

**COLLECTIF KOA
PRESENTS**

GRAND ENSEMBLE KOA

BEAT



GRAND ENSEMBLE KOA

LINE UP

ALFRED VILAYLECK **CONDUCTOR, COMPOSITION, BASS**
CAROLINE SENTIS **VOICE, VOCALS**
MATTHIEU CHÉDEVILLE **SOPRANO SAXOPHONE**
ARMEL COURRÉE **ALTO & BARITONE SAXOPHONES**
JÉRÔME DUFOUR **TENOR SAXOPHONE**
PASCAL BOUVIER **TROMBONE**
DANIEL MOREAU **PIANO, KEYBOARDS**
KILLIAN REBREYEND **VIBRAPHONE**
JULIEN GRÉGOIRE **DRUMS**

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« *Asphodèle*, la première pièce, s'articule autour de la voix veloutée du trombone, la basse électrique impose son beat rock, le vibra pousse les murs du son et ouvre l'espace du studio et de nos têtes, l'esprit de *Pink Floyd* vient jeter un oeil quand la vocaliste est doublée par le chœur de tous les autres.

Impressionnant. »

Alain Gauthier

JAZZMAGAZINE - OCTOBER 2019

« Caroline Sentis ouvrit sa voix à des modulations semblables à des sauts de trapèze et qui rendaient compte, exactement, du bruissement de langues souffrées émanant de ces corps en fournaise qu'avaient été les poètes de la Beat [...]. »

Guy Darol

LES DERNIÈRES NOUVELLES DU JAZZ - JANUARY 2019

« Confirmation éclatante du talent de compositeur d'Alfred Vilayleck et de la qualité musicale autant qu'instrumentale des membres du Grand Ensemble Koa de Montpellier. (...) La qualité des solistes irradie les espaces improvisés, et le sens collectif est palpable dans tout le déroulement du CD, plage après plage. »

Xavier Prévost

Group presentation

The Grand Ensemble Koa is a formation of musicians who play an electric and innovative jazz, where jazz improvisations, contemporary writing techniques, sophisticated grooves and electro-rock sounds are mixed. He was initiated in 2008 by bassist and composer Alfred Vilayleck. At the same time, the group's musicians created the Collectif Koa in Montpellier, which enabled them to share many playing experiences and decisive artistic encounters.

In 2010, the Grand Ensemble Koa worked on a creation inspired by Alfred Jarry's *Ubu-Roi*, including contemporary musical writing, satirical theater and soundpainting. The resulting "Koa-Roi" disc was released at the end of 2012 and was elected Jazz Revelation Album by *Jazzmag* magazine in February 2013. Pascal Rozet writes: "A fully accomplished first opus, which is striking in its consistency" [translated from french].

In 2013, formed by 9 musicians, the group played "Ahimsa" - a repertoire based on non-violent Indian culture - whose record was released in 2015, and performed notably at the Carreau du Temple in Paris. In 2014, he collaborated with the Belgian collective Maak Spirit, entitled "Koa Meet Määk".

Today, the Grand Ensemble Koa is turning to the Beat Generation, drawing inspiration from the poems and words of a generation that seeks freedom, that of Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg or William Burroughs ...



« I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness, starving hysterical naked... »

Allen Ginsberg, *Howl*, 1956

Eight musicians and one voice for an electric and dreamlike journey: Grand Ensemble Koa continues to develop its musical touch, navigating between jazz, rock, unusual melodies and libertarian poetry! The finely chiseled writing of bassist Alfred Vilayleck, the luminous vocals of Caroline Sentis, the modernity of the groove and the improvisations perfectly serve the contagious energy of these accomplices who gave birth to the Koa Collective more than 10 years ago. In "Beat" (Neuklang / Pias), the French ensemble sets to music the texts of American poets from the Beat Generation; Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg and William Burroughs with guitarist Serge Lazarevitch as a guest.

The « Beat Generation » is a literary and intellectual movement which, in the 1950s, sought to free itself from the « American Way Of Life », the conformism of American life, to give itself the freedom to think, to dream, to live while enjoying every moment.

On the Road by Jack Kerouac, Howl by Allen Ginsberg and Naked Lunch by William Burroughs are among the 3 major works that depict this way of life, the basis of an activism that will mark the entire second half of the 20th century ...

« Thanks for the American dream

To vulgarize and to falsify until the bare lies shine through... »

William S. Burroughs, Thanksgiving Day Nov. 28 1986, Tornado Alley, 1989

At the crossroads of modern jazz and progressive rock, « Beat » is inspired by and sets to music the texts of the three major poets of the « Beat Generation », carried by the sensitive and touching voice of Caroline Sentis and on the compositions of bassist Alfred Vilayleck.



