

# Jorn Swart BIOGRAPHY

*“Jorn is a musician of great sensibility, with a very inventive mind. He will surprise us, I’m sure, and so will his music.” - Jean-Michel Pilc*

Jorn Swart (1987) is a spirited up-and-coming jazz pianist, composer, and arranger, currently living and performing in New York City. His refined playing and touching compositions already gained him much international and national recognition. In November 2013 he toured Europe to present his debut CD “A Day in the Life of Boriz”, featuring some of New York’s most thrilling and fearless jazz musicians. His new project, MALNOIA, is a bass- and drum-less trio that soon will record an album.

After a falling-out with Dutch folk music, Jorn put down his accordion and picked up the piano with the passion that only an angst-ridden 15-year-old could have. Three years later he plunged into jazz studies at the Conservatory of Amsterdam, graduating in 2010. Fortified with a Fulbright grant, Huygens scholarship, and a fund from the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds, Jorn soared on to continue his education in New York City. There, he studied with David Berkman, Johannes Weidenmueller, Sophia Rossof, and Jean-Michel Pilc. Throughout his Master’s he continued to stand out artistically, in 2011 being one of the 20 musicians from around the world to be selected for the Betty Carter Jazz Ahead residency in Washington, D.C. That same year he was the winner of the Sir Roland Hanna Award, a yearly award presented to an excelling jazz pianist.

In New York he already played with greats such as Jimmy Heath, Sheila Jordan, Jay Clayton, and Antonio Hart. In Europe, he has performed with musicians such as Tineke Postma, Ben van Gelder, Clemens van der Feen, Benjamin Herman, Jasper Blom, and Joris Roelofs. During his time in Amsterdam he founded and organized Gollem’s Jazz, Hannekes Jazz, and Jazz at Cafe Cox—weekly music events that continue to enliven the jazz scene.

What others said about “A Day in the Life of Boriz”:

*"A fantastical kaleidoscope of styles and influences" – De Telegraaf*

*"[Swart has] mastered the art of using a single improvised line to elicit complex emotions – no small feat when the musician is winging it." – Jazziz Magazine*

*"An introspective if not oddly cathartic look inside the harmonic mind of a rising star!" – criticaljazz.com*

*"Certainly one of the finest debuts I heard in 2013" – David Adler (NYC Jazz Record)*