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## **BIG BAND OF THE LUXEMBOURG ARMY BAND**

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The Big Band of the Luxembourg Army Band was founded by LtCol Pierre Nimax in 1978 and was under the direction of AdjMaj Paul Dahm until the end of the 1980s.

The first concert of the Big Band took place on March 2, 1979 in Wiltz.

In the early 1990s, the Big Band was under the direction of conductor LtCol André Reichling. Since 1995, the Big Band has been under the direction of AdjMaj Ernie Hammes, trumpeter of the Luxembourg Army Band and internationally renowned musician. Recognized on all jazz stages worldwide, he also impresses with his vocal performances with this ensemble.

On december 19th in 2018, Adj Raoul Christophe took over the lead of this ensemble.

In an original big band setup, this ensemble offers the audience a varied musical program ranging from traditional Big Band to contemporary Jazz.

As a result, the program includes, among others, the great classics of Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Billy Strayhorn, Maynard Ferguson, or Sammy Nestico, as well as new compositions by Michael Abene, Bob Mintzer, Gordon Goodwin, or Chris Walden.

A new wave of Luxembourgish jazz composers was launched a few years ago. Therefore, works written by AdjMaj Paul Dahm, AdjMaj Ernie Hammes, David Ascani, Pol Belardi, and Maxime Bender are regularly heard.

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