William Burroughs
« A Thanksgiving Prayer »

LINE UP



● Alfred Vilayleck

Alfred began his interest in music through rock, then quickly turned to jazz and improvisation. Graduated from the conservatories of Perpignan and Strasbourg, he is a founding member of the Collectif Koa, which has allowed him to develop his artistic universe in contact with Steve Coleman, Aka Moon, Magic Malik, Jim Black and Ari Hoenig. He is a bassist, composer and improviser, steeped in the cultures of jazz, rock, and world music, which has led him to collaborate with artists from Europe, Asia, Africa and the United States. He directs and composes for the Grand Ensemble Koa, he co-directs Peemai, Gratitude Trio and Nefertiti. He has also been teaching music at the Montpellier Conservatory for over ten years, and practices soundpainting. He is also the programmer of the Koa Jazz Festival.

● Caroline Sentis

From Connie & Blyde, to Banan'N'Jug, to the Grand Ensemble Koa, Caroline Sentis explores vocal techniques and instrumentations through unique horizons. Concerts after concerts, she reveals the full extent of her vocal and instrumental mastery. She explores the sonorities of her voice, walks and modulates it according to the compositions, from jazz to song. Caroline Sentis is drawing on all available means, used to perpetual learning, from her self-taught years to in classes at the Conservatoire de Montpellier. She imagines bridges between her influences through in duo, group or orchestra formations. Benevolence, humility and contagious good humor nourish his collaborations, always cradled with sincerity and theatrical, dreamlike and lyrical dimensions.

● Matthieu Chédeville

Matthieu Chédeville was introduced to jazz at the Collège de Marciac. He then joined various groups, including the jazz nonet Elastic band and the quartet of Tania Margarit, with which he participated in many stages and festivals. In 2008 he obtained the DUMI and in 2009 the DEM in Jazz following a course at the CRR in Perpignan.

He joined the Melquiadès Quartet in 2010, in 2011 he won the soloist prize at the Getxo International Jazz Competition with this project. Matthieu also flirts with the music of the Maghreb with Isatis and electro-rock within the Dakodak quartet. He practices theater and musical storytelling in various companies.

● Armel Courrée

Armel Courrée obtained a license in musicology from the University of Montpellier in 2006. At the same time as his studies, he worked in several street music groups such as Vauvert's Big Band of Jazz and in the gypsy fusion group Tzigzag with which he recorded an eponymous disc and toured between 2003 and 2006.

Graduated in Jazz in 2009 at the Conservatory of Perpignan, he currently performs with the metal fanfare Born to Brass, the ethio-jazz group Ethioda, as well as with several street music groups. He teaches the saxophone in Nîmes.

● Jérôme Dufour

Trained at the conservatories of Béziers and Marseille, Jérôme Dufour also obtained degrees in musicology from the University of Montpellier and from the Conservatory of Perpignan obtained under the direction of Serge Lazarevitch. He is currently a teacher at the Montpellier and Béziers Conservatories.

He has performed in France and around the world in projects with artists such as Fethi Tabet, Didier Levallet, Pierre Diaz, Frédéric Monino ... He is co-founder of the Abrazz'band formation, currently plays with Jazzimut Quartet, Têtaclak and participates in various musical projects with Serge Lazarevitch, Joël Allouche, the WART, Continuum, Koa collectives, while developing an educational activity in improvised music through educational concerts.



● Pascal Bouvier

Pascal Bouvier obtained a degree in trombone at the Nîmes conservatory then in jazz at the Perpignan conservatory with Serge Lazarevitch.

He evolves within eclectic projects, from the symphony orchestra to the Big Band through the Brass band, rock, Latin and jazz combos with which he goes on national and European tours, records several albums and performs at numerous international festivals in France and abroad. He is currently pursuing his career as a trombonist, notably with the Collectif Koa, which he joined in 2009, in the music hall orchestra Octane and the Lorkès 974 fanfare for which he is also an arranger, as well as in the group Ethioda.

● Daniel Moreau

Graduated from the conservatories of Tarn, Montpellier and Perpignan, Daniel participates in the creation of the Grand Ensemble Koa and will meet on this occasion Aka Moon, Magic Malik, Mââk Spirit, Marc Ducret. He toured in 2012 with the group Gospel Soul in Europe, then with Deedee Daniel in the United States, Morocco and Senegal. He then stays in Havana, Cuba and meets the pianists Ernan Lopez Nussa and Rolando Luna. He then founded the group Ethioda of which he recorded 2 albums. Daniel has also been collaborating since 2017 with Magic Malik Fanfare XP and Gazy Jazz Project. In parallel with his projects, Daniel Moreau teaches in the jazz & improvised music department of the Conservatory of Montpellier.

