Schaffhausen (CH), Biel (CH), Olten (CH) et cetera

[Go to concert calendar](#)

Some past shows

2025 Aug	Pabéllon, Thun
2025 Aug	BeJazzSommer, Bern
2025 Feb	UpJazz, Marly/Fribourg
2023 May	First Friday, Biel/Bienne
2022 Mar	JAZZ live, Aarau
2022 Jan	Hotel Waldhaus, Sils-Maria
2021 Aug	palatia Jazz Festival, Deidesheim
2020 Jul	Cafe Bar Mokka, Thun
2019 Aug	BeJazzSommer, Bern
2019 Feb	Jazzclub, Bamberg
2018 Apr	Hotel Schweizerhof, Luzern
2017 Nov	Square of LAC, Lugano
2016 Oct	BeJazz Club, Bern
2016 Nov	Steinhäuserhof, Neustadt
2016 Nov	Theater am Gleis, Winterthur
2016 Jul	palatia Jazz, Pfalz
2016 Jul	Festival Jazz im Park, Neumünster
2015 May	MS Stubnitz, Hamburg
2015 May	Jazzclub, Rostock

AIRPLAY

Radio features albums Morpho, Tout Feu Tout Flamme, Polaroyde, Traumesrauschen, Scent Of Jungle & Garuda 2008-2025

Germany

3sat, unsere kleine Nachtmusik

Radio SRF Kultur2, Jazz&World Aktuell

Südwestrundfunk SWR2, Radiophon

Bayerischer Rundfunk br2, Diwan (Album portrait)

Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk MDR, Figaro

Hessischer Rundfunk hr2, Jazzgroove

Norddeutscher Rundfunk NDR, Play Jazz!

Westdeutscher Rundfunk WDR3, Hörfunk

Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg rbb Kulturradio, Playground

Nordwestradio-Radio Bremen, Globale Dorfmusik & Jazz nach 10

Hörfunkverein München Afk, Basement Jazz

Radio T Chemnitz, and now jazz

Radio Unerhört Marburg, Jazz-Zeit: Neues vom Jazz

radiodarmstadt.de, Jazz-Zeit

Radio Dreyeckland, Jazz Matinee am Sonntag

Sweden

Sveriges Radio P2, Kalejdoskop

Switzerland

swissinfo.ch, Video Porträt

Schweizer Radio DRS 2, Jazz aktuell

Radio Swiss Jazz, Jazz Cult (Rotation 2009-2021)

France

CouleursJazz

Radio Chrétiennes Francophones (voted « Disque du mois juin 2009 »)

RCV 99 FM à Lille

Radio Campus Rennes

rcf Caen a.o.

Canada

Radio Canada

DISCOGRAPHY



- **Morpho** ZodiacSounds Records (2025)
- **Tout Feu Tout Flamme** ZodiacSounds Records (2021)
- **Polaroyde** Skip Records (2019)
- **Traumesrauschen** Skip Records (2016)
- **This Is It!** ZodiacSounds Records (2013)
- **Scent Of Jungle** Skip Records (2012)
- **Garuda** ZodiacSounds Records (2008)
- **The Good Life** TCB Records (2007)
- **Nanda Devi** ZodiacSounds Records (2006)
- **Apocalypse Now** ZodiacSounds Records (2004)
- **Circle** ZodiacSounds Records (1997)