

Press Release

from the desk of Philipp Fankhauser.
Rümlang, 31. August 2022

Guitarist and bandleader Marco Jencarelli is leaving Philipp Fankhauser's band after 30 years and more than 2500 concerts.

"When I first heard about this great young guitarist from Lucerne in 1992, I wondered whether I would be able to get him into my band," recalls Philipp Fankhauser. And yes, it worked out: Marco wanted to. Since then, thirty years have gone by, and Marco Jencarelli was and is for Philipp so much more than "just" a highly valued guitarist and companion.

"Marco was the first musical partner who accepted me as I was and am. He was the first one who took a liking to my sometimes somewhat peculiar nature. When I wrote a song, it was quite possible that it had thirteen or even fourteen and a half bars instead of the "normal" twelve. While my former fellow musicians tried to straighten out and "correct" my "peculiarities", Marco just enjoyed it and thus also promoted my musical self-confidence and creativity."

Producer team Fankhauser & Jencarelli continues to produce

Over the years, Marco and Philipp have not only performed on stage together at some 2,500 concerts, but they have also produced a total of nine albums since 2003. Fankhauser's seventeenth album, "Heebie Jeebies - The Early Songs of Johnny Copeland," is currently in the making and will be released on December 16, 2022. In addition, the two produced the critically acclaimed debut album "Steady" by the exceptional young talent Lucky Wüthrich as a team in 2021.



Says Philipp: "Marco and I complement each other in an ideal way. I am more responsible for the big picture, the choice of songs and the flow of a production. Marco, as a very accomplished sound engineer with golden ears, gives the songs the sound and breathes the soul into them."

Marco's sabbatical

In April 2022, Marco Jencarelli decided to cut back a bit on the stage and invest his time even more intensively in his recording studio, the Soundfarm in Obernau-Kriens. After the initial shock for Philipp and the band, they could all catch themselves and understand and respect Marco's wish. Also in the knowledge that nothing is for eternity and that there could be a chance that Marco would one day return to their ranks as guitarist and bandleader.



Marco Jencarelli about his motives

"The removal of the pandemic measures in April 2022 has not only multiplied our concert performances but has also given a powerful boost to the work for me as a producer and manager of the Soundfarm. Therefore, the question arose for me in which area I want to cut back. And I decided to concentrate on the tasks in the studio in the near future. The deep friendship with Philipp, my fellow musicians and the Fankhauser team did not make this decision easy.



I thank Philipp from the bottom of my heart for his trust, for his generosity and for the countless influences that have enriched and will continue to enrich my life - be it as a friend, as a musician, as an advisor or as a production partner. I wish the entire team nothing but the best - and look forward to enjoying the music from our new album, " Heebie Jeebies – The Early Songs of Johnny Copeland ", as a listener soon."

Yours truly

Philipp Fankhauser