

KASSIOPEIA

BIOGRAPHY

Kassiopeia was founded in 2008 in Krefeld, Germany, as a musical project fueled by lyrics and music written by Lina Farah, the band's vocalist and pianist of Egyptian origins. After only a few gigs in Germany, Kassiopeia made an appearance as the opening act on the 'Eier mit Speck' Festival (alongside Everlast, Wallis Bird, Good Charlotte), followed by an extensive tour over the next two years. In early 2012, the group withdrew to work on their debut album, 'Cyclone', leading to a three-year hiatus in which the band managed to reinvent itself. From that time on, slowly but surely, the project evolved to become a personal quest to produce art in its purest form, leading to the decision to spread the music not as a band, but as a constellation, mostly composed of Lina Farah (piano, vocal) and Till Menzer (percussion) or Lina on her own.

STYLE & SOUND

The focus of most Kassiopeia pieces is Lina's unique voice, which is at times anxious and frail but can also be angry and fierce. The exceptional harmonic progressions, combined with the melodies and lyrics, lead to numerous moments of surprise and unexpected twists. Soul and art rock entwine, infused with mystical vibes, while time loses all meaning. Kassiopeia's music is versatile, yet unmistakably distinctive.

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SUMMARY

Kassiopeia was founded in 2008 in Krefeld, Germany, as a musical project fueled by lyrics and music written by Lina Farah. The focus of most Kassiopeia pieces is Lina's unique voice, which is at times anxious and frail but can also be angry and fierce. The exceptional harmonic progressions, combined with the melodies and lyrics, lead to numerous moments of surprise and unexpected twists. Soul and art rock entwine with mystical vibes, while time loses all meaning. Kassiopeia's music is versatile, yet unmistakably distinctive.

IN ONE LINE

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P R E S S

Kassiopeia is live in Junction Bar on the 19th July – if you like Tori Amos and Evanescence you'll love Kassiopeia

Kassiopeia started as a band back in 2008, centred around singer and pianist Lina Farah, an Egyptian girl who'd grown up in Germany. The band rose to local prominence in a short time, playing a festival or two and setting themselves off on an extended tour. This wouldn't last however, and when the band stopped touring and playing live to concentrate on writing and recording Cyclone, their first proper album, differences of opinion and personnel changes cropped up and eventually Lina decided to rebirth the band as a solo artist project – but she kept the band's drummer, Till Menzer, who ended up studying jazz drumming in a school in Weimar.

Touches of frailty interspersed with moments of anger breaking through

Expecting that they would need to find others to perform live, after playing a few gigs as a two piece – piano, drums/percussion and voice – they realised that it just wasn't necessary: the chemistry was right, and that's always the hardest thing to find. And Lina's full-bodied piano style, together with Till's jazz-tinged percussive quests filled the sound up as much as the songs needed.

The focus of most of Kassiopeia pieces is Lina's unique voice: at times anxious, a little frail, at times an anger breaking through. Unusual harmonic progressions combine with insistent melodies to provide moments of surprise and unexpected twists.

Playing in Junction Bar on the 19th, it'll be the first Kassiopeia gig in Berlin as a duo, although both Lina and Till have played plenty of times with Mondo Mash Up Soundsystem, a very different band project that they're involved with. Mondo Mashup is eleven frantic musicians playing upbeat and uptempo ska-esque songs.

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