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# Nadja

Bass clarinets Sextet based on the surrealist texts by André Breton



© Bertrand Pichère

Jean-Paul AUTIN (Arfi)

Clément GIBERT (Arfi)

Michel MANDEL (La Forge)

Sylvain NALLET (L'Arbre Canapas)

Samuel CHAGNARD (La Tribu Hérissou)

Emmanuelle SABY (La Tribu Hérissou)

Guillaume GRENARD compositions

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1928, as André Breton describes his meeting with Nadja, he decides not to follow the literary code and especially to exclude all the descriptions from his text. On the other hand, the work includes many photos and drawings. The only thing missing was the music...



We had to find the most surrealistic ensemble, according to the Surrealism movement initiator: 6 bass clarinets with 6 strong characters...

Through his compositions, Guillaume Grenard creates musical illustrations following the André Breton's story. He chooses for the founding father of Surrealism, the most surrealist(ic) of the orchestra: six bass clarinets; and behind those ebony sticks, six strong musical personalities.



Guillaume GRENARD  
composer

Guillaume studied classical music and the jazz. He met Claude Tchamitchian, Henri Texier, Joëlle Léandre, Michel Perez and Sylvain Beuf who have made his aesthetic choices more precise. From 1998 to 2003, he was member of the *Ishtar* Collective and member of its main group *La grande Déformation*.

In 2003 he joined L'arbre Canapas where he mainly composes for some of the groups he plays with and on demand for extra projects. He worked with Gérald Chagnard on an original score (*Délivrance*) for the group *L'éléfanfare* and a streetband formed in September 2007 at the Parc Naturel du Haut Jura. In 2010,

with the *4 font la paire* group, initiated by par Jazz-Ra, he adapts André Breton's novel «Nadja» for bass-clarinets (Clément Gibert, Elodie Pasquier, Jean-Paul Autin, Emmanuelle Saby, Michel Mandel, Sylvain Nallet).

Working and playing with the Arfi collective through *Chant Bien Fatal*, *la Marmite Infernale* he belongs to the l'arbre Canapas' groups as *L'éléfanfare*, *la Table de Mendeleïev*, *L'effet de Foehn* et *TTTW*.

He composed a new score on Goldberg Variations created at the Ambronay Ancient music festival in 2012.

He created the *The black pirate* with Eddy Kowalski et Thibaut Martin in 2015.

Guillaume Grenard performs with ARFI collective: *Chant bien fatal*, *La Marmite Infernale*, *Monsieur Méliès* et *Géo Smile*, *Le Babel Orkestra*, *les Incendiaires*..



Clément GIBERT

Born in 1977. Clarinetist then saxophonist, he founded in 1998 the collective Musique en Friche à Clermont-Ferrand which gathers about ten musicians sharing the same interest for the improvisation, as it is radical or confronted with the composition itself. The collective has since a national reputation following the meetings and the projects.

It is these two notions, writing musical and improvisation, apparently dichotomous, that mark out his researches and its approach, allowing him to mix diverse projects into the live performances (theater, dance). This where he works as composer, incorporating his improviser's tools, for a dynamic and renewed expression.

He performed with Musique en Friche, where he found a great creativity's freedom and many others as L'auvergne Imaginée, Hémisphère, ... and he joined the Arfi Collective in January 2010.



Emmanuelle SABY

She studied classical music, it is in the course of the meetings that she enriches her musical and instrumental universe: Clarinets, flutes, soprano saxophone, guitar, percussion and singing. Her practice goes traditional musics (she is among others passionate about the Argentine music which she discovers with Jean-Michel Cayre, also works with Jacques Mayoud), in the improvised musics (meetings with Arfi, Microphone association, music & Dance performances) or the children's song. Between 2000 in 2005, she accompanies lessons of contemporary dance in the CNSM of Lyon.

Often, she compromises or arranges for the trainings formations in which she plays Môméludies, Thalie and Méléte Publishing: Lost-Found, a record of children's songs - 2008).

She has a DUMI Degree, and leads regularly workshops.

In 2008, she integrates the Tulip brass band, plays with the collective Tribu Hérisson and since 2009 she works with the Cirque Plume in the Workshop of the painter.



Sylvain NALLET

After studying music non-conventionally, he was DEM graduated at ENM Bourg-en-Bresse DUMI graduated at the CFMI Lyon. From 1993 to 2002, he performs with the Ishtar Collective: trio Anorrien & La Grande Déformation. That collective was formed by 20 musicians, dancers, artistes around modern forms. In 2003, he is one of the creators of L'Arbre Canapas Collective.

