

# Chameleon Orchestra

## Windows to the East



*"A fascinating endeavour to build musical bridges from European jazz towards the sound universe of the Orient. The Chameleon Orchestra celebrates World Music in perhaps its most open and vivid form with a wealth of facets." (mica-music austria)*

A get-together of European and Oriental music traditions.

With the foundation of the Chameleon Orchestra in 2013, Christian Wirth made a dream come true: the dream of a flexible orchestral ensemble consisting of versatile musicians shaped by a variety of different musical and cultural backgrounds.

The project "Windows to the East" started in cooperation with the Syrian oud-virtuoso Orwa Saleh, who made Austria his new home in 2012.

Lucky chance led to two more Syrian artists joining the project – the composer and violinist Maias Alyamani as well as the charming singer Basma Jabr. The ensemble regularly collaborate with guest soloists like Syrian-American exceptional artist vocalist Dima Orsho (ensemble Hewar).

For many years the violinist Christian Wirth has been exploring various musical worlds. With his Spring String Quartet, which is also integrated in the Chameleon Orchestra, he has been giving concerts all over the world and partnered many nationally and internationally renowned artists.

*"Christian Wirth's "Windows to the East" is a crisp mix of various styles: oriental, groovy, playful, boisterous and joyful; it pauses every now and then to allow for a few affectionate dancing steps. Saleh's "+250-" opens up a sentimental view onto his home country. All arrangements are skillfully done... a fabulous project!" (Kulturbericht Upper Austria 06116)*



videos, info, contact:  
[www.chameleon-orchestra.com](http://www.chameleon-orchestra.com)



**Christian Wirth** violin, conductor, composition

Soloists:

**Orwa Saleh** oud, composition  
**MAias Alyamani** violin, composition  
**Basma Jabr** vocals

Guest soloists (vocals):

**Macadi Nahhas**  
**Dima Orsho**  
**Manal Samaaan**

Orchestra:

**Marcus Wall** violin  
**Julian Gillesberger** viola  
**Stephan Punderlitschek** violoncello, composition  
**Dietmar Hollinetz** double bass  
**Norbert Girlinger** flutes  
**Eberhard Reiter** saxophones, clarinets  
**Matthias Kronsteiner** bassoon  
**Martina Wirth** trumpet, flugelhorn  
**Marco Palewicz** piano, keyboards, composition  
**Uygar Cagli** electr. bass  
**Gerhard Reiter** darabukka, frame drum, riqq  
**Andreas Huber** cajon, congas, djembe, shaker  
**David Halasz** drum set, vibraphone, composition



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Music by Christian Wirth, Orwa Saleh, Maias Alyamani, David Halasz, Marco Palewicz, Stephan Punderlitschek, Mohamed Abdelwahab, Farid Al-Atrash, ..

