# Awake LOVE Orchestra

a concert by





# **INDEX**

<b>ABOUT AWAKE LOVE ORCHESTRA</b>	4
ABOUT AWAKE PROJECTS	5
PRESSTYPICAL SET LIST	9 11





## ABOUT AWAKE LOVE ORCHESTRA

**Awake Love Orchestra's** multi-talented ensemble invites you on a musical journey that transports you from Scandinavia to the Mediterranean, to Eastern Europe and into contemporary American music. The music breathes passion and love, with its fusion of haunting folk and contemporary grooves.

The **Awake Love Orchestra's** unique sound has been inspired by the many places the ensemble visited, working with different companies and different musical styles around the world including, **Teater Slàva** in Sweden, <u>Teatr Pieśń Kozła</u> (**Song of the Goat theatre**) in Poland and <u>Compagnie du Hanneton</u> in France.

**Awake LOVE Orchestra** can perform in any size style of venue. The group's sound can be adapted from fine-tuned *a capella* to playful selections that will make you want to get up and dance. The ensemble has sung in theaters, concert halls, small churches and extravagant outdoor shows for huge audiences. But no matter the size of the venue, the audience will be touched by the music's feeling of love and connectedness.



#### ABOUT AWAKE PROJECTS

Awake Projects is an international, multidisciplinary ensemble of performers with offices in Västerås, Sweden and London, United Kingdom. Our permanent team has a professional background in theatre, dance and music. Our aim is to awaken people's ability to choose who they are and how they live. We do this by utilising the power of the performing arts in a variety of unique projects.

"The sky is the limit" is a phrase often used when people aim high. We aim even higher and thus the sky is no limit in our work. Our vision is to reach and communicate our core values to people throughout the world. We want to empower everyone to feel committed and willing to work for the greater good and thereby to carry our message and core values to coming generations. We encourage people to talk about identity, to cooperate across boundaries in order to create acceptance

We divide our company into five different sections:

**Music Performances-** Concerts with our musical ensemble **Awake LOVE Orchestra Awake Youth -** Professional artists work with young people to create high quality theatre shows, or workshops for schools.

**Workshops & Coaching** - Training young people and professional performers in personal creativity, working with breathing techniques, rhythm, music, theatre practices, ensemble work and coordination. We also coach teachers, corporate managers and employees in speech, presentation techniques, leadership and team building.

**Theatre Performances** - Unique theatre experiences which use physical theatre and music to tell stories.

**Events -** Tailor made performances for specific occasions, such as gatherings and company events, "Any size, any time"

Awake Projects is led by Christopher Sivertsen, Maria Sendow and Hanna Björck



#### THE ENSEMBLE

#### We travel five or six artists and a technician



#### **MARIA SENDOW - Vocals**

Maria is a seasoned actress and singer with a unique and powerful voice. She has been a member of Song of the Goat's ensemble for many years. Maria's credits include The Bacchaes, Chronicles - A Lamentation, Lacrimosa, Songs of Lear and Return to the Voice. Maria has toured the world as a principal performer with James Thiereé in his production Au Revoir Parapluie, and had lead roles in Awake Projects own productions AWAKE and Song of Riots, for which she also arranged the music.

When Maria isn't touring the world she works as a drama teacher in Sweden, creating theatrical events and performances with young people.



## HANNA BJÖRCK - Vocals/Cello

Hanna is a multi-talented angel voiced cellist. Hanna leads youth projects with Awake Projects. She performed in our productions AWAKE, Song of Riots, Peer Gynt and the young audience show The Adventures of Honkan & Hanneluring as both an actor and a musician.

Hanna is responsible for Awake Projects' school workshops. Hanna recently made her debut as a director in an adaptation of Lysistrata during a residency at Reginateatern in Uppsala with 7 young actors.



#### CHRISTOFFER ROGERSON - Vocals/Guitar/Percussion

Christoffer is a drummer/guitarist/singer-powerhouse.

With Awake Projects, he's been a workshop leader in a range of kids and youth projects, and also a part of the ensemble for our own productions: AWAKE & Peer Gynt. He's also been performing with Swedish companies Lilia Ensemblen and Teater Buzka.

When not playing in Awake LOVE Orchestra, Christoffer writes music and is the lead singer in alternative rock band Indifferent, as well as working at the local youth club.



