

OLIVER MEIER

founder · FAHAMU Records

Basel · Lamu · MMXXVI

Short bio (≈ 115 words)

Oliver Meier — born in Bournemouth, UK, to Swiss parents, raised in rural Tanzania until he was ten, then forged in the Basel underground — is the founder of FAHAMU Records and the father of EYWA (Moana Meier). First turntable nights in Reinach with Mehmet Arslan and Garcon. Many crazy nights with Mario Robles. Years on the Klangstoff crew throwing illegal techno open-air with Alain Szerdaheli, Dario Rorbach, Tigran and Michael Berszelly. A short-lived minimal imprint called MDOMO Records. He grew up on the early Private Fiction dancefloor with DJ Adriano. His taste refuses to choose: minimal, techno, hip-hop, coastal Swahili percussion. Releasing his daughter's debut album is a homecoming.

Long bio (≈ 380 words)

Oliver Meier was born in Bournemouth, UK, to Swiss parents, and raised in rural Tanzania until he was ten — barefoot childhood, cassette radio, Swahili in his mouth before he had words for half of what was around him. The family returned to Switzerland and he came of age in the Basel underground, which is where the music actually began. He is the founder of FAHAMU Records and the father of Moana Meier — known to the dancefloor as EYWA.

His first hands on a pair of turntables were in Reinach, a small town outside Basel, with Mehmet Arslan and Garcon — three friends teaching each other to mix in a living room long before any of them played a club. Then came many crazy nights with Mario Robles, the kind that shape a sense of timing and risk no scene report can capture.

For years after that he ran with the Klangstoff crew — throwing illegal techno open-air across the city alongside Alain Szerdaheli, Dario Rorbach, Tigran and Michael Berszelly. He briefly ran MDOMO Records too, a short-lived imprint where he chased the deep end of minimal. On the listening side of the room he was a regular on the early Private Fiction dancefloor with DJ Adriano, soaking up the records that would later become his own. The Basel underground was a school you couldn't apply to: you learned by carrying speakers up stairs, by setting timers on a generator at 4 a.m., by watching a room shift its weight when the right record dropped.

His musical palette refuses to choose. Minimal and techno from the European basement years, hip-hop from the cassette tapes he never threw out, and the rural East African rhythms that were his earliest soundtrack. Out of that mix grew the conviction that genre is a marketing problem, not a musical one.

FAHAMU is Swahili for 'understanding' — knowing something with your whole body, not just your head. FAHAMU Records is where that conviction now lives. Releasing UNITY, EYWA's debut, on his own label is the first time the music, the family and the work all sit in the same room. He wouldn't have it any other way.

Quick facts

Born · Bournemouth, UK — to Swiss parents

Raised · rural Tanzania (until age 10), then Basel, Switzerland

Role · Founder, FAHAMU Records (previously: MDOMO Records — minimal imprint, short-lived)

Based · Basel, Switzerland (with one foot on the East African coast)

Background · Basel underground, Klangstoff crew, illegal open-air techno, club circuit

First turntable crew · Mehmet Arslan, Garcon (Reinach) · Mario Robles

Klangstoff crew · Alain Szerdaheli · Dario Rorbach · Tigran · Michael Berszelly

Dancefloor home · early Private Fiction parties with DJ Adriano

Wider network · Basel club owners and promoters

Listening · minimal · techno · deep house · hip-hop · Afro · oriental · ambient

Currently releasing · EYWA — UNITY (debut album, 29 May 2026)

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“Genre is a marketing problem, not a musical one.”

— Oliver Meier, FAHAMU Records