

From mxd.dk: Ja Ja Ja Vienna takes place on Friday, the 31st January 2020 - The Entrepreneurs and Blondage represent Denmark



After all the excitement of our birthday celebrations in London and Berlin last year, we were very grateful for a bit of R&R over the festive break! Feeling fresh and recovered, we're ready to get back to business - and we'll be kicking things off in Vienna on the 31st January!

Each January, we team up with our pals at INK Music in Vienna to bring a night full of Nordic discovery to the Austrian capital - and we'll be doing just that at the end of the month, with 4 phenomenal artists set to perform.

Fresh from performing at our shows in both London and Berlin, we're thrilled to be joined by Denmark's **The Entrepreneurs** for this show, as well as Finland's **Lxandra**, making her Ja Ja Ja debut. Also set to perform is exciting Norwegian newcomer **Jarle Skavhellen** and Denmark's **Blondage**, performing brand new material from the upcoming EP *I Love Music*. [Tickets are on sale now](#) so grab yours to join us - and get the latest updates via the [Facebook Event](#). See you in Vienna!

The Entrepreneurs [DEN]

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“...excessively explosive as it is dynamic and experimental” - **The Line Of Best Fit**

The Entrepreneurs started out as a duo when bass player Anders Hvass and singer-guitarist Mathias Bertelsen met in their teens starting high school in northern Denmark. They grew up in Thy, a rural region of Denmark, known for its creative environment and progressive youth culture, despite - or maybe because of - its remote location. As they grew older and craved new impressions, they moved across the country to Copenhagen, where they met Jonas Wetterslev who became the live drummer for their newly started band. Jonas quickly became more than just a live drummer and led to The Entrepreneurs expanding into a trio.

After touring extensively with their debut EP, the trio gained a reputation as one of the fiercest live bands in Denmark bringing their aesthetically rich and experimental variations on some rock's most significant sub-genres like punk, grunge, and post-rock to both Denmark's main venues and the stages of such festivals as Roskilde Festival, Spot Festival, EuroSonic, Bylarm, etc.

In February the band released their debut album “Noise & Romance” on adventurous indie

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label Tambourhinoceros. Noise & Romance is a lavish experience from start to finish. The grunge and post-rock-inspired album opener "Session 1" sets the tone with a big and wide guitar riff, explosive drums and Mathias Bertelsen's signature vocals that bring it all together.

Since their 2016 debut-EP Jonas Wetterslev, Anders Hvass and Mathias Bertelsen have grown into an intriguing alternative rock-band ready to take on the world.

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Lxandra [FIN]

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Finnish rising star **Lxandra** - who recently performed a stand-out set at this year's The Great Escape - is back with brand new single 'Swimming Pools', taken from her upcoming EP 'Another Lesson Learned', due later this year. The emotive new track is set to be released in two versions, with a poignant piano version coming first on May 31st. A produced version replete with swelling strings and skittering beats will follow along with the official music video.

"Swimming pools is about being happy with what you have and showing a middle finger to the expectations of society, and a world that runs on money," Lxandra reveals. "It's about

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remembering who you are and where you come from and always holding onto that. Be grateful for what you have, you have everything you need.”

Lxandra - who considers herself “a storyteller as well as a singer and artist” - hails from the tiny Finnish fortress island of Suomenlinna but relocated to Berlin a few years ago. Her debut single ‘Flicker’ was released in early 2017 and was followed by ‘Hush Hush Baby’, a song originally written as a birthday present for her mother, that became part of Saturn’s pre-Christmas campaign. Last year she was asked by Amazon to record a version of ‘Pride (In The Name of Love)’ by U2 for the third season trailer of ‘Man in The High Castle’, and she kicked 2019 off with her song ‘Too Young to Grow Old’ after soundtracking a scene in Marvel’s Runaways series in the US.

“The EP is about coming of age and realizing things,” Lxandra laughs. “Every song is about a lesson learned.” Along with a handful of brand new tracks the collection will also contain empowering previous singles ‘Dig Deep’, which garnered 1 million streams in the first week of release (now up to over 6 million), and the aforementioned ‘Flicker’, one of the first songs she ever wrote. It’s the perfect introduction to the rapidly ascending young artist, whose unique mix of folk and pop - not to mention her incredible voice - marks her out as one of the key artists to watch this year. Stay tuned for more.

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Blondage [DEN]

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Blondage is reborn as a solo project with Pernille Smith-Sivertsen. The new Blondage songs have been long underway, shaped in the studio mainly in close collaboration with her musical soulmate, producer Esben Andersen. But they ended up finding their ultimate home in Pernille's voice, words and personal story. Throughout the years as a singer and songwriter in both Rangleklods and Blondage, Pernille has found her own unique style, combining a bubbly, clubby pop feel and a love for experimental sounds and quirky melodic details.

Blondage has become her personal space and playground and she's ready to unfold a new chapter as a solo artist. Having played more than 300 shows all over the world, (including big stages on Roskilde Festival and Sziget Festival and clubs and venues in almost every big Northern and Eastern European city), Pernille is one of the internationally most experienced female artists and performers in Denmark and she's more than ready to re-enter the stage with a bunch of powerful, edgy and very personal electronic pop bangers.

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Jarle Skavhellen [NOR]

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Photo: Øystein Grutle Haara

Norwegian folk singer-songwriter **Jarle Skavhellen** is heavily influenced by the old-timey guitar stylings of American icons Chet Atkins and Dave Van Ronk despite having lived in Bergen his whole life. Growing up in the small, lush town with a family of artists and musicians, he got his start early when he was taught how to play at age eleven by iconic Norwegian guitarist, Mads Eriksen. His father's love for vinyl of all genres and his uncle's ever-expanding guitar collection enabled Jarle's passion for music to grow. He played in

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numerous bands over the years from indie-rock to funk to even a Metallica cover band in high school before having the courage to start writing and performing his own songs three years ago. He blends the warm vintage sounds of yesteryear with his own distinctive mumblings over lush acoustic guitars. After topping the Spotify Viral Hits Charts both globally & in the US for his first single "The Ghost In Your Smile" back in December 2016, Jarle was found and signed to International label Nettwerk Records (Angus & Julia Stone, Boy & Bear, Passenger). Jarle's debut album The Ghost In Your Smile will be released on May 11th, 2018.

"Echoing artists like Sufjan Stevens and José Gonzalez during their earlier days, the young man from Bergen prefers to stick to the acoustic folk sounds of the genre's history. It results in melancholic little acoustic gems."

- Nothing But Hope and Passion

"A truly timeless songwriter, his acoustic style is rooted in the past but firmly looks to the present."

- Clash Magazine

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— NORDIC MUSIC AFFAIR —

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