

Esat Ekincioglu

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Esat Ekincioglu (Istanbul, 1990) is a Turkish bass player, improviser, composer and manager based in the Netherlands. As a versatile and highly in-demand bass player, Esat spends a good portion of the year on the road, playing all across Europe, Near East and China.

Aside from his successful bands KUHN FU and AVA Trio and his new project TURKISH PUMPKIN, Esat enjoys playing solo and in duo's where he explores uncharted territories of the double bass playing and improvisation.



EDUCATION

2015-2017	Prince Claus Conservatorium Master of Music - New York Jazz - Groningen, NL
2011-2015	Prince Claus Conservatorium Jazz Double Bass Bachelor (cum laude) - Groningen, NL
2008-2011	Istanbul Bilgi University Sociology Department (Dropped out in 3 rd year) - Istanbul, TR
2004-2008	VKV Koc Ozel High School - Istanbul, TR
1998-2004	VKV Koc Ozel Elementary School (3 rd Grade – 8 th Grade) - Istanbul, TR
1995-1998	Ozel Moda Elementary School (Pre-school – 2 nd Grade) - Istanbul, TR

AWARDS

2023	Keep an Eye The Records Winner with Dutch Mountain Tribe (bassist, manager)
2021	VNJJ Week van de Jazz Composition Commission
2019	Babel Sound Festival CREMM Artists Residency
2014	North European Jazz Talent Contest Winner as Soloist
2010	Istanbul Jazz Festival Young Jazz Competition Winner with Plongeur Quartet (leader & bassist) and Gri Trio (bassist)

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

Festivals

Istanbul Jazz Festival 2010 & 2024 (TR)	Karusel Festival Cacak 2018 (SRB)
Istanbul – Pori Music Exchange 2011 (FIN)	Zelenkovac Jazz Festival 2018 (BIH)
Kongresni Trg Ljubljana Festival 2013 (SI)	Jazzfestival Saalfelden 2018, 2021 (AT)
City Jazz Leeuwarden 2014 (NL)	Nordhauser Jazz Festival 2018 (DE)
Sounds of Music Festival 2014 & 2015 (NL)	OCT Loft Jazz Festival 2018 (CN)
Swingin Groningen Festival 2014-2017 (NL)	XiHu Blooms Music Festival 2018 (CN)
Jazzinty Festival 2014 (SI)	Rock-it Festival 2018, 2021 (NL)
Langnau Jazz Festival 2014 (CH)	So What's Next Festival 2018, 2021 (NL)
Fusion Festival Germany 2015 (DE)	Shanghai World Music Festival 2019 (CN)
Jazz te Gast Festival 2015 & 2022 (NL)	Sorrento Jazz Festival 2019 (IT)
Hanover Round Midnight Festival 2015 (DE)	BabelSound Festival 2019-22-24 (HU)
Zomer Jazz Fiets Tour 2015-17-18-19-20-23-24 (NL)	Desert Vert Festival 2019 (MOR)
Noorderzon Festival 2015 & 2017 (NL)	Bayerisches Jazz Tage 2020 (DE)
CULLY Jazz Festival 2016 (CH)	Varna Jazz Festival 2021 (BG)
Barletta Jazz Festival 2016 (IT)	Inascolto Festival 2022 (IT)
InJazz Showcase Festival 2016-18-23 (NL)	JazzWe Regensburg 2022 (DE)
Boui Boui Festival 2016 (CH)	Pancevo Jazz Festival 2022 (SRB)
Südtirol Jazz Festival 2017 (IT)	Jazzahead Showcase Festival 2023 (DE)
Odense Jamdays Festival 2017 (DK)	Jazz in Duketown Festival 2023 (NL).
Doek Festival Amsterdam 2017 (NL)	Zappanale Festival 2023 (DE)
Jazz Goes To Town Festival 2017 (CZ)	Jazz Jantar Festival 2024 (PL)
Jazzmeile Thuringen 2017 (DE)	Cologne Jazzweek 2024 (DE)
Jazz Nouveau Bucharest 2018 (RO)	Outreach Music Festival 2024 (AT)
Perelik Jazz Festival 2018 (BG)Many more forgotten and many more upcoming

Venues

TivoliVredenburg Utrecht (NL)
De Oosterpoort Groningen (NL)
Grand Theater (NL)
Neushoorn Leeuwarden (NL)
Muziekgebouw Eindhoven (NL)
Odeon Zwolle (NL)
Nardis Jazz Club Istanbul (TR)
VERA Groningen (NL)
JazzDock Prague (CZ)
Bolwerk Sneek (NL)
Stichting AXES Jazz Power Eindhoven (NL)
Stichting Jazz in Groningen (NL)
Kulturforum Villach (AT)
Stockwerk Graz (AT)
Singles Sofia (BG)
Nona Mechelen (BE)

