

SALSABOP | AFROBOP



Starting out as Salsabop, now expanded to Afrobop, this quintet brings a blend of tropical and Western sounds in a Jazzy mix of today's styles in Latin, Caribbean and Afro beat.

By 1979 Saskia Laroo is a full-fledged professional musician, doing live performances. While in the formative years of her career, she'd also garnered much experience absorbing world music, namely, of Hispanic, Caribbean, Brazilian and African roots. Building on these influences, Saskia continued to expand her horizons. In 1982 she formed her own Salsa Caliente Band; between 1986 and 1990 she led Caribbean Express; from 1990 till 1994 she performed with The Caribbean Colours. Around 1994 Saskia felt she had found her own voice. While having gone solo for the first time in 1993, the following year this grew into the Saskia Laroo Band, featuring compositions from her debut CD It's Like Jazz. In 1995, Laroo gave birth to two new groups: Jazzkia - her straight-ahead jazz unit, also known as the Saskia Laroo Jazz Quartet and Salsabop (Bebop with Salsa)- a Latin jazz quintet, in 2013 expanded with Afro beats to Afrobop.

PRESS QUOTES

"A homage to Africa was given. Extremely swinging with professional musicians." By Richard Wagenaar for thenextgig Sept 2014

"Saskia mixes styles of music and culture as if they had always meant to be together" By J. Lyon Layden, in Creative Loafing. February 2001

Performances

Salsa bop | Afrobop has played in Groningen at the Noorderzon Fest Aug 29 & 30, 2014; in 2012 for the Boquete jazz & Blues Fest and more. Salsabop has played at Jazz Utsav Festival, India November 2010; at Helsinki Latin Festival headlining with the major Cuban bands; festivals in the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, France, Italy and Malta; at clubs, theatres and at private events.

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