

Kaja Draksler (1987) is a Slovenian pianist and composer.

After her studies in the Netherlands (BA in jazz piano and MA in classical composition), she decided to stay in Amsterdam, where she is an active member of the improvisors scene, performing extensively all over the Europe. Besides her frequent solo concerts, she has been working internationally over the past years with *Feecho*, *Punkt.Vrt.Plastik*, *Hearth* and *Draksler-Santos Silva duo*. She is one of the founding members of the interdisciplinary group *I/O* and part of the internationally acclaimed *Doek* collective. In 2016, she formed her Amsterdam-based *Octet*.

As a composer she has been commissioned by various international groups, ranging from vocal and chamber ensembles to big bands and orchestras.

Kaja is interested in finding ways to merge the composition and (free) improvisation by working with different structures and musical logics. In the spirit of the Dutch jazz/improvised music legacy, she is drawn to the idea of erasing the stylistic and historical musical borders, and discovering personal expression and language through composition and improvisation.