

Ariella & Nicolaas are a husband-and-wife duo blending **blue-eyed soul** with elements of **jazz, blues, flamenco and classic rock**. With **Ariella McManus's** rich, emotive vocals and **Nicolaas Kraster's** expressive, Spanish-influenced guitar work, they deliver performances that are both intimate and powerful.

Their sound nods to modern soul icons like **Norah Jones** and **Amy Winehouse**, while drawing deeper influence from legends such as **Etta James, Patsy Cline, Roy Buchanan**, and **Paco de Lucía**. Whether as part of their former 5-piece jazz-funk outfit **Ari and the Alibis**, or now as a stripped-down duo, they're known for genre-spanning sets, improvisation, and emotionally driven shows that connect with diverse audiences.

On stage, their contrasting personalities create a compelling dynamic—Ariella's barefoot charm, infectious energy, and smoky vocals paired with Nicolaas's cool precision and guitar virtuosity. Their chemistry is authentic and palpable, the result of years of life and music shared together.

They've performed around the world—from the **Blue Note in NYC** to The Voodoo Room in Edinburgh.—and shared stages with artists like **Victor Wooten**, who calls them “*one of my all-time favorite bands*,” and producer **Fabrice Dupont**, who praises Ariella as “*a classic voice for our modern times*.”

Their intimate, no-frills approach to live performance strips the music down to its core—every lyric, every note exposed. It's a sound that has resonated deeply, helping them build a devoted global fanbase of over **500k followers** and counting. Their shows routinely end in standing ovations—sometimes even tears—as their music touches hearts and stirs souls.

Whether you encounter them in a grand concert hall or an intimate club, **Ariella & Nicolaas** offer something rare: a deep, spontaneous, and unforgettable experience of music as art, emotion, and love—pure and unfiltered.