



JAN LULEY

SOLO | TRIO | PIANO | VOCALS

Jan Luley is one of Europe's most renowned pianists, keeping the spirit of New Orleans alive with his own modern style full of virtuosity, groove, and creative expressiveness.

concert programs [\[weblink\]](#)

Reflections Of New Orleans
Southern Nights (with reading)
Piano Créole
Baltic Blues
Christmas On The Keys



Piano with soul, story, and swing

Whether solo or with a band, his concerts are a lively journey through jazz, blues, gospel, world music, and his own compositions. Sometimes light as a feather and playful, sometimes powerful and funky—but always with soul. Luley calls his style “contemporary New Orleans piano”—a mix of tradition and zeitgeist that breaks genre boundaries and never ceases to surprise. With songs from the cradle of jazz and his own pieces, he develops a language that both delights connoisseurs and appeals to new listeners.

Storytelling meets joy of playing

What sets Jan apart is his flair for atmosphere. His concerts are not only musically captivating, but also narratively compelling: anecdotes, historical insights, personal experiences—he combines music and stories with charm and humor, without ever coming across as didactic.

Would you like a quote?

“Jan Luley is a jazz musical all-rounder.” – *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*

“[...] a star pianist who must have absorbed the jazz feeling with his mother's milk.” – *Rotenburger Kreiszeitung*

“Jan Luley is not a keyboard bureaucrat, but a boogie-woogie tiger.” – *Mannheimer Morgen*

janluley.de

VIDEO



JAN LULEY TRIO



Jan Luley, hailed by the press as the “wizard of the keys” (Schwäbische Zeitung) and “titan of the grand piano’s steel strings” (FAZ), is one of the most versatile pianists of his generation. With his passion for Creole piano music and New Orleans grooves, he ignites a contagious joy of playing that touches and captivates his audience in equal measure. In every concert, he combines virtuosity, joy of playing, and emotional depth—demonstrating that sophisticated art does not have to be difficult, but can be full of lightness, wit, and energy.

Paul G. Ulrich provides the foundation on the double bass. He is considered one of the most sought-after jazz bassists in Germany, was a permanent member of Paul Kuhn’s trio for many years, and has played on international stages alongside numerous jazz greats. **Tobias Schirmer** impresses on the drums, whose sensitive playing, sound awareness, and stylistic versatility consistently stand out. Having received multiple awards early on, he now combines classical craftsmanship with the freedom of jazz and has established himself as an equally sensitive and energetic partner.

After studying jazz piano in the Netherlands, he was repeatedly drawn back to New Orleans, where he performed with local greats and immersed himself deeply in the musical culture. With over 2,800 concerts in 18 countries, 21 album releases, and festival appearances throughout Europe and Africa, Jan Luley stands for quality, internationality, and genuine passion. In 1995, he received an award for “Outstanding Musicianship” from Berklee College of Music. In 2011, Mitchell Landrieu, then mayor of New Orleans, honored him for his services to the city’s musical tradition and its musicians.

In addition to playing the piano, Jan is also active as a photographer, designer, workshop lecturer, and artistic director. Together with his wife, he organizes cultural trips to New Orleans and the Baltic States.

PRESS REVIEWS:

“Here, a subtle master of his craft played with joy, inventiveness, and pianistic seduction.” [Neue Westfälische, August 15, 2022]

“He masters the piano like no other and tells [...] the musical story of New Orleans. [nh24.de, September 15, 2019]

“Jan Luley is a jazz musical all-rounder.” [FAZ, October 13, 2018] “Like a magician, he repeatedly reaches into his bag of tricks, seemingly inexhaustible with ideas.” [Offenbacher Post, May 5, 2018]

“His melodic ingenuity is enormous, his expression and sound wonderfully relaxed.” [Oberhessische Presse, February 21, 2018]

“Jan Luley must be counted among the best in the country, a musician with lion’s paws [...] A titan on the steel strings of the grand piano, but also a sensualist.” [FAZ, December 3, 2016]

SPECIAL GUESTS



Ginea Adi Wolf



Cleo



Monique Thomas



Ryan Carniaux