

## **ANJA LECHNER**

Praised by *Strings* magazine as “one of the most gifted cellists in the world,” Anja Lechner is known for her remarkable versatility, moving between classical, contemporary, and improvised music. She has performed worldwide as a soloist, chamber musician, and collaborator with major orchestras and artists across genres. Composers such as Arvo Pärt, Tigran Mansurian, and Dino Saluzzi have written works for her.

A long-time ECM artist, she has released over twenty albums, including collaborations with the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, guitarist Pablo Márquez, and pianist François Couturier.

In 2024/25, she released a new solo album featuring works by Bach, Abel, and Hume, toured with Pablo Márquez performing Schubert, and continued her duo work with François Couturier. In spring 2025, she is undertaking a major European tour as a member of the new **Anouar Brahem Quartet**.

## **DJANGO BATES** b.1960 in Beckenham, Kent, England.

A founder member of Loose Tubes, Django was a leading light in the 1980s European jazz renaissance. He has appeared alongside Michael Brecker, Bill Bruford, Jack DeJohnette, Sidsel Endresen. In 1997 Django was awarded the Danish Jazzpar prize, dubbed the ‘Nobel Prize of Jazz’.

During the pandemic, Django created a suite of solo piano music which he is currently performing.

“About as perfect as anything could be.” Richard Williams, *The Blue Moment*, 5th January 2024.

In 2019 The IVORS Academy honoured Django with The IVORS Jazz Award, describing him as “A musical polymath and prodigiously gifted composer, at the heart of Britain’s jazz scene for the last 40 years.”

**MATS EILERTSEN**, born in 1975, is a Norwegian bassist and composer who is a key figure in Scandinavian jazz. A graduate of Trondheim Musikkonservatorium, he is known for his work with groups such as The Source, Food, and the Tord Gustavsen Ensemble. He regularly collaborates with the ECM label, where he has released several critically acclaimed albums. His music is characterized by a lyrical and experimental approach to the double bass, blending finesse and depth of sound. In 2022, he received the Buddy Award, the highest honor in Norwegian jazz.