SHORT BIO

JOHAN CHRISTOFFERSSON is a saxophonist and composer whose creative process is shaped by listening, curiosity, and a readiness for the unexpected.. He grew up in a musical home where instruments were as much a part of everyday life as toys, with jazz always playing in the background. At around nine years old, he got his first saxophone and soon began performing in front of audiences alongside his older brother.

After years of touring and collaborating across a wide range of musical settings, his debut album *Soundcheck* marks a new chapter. For the first time, Johan puts his own compositions, and himself as a musician, at the centre. The music draws from his own life, from people and places he loves, and from moments when emotions have been at their strongest.

At its heart is a simple idea: music is communication. It is not about showing what the musicians can do, but about having a conversation and seeing where the music can take them.

LONG BIO

For **Johan Christoffersson**, music began long before it became a profession. His father worked as a musician, and the family home was filled with instruments that the children were free to explore. Their musical world was broad, but jazz was the constant. At around nine years old, Johan chose the saxophone and before long was playing at restaurants, weddings and other events alongside his older brother.

Much of his musical life since then has been shaped by encounters with other musicians. Several of the players on *Soundcheck* have been part of his life since his teenage years. He met bassist Petter Olofsson at a jazz course, played with drummer Sebastian while still in high school, and met pianist Britta Virves through a hip-hop and jazz jam. They have also played together in the Norrbotten Big Band, building the kind of musical connection that only comes from spending countless hours playing side by side.

But *Soundcheck* also represents something new.

Johan describes himself as a “late bloomer”. After years of playing in different bands, with different artists and in different musical settings, he began to properly make room for the music he wanted to write himself. Becoming a father proved to be a turning point. During a period away from performing, one question kept returning: if he could play absolutely anything he wanted, what would it be?

This music was the answer.

The compositions draw on his own experiences, on people he loves and respects, and on places that hold meaning for him. Some pieces are rooted in deeply personal experiences; others try to capture the feeling of a particular place or moment in time. The intention is not to tell the listener what to feel, but to create a space in which they can have their own experience of the music.

The same idea shaped the way the album was recorded. These compositions are not designed to impress through complexity or technical virtuosity. Instead, they create spaces in which the musicians can meet, listen and respond to one another.

For Johan, that may be where music really begins: not in the need to play, but in the desire to listen.

PRESS QUOTES

On listening

“You have to love listening more than you love playing.”

On finding his own voice

“I feel like a late bloomer.”

On the album

“If you can play anything you want, what do you actually want to play? For me, the answer is this album.”

On the ambition behind the music

“The point isn’t to play the music perfectly. And the point isn’t to impress.”

“It’s about giving the music room to breathe.”

On playing together in the studio

“There are always listeners in the room. We listen to each other at least as much as an audience would - probably more.”

On music as communication

“If it feels meaningful to me, it’s probably meaningful to someone else too.”

On reaching an audience

“I want people to listen to this music. I want it to be heard.”

“The music also needs to be presented in a way that allows it to reach people who might not even know they like this kind of music.”

On the songs

“It’s like a time capsule of what I’m feeling right now.”

On composing

“I’m not trying to invent anything. I’m just trying to pick up on the notes and emotions around me.”

QUICK ANGLES

A late debut as a composer

After a long career playing in different musical settings, Johan describes himself as a “late bloomer”. His debut album *Soundcheck* is the first time he has fully placed his own music at the centre.

Fatherhood changed his direction

Becoming a father and taking some time away from performing made Johan think about the music he genuinely wanted to return to. The answer became this album.

Listening over virtuosity

The music is built around the idea that the most important thing is not to impress, but to listen, respond and create something together.

A band with a long shared history

Several of the musicians have been playing together since their teenage years and have also shared years of musical life in the Norrbotten Big Band. That long-standing connection is an important part of the album’s sound.

Music as an emotional time capsule

The compositions are rooted in people, places and personal experiences. One of the album's more intimate stories draws on Johan and his wife's experience of trying to have a child and going through a miscarriage.

QUICK FACTS

Name: Johan Christoffersson
Role: Saxophonist / Composer
Current release: *Soundcheck*
Musical foundation: Jazz, improvisation and musical interplay
Instrument: Saxophone
Started playing saxophone: Around the age of nine
Musicians on the album: Johan Christoffersson – saxophone, Petter Olofsson – bass, Johan Tengholm – bass, Sebastian Ågren – drums, Britta Virves – piano/keyboards
Shared musical background: Including Norrbotten Big Band
Recurring themes: Listening, communication, relationships, places, memories and emotions
Listening link: here

- **Album facts:**
  - **Album title:** "Soundcheck"
  - **Release date:** Oct 22, 2026
  - **Label:** IMRSV, sub-label BLUE by IMRSV
  - **Genre:** Jazz
  - **Number of tracks:** 10
  - **Singles release date:** "Will Fly Again" on Sep 18; "Forever Ago" on Oct 9
- **Tracklist:**
  - Will Fly Again
  - Times
  - Flytta Ihop
  - Det Är Inte Killen I Filmen Som Har Skrivit Brevet
  - Eastern Inspiration
  - Forever Ago
  - Should be
  - Soundcheck
  - Enigma
  - Rymdfararen
- **Credits:**
  - **Music composed by:** Johan Christoffersson
  - **Recording, mixing & Dolby Atmos mixing:** Willem Bleeker
  - **Assistant Engineer:** Basma Jabbar
  - **Mastering:** Andreas Roos

    - **Photography & artwork:** Jonas Hofvander
    - **Executive Producer:** David Stenmarck
    - **Special thanks to:** IMRSV, Cosima Lamberth and Bo Lamberth
- **Social links:**
    - Website/socials: Artist website, Instagram
    - Music platforms: Spotify, Apple Music
- **Press contact:** Victoria Todorova, victoria@imrsv.music, +46762329991