

Press release

## Deutscher Jazzpreis 2021: Mainjury, presenters, and live programme

- - Independent main jury chooses award winners
- - Nils Landgren confirmed as first live act
- - Jazz editors of the public broadcasters will host the participating clubs
- - Livestream will be broadcast on 3 June from 19:30 by NDR Kultur, BR-Klassik and rbb-Kultur
- - Excerpts available after the award ceremony on ARTE CONCERT

Berlin, 20 May 2021

The first award ceremony of Deutsche Jazzpreis 2021 is drawing ever closer and with it the prospect of the prize of 10,000 euros each for the artists. Who will receive the award, however, will remain under wraps until the evening of the ceremony on 3 June 2021.

The 16 members of the independent main jury have met virtually and determined the prize-winners in all 31 categories. As with the expert jury, the composition of the main jury is in keeping with the self-image of representing all facets of the German jazz scene. In addition to the ten members of the expert jury, the main jury includes six other jazz-savvy personalities from cultural public life. These include well-known personalities such as Ute Lemper, Max Mutzke, Thomas Quasthoff and Lyambiko as well as Beate Sampson and Wolfram Knauer as renowned representatives from journalism and science.

"Deutsche Jazzpreis focuses on musicians who provide special cultural experiences with their creative work. The Initiative Musik worked closely together with experts from the jazz scene to create an award that connects - nationally and internationally - and honours outstanding musicians and their work. The new Federal Culture Award therefore honours this creative and committed cultural work in 31 categories. Our thanks go to the Minister of State for Culture, Monika Grütters, and to Parliament for making this new award possible. We are looking forward to an exciting premiere in Hamburg,

which we can celebrate on the eve of the Elbjazz, a jazz event with international appeal. The award ceremony is linked to the hope that we will finally be able to experience the fantastic musicians who have been nominated at concerts in front of an audience in the coming months, because jazz belongs on stage.«

- Prof. Dieter Gorny, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Initiative Musik, Member of the Presidium of Deutscher Musikrat

"It was long overdue to thank and honour the artists, club owners and journalists in jazz for their work. All these people put their hearts and lives into this music. And they do so with the knowledge and the daily experience that it takes special talent and unwavering perseverance, especially in jazz, to be able to support themselves, their families, and their teams. So, my greatest thanks go to all the people who uphold jazz in Germany and far beyond and thus make life a whole lot more beautiful for tens of thousands of people."

- Max Mutzke, singer/songwriter, member of the mainjury

Deutsche Jazzpreis focuses on the enormous creative wealth of this scene. It celebrates music that has an impact far beyond its own genre, whose experiments have an influence on pop, hip hop or classical music, but which at the same time represents a kind of laboratory in which the future is conceived and transformed into sounds. The German Jazz Award honours musicians because they participate in their art not only in cultural discourse but also in social discourse. Because their music touches us, or disturbs us, or drives us, or calms us, or - somehow - all of these. Deutsche Jazzpreis puts an exclamation mark behind (and in front of) a creative scene that belongs to German culture just as much as it still preserves its African-American roots."

- Dr. Wolfram Knauer, Director of the Jazzinstitut Darmstadt, member of the main jury

"Whoever becomes a winner of the newly created Deutsche Jazzpreis can be sure - just like all applicants and nominees who do not - that the recognition and appreciation of their skills and their

work, and the desire to strengthen jazz and its makers, is at the centre of all those involved in the organisation and implementation of this competition. And I think that's what gives this prize its special potential."

- Beate Sampson, Music journalist/moderator at Bayerischer Rundfunk & jazz singer, member of the main jury

"Deutsche Jazzpreis honours and celebrates what jazz stands for: diversity, freedom, individuality, creativity, togetherness, contradictions, togetherness, loneliness, the search for the new, the roots of the old, dialogue and togetherness, overcoming boundaries, constant change and, above all, a great joy of life! But all this does not only refer to the many forms of musical expression in jazz, it also stands for an attitude. An attitude that absolutely deserves to be heard on a broad scale, and Deutsche Jazzpreis can be a wonderful ambassador for this. Especially today, especially now!"

- Andreas Brandis, Member of the Advisory Board, Board of Directors VUT - Verband unabhängiger Musikunternehmer:innen, Managing Director ACT Music / Tambour Music Management

The show programme for the award ceremony is also taking shape: Nils Landgren, a Swedish trombonist and singer who is one of the most successful European jazz musicians, is the first live act for Hamburg.

In addition, Ulf Drechsel (rbb) for the A-Trane in Berlin, Ulrich Habersetzer (BR) for the Unterfahrt in Munich and Nicole Köster (SWR) for the Ella & Louis in Mannheim have been secured as co-hosts. In addition to Pinar Atalay as the main presenter in Hamburg, three experienced jazz editors and well-known voices from the public broadcasters will be leading the programme in the participating jazz clubs. The three clubs are an integral part of the award ceremony and function as additional award venues for the various categories.

Deutsche Jazzpreis will be streamed live from Hamburg, Berlin, Munich, and Mannheim on 3 June from 7.30 pm. At all four locations, live acts, laudators and nominees will be live on site or online.

The livestream will be available at [www.deutscher-jazzpreis.de](http://www.deutscher-jazzpreis.de), broadcast by NDR Kultur at [ndr.de/kultur](http://ndr.de/kultur) and shown on the digital platforms of BR-Klassik and rbbKultur. Excerpts will also be shown afterwards on ARTE CONCERT.

For further information concerning press, jury and nominees visit:

[www.deutscher-jazzpreis.de](http://www.deutscher-jazzpreis.de)

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Spotify – [all nominees 2021](#)

## Deutscher Jazzpreis

Deutscher Jazzpreis honours outstanding artistic achievements in the national and international jazz scene in 31 categories. The focus is on the musicians, for whom there will be a total of 17 awards in the main category 1: Artists. In addition, 14 awards will be presented in four other main categories for recording/production, live, composition/arrangement and three special prizes. The German Jazz Prize is endowed with 10,000 euros each. It is realised by the Initiative Musik with project funds from the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.

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Note: Deutsche Jazzpreis of the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media has neither an organisational nor a content-related connection to Neue Deutsche Jazzpreis of IG Jazz Rhein-Neckar e.V., which is awarded once a year in Mannheim as an audience prize of the German jazz scene.