

KROKE

Origin: Poland
Style: Klezmer Avant-garde
Record Label: Oriente Musik
Current Album: "Out Of Sight"
Touring Party: 3 (on stage) + 1
On Tour: Spring, Summer, Autumn 2012
Territory: Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Netherlands, Belgium, France
Booker: Amira Storz



"[...] as intense as watching the open heart of klezmer beating."
Rolling Stone

Kroke is the Yiddish expression for Krakow – the Polish city is currently rediscovering itself as a metropolis of eastern European-Jewish culture. The Band was founded 1992, by three graduates of Krakow Academy of Music – Jerry Bawol (Accordion), Tomasz Kukurba (Viola) and Tomasz Lato (Double Bass).

The trio's musical identity is deeply rooted in Jewish traditional folklore. Yet, by adding jazz- and classical elements to the mix, the three excellent instrumentalists go far beyond the scope of traditional klezmer-music in a passionate way that immediately connects with the listeners.

Initially, Kroke performed only in clubs and galleries situated in Kazimierz, a former Jewish district of Kraków. While shooting "Schindler's List" **Steven Spielberg** took notice of the band and invited them spontaneously to a concert in Israel. By now, Kroke played at music festivals all over Europe, alongside with artists such as **Ravi Shankar, Bustan Abraham, The Klezmatiks, Van Morrison** or **Giora Feidman**. In 1996 they released their first album "Trio". One year later "Eden" came out and was presented in front of an enthusiastic audience at **WOMAD Festival**.

To this day, Kroke have released 9 albums and performed at major festivals such as the renowned „**North Sea Jazz Festival**“. They gained enormous popularity especially in Germany and Poland due to collaborations with artists like **Nigel Kennedy** or **Peter Gabriel**, and awards like the "**German Record Critics Award**" (2000).

In 2009 KROKE fascinated audience and press alike with their successful Tour through Germany. Standing Ovations, inter alia, at the outsold **Passionskirche in Berlin**, the **Schauspielhaus Dresden** or the **Polish Culture Days in Greifswald**.

In 2010 again KROKE aroused enthusiasm at outsold festivals like „**Weltmusik im Palmengarten**“ in Frankfurt, the **Schleswig-Holstein Music Festivals** and at the **Köstritzer Spiegelzelt**: „**The audience is ecstatic, beside themselves with enthusiasm and claimed an encore by applauding for several minutes...**“ Lübecker Nachrichten.

In **2012** the best-known Polish Klezmer musicians will enchant audiences Europe-wide with their stirring and touching music.



"What makes me feel drawn to KROKE music is spiritual reality of the musicians, this means honesty and authenticity of the music."
Nigel Kennedy

"With their new album "Out Of Sight" Kroke stay loyal to themselves. They produce unbroken creativity and draw inspiration from the traditional roots of the Yiddish folklore."
Melodie & Rhythmus