



The *Ahaddaf Quartet*, is a young, ambitious Amsterdam based international Quartet with extraordinary upcoming professional musicians, original style, repertoire and strong stage presence.

In 2011 they were awarded 1st prize at the “*13th International Lute Festival*” in Tetouan, Morocco.

Their first Album “*Nasim Al Andalous*” was released in October 2014 in Amsterdam.

Their second Album “*Spoken Soul*” was released in November 2014 in Amsterdam.

The Quartet has played in international venues such as Concertgebouw, Pardiso, Eye Filmmuseum, South East Jazz Festival, dutch Television VPRO in Amsterdam.

Further on moroccan stages in Tetouan on the “*13th and 15th International Lute Festival*”, “*Villa des Arts*” Rabat and Casablanca, *Asilah Festival 2014*.

The Quartet is scheduled to play for the “*Arteganza Festival*” in Amersfort (october 2014), the “*15th international Oud Festival Jerusalem*” (november 2014), “*Shablul Jazz*” Tel Aviv (november 2014), “*Nova*” Antwerpen (december 2014) amongst others.

Ahaddaf Quartet

[info@ahaddafquartet.com](mailto:info@ahaddafquartet.com)



“Nasim Al Andalous” 1st Album  
released 20-11-2012



“Spoken Soul” 2nd Album  
released 09-11-2014

### Band Description:

A modern jazz quartet originating from Morocco, Italy, France, Germany based in the Netherlands. The band is centralised around the sound of the Ud intertwined with a modern jazz trio. This combination creates a bridge between the west and the east through catching melodies and virtuosic improvisations

From the landscapes of Morocco, Sicily, Germany and France the *Ahaddaf Quartet* aspires to bring both tradition and innovation into one musical paradigm.

Lead by the accomplished ud virtuoso *Mohamed Ahaddaf*, the cross cultural ensemble portrays infused languages, histories and life stories, all combined into one pallet of rich and harmonious rendezvous.

The moroccan-andalusian background, combined with influences of latin and jazz music, blossoms through strong melodies, unforgettable themes and enchanting solos. The alchemy of the lute, the double bass with live electronics intertwined with percussion, drums and piano creates the trademark of this unique sounding quartet.

## Mohamed Ahaddaf



### Mohamed Ahaddaf - Bio

An accomplished ud and Andalusian musician originally from Tetouan, Morocco. Mohammed was quickly recognised by the famous moroccan conductor Mohamed Ben Larbi Temsamani who asked him to join his orchestra. This fate encounter lead Mohammed in 1997 to tour through Europe where he fell in love with Amsterdam and made a name for himself ever since. It is here where he finds ample inspiration for his growing repertoire, surrounding himself with musicians who contribute to his vision of arabic music combined with latin and jazz. Mohamed is outstanding in the Amsterdam landscape due to his deep sound, dexterity and lyrical melodies.





## Stephan Raidl



### Stephan Raidl - Bio

Acoustic Bass Player, originally from Freiburg - Germany. In 2006 Stephan relocated to Amsterdam for deepening his knowledge in jazz and expand his musical spectrum and perception, gravitating towards "non-western" styles such as - south indian karnatic, middle eastern, arabic music and live electronics. These exotic interests paved the way for Mohamed and Stephan to meet and find a musical dialogue which lead to the formation of the "Ahaddaf Quartet" and shortly after to the Album "Nasim al Andalous" in 2012.

Stephan Raidl has toured internationally, won prizes in Holland, Germany and Maroco, and shared stages with Izaline Callister, John Clayton, Burton Green, Ramon Valle, Samira Kadiri, Nabil Akbib and many more.

Stephan's knowledge of classical, jazz, latin, karnatic music and live electronics makes him a unique and visible musician in the paradigm of Amsterdam.



## Avishai Darash



### Avishai Darash - Bio

Pianist and composer originally from Jerusalem, Israel. Avishai began his musical endeavour since the age of 11 after witnessing his cousin, the world renowned psy-trance producer "tribal tul", in the studio producing a new track. Soon enough he indulged in producing electronic psy-trance and chillout, performing in several venues across Jerusalem at the young age of 13. Three years later he started his piano studies and was accepted to the Rubin academy in Jerusalem for the bachelor program. After two years, in From 2008-2009, he moved to New York to pursue further experiences.

In 2010 Avishai moved to Amsterdam for classical and Indian music studies in the Conservatory of Amsterdam.

He is actually working on his own piano solo composition and with the "Ahaddaf Quartet". Avishai is recognised by his impeccable timing and articulation, having both classical and jazz experience in his musical vocabulary.

## Francesco Bongiorno



### Francesco Bongiorno - Bio

Francesco Bongiorno was born in Petralia Sottana (Sicily) in 1985. Francesco graduated at the Amsterdam Conservatory in 2011 in Jazz drums under the guidance of professors: Mantijn Vink, Lucas van Merwijk and Marcel Serierse. Bongiorno has also achieved the last year of study in classical piano at the V.Bellini conservatorium in Palermo and from the age of 13 he won five National piano Competitions including scholarships. In Amsterdam Francesco takes part in various jazz/world music formations such as Ahaddaf quartet and Levi Silvanie project with whom he tours around the world. Bongiorno is a percussionist within Taberna Mylaensis headed by Luciano Maio and in 2009 he has recorded and contributed to the arrangements of Luciano Maio & Orchestra's new cd project "Sciusia lu ventu". At the moment he is studying African rhythms and experimenting with percussions merging with drums by creating a personal drumset. Francesco is also specialised in Indian improvisation techniques.