

Press kit · Desert blues

Anewal
Alhousseini Anivolla

Desert blues from Niger: cyclical guitar, Tamashek song and a voice kept close to the microphone.

Role
Voice and guitar

From
Niger

Based in
Germany

Formed
2014

Biography

Anewal is the trio of Alhousseini Anivolla, the Tuareg guitarist and singer who fronted Etran Finatawa. Formed in 2014, it carries on from his solo debut *Anewal / The Walking Man*.

The music is desert blues: plucked, cyclical guitar lines with their own natural distortion, bass grooves, and song in Tamashek carried by a grainy, close voice. The writing is about the Sahara and the Sahel — before the turbulence of recent years, and after it.

Anivolla comes from Niger and is based in Germany, which makes European dates straightforward to route.

Timchar

Timchar — "things that have gone" — arrives in October 2026 on World Music Network. It came out of a meeting with Sam Fan Thomas, the Cameroonian makossa pioneer Anivolla watched on Niger television as a child: desert blues set against makossa, recorded at Studio Makassi with further sessions in Berlin with Tunde Agonglo.

The album is dedicated to his mother and to the passing on of Tamashek culture.

> *"Desert blues has always been about connection. With Sam Fan Thomas, I found a new way to carry my story forward."*

Other projects

Afropentatonism

With the Ethiopian jazz guitarist Girum Mezmur and four Ethiopian musicians: ethno, blues and jazz meeting across two traditions. The album came out in July 2020 on Piranha Records. Songlines called it "forging new African music".

The VOID

Six musicians from different cultures working on emptiness — silence, vacuum, space. Desert blues alongside jazz and new music, African percussion and overtone singing, in newly written pieces.

Line-up

Lead voice, electric and acoustic guitar, tekedebena

Bass guitar, talking drum, backing vocals

Percussion: djembé, calabash, backing vocals

Press

Afropop Worldwide

Artist feature

Afropop Worldwide

Review, Osas — It's Time

SWR2 Musikglobal

Radio feature, Germany

SRF Jazz aktuell

Radio feature, Switzerland

Africa Is a Country

US debut

Rhythm Passport

Reviews and live coverage

Lucerne Festival

Live video

Has played with

Etran Finatawa | Sam Fan Thomas | Guy Buttery | Huun Huur Tu | Girum Mezmur | Tunde Agonglo

Releases

Timchar	World Music Network, October 2026
Afropentatonism	Piranha Records, 2020
Osas — It's Time	2017
Anewal / The Walking Man	Solo debut, 2012

Listen and follow

anewal.info

Official site

YouTube

Videos and live footage

SoundCloud

Recordings

Instagram

@alhousseinianewal

Facebook

Live & for programmers

What you book

The trio, or a reduced formation for listening rooms. Tell us the stage and we will propose the line-up.

Travel

Based in Germany, so European dates route easily with no long-haul flight.

Technical

A full technical rider is available: three musicians, backline supplied by the venue, with stage plot, microphone and monitor specification.
Open the technical rider

A full press pack, including the technical rider and the stage plot, is available on request.

Photos











Photography: Jean Molitor

Listen & watch

YouTube

youtube.com/channel/UCtkcjEXEqVnOvxUnPNvCj2A

SoundCloud

soundcloud.com/user-942214313

Spotify

open.spotify.com/artist/4lj6LKac4dHp8H4fQ8svyg

Bandcamp

anewal.bandcamp.com

Website

anewal.info

Follow

Instagram | Facebook

Booking

For festivals, concerts and collaborations, get in touch:

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