

PEEDU KASS

double bass, electric bass,
composition, arrangements,
artistic director, educator

PRESS KIT



bass and more

acclaimed bassist and composer from Estonia

Bassist Peedu Kass moves and grooves with the top names on the Estonian jazz scene and beyond. After garnering the prestigious Young Talent prize (2010) at Estonia's annual Jazzkaar festival, Kass quickly established a reputation as Tallinn's first-call bassist, and his entrée onto the wider European scene was anticipated by his win, at age twenty, of the Sony Jazz Stage award in Riga, Latvia, in a year (2006) in which the competition was focused on his instrument. He has since shared the bandstand with the likes of Django Bates, Marilyn Mazur, Seamus Blake, Tony Allen, Lonnie Liston Smith, Antonio Hart, and the European Jazz Orchestra. His tours have taken him all over Europe and to the United States, Canada, Japan, and Australia, and he has thrilled to the view from the stage of storied jazz festivals (London Jazz Fest, Jazzahead!, Kongsberg Jazz, Pori Jazz) and clubs (Smalls, New York City; Pit Inn, Tokyo; Vortex, London).



www.peedukass.com

Kass received his bachelor's degree from the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre and a master's in jazz performance (2014) from the renowned Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland. In addition to lessons with Estonian greats, he has been coached by Matt Penman, Mats Eilertsen, Thomas Morgan, and Anders Jormin. Kass teaches at the Viljandi Culture Academy of Tartu University and is a former chairman of the Estonian Jazz Union.

Renowned for his electric-, acoustic- and synth-bass skills—in performance and in the studio and with ensembles ranging from small groups to full orchestras—Kass has also been expanding into arrangement and composition. Studies with composer Tõnu Kõrvits led to settings for strings and horns, pieces for chamber ensemble, and a commission from the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, premiered in 2012 at the annual Estonian Music Days festival.

Kass leads several bands, including the piano trio “Peedu Kass Momentum,” which won Jazzkaar's “Jazz Ensemble of the Year” award in 2017. The first album under his own name, a quintet effort, *Home*, was released in 2010, followed shortly by *Armada* in 2012. *Peedu Kass Momentum*, was released in April 2016 and was nominated for jazz album of the year at the Estonian Music Awards. In 2023, pianist Joel Rimmel and bassist Peedu Kass released their joint album *Ode to the Forest*, dedicated to the Estonian forest—its power and the need to preserve it—which had premiered as the opening act of the Jazzkaar 2022 festival.

When not pursuing music, Kass can be found mountaineering or hiking forgotten trails. He strives for the legibility of strong natural forms in his playing and writing, a legibility always affected, of course, by the ever-changing atmosphere of day and season.

A photograph of two men, bassists, walking on a concrete walkway. They are both wearing dark clothing and carrying large wooden double basses. The background is a red brick wall with a curved section on the left. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows. A semi-transparent dark box with white text is overlaid on the image.

"Estonian bassist Peedu Kass' Momentum ensemble served as an exciting and intricately woven remake of the piano trio format."

Josef Woodard, **DownBeat Magazine**

festivals

JAZZAHEAD! 2015

LONDON JAZZ FEST 2016, 2017

KONGSBERG JAZZ FEST 2017

BRISBANE INT. JAZZ FEST 2017

PORI JAZZ 2017

ATHENS TECHNOLIS JAZZ FEST 2018

JAZZ JANTAR GDANSK 2019

JAZZKAAR FESTIVAL 2008-2025

AND MANY MORE

composing commissions

“7 FRAGMENTS” 2012

FOR NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

“9 HYMNS” 2018

BIGBAND + WIND ORCHESTRA

“BACHI KÜTKEIS” 2020

REWRITES OF J.S.BACH CHORALS AND CANTATAS FOR
JAZZ CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

“HIIGLASE HÄLLILAULUD” 2021

BASS CONCERTO FOR TALLINN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

“ODE TO THE FOREST” 2022

FOR THE OPENING OF JAZZKAAR 2022. COMPOSED
WITH JOEL REMMEL FOR 9-PIECE CHAMBER
ENSEMBLE

“KUUS PALA KONTRABASSILE JA KLAVERILE” 2023

DOUBLE BASS METHOD BOOK FOR CHILDREN

LONITSEERA + VHK 2024

STRING ENSEMBLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR LONITSEERA
AND VHK STRING ORCHESTRA

TV PRODUCTION **“SONGS FOR A SOLDIER” 2024, 2025**

MUSICAL DIRECTOR AND WIND ORCHESTRA
ARRANGEMENTS

statistics -

performed in 30 different countries

~ 100 live performances every year

played on more than 40 records

composed and arranged music for:

symphony orchestra

big band

commercials

short films

string quartet



selected discography

- 2010 – "HOME" PEEDU KASS 005
- 2012 – "ARMADA" PEEDU KASS, CO-AUTHORS ANDRE MAAKER AND RAUN JUURIKAS
- 2012 – "EUROPEAN JAZZ ORCHESTRA 2011" EUROPEAN JAZZ ORCHESTRA (*DENMARK*)
- 2013 – "SILENCE AND SOUND" ESBEN BRANDT KVARTET FEAT. FREDRIK LJUNGKVIST (*DENMARK*)
- 2014 – "BALTIC SKETCHES" TREE STONES QUARTET (*LITHUANIA*)
- 2015 – "HATCH AND HOST" AERIE (*SWITZERLAND*)
- 2016 – "PEEDU KASS MOMENTUM" PEEDU KASS MOMENTUM
- 2017 – "KUNAGI LÄÄNES" MILJARDID
- 2017 – "EFTERGLOW" ERKI PÄRNOJA
- 2018 – "SAJA LUGU" ERKI PÄRNOJA
- 2019 – EP "IMELINE" MILJARDID
- 2019 – "ANNA KANEELINA" ANNA KANEELINA
- 2020 – "MA LUBAN, ET MA MUUTUN" MILJARDID
- 2023 – "OOD METSALE" JOEL REMMEL AND PEEDU KASS
- 2023 – "JÄLJED" ERKI PÄRNOJA

awards

- 2006 – GRAND PRIX "SONY JAZZ STAGE" RIGA, LATVIA
- 2010 – ESTONIAN JAZZ AWARDS – YOUNG JAZZ TALENT
- 2010 – UNO NAISSOO SONG WRITING COMPETITION
- 2017 – ESTONIAN JAZZ AWARDS – JAZZ ENSEMBLE OF THE YEAR – PEEDU KASS MOMENTUM
- 2018 – ESTONIAN MUSIC AWARDS – DEBUT ALBUM OF THE YEAR, ROCK ALBUM OF THE YEAR, ALBUM OF THE YEAR – MILJARDID "KUNAGI LÄÄNES"
- 2018 – ESTONIAN MUSIC AWARDS JAZZ ALBUM OF THE YEAR – REIGO AHVEN TRIO "REMEMBER"
- 2021 – ESTONIAN MUSIC AWARDS ROCK ALBUM OF THE YEAR – MILJARDID "MA LUBAN, ET MA MUUTUN"
- 2022 – ESTONIAN JAZZ AWARDS – JAZZ COMPOSER OF THE YEAR

contact

info@peedukass.com

+372 520 4970

www.peedukass.com

[instagram.com/peedu07](https://www.instagram.com/peedu07)

[youtube.com/peedu07](https://www.youtube.com/peedu07)