Drom NYC (USA)
Stichting Friejam Leeuwarden (NL)
Glashaus e.V. Bayreuth (DE)
Panic Jazz Club (IT)
Martinikerk Groningen (NL)
Stichting UJazz Utrecht (NL)
Jazzclub Unterfahrt (DE)
CerModern Ankara (TR)
Opus Jazz Club (HU)
Marktkirche Hannover (DE)
Bflat Berlin (DE)
Control Club Bucharest (RO)
CK13 Novi Sad (SRB)
Padova Jazz Club (IT)
BIMHUIS Amsterdam (NL)
Porgy & Bess - Vienna (AT)
Casa del Jazz - Roma (IT)
Babylon Istanbul (TR)
...To name a few

Tens of tours and over thousand concerts in the Netherlands, Turkey, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Austria, Denmark, Slovenia, Slovakia, France, Italy, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, USA, Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Spain, Hungary, Poland, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Kosovo, Israel, Morocco, Croatia and China.

DISCOGRAPHY [click on titles to listen](#)

Steven Kamperman's Prins Ahmed (ZenneZ Records, 2024)

KUHN FU - Katastrofik Kink Machine (Berthold Records, 2024)

Dutch Mountain Tribe - Dutch Mountain Tribe (ZenneZ Records, 2024)

AVA Trio - The Great Green (Tora Records, 2024)

KUHN FU - IX Tantalos (Berthold Records, 2023)

AVA Trio - Ash (Tora Records, 2023)

KUHN FU - Jazz in Expensive (Berthold Records, 2022)

KUHN FU - Live in Saalfelden (Berthold Records, 2022)

AVA Trio - Digging the Sand (Marocco Music, Nov 2019)

Berke Can Özcan / Esat Ekincioglu - Lover and the Beloved (July 2020)

KUHN FU - Chain the Snake (Berthold Records, 2019)

AVA Trio - Music from an Imaginary Land (Trytone Records, 2017)

KUHN FU - Kuhnspiracy (Unit Records, 2017)

Lennart Smidt - Take Off (2016)

Ahmet Ali Arslan - Su Akar Deli Bakar (Müzik Hayvani, 2016)

Storian Collective - Core (2016)
EVA - Embrasser Vivre Aimer (Harmonia Mundi, 2016)

KUHN FU - Kuhnstantinopolis (2015 Cantina Records)

KUHN FU - Live at Atelier il Sole in Cantina (2014 Cantina Records)

Evija Vebere Quartet - Dream Whispers (2014 Cantina Records)

Cyril Bernhard Trio - CBT (2013)

PROJECTS

2019-present Turkish Pumpkin (bandleader, composer, manager)

Turkish Pumpkin improvises Near-Eastern wedding and funeral music. Lead by Turkish- born bassist Esat Ekincioglu, the band conjures trances and chants about lovers, heroes; in grief and joy. The band consists of Groningen-based improvisers who try to establish and represent the unique sound and approach of Groningen.

2012-present KUHNFU (bassist and manager) www.kuhnfumusic.com

Over 400 concerts in 24 countries, many major festivals and jazzclubs. See the website for more information.

2015-present AVA Trio (bassist, composer, manager) www.avatrio.com

"AVA Trio is doing something musically, that no one else is up to. The Netherlands based group has done a masterful job of blending regional influences as well as balancing ethnic inspirations with free improvisation, thus genuinely creating *Music From An Imaginary Land* as both a concept and a musical experience." 4.5/5 stars (Selected as Best Debut Album of 2017 at [All About Jazz.com](http://AllAboutJazz.com))

2024-present Korhan Futaci (bassist, European booking, tour manager)

2022-2024 Koen Boeijinga's Dutch Mountain Tribe (bassist, manager)

2020-2023 Anahita Malakooti Trio (bassist, arranger)

2015-present De Boer / Ekincioglu (composer, bassist, manager)

2017-2022 Helene Richter's Farbenfroh (bassist/co-composer)

2015-2020 Tomchess / Ekincioglu Duo (bassist, composer, manager)

"...I dig the way both of these musicians move together, their lines of notes flowing in a most mesmerizing way. Superb, at times sublime and always engaging." -**Bruce Gallanter**, Downtown Music Gallery, NYC

BOOKING AND MANAGEMENT

I work as a booker/manager/tour manager for the projects I perform with since 2010. I've booked and managed over 500 international and local shows in tens of tours in Netherlands, Turkey, China, USA, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Czechia, Poland, Denmark, Italy, Bulgaria, Bosnia, Kosovo, Serbia, Romania, Spain, France, Israel, Switzerland, Croatia, Faroe Islands. Soon to be confirmed: Australia, United Kingdom, South Korea.

