

# HOOVERPHONIC

## Belgium

For the past 25 years, Belgian band Hooverphonic has blurred the lines between symphonic soundscapes and highly infectious pop tunes. Never one to place all of his eggs in one basket, front man Alex Callier has always strived to deliver quality songs, sung by the best singers in the business. Since 2018, the golden pipes of Luka Cruysberghs - winner of The Voice of Flanders of that same year and coached by Alex during the contest - have elevated Callier's compositions to absolute aural perfection. All the while, guitarist Raymond Geerts has been the steady foundation of the band, providing his trademark grooves, licks and riffs.

The band's output has been put to good use in television series, commercials and movies around the globe and songs like "Mad About You", "Vinegar & Salt", "Eden", "2Wicky", "Badaboum", and "Romantic" have become cornerstones of Belgium's musical heritage.

This year, Hooverphonic will not only celebrate the 20th anniversary of their landmark album "The Magnificent Tree" with a symphonic tour in European venues, but they will also embark on their most ambitious undertaking so far and play for the biggest crowd of their career at the 65th edition of the Eurovision Song Contest in Rotterdam.

Enter the songwriting skills par excellence of maestro Alex Callier, who has subsequently created the powerful 'Release Me'. A universal song about saying goodbye, elegiac acceptance, and coming to terms with

finality. The result is a sweeping, epic, majestic ballad that only Hooverphonic seems to be able to craft time and time again. They're looking for stars and – rest assured – they will find them.

### **Alex Callier**

As a juvenile, Alex Callier (1972) wrote a four-handed piano piece that was never performed, because the jury of the local composition competition didn't believe a twelve-year-old could possess such maturity and raw talent. In his songwriting career, he switches between the nomenclatures of 'musician' and 'producer' with ease, and combines both disciplines to a T. He has the knack and the nose for epic melodies and modulating harmonies, which has resulted in iconic benchmarks of Belgium's musical heritage. 'Vinegar & Salt', 'Mad About You', '2 Wicky', 'Eden', 'Amalfi', 'Looking for Stars': a quick glance at an average setlist sounds like a greatest hits package. After more than twenty-five professional years in the business, Alex Callier, never one to rest on his laurels, has no intention of slowing down. Next year, he'll be performing his magnum opus 'The Magnificent Tree' with live orchestra in various European venues, while his musical brain is exploring more sizzling surprises. Alex Callier: never outwitted, never outdone.

### **Luca Chiaravalli**

Luca Chiaravalli is one of the greatest Italian songwriters and producers.

During his career, he collaborated with several Italian and international artists including Eros Ramazzotti, Nek, Laura Pausini, Francesco Gabbani, Giorgia, Il Volo, Biagio Antonacci, Francesco Renga, Hooverphonic, Mousse T, Printz Board, Andy Garcia, Clouseau and many others.

To date, he has received various Gold and Platinum certifications, and his qualities have been awarded several times.

In the last few years, he co-wrote songs that received important awards at the Sanremo Festival. In 2015 he co-wrote and produced the Platinum certified single "Fatti Avanti Amore" by Nek, song that won the "Press Room Award", the "Best Arrangement Award" and the "Best Radio Song Award". In 2016 he co-wrote "Un Giorno Mi Dirai" by Stadio, song that won the Sanremo Festival, and in 2017, he co-signed and produced the six-times Platinum certified single "Occidentali's Karma" by Francesco Gabbani, song that - beside triumphing at the Festival - represented Italy at the Eurovision Song Contest in the same year. (234 millions of views on youtube)

Among its various international collaborations, important is the one with the band Hooverphonic. Together with Alex Callier, he co-wrote and arranged the singles "Romantic", "Amalfi", "Uptight", "Heartbroken", "I Like The Way I Dance" and "Release Me".