



GunnarNilsenBand



Gunnar, Bent, Oreste, Thomas, Richard

Gunnar Nilsen Band, an international band with members from Germany and Norway.

Bassplayer [Gunnar Nilsen](#) has been at the Kongsberg jazz scene for years. He presented this band at a jazzcafé in Kongsberg, Norway spring 2017. His band plays a swinging and appealing type of music. Bop and latin included. Songs from Horace Silver, Clark Terry , Claudio Roditi, Michel Petrucciani, Monty Alexander, Pat Metheny. Even The Beatles. The band has been playing in the east area of Norway the last years.

Members:

Oreste Kindilide, reeds. From Hamburg, Germany with background from that city's jazz clubs. Member of Cotton Club Big Band and member of Hamburg police orchestra. Performed with Maria Schneider (Gil Evans assistant), Herb Geller a.o. Moved to Kongsberg, Norway in 2015. Now as a performing musician, big band leader and teacher of "all" reed instruments. I.e. sax, clarinet and flute.

Educated from Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Hamburg.

[Richar Köster](#), trumpet, from Burghausen, Germany.

Richard studied trumpet, improvised music and composition in Vienna, Groningen, Bern and Oslo.

He has been based in Oslo since 2016 and is experimenting with the borders between Jazz, contemporary and improvised music. He is composing music for projects like Doomsday Preppers, Kammerer OrKöster and OJKOS and is performing with international ensembles like the Synesthetic Octet and Alpacas On The Left Side.

Being part of the German National Youth Jazz Orchestra from 2014- 2016, he travelled to places like Ecuador, Italy and Gelsenkirchen and played concerts with well known German and international artists like Götz Alsmann and John Hollenbeck.

Touring «around the world» and won prizes with his own [Das Kammerer OrKöster](#).

Sits in with [Trondheim Jazz Orchestra](#) and [Oslo Jazzensemble](#).

Recently been on tour in Norway with Oslo Jazzensemble conducted by Maria Schneider.

Bent Østebø Johansen, piano. Kongsberg. After military service in His Majesty the King's Guard Band of Norway Bent went on to a professional career as a pianist and also as a bass player. Playing a numerous concerts with the [Oslo Groove Company](#) (a jazz, soul, funk orchestra) and the Oslo Gospel Choir.

Thomas Bjørndahl, drums. Local time keeper with [Kongsberg Storband](#).

Previously a member of the band "Balkan and Shampoo" playing Bulgarian folk music. He also plays swing jazz with the Ruud/Krogh Jazz Group.

[Gunnar Nilsen](#), bass. From Narvik. Played professional 1975 – 1978 before moving to Kongsberg. He had his baptism of fire as a member of a trio warming up for the Kenny Drew Trio four evenings in a row in Harstad, north of Norway in 1975. After moving to Kongsberg he was a member of the local big band and smaller jazz bands. Mainly playing mainstream and bop music. During the 1990s he was a regular on radio shows for the Norwegian Radio. Also a member for twelve years of Drammen Dixieland Band playing swing and sweet around south east of Norway.

In 1989 he led the Kongsberg Jazzfestival's jam sessions with his band: Gunnar Nilsen Sextet. Their performance over three consecutive nights impressed everyone and they returned the next year. Now with a new name: EuroBop. By doing these jam sessions they suddenly found themselves in scary musical interaction with world famous stars. His band also made one concert in Kongsberg featuring Fritz Hartschuh on vibraphone. In the 1960s regarded as one of Germans best jazz musicians. Gunnar is now retired from his long time job in the oil industry and is a member of various groups in addition to his own.