

Cristina Miguel Martinez was born on April 1, 1993 in Mollet del Valles (Barcelona). She started playing classical saxophone at the age of seven at the Municipal School of Music of Mollet Del Valles. At age 14, she participated in the **8th European Youth Music Festival (Malmö, Denmark)** as a member of a jazz ensemble from Barcelona. After years of playing in both jazz and classical ensembles, Cristina decided to pursue her passion for improvised music and began studying jazz saxophone with Vicent Macian and Gabriel Amargant at Taller de Músics of Barcelona.

In 2014, she continued her Bachelor studies at the **Conservatorium van Amsterdam** where she was able to study with some of the world's most prominent jazz musicians including Jasper Blom, Ferdinand Povel, Joris Roelofs, Ben van Gelder, Chris Cheek, Peter Bernstein and Dick Oatts.

While in Amsterdam, Cristina began performing as a baritone saxophone in various orchestras such as the *Concert Big Band* and the *Jazzmania Big Band* of Holland and has been part of several projects of the **Metropole Orkest Academy** and recording under the lead of Jules Buckley and Christian Elsässer.

Also in Amsterdam she started the **Cristina Miguel Trio**. As band leader and composer, Cristina has lead her trio to perform at the International Music Festival, SONA in Mollet del Valles (Barcelona). And **released her first EP "Amsterdam" in February 2018**.

While studying in Amsterdam, Cristina has maintained an active performance schedule including performances at the **Concertgebouw** (Amsterdam), the **Bimhuis Sessions** (Amsterdam), the **North Sea Jazz Club** (café Amsterdam) and the Breda Jazz Festival (Netherlands). In the field of classical music, Cristina has performed in a series of concerts in Spain with the OSCB (Concert Society Orchestra of Barcelona), performing in theaters such as the Teatro Juan Bravo in Segovia.

In September 2017, she moved to Graz, Austria, where she studied her fourth year of the Bachelor Degree as a student of the **Erasmus+** program at the Kunstuniversität Graz (KUG), studying composition and arranging with Edward Partyka, Michael Abene, saxophone with Julian Arguelles, and performing as the baritone and bass clarinet player for the KUG Jazz Orchestra.

In July 2018, Cristina joined the **JM Jazz World Orchestra**, performing a tour through the Balkans: Macedonia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Croatia and Slovenia led by internationally acclaimed US trombonist, composer and educator **Luis Bonilla**.

During that summer Cristina met the Austrian Jazz saxophonist and Educator **Karlheinz Miklin** who became a great influence and mentor in her career.

In her young career, Cristina has already shared the stage with musicians such as **John Riley, Seamus Blake, Thana Alexa, Luis Bonilla, Alex Sipiagin, Chris Cheek, Ben van Gelder, Reinier Bas, Robben Ford**.

As she continues to develop as an up-and-coming jazz saxophonist, Cristina continues to draw influence from jazz legends like Sonny Rollins, John Coltrane, Warne Marsh, Kenny Wheeler, Bob Brookmeyer and Billy Strayhorn, as well as active musicians and composers such as Michael Abene, Ed Partyka, Maria Schneider, Miguel Zenón, Ambrose Akinmusire, Mark Turner, Walter Smith III, Melissa Aldana.