



About the Album

Since settling in Amsterdam more than a decade ago, pianist and composer Xavi Torres has become deeply intertwined with the city's jazz community. *Amsterdam Magic* is both a personal reflection and a musical tribute: an album shaped by long-standing collaborations with some of the most distinctive voices in the Dutch jazz scene—musicians who have played a decisive role in Torres' artistic development.

At the core of *Amsterdam Magic* lies the duo format. Each of the eleven compositions was written specifically for one collaborator, resulting in intimate musical portraits that highlight individuality, sound, and musical character.

Torres remains at the piano throughout the album, while the instrumentation shifts from piece to piece—saxophone, guitar, voice, violin, bass, and drums—allowing each encounter to unfold with its own color, texture, and emotional weight.

Rather than aiming for stylistic uniformity, *Amsterdam Magic* embraces contrast and openness. Composed material flows naturally into improvisation; lyricism and rhythmic drive coexist with space, silence, and subtlety. What unites the album is a shared commitment to deep listening and musical conversation, where interaction takes precedence over virtuosity for its own sake.

The musicians featured on *Amsterdam Magic* represent a cross-section of the Amsterdam jazz landscape: **Ben van Gelder, Tineke Postma, Jasper Blom, Jesse van Ruller, Reinier Baas, Harmen Fraanje, Clemens van der Feen, Joris Roelofs, Fuensanta, Jamie Peet, and Julia Philippens**. Each brings a highly personal voice, while collectively embodying the openness, curiosity, and artistic rigor for which the scene is internationally admired.

Recorded, mixed, and mastered by Jared Sacks in Herwijnen, the album captures the full dynamic range and intimacy of these musical dialogues. Beyond the duo recordings, selected



compositions have been arranged for a sextet, allowing Amsterdam Magic to expand into a flexible live format in which intimate exchanges alternate with broader ensemble textures. More than a collection of compositions, Amsterdam Magic is an expression of gratitude—to a city, a community, and a shared artistic language. It is a celebration of collaboration, trust, and the quiet, often unspoken moments where musical connection truly happens.

About the Artist



Xavi Torres (1991) is a Spanish pianist and composer based in Amsterdam. Blending jazz, classical music, and contemporary improvisation, he is known for his lyrical writing, rhythmic drive, and expressive depth. Torres has won several international awards, including the Dutch Jazz Competition and the Keep an Eye International Jazz Award, and was a finalist at the Thelonious Monk Jazz Competition. He has released six albums as a bandleader, with his latest, *Quarantena Songs*, receiving an Edison nomination in 2024. Torres regularly performs across Europe and collaborates with leading figures from the international jazz scene.

Colophon

JL039 - Xavi Torres - Amsterdam Magic

1 Ben	Xavi Torres, Ben van Gelder	03:40
2 Reinier	Xavi Torres, Reinier Baas	04:52
3 Tineke	Xavi Torres, Tineke Postma	05:13
4 Fuensanta	Xavi Torres, Fuensanta	06:11
5 Jamie	Xavi Torres, Jamie Peet	05:08
6 Julia	Xavi Torres, Julia Philippens	04:56
7 Jasper	Xavi Torres, Jasper Blom	04:46
8 Jesse	Xavi Torres, Jesse van Ruller	05:54
9 Harmen	Xavi Torres, Harmen Fraanje	04:54
10 Joris	Xavi Torres, Joris Roelofs	04:26
11 Clemens	Xavi Torres, Clemens van der Feen	05:16

Total time 55.16

Credits

Production:	Kerkenstein Productions for Just Listen Records
Producer:	Jared Sacks, Jonas Sacks
Label manager	Jara Holdert
Recording Location:	Banana Bread Studios, Herwijnen
Piano:	Steinway C
Recording Dates:	10,11, 24, 25 June, 2025
Recording Engineer, mastering:	Jared Sacks
DSD Mastering Engineer:	Tom Caulfield
Microphones:	Brüel & Kjaer 4006, Schoeps, Rens Heijnis
Digital Converter:	Horus / Merging Technologies
Recording resolution:	DSD 256
Editing resolution:	DXD 352.8k
Editing Software:	Pyramix Workstation
Pre-Amplifiers:	Rens Heijnis - custom made
Mastering Room:	Grimm LS1
All Cables:	Van den Hul
Video Producer:	Jonas Sacks
Session photography:	Jonas Sacks
Catering:	Lydi Groenewegen