● Killian Rebreyend

Killian studied music at the Conservatory of Montpellier in a classical (percussion) and a jazz (drums and piano) courses, and subsequently obtained two music diplomas.

In several projects in Montpellier and Paris, Late notice (hip hop), Jeenko (funk, hip hop merging with electro), he also has duo projects with singers, such as with Ndobó Emma (RnB new wave, Neo soul), where with La Chica!

His influences on piano as well as on drums vary between jazz and hip hop in the broadest sense: Bill Evans, Herbie Hancock, the Miles Davis quartet, Coltrane, Tony Williams ...

● Julien Grégoire

Julien entered the conservatory of Montpellier in percussions then at the conservatory of Perpignan, obtaining degrees in drums and jazz.

Julien Grégoire has performed with artists such as Julien Lourau, Bojan Z, Enildo Rasua, Salvador Niebla, Xavi Reija, Joël Allouche, Magik Malik, Steve Coleman.

He performs regularly with Joanda, La Varda and the Born to Brass Band. He also plays with the Yoda quartet, the Melquiadès quartet, the Grand ensemble Koa, the Darjiling quintet, but also with the big-band Red Star Orchestra.

He is also setting up his current jazz quartet project Watcher Hill as well as a co-led trio: Zylia with pianist Rémi Ploton and vibraphonist Samuel Mastorakis.

● Serge Lazarevitch

Serge Lazarevitch left to study in 1975 in the USA at the "Berklee College of Music" in Boston and obtained a "Jazz Diploma". During this period he met M.Stern, P.Metheny & B. Frisell. After his return to Europe in 1979, he taught at the Liège Conservatory and took part in the Belgian Jazz scene alongside Ch.Loos, M.Herr, J.Pelzer, S.Houben... He was several times part of the National Jazz Orchestra, and directs its own formations (quintet & trio), participates in many groups: E.Barret 4T, Ensemble Terra Nova, M.Marre "SardanaJazz", A.Lisolo "Barka Concept"...

Today, he coordinates both the Jazz Department of the CRR Perpignan and that of the CRR Montpellier. He also leads internships in Europe and Africa.



KEY MOMENTS

DATES IN NUMBERS

- About 20 dates for « Beat »
- About 10 dates in Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée
- 3 albums in 10 years

DATES IN PLACES

Arpèges en Fenouillèdes [Maury]
Atlantique jazz festival [Brest]
Carreau du Temple [Paris]
Chai du Terral [Saint-Jean de Védas]
Festival des Arts Métais [Balaruc-les-bains]
Festival Jazzèbre [Perpignan]
Festival Nuit et Jour [Capdenac Querbes]
Festival Radio France [Montpellier]
Le GAM [Maugio]
Le JAM [Montpellier]
Koa Jazz Festival [Montpellier]
Maison des Jeunes et de la Culture [Rodez]
Arpèges en Fenouillèdes [Maury]
Millau Jazz Festival [Millau]
Petit Fauchoux [Tours]
Salle des Trobars [Saussan]
Scène Nationale de Narbonne [Narbonne]
Studio de l'Ermitage [Paris]

TO COME UP

- July 6, 2021 : Jazz in Junas - Château de Sommières, Junas [France]
Concert, album « BEAT »
- August 4, 2021 : Jazz in Marciac - L'Astrada, Marciac [France]
Concert, album « BEAT »
- Postponements 2022
Les musicales de l'Agly - Planèzes [France]
Jazz Station - Bruxelles [Belgium]

KEY DATES

- January 11 & January 25, 2019
release of «BEAT» [Collectif Koa / Neuklang / Pias] - 3rd album
in physics and digital in France then in Germany
- November 15 to 17, 2017 - Chai du Terral - Saint-Jean de Védas [France]
Resumption of creation « BEAT »
- October 31 to November 03, 2016 - Scène Nationale de Narbonne [France]
Creative residency « BEAT »
- October 03 to 07, 2016 - Narbonne Conservatory [France]
Creative residency « BEAT »



DISCOGRAPHY



Beat

Release in France : January 11, 2019
Release in Germany : January 25, 2019

RECORDING PHILIPPE GAILLOT
STUDIO RECALL
EDITING FLORIAN VINCENT
MIXING, MASTERING PHILIPP HECK
STUDIO BAUER [LUDWIGSBURG]
PRODUCTION COLLECTIF KOA
COMPOSITION ALFRED VILAYLECK
MUSICIANS ALFRED VILAYLECK [DIRECTION, COMPOSITION & BASS]
CAROLINE SENTIS [VOCALS, SINGING]
MATTHIEU CHÉDEVILLE [SOPRANO SAXOPHONE]
ARMEL COURRÉE [ALTO SAXOPHONE]
JÉRÔME DUFOUR [TÉNOR SAXOPHONE]
PASCAL BOUVIER [TROMBONE]
DANIEL MOREAU [PIANO, KEYBOARDS]
SAMUEL MASTORAKIS [VIBRAPHONE]
JULIEN GRÉGOIRE [DRUMS]
SERGE LAZAREVITCH guest [GUITARE]



