

Gabriele di Franco

Guitarist, Composer and Arranger

Gabriele di Franco, born in Italy and currently residing in Brussels is an Italian **arranger**, **composer**, and **guitarist**. He has spent a long stretch of his life as a professional musician; performing, recording and collaborating with many artists coming from all over the world.

Composing music at a very young age influenced by jazz and world music, Gabriele quickly gets a grasp of these different concepts and interprets them in his own way. This path brought him to lead his own band **BIJA**, that has been awarded the price “Band Revelation of the year 2012”. That same year he was also the finalist of the “Tiberio Nicola Award 12” and at the “Jimmy Wood Award”.

Two years later Gabriele and his band released their debut album “[BIJA](#)” (Slam production - UK).

He also achieved the podium at “International Fara Jazz Contest 2014” and at “International Jazz Competition of Bucharest 2015” with his trio [MYNAH](#), the “Brussels Jazz Marathon 2016” together with his band Rubiks, the 1st prize at “Multiculturita Black Music Contest 2017” and the “Audience Price” at Sibiu Jazz festival with Bija.

Gabriele graduated in 2014 with a major in Jazz guitar (110/110) at the Conservatory of Nino Rota (IT) with an additional year of study at the renowned Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien (AUS).

After graduating Gabriele moved to Brussels to attend a Master study in Jazz Composition & Arranging at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels (KCB). Here he studied with mentors such as [Kris Defoort](#), [Lode Mertens](#), [Peter Swinnen](#), etc. Gabriele graduated cum laude in June 2018.

In 2016 Gabriele recorded his second album “INTRO” (Emme Record Label) with MYNAH and spent a long time on his European tour.

Since October 2016 Gabriele is working as composer, arranger and conductor for the [Bud Powell Jazz Orchestra](#).

In 2017 Gabriele won the [SIAE](#) (Italian Copyright Company) scholarship for authors under 35.

In November 2017 he also achieved the podium at the **JAZZ COMP GRAZ 2017** as “Second best Composer” with the big band arrangement of his composition “Aspetta”.

In February 2018, Gabriele was the sole composer, across all Belgium conservatories, selected to arrange for the live coaching masterclass with Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Jazz Orchestra at Bozar - Brussels.

In 2018 he released two albums:

In March the album [SO FAR](#), released with the “Gottfried di Franco”, band founded in collaboration with the Austrian saxophonist [Stefan Gottfried](#).

And in May of the same year, was released the album [DEDALO](#) from the Bud Powell Jazz Orchestra, produced by the [Ass. Cult. Jazz Bud Powell](#), where he composed and arranged the whole repertoire.

In September 2018, among 88 applications worldwide, Gabriele got selected as residency artist for the Bijloke Summer Academy (partners: [LOD music theatre](#), [Music Centre De](#)

[Bijloke](#), [Royal Academy of Fine Arts](#) (KASK) & Royal Conservatory Ghent, [SPECTRA Ensemble](#), [JazzLab](#) and [International Opera Academy](#)).

Teaching is also one of Gabriele's passions. Having taught for many years, he encourages his students to see beyond the music. Showing how improvisational knowledge and technique combined with compositional knowledge is a key asset to being a good musician.

Discography

[Bud Powell Jazz Orchestra - DEDALO](#) (Ass. Cult. Jazz Bud Powell - 2018)

[Gottfried di Franco - So Far](#) (Sena Production - 2018)

[Mynah - Intro](#) (Emme Record Label - 2015)

[Bija - Bija](#) (Slam production - UK 2014)

Awards

"Second best Composer" - *Jazz Comp Graz - "Aspetta" (Big Band Arrangement)* (2017)

"SIAE" scholarship for authors and composers under 35 (2017)

"Audience Award" - *Sibiu Jazz Contest - Bija* (2017)

"Black Music Contest" - *Multiculturita - Bija* (2017)

"Band Revelation Of The Year" - *Jazzup - Bija* (2012)

"Soundslice" - *Bija* (2012)