



Claude Diallo, piano

Luques Curtis, bass

Andy Bauer, drums

THE TRIO

Claude Diallo Situation (CDS) is the flagship ensemble of Swiss pianist, composer, and bandleader Claude Diallo, dedicated to performing his original music through an ever-evolving collaborative format. Founded in 2007 in Boston at Berklee College of Music, the jazz piano trio first established its identity with electric bassist Laurent Salzard (France) and drummer Massimo Buonanno (Switzerland), who formed the core rhythm section until 2016. Over the years, CDS has featured a variety of exceptional drummers, including James Williams, Louis Cato, Mark Whitfield Jr, Jonathan Barber, Ari Hoenig, Eliot Zigmund and since 2016 counts Andy Bauer and since 2021 Túpac Mantilla to the new core formation, while bassist Luques Curtis became an increasingly important collaborator before joining the group as a core member in 2015. Other bass player collaborations in the past included Martijn Vanbuel (Belgium), Rosario Bonaccorso (Italy), Curtis Ostle (USA) or Lukas Stocker (Switzerland). Today also exists a Swiss youngster formation featuring 21 year old bass prodigy Leon Frei and 23 year old drummer genius Laura Schäfer.

Over the years the trio has featured and recorded with special guests such as tenor sax legend Andy McGhee (Lionel Hampton and Woody Herman), Canadian award winning jazz singer Denzal Sinclair, New York based harmonica virtuoso Hendrik Meurkens, French jazz singer Anne Evenou, Swiss jazz legend and electronic music pioneer Bruno Spoerri on saxofon, American all-star sax player Brad Leali, Swiss jazz singer Sarah Abridada, trombone prodigy Sophie Bright, portuguese singer and guitarist Marta Duarte d'Almeida among others and just recently in 2025 recorded a new quintet album with two jazz all stars of the contemporary scene Igmar Thomas (trumpet) and Godwin Louis (saxofon).

With the American record label Dot Time Records the trio released several albums since 2020 of which two albums, I found a new home in 2021 and 11:11 2023 were selected within the ballot of the pre-selection for nomination of the Grammys. Andy Bauer's Animation's Contemplation made it into the soundtrack of Jesse Eisenbergs Hollywood director's debut When You Finish Saving the World. Two records were released accompanying Swiss Jazz legend Bruno Spoerri.

Blending contemporary jazz, improvisation, and global musical influences, Claude Diallo Situation has performed internationally in clubs, concert halls, and festivals, continually evolving while remaining rooted in artistic creativity, collective interaction, and Claude Diallo's distinctive compositional voice.

CLAUDE DIALLO – PIANO & COMPOSITION

For more than 30 years, Claude Diallo has been connecting people through music. As a Swiss jazz pianist, composer, and bandleader, he stands for a modern and open approach to jazz that tells stories. His music combines virtuosity with emotional depth, improvisation with composition, and reflects the diversity of his international career.

With his ensemble Claude Diallo Situation, Claude Diallo has developed a contemporary jazz sound driven by spontaneous interaction, melodic clarity, and expressive storytelling. His compositions invite audiences on musical journeys while creating spaces for encounter, inspiration, and shared experiences.



An important milestone in his career was his recognition at the Montreux Jazz Festival Bösendorfer Solo Piano Competition, which brought him international attention at an early stage as an exceptional pianist. Today, Claude Diallo is a recording artist with the American label Dot Time Records as well as an official Yamaha Artist.

LUQUES CURTIS – BASS

Luques Curtis is regarded as one of the distinguished bassists of his generation, moving effortlessly between modern jazz and Afro-Caribbean musical traditions. Raised in Hartford, Connecticut, he studied at Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Already during his time in Boston, Curtis performed with musicians such as Gary Burton, Ralph Peterson, Donald Harrison, Christian Scott, and Francisco Mela. Since then, he has worked with numerous internationally acclaimed artists, including Eddie Palmieri, Gary Burton, Sean Jones, Christian Scott, Stefon Harris, Orrin Evans, and many others.

Curtis is also a member of the Curtis Brothers, together with his brother Zaccai Curtis, and is active as a composer and producer. His discography includes more than 100 commercial recordings. In 2025, he received a Grammy Award for Best Latin Jazz Album in connection with Cubop Lives; he has also contributed to numerous Grammy Award-winning and Grammy-nominated productions.

His musical approach combines rhythmic precision, tremendous stylistic openness, and an exceptional ability to give space to the musicians around him. In his collaboration with Diallo and Bauer, his bass playing forms one of the essential foundations of the trio.

ANDY BAUER – DRUMS & PRODUCTION

New York-based Andy Bauer works internationally as a drummer, producer, and composer. His musical identity is shaped by a connection between different generations and styles. Growing up with jazz, Bauer developed an early openness toward a wide range of musical worlds and today works as comfortably with soul, indie, and pop artists as he does within jazz.

As a drummer, Bauer combines energy and explosiveness with great sensitivity. His playing moves between the tradition of jazz and a contemporary, stylistically open aesthetic. As a producer and composer, he expands this approach through a strong focus on sound, musical dramaturgy, and the connection between different forms of musical expression.

Within Claude Diallo Situation, Bauer is much more than a rhythmic accompanist. His experience as both musician and producer plays a major role in bringing the different personalities of the ensemble together and in shaping the dynamic and contemporary sound of the music.

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