Ahimsa

Release : March 10, 2016

RECORDING PHILIPPE GAILLOT
STUDIO RECALL
MIXING, MASTERING MICHEL ANDINA [BRUXELLES]
PRODUCTION COLLECTIF KOA
COMPOSITION ALFRED VILAYLECK
MUSICIANS ALFRED VILAYLECK [DIRECTION, COMPOSITION & BASS]
CAROLINE SENTIS [VOCALS, SINGING]
MATTHIEU CHÉDEVILLE [SOPRANO SAXOPHONE]
ARMEL COURRÉE [ALTO SAXOPHONE]
JÉRÔME DUFOUR [TÉNOR SAXOPHONE]
PASCAL BOUVIER [TROMBONE]
MATIA LEVRERO [GUITARE]
DANIEL MOREAU [KEYBOARDS]
SAMUEL MASTORAKIS [VIBRAPHONE]
JULIEN GRÉGOIRE [DRUMS]

Koa Roi

Release : October 26, 2012



RECORDING STUDIO LA BUISSONNE
PRODUCTION COLLECTIF KOA
COMPOSITION ALFRED VILAYLECK
MUSICIANS ALFRED VILAYLECK [DIRECTION, COMPOSITION & BASS]
SYLVAIN ARTIGNAN [CLARINET]
MATTHIEU CHÉDEVILLE [SAXOPHONES]
ARMEL COURRÉE [ALTO SAXOPHONE]
JÉRÔME DUFOUR [TÉNOR SAXOPHONE]
PASCAL BOUVIER [TROMBONE]
YOAN FERNANDEZ & MATIA LEVRERO [GUITARES]
GUYLAIN DOMAS [BASS]
DANIEL MOREAU [ELECTRIC PIANO]
SAMUEL MASTORAKIS [VIBRAPHONE]
JULIEN GRÉGOIRE [DRUMS]

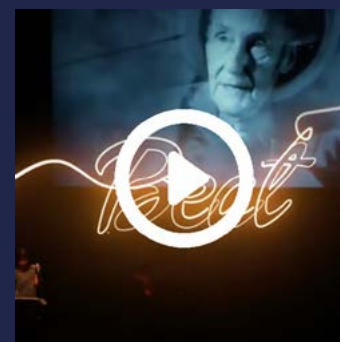
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VIDEOS



Hassan



Thanks to

CULTURAL ACTIONS

The performance of a Grand Ensemble Koa concert and the reception over periods of residence can give rise to cultural mediation work in connection with the territory in which the place is located. All the musicians of the group are confirmed pedagogues through constant work carried out in conservatories or music schools in France.

The cultural actions proposed are:

- Jazz meets kids

Interactive and playful concert targeting a young audience [from kindergarten to high school], including a band's repertoire presentation followed by an explanation of the Lao music's specificities.

- Public soundcheck and rehearsal

Time for balances or rehearsals open to all [time for discussion with the public on the process of setting up the group before the concert].

- Master class

For students of music conservatories and universities, the master class is a work on the group's repertoire with the possibility of a public performance including musicians and participants.

- Soundpainting workshop

Introductory workshop in sign language of direction created by Walter Thomson, which brings together on stage several artistic disciplines, including musicians, actors, and dancers of all ages and levels. These workshops can give rise to a public restitution [in consultation with Alfred Vilayleck].

Each proposal can be adapted according to your desires, your needs and your audiences. Do not hesitate to contact us to discuss it and together imagine a proposal that meets your expectations.

Alfred Vilayleck / Artistic director
vsomasy@gmail.com - +33(0) 6 88 15 14 86

Collectif Koa
contact@collectifkoa.com - +33(0) 4 67 58 27 48

PARTNERS



CONTACTS

PRODUCTION, PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT

CHRISTINE DUMONS
admin@collectifkoa.com

DIFFUSION

CÉCILE CHENAIS
cecile@tsong-dao-prod.com

COMMUNICATION

communication@collectifkoa.com

ADMINISTRATION

social@collectifkoa.com

CIVIC SERVICE

MAXIME PICCOLO
contact@collectifkoa.com

COLLECTIFKOA.COM



La Tendresse

80, impasse Flouch
34070 Montpellier - France
contact@collectifkoa.com
+33(0) 4 67 58 27 48

COLLECTIF
KOA
JAZZ & MUSIQUES IMPROVISÉES

Siret : 502 940 018 000 42
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