

COLLECTIF KOA  
PRESENTS

GRAND ENSEMBLE KOA

# BEAT



COLLECTIF  
**KOA**  
JAZZ & MUSIQUES IMPROVISÉES

# GRAND ENSEMBLE KOA

## LINE UP

ALFRED VILAYLECK **CONDUCTOR, COMPOSITION,  
ELECTRIC 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**

## FRENCH PRESS REVIEW

**CULTUREJAZZ** - SEPTEMBER 2020

« *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 ouvre 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, page après page. »

Xavier Prévost

## Presentation

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

In 2010, Grand Ensemble Koa worked on a creation inspired by Alfred Jarry's *Ubu-Roi*, including contemporary musical writing, satirical theater and soundpainting. «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. This record was released in 2015, and performed notably at the Carreau du Temple in Paris. In 2014, they collaborated with the Belgian collective Maak Spirit, entitled «Koa Meet Määk».

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



© Jean-Jacques Abadie

**«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 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 the musicians who gave birth to Collectif Koa 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 the guitarist Serge Lazarévitch as a guest.

The «Beat Generation» is a literary and intellectual movement which, in the 1950's, sought to break free from the « American Way Of Life», the conformism of American life, and gave itself the freedom to think, to dream, to live and enjoy every moment. «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 falsify until the bare lies shine through. Thanks for a country where nobody's allowed to mind their own business.»**  
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 the compositions of bassist Alfred Vilayleck.



William Burroughs  
« A Thanksgiving Prayer »

# LINE UP



## ● Alfred Vilayleck

At 12, Alfred develops an interest in music through rock and especially Jimi Hendrix. Then, he quickly turns to jazz and improvisations. Graduated from the Perpignan and Strasbourg conservatories, he plays with several jazz bands before founding the Collectif Koa in Montpellier in 2008. He collaborates with Steve Coleman, Aka Moon, Magic Malik, Jim Black. Versatile accompanist and traveller musician, he plays with Serge Lazarevitch, Joël Allouche, Jeroen Van Herzeele, Julien Lourau, John Tchicaï, Pierre Van Dormael, Cherif Soumano. Currently, he leads the Grand Ensemble Koa, contributes to several bands such as Gratitude Trio, Peemaï, Kunzit and recently the illustrated concert for kids Nefertiti. Alfred teaches jazz at the Conservatoire of Montpellier and also leads many Soundpainting projects.



## ● Caroline Sentis

From Connie & Blyde, to Banan'N'Jug, to 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 searching for all available means, uses her perpetual learning, from her self-taught years and her classes at the Conservatoire de Montpellier. She draws bridges between her duo, group or orchestra formations influences. Benevolence, humility and contagious good humor nourish her collaborations, always cradled with sincerity and theatrical, dreamlike and lyrical dimensions.



## ● Matthieu Chédeville

Matthieu Chédeville discovered 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 gigs and festivals. In 2008 he obtained the DUMI and in 2009 the DEM in Jazz following a course at the Conservatory 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 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, he worked in several street bands 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 bands. He teaches 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 also from the Conservatory of Perpignan under the direction of Serge Lazarevitch. He is currently teaching 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, Collectif Koa, while developing an educational activity in improvised music through educative concerts.

- Pascal Bouvier

Pascal Bouvier obtained a trombone degree 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 Collectif Koa, that he joined in 2009, in the music hall orchestra Octane and the Lorkès 974 fanfare for which he also arranges, as well as in the Ethioda band.

- Daniel Moreau

Graduated from the conservatories of Tarn, Montpellier and Perpignan, Daniel participates to the creation of 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 jazz & improvised music at 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. He participates in several projects in Montpellier and in Paris: Late notice (hip hop), Jeenko (funk, hip hop, electro), he also has duo projects with singers with Ndobó Emma (RnB new wave, eeo soul) and with La Chica! His influences on piano as well as on drums vary between jazz and hip hop: Bill Evans, Herbie Hancock, the Miles Davis quartet, Coltrane, Tony Williams.

- Julien Grégoire

Julien went to the Conservatory of Montpellier in the department of percussions then at the Conservatory of Perpignan and obtained 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, 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 and the coledated trio Zylia with pianist Rémi Ploton and vibraphonist Samuel Mastorakis.

- Serge Lazarevitch

Serge Lazarevitch studied in the USA at the "Berklee College of Music" in Boston in 1975 and obtained a "Jazz Diploma". During this period he met M.Stern, P.Metheny & B. Frisell. After returning 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 directed its own formations (quintet & trio), participated 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 Conservatory of Perpignan and Montpellier. He also leads internships in Europe and Africa.



