

Raphael Nick is a Swiss drummer, educator, and composer who enjoys exploring diverse artistic expressions while venturing into new creative territories. His ability to balance sensitivity and precision blends seamlessly with his passion for innovation.

Raphael began his musical journey in childhood, playing in traditional ensembles in the Lucerne region. In 2011, he earned a Master of Arts in Music Pedagogy from HES-SO Lausanne, specializing in jazz drumming. Since 2012, he has taught drums at the Conservatoire de Musique de Genève.

His eclectic musicianship shines through various projects: from the sensual Latin jazz of the Foreign Affair Trio to the unexpected dialogues between classical and jazz in the duo AKIRA, the satirical rock of Grand Canard Blanc, or the experimental post-rock of Mad Song. He also shares original creations on his YouTube channel.

Raphael has performed with artists like Valentinho Anastásio, Leandro Pellegrino, Christos Rafalides, Aubrey Logan, Ben Sher, Juan Camilo Villa, and Edwin Sanz. Deeply inspired by Latin rhythms, he participated in the Swiss-Colombian Cultural Exchange (2011–2012) alongside painter Albeiro Sarria. With the salsa-jazz band Nolosé (2008–2016), he toured Europe and Cuba, winning the Premio CubaDisco for their album «Que Cuenta La Habana» (2014).

During this time, he met pianist Hector Martignon, sparking a lasting collaboration. Together, they founded the Foreign Affair Trio, featuring bassist Eduardo "Dudu" Penz. After concerts across Europe, New York, and Puerto Rico, the trio released «Sous Le Vent» (2014), featuring guest artists Jean-Lou Treboux and Luis Bonilla.

Since 2018 in Fribourg, as a member of the Coopérative de la Maison des Artistes, he has pursued multidisciplinary projects merging music with visual and performing arts e.g., with Pascal Auberson (*Rencontre du 3ème Type*), the theater/post-rock project Black (Mad Song), painter Jod Dewarrat (musical-pictorial storytelling), or dancer Laura Garcia Aguilera (contemporary dance/percussion). Currently, he leads the artistic research project «Real-Time Sound Visualization in Musical Performance» (2025), supported by the Canton of Fribourg and Loterie Romande.

@musikraum is his audiovisual creative space for digital platforms, where he experiments with new forms of expression.

Raphael plays Giannini Drums and Bosphorus Cymbals.

Discography

- CD Sous Le Vent - Foreign Affair Trio 2024
- VINYL Blake - Mad Song 2024
- WEB The Fribourg Sessions - Mad Song 2024
- DVD „Friedrich Gulda: Concerto for Myself“ - Konzert für Klavier und Orchester. Live - Konzertmitschnitt im Theater National Bern. 2023
- WEB Singles: Nunca Duerme, El Viento & L'Espion De Poche, L'Amour, Dis Moi Pourquoi – Volver 2021-2023
- CD Neptus - Gysler | Perez | Nick 3io 2020
- CD Le Black Des Cygnes - Grand Canard Blanc 2018
- CD Mountain Walk - Gysler | Perez | Nick 3io 2017
- CD White Night Mambo f. Hector Martignon & Christos Rafalides - Nolosé 2016
- CD Pirates de l'ère atomique - Grand Canard Blanc 2015
- CD Turning around you - Swing High 2015
- CD Caius Cat Trio - Caius Cat Trio 2015
- MOVIE They Chased Me Throug Arizona - de Mathias Huser 2014
- CD Made In Durgavia - Grand Canard Blanc 2014
- CD Que Cuenta La Habana - Nolosé 2014
- WEB El Escondite - Palatimba 2012
- CD No Se Lo Que Pasa - Nolosé 2012
- CD Live At Chorus - Nolosé 2009
- CD Sängerknaben Luzerner Kantorei - Vo Lozärn Uf Wäggis Zue 1997
- CD A Christmas Festival - Musikgesellschaft Risch-Rotkreuz, Sängerknaben Luzerner Kantorei 1995
- CD Christmas with Ramón Vargas & Sängerknaben Luzerner Kantorei, Concilium Musicum Wien, Paul Angerer 1992