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Afterglows & Afterimages

Hatti Vatti / *Zeit*

Warsaw ——— 25 November 2025



Hatti Vatti / *Zeit*

25 November (Tuesday) — 8.00 pm

Niebo Club
21C Nowy Świat Street
Warsaw

Concert programme

Hatti Vatti
Music from the album *Zeit*
(2024)

Performers:

Hatti Vatti:

Piotr Kaliński
electronics

Piotr Chęcki
saxophone

Paweł Stachowiak
bass guitar

Rafał Dutkiewicz
percussion

Hatti Vatti / *Zeit*

The title of last year's album by Hatti Vatti – *Zeit* – is not a coincidence, as it features music created as if beyond time. What is more, it is driven by a Polish specialty – jazz.

When Renaat Vandepapeliere and Sabine Maes founded an independent record label, R&S, to release dance music in the mid-1980s in the Belgian city of Ghent, they could not have expected that by the end of the decade it would become a vanguard of a musical revolution that would bring about techno, IDM and ambient music. It was this label that released the first recordings by such artists as Joey Beltram, Aphex Twin, Biosphere and Model 500, which defined the modern version of electronic dance music. After a few years' break at the beginning of the twenty-first century, R&S resumed its activities in London, focusing on the then emerging bass music scene, which resulted in albums by James Blake, Nicolas Jaar and Djrum. Last year, the first Polish artist, Hatti Vatti, joined this prestigious group.

Behind this name hides Piotr Kaliński, a producer and musician active in Gdańsk, who started from EDM, growing out of dubstep and dub techno. He debuted as Hatti Vatti in 2009 but did not release his first album until four years later. While *Algebra* was the result of the artist's musical journeys around the Middle East, *Worship Nothing* focused on club-like varieties of dub. In turn, the album *Szum* explored the realm of IDM with a hint of glitch.

In order to present the material from the last of these albums live, Kaliński engaged two jazz musicians – bassist Paweł Stachowiak and drummer Rafał Dutkiewicz. The Gdańsk-based artist enjoyed the experience so much that he decided to go ahead and create material in the same format for a new Hatti Vatti album. This is exactly what happened, and the rhythm section was joined by saxophonist Piotr Chęcki.

"I had to create frameworks of pieces with pilot parts of some instruments. Later, I removed them, and the band recorded their ideas in a given place on the basis of earlier, conceptual notions. It was more like reducing than adding sounds, which is an interesting solution, because it is usually the other way round – various parts are added," explains Kaliński on Soundrive.¹

When the material was ready, the Gdańsk artist sent it to the R&S label, the owners of which he had been in contact with for a decade. From time to time, he sent them his demos, until finally they liked the music he prepared with the three jazz musicians well enough to release it. The queue of performers waiting for an album at R&S was long, so the Hatti Vatti material had to wait its turn. It took as many as three years; eventually, the *Zeit* album was released last year.

The nine featured recordings present Kaliński's various musical fascinations – from the previously explored dub, through ambient synth and Kosmische Musik, to modern jazz. This is music created as if beyond time: a psychedelic guitar part from the late 1960s meets a synthesizer arpeggio from the 1970s and Japanese electronic music from the 1980s, all in one composition. In addition, most of the pieces have a fluctuating structure, combining different rhythms, sounds and moods. Nevertheless, the music is coherent.

"I never wanted to record an album combining jazz with electronics on a simple level. Such tracks already existed in the 1990s, and they simply did not stand the test of time. I wanted to create something that would be – at least for me – a change in thinking and listening thanks to drawing inspiration from everywhere," emphasises Kaliński on the Going. More website.²

The sensation that the release of *Zeit* by the R&S label caused in the Polish world of new music can be compared to the one that came with the debut of Skapel under the Ninja Tune label two decades ago. Both then and now it is Polish jazz that turned out to be the driving force behind the success.

Paweł Gzyl

¹ "Hatti Vatti: Gatunki muzyczne są archaiczne", interview by Jarosław Kowal with Piotr Kaliński, 04/12/2024, Soundrive, <https://soundrive.eu/pl/article/5717/hatti-vatti-gatunki-muzyczne-sa-archaiczne> (accessed on 11/08/2025).

² "Hatti Vatti w legendarnej wytwórni, z trójką muzyków u boku i świeżymi pomysłami. Skąd te zmiany?", interview of Stanisław Bryś with Hatti Vatti, 12/12/2024, Going. More, <https://goingapp.pl/more/hatti-vatti-zeit-wywiad-2024-rs-records/> (accessed on 11/08/2025).

Piotr Kaliński

– electronics



☐ Kacper Krzętowski

Piotr Kaliński (electronics, guitar, production) – aka Hatti Vatti – is one of Poland's most interesting and well-known electronic producers.

He invited instrumentalists from the world of Polish jazz to join in and improvise with his compositions. Rafał Dutkiewicz (drums), Paweł Stachowiak (bass) and Piotr Chęcki (saxophone) are musicians well known for their famous collaborations with EABS, Skalpel and Sławek Jaskulke. The result of this meeting is eclectic material that defies genre classifications, with echoes of the Japanese ambient scene, krautrock, jazz and UK-bass.

Piotr Chęcki

– saxophone



☐ Sisi Cecylia

A saxophonist, composer and producer who is passionate about exploring the boundaries of sound. Piotr has developed a distinctive

style in which the saxophone often appears in unexpected, innovative contexts. He is also known for his collaborations with such artists and projects as Nene Heroine, Algorhythm, Wojtek Mazolewski, Sławek Jaskulke and Hinode Tapes.

Paweł Stachowiak

– bass guitar



☐ Ola Bodnarus

Over the last decade, Wuja HZG – actually Paweł Stachowiak – has become an important link between the Polish jazz and hip-hop scenes,

contributing to almost sixty albums as a bassist and a producer. He is known for his collaborations with such ensembles as EABS, Błoto, Siema Ziemia or Lumbago.

Rafał Dutkiewicz

– percussion



☐ Jowita Stęszewska

Drummer. A graduate of the New York Drummers Collective. He has taught at the Drum Academy, and was a prizewinner at the Drum Fest

Competition in Opole in 2013. He has collaborated with such artists as Skalpel, Wojtek Mazolewski Quintet, Sonar Soul, Paulina Przybysz, Brodka and many others. Rafał Dutkiewicz is a versatile artist, recognised for his original style.



☐ Aneta Bursiewicz

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