# KEY MOMENTS

## NUMBERS

- About 20 gigs for « Beat »
- About 10 gigs in Occitanie
- 3 albums in 10 years

## VENUES

Arpèges en Fenouillèdes [ Maury ]  
Atlantique jazz festival [ Brest ]  
Carreau du Temple [ Paris ]  
Chai du Terral [ Saint-Jean-de-Védas ]  
Festival des Arts Métis [ 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 Faucheux [ Tours ]  
Salle des Trobars [ Saussan ]  
Scène Nationale de Narbonne [ Narbonne ]  
Studio de l'Ermitage [ Paris ]

## NEXT GIGS

- October 21, 2022 - Jazz Station - Bruxelles [Belgium]  
Concert, « BEAT » album

## KEY GIGS

- July 13, 2022 - MusicAgly - Planèzes [France]  
Concert, « BEAT » album
- 23 octobre 2021 - Le Taquin Jazz club - Toulouse [France]  
Concert, « BEAT » album
- August 4, 2021 : Jazz in Marciac - L'Astrada, Marciac [France]  
Concert, « BEAT » album
- January 11 & 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]  
Next part of « BEAT » creation
- October 31 to November 03, 2016 - National Stage of Narbonne [France]  
Creation residency « BEAT »
- October 03 to 07, 2016 - Narbonne Conservatory [France]  
Creation residency « BEAT »



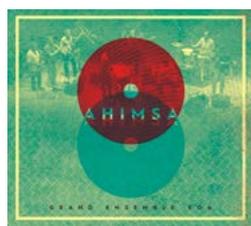
## DISCOGRAPHY



### *Beat*

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

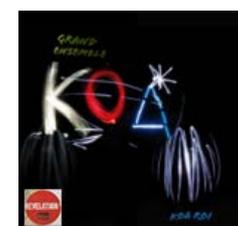
RECORDING PHILIPPE GAILLOT  
STUDIO RECALL  
EDITING FLORIAN VINCENT  
MIXING, MASTERING PHILIPP HECK  
STUDIO BAUER [LUDWIGSBURG]  
PRODUCTION COLLECTIF KOA  
COMPOSITION ALFRED VILAYLECK  
MUSICIANS ALFRED VILAYLECK [DIRECTION, COMPOSITION & BASS]  
CAROLINE SENTIS [VOCALS, SINGING]  
MATTHIEU CHÉDEVILLE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



### *Ahimsa*

Release: March 10, 2016

RECORDING PHILIPPE GAILLOT  
STUDIO RECALL  
MIXING, MASTERING MICHEL ANDINA [BRUSSELS]  
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 [TENOR SAXOPHONE]  
PASCAL BOUVIER [TROMBONE]  
MATIA LEVRERO [GUITAR]  
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 [TENOR SAXOPHONE]  
PASCAL BOUVIER [TROMBONE]  
YOAN FERNANDEZ & MATIA LEVRERO [GUITARS]  
GUYLAIN DOMAS [BASS]  
DANIEL MOREAU [ELECTRIC PIANO]  
SAMUEL MASTORAKIS [VIBRAPHONE]  
JULIEN GRÉGOIRE [DRUMS]

## SOCIAL NETWORKS

 @gekkoa

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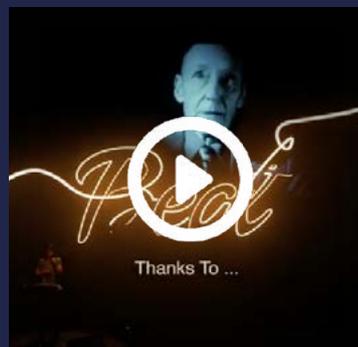
 @collectifkoa

 @collectifkoa

## SPOTIFY



## VIDEOS



## CULTURAL ACTIONS

With Grand Ensemble Koa's concerts and/or artistic residencies, it is possible to create cultural actions and mediations linked with the territory. All the musicians are confirmed pedagogues and teachers 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 and talks with the audience.

- Public soundcheck and rehearsal

Public soundchecks or rehearsals: a quality time to talk with audiences about creative process and concert preparations.

- Master class

A work about band's repertoires with students of music conservatories and universities, with a possibility of a public performance, including musicians and players.

- Soundpainting workshop

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

Each proposal can be adapted according to your desires, your needs and your audiences. Please, contact us to talk about it and imagine together a proposal that fits your expectations.

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

Collectif Koa  
contact@collectifkoa.com

## PARTNERS



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APE : 9001 Z

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