

TWO POWERFUL WOMEN



Thenia Af &
BUTTERFLY K

Two powerful women

On 9 January 2026, a cover version of the song 'End of You', originally released by Amy Lee, Courtney LaPlante and Poppy, will be released. Thenia Af and Kate Khaiauri, aka BUTTERFLY K, have created a powerful and personal variation on this song. Radio Schwarze Welle met the two for an interview.



The two artists

Both musicians live and work in Berlin. They met at the city's many events and eventually decided to collaborate.



Kate Khaiauri, also known as BUTTERFLY K, is a mezzo-soprano who feels equally at home in classical singing and more extreme vocal styles. After years of classical singing lessons, Kate decided to pursue a different path. She knew that classical music would not provide enough scope for her creativity. Formerly the lead singer and songwriter for the band BÖSE FUCHS, the singer with Georgian-Armenian roots embarked on her solo project BUTTERFLY K and released her first album, *Chrysalis*, in 2025.

Thenia Af. is a vocalist, performer and DJ with a strong focus on live presence and artistic expression. With 19 years of professional experience in the music field, she has built an extensive international background through touring, club performances and long-term involvement in professional music projects. Her vocal work has evolved organically over the years alongside her career as a performer and DJ and is an integral part of her artistic expression, now taking a more visible and focused role. Originally from Thessaloniki, Greece and based in Berlin for the past nine years, she is actively working on her own long-term artistic project with a clear band-oriented vision.



The choice of the song

The song is a particularly personal piece, because sometimes it is simply necessary to get rid of the old and now harmful, Kate explains. Thenia adds that the song also highlights the moment of emotional clarity that a new beginning makes possible. Regaining self-respect and control leads to finding more strength.

The collaboration

Both artists explain that jealousy and excessive egoism can often lead to a project's failure, especially in the music industry – and the song expresses that collaboration and teamwork are central. The collaboration between the two artists arose from mutual admiration and support over a long period of time. Kate explains: 'I see Thenia as someone who lives for her art, a strong woman who loves free expression and lives for freedom. She does what she loves. We have a lot in common.' Thenia laughs: 'I'd known Kate for a while and admired her professionalism, so I thought I'd just ask her.' The rest is history, and the result of this magnificent collaboration will be revealed tonight.

The art (of living)

The two artists came to metal in different ways. While Thenia mainly listened to nu metal in her youth, she explored many different genres. Her family was also part of the music world. Thenia's grandfather in particular was a multi-instrumentalist and inspired the musician, even though she never met him personally. Thenia's cousin, who is a Greek contemporary classical composer, was particularly helpful in her musical development.

Kate, on the other hand, belongs to a family involved in classical music. She herself also underwent classical training but realised early on that this would not be her final destination. After making a few cautious changes to her performances, she realised that what she liked to listen to, such as Within Temptation or Evanescence, was also what she wanted to sing.

After many years of experience in the industry, the two artists agree that many mechanisms have changed for the better, but that art still often takes a back seat and too much importance is attached to outward appearances. Especially in today's world, appearance is often placed above ability. Kate wishes that clichés and boundaries would become less important, whether in relation to appearance or, for example, the queer community. Although much has improved in recent years, there is still a long way to go – and the two women want to support this with their collaboration.

What the future holds

Both musicians are in complete agreement when it comes to the future. So we can look forward to another exciting collaboration. The harmony between the musicians is clearly evident in their conversation, and Thenia's eyes light up when she explains how much Kate's support mean to her: "This collaboration really came from the heart. There is so much competition in the music industry, so much envy – I'm just tired of that kind of thing. That's why we're showing the world that working together can achieve so much more. And Kate gave me the opportunity to shine." Kate adds that she wishes her colleague's vision will come true.

When asked what an artist needs to consider when trying to break into the music industry, Thenia replies: "Just don't listen to others, start your project for yourself and stay true to yourself. Above all, don't listen when others tell you you're bad. They said that to Lady Gaga and the singer

from Muse too. It didn't stop them from being great. " Kate concludes the interview: When embarking on a musical journey, no one should be afraid of being different. It takes courage and it will certainly hurt, but time heals all wounds. And sometimes it's just good to end something. Because everything that ends had to end – and it also leaves room for something new to begin.



Further information

The cover version of 'End of You' was released on 9 January 2026.

Kate Khaiauri will perform with her live band on 7 March at the [2nd Winternacht Festival](#) in Neunkirchen.