

Fail Better!



Fail Better! is a quintet that brings together musicians living in different cities [Porto, Coimbra and Lisbon]. The base is the union of two pre-existing projects: the duo formed by João Guimarães (saxophone) and João Pais Filipe (percussion), which in 2012 produced one of the most interesting free jazz records made in Portugal (Ancestral / Sonoscopia Records) and the trio The NAP, which joins Marcelo dos Reis (guitar), José Miguel Pereira (bass) and Pais Filipe. Luís Vicente (trumpet) completes the “pentagon”, adding richness of timbre and increasing the expressive possibilities of the quintet, whose music is able to drive to distinct territories. Sometimes more jazz, sometimes making use of collage of different sources apparently irreconcilable, post-rock, free improvisation and contemporary music.

If this group had some pronouncement, it could be summed up in the desire of producing a group language in real-time without any pre-written musical notes. From here comes the reference to Beckett in group’s name: “Ever Tried, Ever Failed, No matter, Try again, Fail again, Fail Better.”.

In 2014 the group has edited ZERO SUM / JACC Records.

bio

Luís Vicente

Luís Vicente [Lisbon, 1979] has established himself as one of the most active and versatile trumpet players in Portugal, his work ranging from the most academic jazz to electronic music and free improvisation. He has recently released his first record as leader, [Outeiro / JACC Records]. In the last years he has played at dozens of venues and festivals in Portugal, Spain, Hungary, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland.

Discography

Clocks and Clouds - Clocks and Clouds / FMR Records (2014)
Fail Better! - Zero Sum / Jacc Records (2014)
Vicente | Marjamaki - Alternate Translations / MIMI Records (2013)
Luís Vicente trio - Outeiro / Jacc Records (2012)
Adega Ensemble - Black van in a small square / Ilse Records (2012)
Thermo States vol.1 / Thermo Recordings (2010)
Tiago Gomes e Tó Trips - Vi-os desaparecer na noite / Optimus discos (2009)

<http://luis-vicente.wix.com/luisvicente>

João Guimarães

João Guimarães (Oporto, 1983) was a member of the Orquestra de Jazz de Matosinhos before leaving to New York to study at the Manhattan School of Music, after finishing his training at ESMAE (School of Music and Performance Arts). He is one of the top examples among musicians of his generation, an instrumentalist simultaneously holding enviable expertise on the one hand, and maintaining curiosity and taste for experimentation, on the other.

Discography

Fail Better! - Zero Sum / Jacc Records (2014)
Orquestra Jazz de Matosinhos - Jazz Composers Forum / TOAP (2014)
Orquestra Jazz de Matosinhos - Bela Senão Sem / TOAP (2013)
João Filipe & João Guimarães - Ancestral / Sonoscopia (2012)
Nuno Costa - All Must Go / TOAP (2012)
Demian Cabaud - Ruínas / TOAP (2010)
Nuno Costa - [...] / TOAP (2009)
Orquestra Jazz de Matosinhos - Portology / Omnitone (2007)
Orquestra Jazz de Matosinhos - OJM Invites Chris Cheek / Fresh Sound New Talent (2006)

<http://myspace.com/jguimaraes>

Marcelo dos Reis

Marcelo dos Reis (Lisbon, 1984) he is one prominent voice in the Portuguese creative music scene. After formal musical education he decided to get into the improvised and experimental music. In this field he has had the opportunity to play and work with Elliott Sharp, Burton Greene, Burkhard Beins, Manuel Mota, Liz Allbee, Evan Parker, Klára Doležalková, Carlos "Zingaro", Toshimaru Nakamura, Théo Ceccaldi, Werner Dafeldecker, Kátia Sá, Angélica Salvi, among many others.

Discography

Pedra Contida - Xisto / JACC Records (2014)
Fail Better! - Zero Sum / JACC Records (2014)
Nap, The - Non Rapid Eye Movement Sleep / Nap Music (2012)

<http://soundcloud.com/marcelodosreis>

José Miguel Pereira

José Miguel Pereira (Viseu, 1979) is a member of numerous different projects, including the Open Field String Trio [with Marcelo dos Reis] with forthcoming works with pianists Burton Green and Tiago Sousa. The opportunity of crossing experiments with key figures of the free improvisation, such as Evan Parker, Lawrence "Butch" Morris, Jason Hwang and William Winant have been crucial for his instrumental language development, admittedly not academic.

Discography

Fail Better! - Zero Sum / JACC Records (2014)

<http://doublebill-cmi.blogspot.pt>

João Pais Filipe

João Pais Filipe (Oporto, 1980) is a self-educated drummer/percussionist. He plays in several projects/bands of experimental and rock music and pursues an intense and wide activity in the improvised music spectrum. He has collaborated throughout the years with musicians, such as Fritz Hauser, Evan Parker, Marcello Magliocchi, Carlos "Zingaro", Damo Suzuki (Can), Stefano Giusti, Alfred Harth, Bernhard Fleischmann and Burkhard Stangl, among others.

Discography

Sektor 304 - Engage... Forwards 7" / New Approach Records (2014)
Sektor 304 & Le Syndicat - Geometry of Chromonium Skin / Rotorelief (2013)
Raz Mesinai / Jonathan Saldanha - Tunnel Vision / Tzadik (2013) DVD
João Filipe & João Guimarães - Ancestral / Sonoscopia (2012)
Radial Caos Opera - Dve Kêr / Sonoscopia (2012)
Unzen Pilot - s/t 12" / Louie Louie Records (2012)
Jonathan Ulriel Saldanha - The Earth Floating Egg / Soopa (2011)
Sektor 304 - Subliminal Actions / Malignant Records (2011)
Radial Caos Opera - s/t / Setola Di Maiale (2011)
HHY & The Macumbas - Legba / Houmfort 7" / Soopa (2010)
Sektor 304 - Soul Cleansing / Malignant Records (2009)

<http://soundcloud.com/jo-o-pais-filipe>

Links

bio

<http://nervoagency.wordpress.com/artists/fail-better-2/bio-2/>

music

<http://nervoagency.wordpress.com/artists/fail-better-2/music-2/>

video

<http://nervoagency.wordpress.com/artists/fail-better-2/videos/>

photo

<http://nervoagency.wordpress.com/artists/fail-better-2/photos/>

press

<http://nervoagency.wordpress.com/artists/fail-better-2/press/>

Technical Rider

Instruments	MIC/DI*	Stand
Trumpet	RE 20	Long
Sax alto	SM 57	Long
Guitar	SM 57 (no amp)	Small
Double bass	DI	
OH L	SM 81	Long
OH R	SM 81	Long
Snare	SM 57	Mid
Kick	Beta 52	Small
Presentations	SM 58	Long

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