# **Marta Popovici & On The Fly release the debut album, *Round Dance***

**20th of MARCH 2022**

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[**https://martapopovici.bandcamp.com/album/round-dance**](https://martapopovici.bandcamp.com/album/round-dance)

**Marta Popovici** - vocals

**Bogdan Tănase** - electric guitar

**Adi Stoenescu** - Fender Rhodes

**Alexandru Marin** - electric bass

**Gabi Matei** - drums

On Sunday, the 20th of March 2022, **Marta Popovici & On The Fly** release their debut album, ***Round Dance***. It has been recorded during the 9th and 10th of April 2021 and it features Marta Popovici on vocals, guitar player Bogdan Tănase, pianist Adi Stoenescu, bass player Alexandru Marin and drummer Gabi Matei.

The compositions have been written between 2018 and 2021 by Marta Popovici and Bogdan Tănase (tracks 3, 4, 8 and 9) and they illustrate the band's transition from the initial neo-soul sound (on Next to Me, the first track of the album and also the band's first composition) towards more conceptual compositions, like the Round Dance suite. Having a wide dynamic range and varied colour palette, the compositions incorporate fusion sonorities with alternative R&B hints and a trip-hop, nu-jazz flavour into an electronic setting including synthesizers, Fender Rhodes and effect pedals. The project depicts the intertwining of instrumental creativity with the story created by the lyrics, which play a central role in the compositional process.

Marta Popovici founded the project in Bucharest, Romania, in 2018, with the intention to explore jazz stylistics through original compositions. The band has since been part of numerous cultural projects and has performed in local venues and jazz festivals becoming a consistent presence in the Romanian jazz scene. Each of the band members brings a unique and powerful contribution to the sound of the band: pianist Adi Stoenescu, an accomplished jazz musician with several albums released ([Allotropy](https://arcustrio.bandcamp.com/album/allotropy) - 2016, Titan - 2019, [Landing on the comet](https://adistoenescu.bandcamp.com/album/landing-on-the-comet) - 2017, [Waking Light](https://adistoenescu.bandcamp.com/album/waking-light) - 2021), brings the progressive rock and contemporary jazz sound. The fusion guitar player Bogdan Tănase shapes lush sonic scapes and intricate solos with the help of effect pedals, while the bass player and drummer bring in playfulness and rhythmic sophistication. In this ensemble, Marta Popovici is the communicator, the storyteller inspired by artists such as Joni Mitchell, Becca Stevens and Esperanza Spalding to name a few. Three of the five musicians are now based in The Netherlands, where they continue their jazz studies.

The **title track** of the album, ***Round Dance***, is a four-part suite presenting the same story from 4 different perspectives. It is the initial endeavour of singer-songwriter Marta Popovici towards a conceptual approach and the first one of its kind in the Romanian jazz landscape. The singer says she would like to go on in this direction, finally coming up with a second album, this time with a narrative line connecting all the compositions, aided by other arts such as poetry, dance and visual arts.

"I would like my music to be a fully immersive experience for our audience. Going beyond the purpose of entertainment, I would like it to be an invitation for everyone to explore the full range of human emotions through art and ultimately come out of the cathartic experience enriched. I think the world needs to connect to Beauty right now because we see terrible things everywhere all the time. In this chaotic reality, art is for me a way to connect to what we have valuable and pure inside of us, it serves as a reminder of the beauty that we can all nurture and bring into the world."- **Marta Popovici**

“When she writes music for herself and On The Fly, Marta Popovici always keeps in mind the message being conveyed. Marta loves psychology, and every text she writes calls for introspection. The lyrics fall naturally into the melody and gain power from the musical movement of the band.

Marta Popovici & On The Fly is a modern group, which focuses on developing ideas through cooperation. For them, jazz is only a starting point for original compositions. For Marta Popovici & On The Fly, music means joy; it is one of the ways in which their inner universe is manifest and becomes relevant to our lives. When they play, they turn into a core that radiates and encompasses everyone around, and it is this mutually beneficial meeting that reinforces the strength and emotion on which they rely in their decision to carry on together on this path.” - **Maria Balabaș ConnectArts 2020**

“Marta Popovici & On The Fly, pleasantly surprised with their modern, original repertoire. The excellent singer Marta Popovici is one of the most promising voices of the new generation that makes up the contemporary Romanian jazz scene. The On The Fly project, which she founded in 2018, is based on jazz music stylistics and is a lively and fresh expression of the young local generation, combining the musical tradition of this genre with modern sounds such as soul, r&b, neo-soul, trip-hop.” - **Michal Syokra at JazzTM 2021**

“It is a pleasure to see that there is a promising young generation in Romania. There were hints of prog rock in places and even a Pink Floyd vibe in some songs.” - **Michal Kratochvi at JazzTM 2021**

The album is released independently through [Bandcamp](https://martapopovici.bandcamp.com/album/round-dance) and on all streaming platforms.

**Two singles** have been released:

Hazy Eyes - <https://youtu.be/GGXWYe5k_GE>

Temple - <https://youtu.be/526fcDjEAgY>

Tracklist:

1. Next To Me

2. Temple

3. River In The Sea

4. Mind Games

5. Hazy Eyes

6. Round Dance (Chapter I)

7. Round Dance (Chapter II)

8. Round Dance (Chapter III)

9. Round Dance (Chapter IV)

Website: <https://martapopovici.com/>

Bandcamp: <https://martapopovici.bandcamp.com/>

Music by Marta Popovici and Bogdan Tănase (tracks 3, 4, 8 and 9)

All lyrics by Marta Popovici

Recording, mix & master by Victor Panfilov