**WCKD NATION (SI)**

**R&B, Neo-Soul, Future Jazz**

Management & Booking

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**Friday, January 31st, 2020**

**Wckd Nation releases new single AIRPLANE BLONDE ahead of showcase at Festival MENT**

In advance of their upcoming performance at international showcase festival MENT, Wckd Nation has dropped a new single, AIRPLANE BLONDE. The fifth single by the Slovenian neo-soul/future jazz collective was released today, on Friday, January 31st. AIRPLANE BLONDE is now available on all major streaming platforms, and is accompanied by an official video on YouTube.

https://youtu.be/ALBvBJdIbMY
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Wckd Nation’s fifth single, AIRPLANE BLONDE follows the band’s latest release from November, which peaked in the Top 5 most played songs on Slovenian national radio station Val202. With the release of AIRPLANE BLONDE, Wckd Nation moves towards a hip hop vibe tastefully fused with their classic brand of straight-up jazz. The track’s vocals stay loyal to neo-soul, backed by a hard-hitting eight-piece band that draws inspiration from the contemporary British jazz scene. In mood, the new single brings to mind artists like Erika Badu, The Internet, Mac Miller, and Kamasi Washington.

AIRPLANE BLONDE features Canadian rapper Beatox and was arranged by US songwriter & producer Rob Bargad, who has played with jazz legends like Jimmy Scott, Dakota Staton, Lionel Hampton, and Roy Hargrove. The video was filmed by Slovenian video crew Bright Visuals, who have created videos for bands like Leisure from the UK.

Wckd Nation has released AIRPLANE BLONDE in the lead-up to their showcase at international festival MENT. The band’s MENT performance will take place on February 7th at 21:15 at the Ljubljana Castle, and will be followed by an international tour in April.
[*https://www.ment.si/lineup-2020/wckd-nation-slovenia/*](https://www.ment.si/lineup-2020/wckd-nation-slovenia/)**Artist:** Wckd Nation
**Track Name:** AIRPLANE BLONDE (feat. Beatox)
**Release Date:** January 31st, 2020
**Language:** English
**Genre:** Hip hop, Future Jazz, R&B
**Written:** Peter Smrdel
**Arranged:** Wckd Nation
**Lyrics:** Urška Supej and Adam Fainman
**Produced:** Rob Bargad, Peter Smrdel, Žiga Smrdel
**Mix:** Roberto Bulešić
**Mastering:** Gregor Zemljič
**Video:** Bright Visuals
**ISRC:** SIA6D1800004
**UPC:** 195037544808

**Wckd Nation Full BIO**

Wckd Nation is a community of musicians from Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Founded by multi-instrumentalists, composers, producers, and brothers Peter and Žiga Smrdel in Klagenfurt in 2015, the group was initially created as an artist collective from three different countries: Slovenia, Austria, and Croatia. Since then, the jam sessions have grown to become structured, independent tracks that bond the musical family as a band.

Wckd Nation has since restructured and moved their home base to Ljubljana, where they are further exploring new shapes and sounds of jazz-pop. The band is currently comprised of nine core members, including the Smrdel brothers, Maša But, Filip Vadnu, Anže Vrabec, Nejc Škofic, Grega Skaza, Matic Mikola, and Sandi Štor, all notable musicians of the new Slovenian jazz generation.

In autumn 2018, Wckd Nation released their debut singles Time and Troubles. Both singles were instantly picked up by the biggest Slovenian national radio stations. With airplay on Val202 and Radio SI International, the band has been recognized by both music lovers and professionals. The overwhelmingly successful launch put them on the radar of a wider audience, selling out their first headlining shows in Slovenia.

In March 2019, the band released their third single, New Path, while completing their first international tour in the Baltics, where they established a growing fan base outside of Slovenia. Thanks to the support of the Slovenian Embassy in Warsaw and the Municipality of Postojna, Wckd Nation performed in clubs in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. The highlight of the tour was their performance at Tallinn Music Week, where the band performed on one of the main stages. The tour attracted considerable media attention in the area, with visibility from many notable outlets and radio stations.

Throughout the rest of 2019, the band focused on performances in Slovenia that included Festival Lent, a concert filmed by the Slovenian national TV broadcaster, and radio sessions across the country. After a busy summer, Wckd Nation released their fourth single, The Swan King, at the end of November. The single instantly reached the Top 5 most played songs of December on main Slovenian national radio station Val202 and was named as one of the bands to watch by the biggest Slovenian media news website 24ur.com.

To kick off 2020, the band has just announced their second international tour to Austria and Czech Republic, as well as the release of another single, AIRPLANE BLONDE, in a glimpse of a major year to come.

**Core Band Members:**

Maša But - Vocal

Peter Smrdel - Bass

Filip Vadnu - Guitar

Žiga Smrdel - Drums

Nejc Škofic - Keyboards (live)

Anže Vrabec - Keyboards (studio)

Grega Skaza - Alto Saxophone
Matic Mikola - Tenor Saxophone
Sandi Štor - Trumpet

**Social Media:**Facebook: *https://www.facebook.com/WckdNation/*
Twitter: [*https://twitter.com/WckdNation*](https://twitter.com/WckdNation)
Instagram: *https://www.instagram.com/wckd\_nation/*

Spotify: *https://open.spotify.com/artist/2jxXndaNGGwNExhagFPd3W*

Apple Music: *https://itunes.apple.com/us/artist/wckdnation/1435693358*

Deezer: [*https://www.deezer.com/nl/artist/51148622*](https://www.deezer.com/nl/artist/51148622)

Youtube: *https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2kXAoKiWvCMB1i\_EhwCglg*

Bandcamp: [*https://wckdnation.bandcamp.com/*](https://wckdnation.bandcamp.com/)

**Wckd Nation Short BIO:**

Wckd Nation is a community of musicians from Ljubljana, Slovenia, that explores new shapes and sounds of jazz-pop.

In autumn 2018, they released their debut singles Time and Troubles, which were quickly picked up by some of the leading Slovenian radio stations. After selling out headlining shows at home, the band released their third single, New Path, and completed their first international tour in the Baltics in March 2019, including a main stage performance at Tallinn Music Week. Throughout the rest of 2019, the band continued to tour in Slovenia, including a show at Festival Lent, a concert filmed by the Slovenian national broadcaster, and radio sessions across the country. In November 2019, Wckd Nation released their fourth single, The Swan King, which peaked in the Top 5 most played songs on radio station Val202.

 To kick off 2020, the band has just announced an international tour to Austria and Czech Republic, as well as the release of a new single, AIRPLANE BLONDE.