



**The Assaf Kehati Trio** have been playing together for the past three years. The group have toured the USA, Colombia, Israel, Canada, Europe, and played at venues such as the Blue Note, NYC; Toronto Jazz Festival, Washington D.C. Jazz Festival, Barranquilla Jazz Festival, The Regattabar, Boston; JazzFestBrno, Bansko Jazz Festival, Nisville Jazz Festival, Atlanta Jazz Festival, and more. The trio is playing Mr. Kehati's original compositions (such as The Almond Tree, Naked, The Horses' Fight) and his arrangements of some of his favorite jazz standards (such as When Will the Blues Leave, Someday my Prince Will Come, Long Ago and Far away). The music is influenced by different genres of jazz, Brazilian music, Israeli music, American folk music, and more.

**Assaf Kehati:** Jazz guitarist and composer Assaf Kehati arrived to the USA in 2007 and after a short time he has made waves in the jazz scene by working with such names as Ran Blake (piano), George Garzone (sax), Eli Degibri (sax), Ferenc Nemeth (drums), Donny McCaslin (sax), Seamus Blake (sax) and legendary drummers Victor Lewis (Woody Shaw, Stan Getz) and Billy Hart (Miles Davis, Wes Montgomery). Mr. Kehati has performed at some of the world's leading venues as Blue Note, NYC; Regattabar, Boston; Washington D.C. Jazz Festival; MuzEnergO Jazz Festival, Russia; New England Cable News, MA; Tel Aviv Museum, Israel; Toronto Jazz Festival.

**Yoni Marianer:** (double bass) - Yoni Marianer was born in Los Alamos, New Mexico and raised in Israel. He started playing guitar at the age of 12, after a few years he switched to the electric bass and finally to the upright bass. After high school he received a scholarship to Rimón school of Jazz and Modern Music where he studied with some of Israel's best jazz teachers. During his studies there he received a scholarship to Berklee College of Music, where he completed his bachelor's degree in Jazz performance. Currently Yoni lives in New York City where he had a chance to perform with musicians such as David Hazeltine, Joe Strasser, Steve Williams, Yuval Cohen and Joel Press among others.

**Peter Traunmueller:** (drums) - Peter is a New York-based drummer and composer. A native of Salzburg (Austria), Peter grew up in a music-friendly home surrounded by lots of different instruments and recordings from Count Basie to the Beatles and many more. Playing extensively on mama's cooking pots his parents decided to put him in the basement, along with a drumset and tons of exercises, which were given to him by his first teacher Matthias Birzer. He has performed with various groups at musical venues such as Jazzfestival Saalfelden (AT), Young Jazz in Town Festival (IT), Bayrisches Jazzweekend (DE), Jazz & The City (AT), MM Jazzfestival (AT), OCT-LOFT Jazz Festival (CN), Jazz @ Lincoln Center (NYC) etc.

**The Music:** As a leader, Mr. Kehati has recorded three CDs that have received numerous rave reviews – A View From My Window (2010) and Flowers and Other Stories (2011) and his latest album, Naked (2014). His compositions are inspired by the daily and trivial, yet wonderful and significant experiences of life: from a winter, snow-laden view of Fenway Park from his apartment porch (A View From My Window), to the mundane but satisfying life of a snail (Sunshine Berale), to a girl seeking love in a land beyond the oceans (The Snow and the Sun), and to a story about the universal character, Mr. Mario that travels the world like a gypsy to places like Africa, the Middle East and the Pyramids in Egypt (Mr. Mario). The third album by Mr. Kehati, "NAKED", was released in September 2014.

From the new album liner notes:

- "One of the reasons Kehati is an adept storyteller is his ability to both compose and play on an emotional level."
- "Let yourself enjoy the Assaf Kehati Trio's kind of storytelling, which is a musical treat for the ears as well as a conjurer of visual images."
- "Kehati is able to express both this kind of a visual image as well as the emotional musical content with both his melodies and improvisations. His bandmates are also on the same page with him and the trio is a tight, cohesive unit that interacts with each other to attain the utmost connection with audiences."

*Marcia Hillman, Jazz Journalist and Lyricist*