



# ACOUSTIC LOUNGE

featuring GABOR BOLLA

“With this band nothing is as obvious as it seems at first glance.”

– [soulandjazzandfunk.com](http://soulandjazzandfunk.com)

# ABOUT

Following the success of their debut album which garnered over **three million** streams worldwide, the group is back with a bigger, bolder recorded statement featuring some of Denmark's most esteemed jazz musicians.

With its two founders – Mikkel Schnettler and Michael Hartvig – on percussion, the atypical quintet line-up is completed with the smooth, soulful vocals of frontman **Søren Baun**, celebrated bassist **Jesper Bodilsen** and Hungarian wunderkind **Gabor Bolla** on saxophone.

Acoustic Lounge's sound is **relaxed**, easy-going, and **playful**. One hardly notices the omission of a traditional drum kit, as their percussion-heavy sound lays a foundation of rich, latin-influenced grooves. At a concert with Acoustic Lounge nothing is as it seems. What at first glance seems to be an easy-going smooth jazz experience opens up to be an intriguing world full of surprising new arrangements.

The repertoire provides some refreshing interpretations of their diverse program. From well known jazz standards such as the title track '**Alone Together**' or Jobim's 'One Note Samba', to pop classics like **Elvis Presley's** 'Can't Help Falling In Love', to the 21st Century anthem that is **Pharrell Williams'** 'Happy', the record is united by a sound which makes each song their own.

The quintet preserves the essence and feeling of each composition and gives them a modern twist, be it through pop and neo-soul harmony, melodic saxophone solos, multi-tracked backing vocals, or entirely original passages of music within songs that every listener will recognize.

With an extensive touring history in their home country, Acoustic Lounge is made up of some of Denmark's most celebrated jazz musicians alongside some rising stars of the Scandinavian scene.

Bassist Jesper Bodilsen, winner of the **Django d'Or Prize** as 'Performer of the Year' in 2004, has toured the world, performing with some of the biggest names in Jazz including Brad Meldau, Bill Frisell, and Gregory Porter.

The two bandleaders **Mikkel Schnettler** and **Michael Hartvig** on percussion are stalwarts of the scene and singer-pianist Søren Baun is known for a broad range of winning musical projects.

# GABOR BOLLA

Acoustic Lounge has teamed up with the Hungarian virtuoso saxophone player Gabor Bolla. At the age of 15 Bolla reached the semi-final of the prestigious competition of Montreaux Jazz Festival catapulting his career into the international jazz scene. He has played with some of the biggest stars including **Randy Brecker, Mike Stern, Johnny Griffin** and **Gary Peacock**. Gabor has a unique style and energy in his beautiful mix of hard-bop solos and Eastern European melody lines.



# THE BAND

## **Jesper Bodilsen** bass

Winner of **Django d'Or Prize** as "Performer of the Year" in 2004. Has played all over the world with **Brad Mehldau**, Phil Woods, Tom Harrell, Dino Saluzzi, Enrico Rava, **Gregory Porter**, Marc Turner, Bill Frisell, James Mody, Benny Golson, Seamus Blake, Duke Jordan, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Paolo Fresu, Joe Calderazzo, **Gino Vanelli** and Lionel Loueke.

## **Gabor Bolla** sax

In 2004 Gabor received the Hans Koller Prize as "Talent of the year" in Austria and in 2005 the Bolla-quartet won both the Grand Prix og Prix du Public at Avignon Jazz Festival in France. In 2006 he won the Hans Koller-prize – "New York Stipendium". During the last decade he has worked with **Mike Stern**, **Randy Brecker**, **Gary Peacock**, Kirk Lightsey, Alvin Queen, Jimmy Wormworth, Billy Drummond, Robert Hurst, Alex Riel, Danmark Radio Bigband and many more.

## **Søren Baun** vocals/piano

Singer, pianist and songwriter. Has released one single in his own name and is in the middle of producing his debut album. Released the album "Baun On Beatles – Live at the Village" in 2019. Has played with many artists on stage and in the studio – among others: **Hans Ulrik**, **The Danish Radio Big Band**, Claudia Campagnol, Touché Vocal jazz ensemble, Simon Spang-Hanssen, Omar Lye-Fook and Victor Jones.

## **Michael Hartvig** percussion

Founder of the band. Has played with many different Danish artists and bands over the past 20 years. Michael has studied percussion in Cuba and has a playful rhythmic approach with his huge setup of sounds from all over the world.

## **Mikkel Schnettler** percussion

Founder of the band. Has played with many Danish artists in all genres, both on stage and in the studio– among others **The Danish Radio Big Band**, Simon Spang-Hanssen, Zididada, Annette Heick, Rasmus Nøhr, Karen Mukupa. Has toured and recorded with **Django Bates'** big band storMChaser.

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# B O O K I N G

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