In 2020 I started my own booking/management agency: CHILLI CHILLI AGENCY - 🌶️ for spicy music 🌶️. I'm invited to take part at "How to be successful as a booker and a band member" panel at Injazz Dutch Jazz Conference 2023 as a panelist.

Selection of tours:

2013-2015 - Cyril Bernhard Trio : Shows in NL and FR and Turkey tour April 2014.

2014 - present: KUHN FU over 250 shows booked in 20 countries, some tours to mention:

- October 2015 - NL/BE/LU/DE/TR - 25 shows
- September 2016 - Isreal Tour - 4 shows
- April 2017 -- NL/BE/DE - 15 shows
- March 2018 - DE/PL/HU/SLO/IT/NL - 9 shows
- May 2018 - NL/RO/FR/ES/BE - 17 shows + album recording
- July 2018 - Balkan Tour - AT/SLO/SRB/BG/BIH/MCD/KSV - 13 shows
- March-May 2019 - Chain the Snake Release tour : NL/CZ/HU/SLO - 18 shows
- Summer 2021 - BG/AT/NL - 6 festivals
- October 2021 - CZ/DE - 6 shows + album recording
- 10th Year Anniversary - Jazz is Expensive Tours:
 - October/November 2023 - DE/AT/HU/SRB/BG/CZ - 18 shows
 - Feb-Apr 2023 - DE/NL/DK - 10 shows
 - February 2024 - German Tour - 10 shows
 - October 2024 - European Tour - 16 shows

2015 - present: AVA Trio - over 100 shows booked in 16 countries

- April-May 2018 - IT/DE/NL 13 shows in
- October 2018 - China Tour - 8 concerts in 7 cities
- January 2019 - NL/DE/DK - 8 shows
- October 2021 - NL/DE - 9 shows
- January 2023 - NL/DE - recording tour 5 shows
- April 2023 - Jazzahead Showcase Festival
- May/July 2023 - NL/BE/DE/AT/IT - Festivals tour - 8 shows
- August 2023 - RO/CZ/HU - 6 shows
- March 2024 - Germany - Belgium Tour - 6 shows
- April 2024 - Italy Tour - 4 shows
- May 2024 - East Europe Tour - 6 shows
- November 2024 - Turkey Tour - 14 shows

WORK EXPERIENCE, SKILLS AND ASSETS

Work Experience

2021-present	Chilli Chilli Agency - founder, booker, manager
2015-present	Freelance driver Transport/logistic : artwork, house-moving, instrument transport
2015-2019	Atelier Il Sole In Cantina Groningen - (occasional) coordination, concert production/PR, bar
2009-present	Booker/manager/PR-agent of many bands
2007-2010	Studio Jamsession Istanbul - (part-time) rehearsal studio technician/caretaker/secretary
2003-present	Musician: Bass player, bandleader

Skills

- Languages:** Turkish (native), English (excellent), Dutch (B1/B2), German (A2)
- Musical:** virtuosic and unique bass guitar and double bass playing: composing, arranging, teaching, recording, sight-reading. Intermediate level on guitar, drums, percussions, backing vocals.
- Management/booking:** tour management, album/concert promotion, concert/tour booking, logistics-scheduling, visa/ATA Carnet acquirement, album/tour production
- Software:** Word, Excel, Pages, Numbers, Logic, Cubase, Sibelius, iMovie, Adobe Premiere, GarageBand
- Web:** Gmail and extensions, Google applications, website design on Wordpress, Squarespace, GoDaddy
- Social Media:** Facebook, Instagram, Spotify - promotion, promotional material creation, social media for bands, ad campaigns
- Driving:** NL and TR Drivers Licence B, over 350.000km of event-free driving across continental Europe
- Cooking:** Excellent home cook; meals prepared and served for up to 20 people. Foodie.

Assets

- Extensive network and knowledge in cultural sectors across the globe: Jazz/Avantgarde, Pop and Classical Music, Venues, Festivals, Organisers, Producers, Artists of all mediums (painting, film, photography, sculpture, graphics, computational arts), Funds, Foundations
- Volkswagen Crafter Large Van (2018) - 6 seats + load bay : for touring and transportation
- Rehearsal/recording studio in Haren Biotoop
- Recording experience and recording gear including: Zoom L-12 mixer/recorder, good selection of microphones - ability to get a good quality recording for up to 6-8 musicians.
- Instruments and backline including: 2 double basses, 3 bass guitars, 2 guitars; professional touring gear incl. VanDerKley, Ampeg, Markbass, Eden bass amps and MesaBoogie Guitar Amp; Sonor drumkit, good cymbal set