

Raffaele Cataldo
(b. 1983 USA)
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Raffaele Cataldo is a Berlin based jazz/folk violinist and language educator from Philadelphia, PA, USA. After years of traveling the world as a performer, he has resided in Berlin since 2010. Passionate about languages, he has a proficient command of Spanish, Italian, German and Turkish.

As a musician, he specialises in the music of the eastern Mediterranean, Turkey, and the early Jazz repertoire of the 1920s and 30s. His projects unite musicians from diverse musical traditions.

As a certified English teacher, he leads conversation driven classes with a focus on feedback and correction of the students' language use.

Work/Projects

- 2018-present Private English teacher
- 2018-present English teacher at Iberika Sprachschule, Berlin
- 2017-present Violinist for the Ragtime Nightmare
- 2008-present Bandleader with the Goodnight Circus (Swing, Balkan, and original compositions)
- 2017-2019 Ak Sak Al (Turkish meets free Improv)
- 2013-2018 Bandleader with Thrace is the Place (Thracian wedding band)
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- 2011-2014 Participation with Berliner Ensemble für klassische türkische Musik (BKTMD)
- 2009-2012 Bandleader with Latcho Nash Nash (Istanbul Fasil and Romani music)
- 2009-2011 Participation with the Konservatorium für türkische Musik Berlin Choir (BTMK)
- 2009 Marak Ensemble (turkish and arabic art music)
- 2004-2009 the Cyclown Circus world tour by bicycle (mobile jazz band and circus ensemble)
- 2001-2003 Kreuz deu Peux Mardi Gras Troupe, New Orleans, LA

Education

- 2020 Deutschakademie C1/ TestDAF Certificate
- 2018-19 Makam instruction with Michalis Kouloumis
- 2018 CELTA English teaching certificate
- 2016-17 Classical Instruction with Syrian Violinist Ashraf Kateb
- 2016 Study with Resul Barini in Azeri Violin Style
- 2014 Private lessons in Tekirdağ, Turkey with Ismail Papiş (Burhan Ocal's Trakya All Stars)
- 2014 Ottoman Music with Ross Daily at the 'Berlin Türk Musikisi Konservatuvarı' (BTMK)
- 2014 Ottoman Music with Kudsi Ergüner (BTMK)
- 2013 Greek violin style with George Papaloannou (BTMK)
- 2009-2011 Studied under Nuri Karademirli (BTMK)
- 2008-2009 Istanbul, Private Lessons - various local musicians in Turkish Romani and Art Music
- 2001-2004 New Orleans, LA Private lessons in Jazz Violin
- 1997-2001 Penncrest Highschool Media, PA USA

Notable Performances

- 2019 Blues and Jazz Fest Rapperswil
- 2019 Ballydehop Jazz Fest (IR)
- 2019 Aufgetischt St. Gallen (CH)
- 2018 Werkstatt der Kulturen
- (2017-2019 battle with severe illness)
- 2017 Studio R (Gorki)

- 2017-19 gigs at Donau115 Jazz Bar
- 2017-2020 Berlin Balboa Weekend
- 2016 Jazz Fest- Swingin' Brandenburg
- 2016 Festiwal Retro Częstochowa
- 2015-17 Fusion Festival- Germany
- 2015 Bergmanstr. Jazz Festival, Berlin Germany
- 2014 Arte TV- Swing Stories Documentary at Heimathafen- Berlin, Germany
- 2014 Winterthurer Musikfestwochen- Switzerland
- 2014 Karnival Der Kulturen, Berlin
- 2014 Moods- Zurich, Switzerland
- 2013 Fest Jazz - Châteauneuf-du-Faou, France
- 2012 Araf Club - Istanbul
- 2010 Indonesia International Circus Festival- Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2005 Circus and Music series for the city of Nicosia, Cyprus
- 2005 Baris Festival, Istanbul

Languages

- English (Native), Italian (B1), Spanish (B2), Turkish (B1), German (C1)