



CULTURAL ACTIONS



COLLECTIF KOA

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Presentation

Collectif Koa is an association from Montpellier which works for the creation, the promotion and the diffusion of improvised music and jazz.

Born from a human, musical and artistic meeting within the Regional Conservatory of Perpignan, the Collectif Koa was created in November 2007 under the direction of Alfred Vilayleck.

Driven by strong artistic and social values, Koa aims to address all audiences and to promote the mixed origins of jazz and improvised music. A space for artistic encounters and collaborations, the Collective offers an array of activities and works closely with all audiences.

Installed since the end of 2016 at La Tendresse, a cultural cooperative, the Collectif Koa pursues its approach of sustainable development and sharing of skills with its partners, its neighborhood and its territory.

Cultural actions

Workshops of cultural actions seek to adapt to the audience. The goal of these actions is to sensitize a large public to jazz and improvised music. It aims at putting in relation and in interaction artists and publics. Those cultural actions can lead to public performances.

Our teams remain available to talk about the project and imagine with you proposals corresponding to your expectations. Please contact us, by email or by phone, to set up a meeting.



Artistic immersion between amateurs and professionals

● What is it?

The workshop or master class aims to make amateur and professional musicians work with the teaching musicians of the Collectif Koa, around improvisation in contemporary music and jazz. The trainees approach more or less in depth (according to the period of work defined together) main themes which are melodic improvisation, harmony, rhythm and form. At the end of this period, the trainees and the teaching musicians give a restitution of the work done together.

● What are the objectives?

- To acquire melodic, harmonic, rhythmic and formal skills allowing the development of improvisation
- To work on improvisation in a group
- To acquire a methodology to work on improvisation individually
- To learn about the history of improvisation in jazz and contemporary music
- To work on collective improvisation, through Soundpainting
- To work on a chosen repertoire, performed by trainees and teachers during a public performance

● What organization?

For a workshop, the work lasts between 2 and 4 days. A public performance around 40 minutes is organized at the end of the workshop, followed by a concert of the musicians involved (in quartet maximum).

For a master class, it is necessary to count between 3 hours and one day of work. There is no public presentation or concert at the end of the master class.

● Who is the audience?

Workshops and master classes are designed for everyone: from amateur musicians to music school/conservatory students, to the professional musicians

● The teachers?

The teachers are all musicians from the Collectif Koa's formations and have a confirmed pedagogical experience.



JAZZ MEETS KIDS

The best way to discover jazz is to watch it on live.

● What is it?

«Jazz meets kids» aims to make a young audience aware of jazz and improvised music. These meetings were built on the idea of bringing together musicians and children.

Children, whatever their origins, their social background, their education, have a singular rhythmic sensitivity which without knowing it, offers them bridges to the universe of jazz and improvised music.

Without obligation, each one leaves with what he or she will have retained, the ears a little more informed.

● The objectives?

- To make discover the crossbreeding of the jazz music
- To access music that is little represented in the general media
- To become aware of one's position as a spectator and as a listener
- To awaken the child's sensitivity
- To accustom the ears to hearing different sounds

● What organization?

After having composed a piece, the musicians interact with children to get them to express what they have felt, heard and listened to. In a participative approach, the musicians talk about the history of jazz by juggling with the notions of rhythm, theme and improvisation. The talking is personalized, animated and enriched by the rhythm of the question and answer exchanges. Each session lasts about 30 minutes.

● Who is the audience?

Those workshops are intended for young people, from 3 to 17 years old, and adapt to the average age of each group (from kindergarten to high school).

● The teachers?

All of the speakers are musicians from the Collectif Koa's training programs and have proven pedagogical experience. All groups of the Collectif Koa can propose their repertoire to the young public.



Introduction to a sign language for real-time composition

● What is it?

Soundpainting is a universal and multidisciplinary sign language for real-time composition for musicians, actors, and dancers. During a performance, a Soundpainter performs a set of signs and uses the responses to develop and shape a composition. This composition is created in an improvised way by the interaction between different actors.

Currently the language includes more than 1200 gestures which are signed by the Soundpainter (the one who directs, composer) to indicate to the performers (interpreters) what kind of material is requested. The language of Soundpainting was invented by the American composer Walter Thompson at Woodstock in 1974, with whom Collectif Koa had the chance to collaborate.

● The objectives?

- To learn a new and universal sign language that develops the personal creativity of the performers through improvisation and direction
- To learn new ways of playing based on orality, improvisation and a contemporary approach to each discipline
- To create a multidisciplinary ensemble
- To develop group playing under direction (listening, concentration, interaction, artistic involvement) and involved in a concert/public performance project
- To learn to direct a multidisciplinary ensemble (music, theater and dance) as a Soundpainter

● The organization?

Workshops can be conducted in two different ways: either in the form of a 2 to 3 day workshop, or on a regular basis over several weeks or months. Whatever the choice, workshops always end with a public presentation of the work done. Workshops can include up to 80 students. Beyond 50 students, it is preferable to do 2 x 2 days of training in order to guarantee a better learning of the participants.

● Who is the audience?

Initially intended for conservatory students (including theater and dance classes) and music school students, Soundpainting workshops are now open to a wider audience. Teachers adapt their workshops according to the public.

● The teachers?

Three members of Collectif Koa are in charge of developing Soundpainting workshops: Alfred Vilayleck, Pascal Bouvier and Xavier Besson. Two of them are musicians, the third is an actor.



MUSICAL NAPS

Performance that invites to meditation, relaxation, discovery and sleepiness

● What is it?

Musical naps are restful concerts, associating musicians with a melodic sensitivity and an obvious complicity. Often organized outdoors, musical naps are entirely free and accessible to all audiences. Whether it is a family moment around a picnic, or a simple time of relaxation in the grass, the idea is to spread musical work, that way everyone can discover and appreciate according to their desires.

● The objectives?

- To attract new audiences by organizing free concerts in random and non-dedicated places
- To spread the love of jazz and improvised music
- To get out of the concert venues to play jazz everywhere and for everyone
- To reach a large audience during a convivial time

● The organization?

Musical naps are adaptable to desires and means of each one. It is a project that is built together. You compose the atmosphere and the desired framework: outdoors or indoors, from a solo to a larger group, from a groovy and energetic music, to softer and more quiet sounds.

● Who is the audience?

All audiences, from the youngest to the oldest, families, groups of friends, simple passers-by.

● The musicians?

The musicians involved are part of Collectif Koa, or are musicians close to the Collective.



PARTNERS



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