

Belle Affaire – Biography

Belle Affaire is a Swiss quartet led by singing drummer and songwriter **Pirmin Setz**. The band bridges the worlds of French chanson and a distinctive musical language of its own. Acoustic instrumentation, warm tonal colours and finely crafted arrangements create a musical space where melodies, stories and atmosphere flow naturally into one another.

Belle Affaire began with **Pirmin Setz's** search for a musical language of his own. His aim was to bring together the influences that have shaped and inspired him as a musician: French chanson, folk, variété, songwriting and improvisation, as well as the distinctive sound of the darbuka. From this artistic vision, the band gradually evolved into the ensemble it is today.

Since its formation, **Belle Affaire** has released two studio albums: «**demain**» (2018) and «**huit heures du matin**» (2021, Unit Records). The band's third album, «**galaxie merveilleuse**», will be released in November 2026 on Selftape Records, a sublabel of Unit Records.

All music and lyrics are written by **Pirmin Setz** and form the artistic foundation of the band.

Setz's decision to write exclusively in French is not simply a stylistic choice, but reflects a deeply held artistic conviction. For him, the French language has a particular musicality and evocative quality that blend naturally with his compositions. French is therefore more than a means of expression – it has become an integral part of **Belle Affaire's** musical identity.

Alongside **Peter Gossweiler** (double bass), **Peter Zihlmann** (piano, Wurlitzer) and **Philipp Z'Rotz** (clarinet, soprano saxophone and flute), **Pirmin Setz** has brought together musicians whose sensitivity and individual musical personalities enrich his compositions in distinctive ways. Together, they shape the expressive, multi-layered sound that gives **Belle Affaire** its unmistakable character.