



The brilliant and somewhat enigmatic group OK Star Orchestra plays instrumental music that is hard to define. Music that comes sneaking up on you like a predator on the savannah. At a distance harmonic and restful but at a closer range full of force and bite.

The group members all have long backgrounds in a wide variety of styles. You could say there are obvious african elements in OK Star Orchestra's music but just calling it "african music" misses the target. There are lots of other influences and the end result is a unique sound where simple melodies, groove and playfulness are key words.

The records and live shows have been received with great enthusiasm by audiences and critics alike. In 2011 OK Star Orchestra received "The Manifesto Award" for their 2:nd album "Sound Classique". The motivation read:

"Musicians with ears wide open to the world putting layer upon layer of ingredients together in a unique mix that is brand new and yet has a familiar ring. We hear African Hi-Life, North African Gnawa, American Blues and a touch of the Shadows - in Greece!"

Press voices on OK Star Orchestra's music:

"Listening to OK Star Orchestra's music brings back that old magic of spinning a globe and by stopping it with your finger randomly deciding where in the world to be: a sandy beach in the Caribbean, a back porch in Memphis or coming down through the roof of a steamy night club in Congo with an ice cold beer in hand."

Jan Gradvall, Dagens Nyheter

"A lesson in positive thinking for us all...like being invited with open arms to a private garden party by complete strangers."

Karl Tidholm, Svenska Dagbladet

"Wherever they look, they seem to look in many different directions at the same time and whenever they choose to put down their feet they seem to put them in many different places all at once. It's passionate, swinging, flexible and gladly makes that little extra effort that leads to a scent of euphoria. This music makes it really hard to sit still, why anybody would want that."

Smålandsposten

"OK Star Orchestra is one of those discoveries that resurrect the glow for music if you're stuck with tired ears."

Timo Kangas, Lira Music Magazine

"Truly beautiful. Music for real ears and living souls. Music to disappear in."
Morgan Sjöberg, Gaffa Music Magazine

OK Star Orchestra is

* **Tommy Galento** - Rhythm Guitar/Composer

Founder of the group, writer of all compositions. Film music maker with solo project under the name Galento.

* **Christer Lyssarides** - Lead Guitar/ Lap Steel/ Bouzouki

Founder of folk blues quartet Yonder. Has worked with Eric Bibb, Cyndee Peters, Johan Rothstein and others.

* **Perry Vallgren** - Drums/Percussion

Plays with Weltklang, Den Flygande Bokrullen and Jonatan Fast. Has worked with Ane Brun and Beata Harrysson

* **Hassan Bah** – Kongoma/Percussion

Originally from Guinea Conakry. Based in Stockholm, Sweden since the early seventies. Member of Kebnekaise and considered a legend in Swedish Afro Jazz circles.

* **Juan Romero** – Congas/Percussion

Founder and musical leader of percussion group Yakumbé since 1993. Works with Latin Lover's Big Band, Montag Mania, Signe Bäck and Den Nya Alliansen

Contact and booking:

**Håkan Olsson: hakan@rootsy.nu
Pelle Vallgren: pellevallgren@gmail.com**

**//ROOTSY: rootsy.nu // Distribution: ADA WARNER //
//okstarorchestra.se // myspace.com/okstarorch // cityzenmusic.com //**