

**COLLECTIF KOA  
PRESENTS**

# **DANCE OF THE UNSUBMISSIVES**

# GRAND ENSEMBLE KOA

## DISTRIBUTION

ALFRED VILAYLECK	DIRECTION, 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

## PRESS REVIEW

### CULTUREJAZZ - SEPTEMBER 2020

«Asphodel, the first piece, hinges on the velvety voice of the trombone, the electric bass imposes its rock beat, the vibraphone pushes the walls of sound and opens up the space of the studio and our heads, Pink Floyd's spirit comes to take a look when the vocalist is doubled by the chorus of everyone else. Impressive.»

Alain Gauthier

### JAZZMAGAZINE - OCTOBER 2019

«Caroline Sentis opened her voice to modulations similar to trapeze jumps and which gave an exact account of the rustling of sulphurous tongues emanating from these bodies in furnace that had been the poets of the Beat [...].»

Guy Darol

### LES DERNIÈRES NOUVELLES DU JAZZ - JANUARY 2019

«A brilliant confirmation of Alfred Vilayleck's talent as a composer and of the musical and instrumental quality of the members of Grand Ensemble Koa of Montpellier. (...) The quality of the soloists irradiates the improvised spaces, and the collective sense is palpable in the whole course of the CD, track after track.»

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».

After turning to the Beat Generation, the generation of Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg or William Burroughs, where poems and words that sought freedom inspired the «BEAT» album.

Grand Ensemble Koa is currently creating a new project, «Dance of the Unsubmissives», a composition full of freedom and carelessness.



«Dance of the Unsubmissives» is an imaginary dance in which a joyful assembly of uncertain characters rebels against the obligations of our society by dancing and celebrating, enjoying life and present moments.

It is inspired by traditional dances and music of Balkans, with broken and yet melodious rhythms; it is at the same time energetic, powerful, disturbing, full of mystery and filled with poetry. This project mixes actual sounds, electrified jazz, improvised rock, luminous voice and chiseled writing for an atypical sound journey to Balkans.

With this creation, Grand Ensemble Koa proposes jazz free from strict aesthetics, a symbolic dance for freedom of speech.

Grand Ensemble Koa is a mini big band with an explosive and electric character. Carried by the enchanting voice of Caroline Sentis, the group mixes improvisations, contemporary writing and current grooves under the enlightened pen of bassist Alfred Vilayleck.





# DISTRIBUTION



## ● 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.



## ● Arnel Courrée

Arnel 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.



# 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 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 ]

## KEY GIGS

- October 29th to November, 2018 - Creation residency  
Maison du Peuple Theater [Millau - France]
- March 23, 2019 - Master class  
Conservatory of Aveyron [Rodez - France]
- April 18 to 24, 2019 - Creation residency  
Le club [Rodez - France]
- July 19, 2019 - End of the residence  
Millau Jazz Festival [Millau - France]





## 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

ENREGISTREMENT 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]

## SOCIAL NETWORKS

 @gekkoa

 @collectifkoa

 @collectifkoa

 @collectifkoa

## VIDÉOS



## 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  
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Collectif Koa  
contact@collectifkoa.com



## PARTNERS



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