

Monate Vibes (🇿🇦 RSA/🇨🇭 CH)



The name **Monate** means “beautiful,” “pleasant,” “comforting,” or “sweet” in several Southern African languages. It perfectly reflects the essence of Monate Vibes: music that touches the heart, nourishes the soul, and brings people together.

Monate Vibes is a musical collective that brings Powerful African grooves that brings audiences to move, celebrate, and embrace the joy of life. Born from a shared passion for cultural exchange, the band weaves tradition and contemporary expression into a musical journey that builds a bridge between South Africa and Switzerland. Together, these musicians create an inspiring concert experience that connects people across cultures and opens spaces for encounter, joy, and unique vibrations.

Every performance celebrates the richness of cultural diversity and reminds us that music is a universal language—one that transcends borders and creates genuine human connection. Whether performing an intimate acoustic concert in the Swiss Alps, appearing on a festival stage, or filling an urban concert hall with energy, **Monate Vibes** captivates audiences through authenticity, musical excellence, and an engaging stage presence. The band unites the warmth and rhythmic vitality of Africa with the grounded spirit of Switzerland, creating performances that inspire, uplift, and leave a lasting impression.

Monate Vibes stands for living cultural dialogue, artistic excellence, and the belief that music builds bridges – between people, cultures, and hearts

Musicians



Bheki Ndlovu (vocals) - A South African artist with an exceptionally diverse background: singer, dancer, choreographer, musician, and director. Bheki studied at the Committed Artist Academy in Johannesburg and toured globally with stage classics such as *Sarafina* and *The Lion King*. In addition to performing at international festivals (including in Canada and the USA), he taught African dance in Cape Town and served as head choreographer for the South African Traditional Music Awards. He has lived in Switzerland since 2017, where he founded his own dance school and actively participates in both artistic and socio-political projects. Bheki is a recipient of the 2023 Swiss Diversity Award.



Richard Pechota (bass) - Based in Thalwil (ZH), this bassist is equally at home on the electric bass and the double bass. He completed his musical training at the Jazz School Zurich and the Zurich University of Music and Theater (HMT), where he earned his teaching diploma for electric bass in 2003. He later honed his skills through postgraduate studies at the Zurich Conservatory and by studying classical performance at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK). A dedicated music educator, he teaches at institutions such as the Thalwil/Oberrieden Music School and cantonal schools in Baden and Wettingen. With his stylistic versatility and grooving bass lines, he provides the rhythmic foundation for Monate Vibes.



José Joaquín Echeverría-Bachmann (guitar) - The youngest member of Monate Vibes, José Joaquín, handles the guitar duties. Born in Santiago, Chile, in 2004, he developed an early interest in various instruments. He has lived in the Canton of Zurich since 2020 and is set to begin a Bachelor's degree in Jazz—specializing in composition—at the Lucerne School of Music in 2025; he currently studies under Dave Gisler and David Grottschreiber. Alongside his studies, he works as a music educator at various Güxi daycares and supports Swiss artists during concerts and in the recording studio, across genres ranging from jazz and rock to rap. In 2025, his microtonal song "Mirrors" received an award in the national competition organized by "Schweizer Jugend forscht" (Swiss Youth Research).



Tobias Hunziker (drums) - Born in Zurich in 1977, Tobias Hunziker discovered his passion for the drums while still a teenager at the Rudolf Steiner School. At the age of 14, he began taking lessons from Ueli Spörri and gained his first stage experience in a duo with Caspar Fries. From 1997 onwards, he studied at the Lucerne Jazz School and later at the Lucerne School of Music under renowned instructors such as Marc Halbheer and Pierre Favre. In 2002, he received the Fridel Wald Foundation's sponsorship award for his musical work and graduated with distinction in 2003. Tobias is known for a playing style that is both sensitive and powerful, spanning jazz, world music, and improvisation. With rhythmic precision and creative flair, he provides the driving pulse for Monate Vibes.