#### **CHRISTOPHER SIVERTSEN - Vocals/Percussion**

Christopher is the founder of Awake Projects. He holds an MA in acting and has been a principal performer with Song of the Goat Theatre. For Awake Projects Christopher has directed critically acclaimed performances and projects world-wide. Christopher conducts performance workshops for young people, actors and dancers. He also coaches managers and executives of leading companies in leadership. Christopher recently directed an award winning production of O Rejane at the Bootleg Theater in Los Angeles and Song of Riots (co-directed with Lucy Maycock) at the North Wall in Oxford and Battersea Arts Centre, London United Kingdom.



## JONAS FÄRNLÖF - Bass/Percussion/Rap/Keyboard

Jonas has a background in a wide spectrum of performing arts. He travelled Europe breakdancing in the streets, studied jazz and has experimented with electronic music. Jonas's work as a DJ fuses world music with club sounds and creates eccentric performances where live music meets loop machines. Jonas has produced and performed on many music albums ranging from world music to techno. In addition to his work with the Awake LOVE Orchestra, Jonas performs with several bands, composes music for plays and performances and teaches music.







## **PRESS**

- "A REMARKABLE SHOW! Awake LOVE Orchestra is exceptionally dynamic, versatile, charismatic and in total command."
- La Depeche / France

"We loved this show! Highly recommended."

- @edfringe.com / UK

"One of life's lovely surprises" - The sound of the Awake LOVE Orchestra has a freshness reminding us of the purity of snow brought to our time today like another Scandinavian group, ABBA, brought to the world decades ago" - Huffington Post

"The theme is love and it is beautifully expressed through the group's absolute joy for music. Excellent song arrangements take the visitors from one culture and century to another; the music of Russia, Sweden, America, England, Poland, among others, are fused together seamlessly as choral music and hip hop collide. The talent coming from this small, international ensemble is obvious as they use their mouths, bodies and instruments to create sound in an wonderfully unique and connected way."

- Three Weeks Magazine / UK

- "Awake LOVE Orchestra exudes gracious charm and naturalness"
- HNA Magazine / Germany

"The Love Orchestra offers a unique experience combining folk, choral, gypsy, pop and classical music whilst performing with a powerful interconnectedness, offbeat humour and a rare sweetness that is mesmerising, entrancing and transforming. They work with cello, guitars, keyboard and a range of percussion but it is their voices with their harmonies and an extraordinary vocal range that draws you in and never lets you go."

- Robert Wilson / UK



Last weekend in Beijing, I had a valuable chance to enjoy your performance with my 7 year-old daughter, and the show surely brightened up the rest of our day magically. Both of us are impressed not just by the messages the group was delivering: love and the power of music as an universal communicator to connect and gather the world in a joyful way, but also the positive energy, passion and creativity that was shown through a diversity of arts. Thank you for bringing us on a special musical journey!

Janice and her 7-year old daughter



#### TYPICAL SET LIST

Awake Love Orchestra appeals to audiences of all ages. For Young Audiences we often interact with the audience through rhythms and harmonies and introduce the instruments and songs through storytelling. We show where each song comes from by placing a heart on a colourful world map.

#### **BOGORODITSE DEVO**

By Sergei Rachmaninoff New arrangement by Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **COM AQUA LINDA**

Catalan folk song
New arrangement by
Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### HEY YA!

By André Benjamin New arrangement by Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **COME TOGETHER**

By John Lennon/Paul McCartney New arrangement by Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **TOURDION (QUAND JE BOIS DU VIN CLAIRET)**

French traditional song
New arrangement by
Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **SEIO SABIO**

Gascon folk song

New arrangement by

Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **JONAS' RAP**

By Jonas Färnlöf

# MEDLEY OF TRADITIONAL MEDITERRANEAN MUSIC

New arrangement by Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **OLAIDO**

**Traditional Georgian song** 

#### **JAM DAM**

Traditional Polish song
New arrangement by
Awake LOVE Orchestra

# BLAGOSLOVI, DUSHE MOYA GOSPODA

By Sergei Rachmaninoff New arrangement by Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### PRIIDITE, POKLONIMSYA

By Sergei Rachmaninoff New arrangement by Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### MORE SOKOL PIE

Macedonian traditional song
New arrangement by
Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **DET FOR TVÅ VITA DUVOR**

Scandinavian traditional song
New arrangement by
Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **PUMP IT**

By William Adams, Allan Pineda, Stacy Ferguson Nicholas Roubanis, Thomas Van Mussen New arrangement by Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### **MISIRLOU**

Traditional Greek song
New arrangement by
Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### AMMAN

Traditional Greek song
New arrangement by
Awake LOVE Orchestra

#### THREE LITTLE BIRDS

By Bob Marley

#### **PÈZÈ KAFÉ**

**Traditional Haitian song** 



# **CONTACT & LINKS**

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