He now explores the tones of clarinet, developing a wild instrument factory from usual objects dedicated to musical sets, musical theaters and the interactive exhibits *Musiques bruissonnières*.

He performs in the L'Arbre Canapas' Collective ensembles *La Corde à Vent* (duet for children), *L'effet de Foehn* (polyinstrument quartet), *Nadja* (bass clarinets sextet with several musicians from Rhone Alpes county).

Since 2012, he works on three main projects :

*La cour d'École*, a show for young children from La Corde à Vent,

*Les variations sur les variations Goldberg* with L'effet de Foehn and a cinemaconcert around Lionel Rolland's work : *La Fenêtre*.

He founded with Hélène Péronnet in 2015 *Ailleurs inattendu*, singing and playing concert the imaginary travels by the French author Henri Michaux. He is working for young audience a new concert by *La Corde à Vent*.



Michel MANDEL

Michel Mandel followed a classic cursus to the Conservatoire of Grenoble, training courses with Karl Leister and Jacques Di Donato, obtaining a diploma of State of teaching of clarinet. Then he began a career of independent musician, interpreter and composer. Founder of Scherzo with the pianist Hugues of Nolly; trio Arthur with Laurent Bigot and Michel Robert; Musicabrass (street music company and street theater).

He passionately works for dance companies as Maguy Marin (nominated with Volapük to Victoire by the music 1997). Written also original parts for amateur groups: the Harmony of the RATP(Paris), St Priest harmony, Clarinets of Voiron Ensemble.

He founded in 1999 with François Raulin and Pascal Berne the collective Forges: Cartoune, les Chaises Musicales, le Duo Mandel Gerbelot, Novo quartet, Tian Xia/Sous le Ciel, franco-chinese orchestra with the Shanghai Conservatoire, Métamorphoses with Emmanuel Scarpa and the Netherlands collective Trytone, Jardins Extraordinaires... Partner of Matières à réflexions Association with Stern, scenography painter....



## Jean-Paul AUTIN

Born in Dauphiné, he lives near Cluny ( France), he performs with traditional music groups, then turns to the contemporary jazz and the diverse forms of live performance.

At first settled in Grenoble, he teaches the AGEM and creates Amalys (polyglot jazz) with the pianist François Raulin, as well as Musicabrass (street music band) which will give birth in Avant garde Républicaine.

From 84 to 90, he(it) plays in the French-Swiss «SMAC» with Jacques Siron (double-bass), Yuri ( saxophone) and Jacques Veillé (trombone).

From 88 to 94, he performed with Arttrio, show created with Jérôme Thomas, juggler and Carlo Rizzo (tambourines). He also plays contemporary music, in The book of the traditions of Luc Ferrarri and Henri Foures, as well as in song repertoire with Steve Waring Quintette (Olympia 93, 94) et 5 frères dans le puits (compagnie La Carrénaire).

Since 86, he is a member of Arfi (Association in search of an Imaginary Folklore) and performed with in its big-band La marmite infernale, with Potemkine, Tragedy in the Circus(Cirque) and cinéRir' arfi and also in the groups The workshop of Lyon (international tours), the trio Apollo and, more recently with The effect vapor.

### Premiere

Jazz Club de Grenoble \ Grenoble Jazz Festival - november 1st 2010



### Previous concerts

- June 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 L'Arrosoir \ Jazz Club de Chalon-sur-Saône (71)
- February 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 D'Jazz au bistrot St Claude (39)
- October 21<sup>st</sup> 2011 Rhin jazz Festival (42)
- January 26<sup>th</sup> 2011 St Fons Jazz (69)



La beauté sera convulsive  
ou  
ne sera pas.

**Jazz-Rhone-Alpes.com**  
*... l'info du jazz vivant*

vu le mercredi 26 janvier 2011  
 Nadja à St Fons

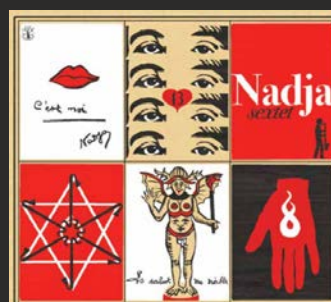


Crée il y a quelques semaines au festival du Jazz Club de Grenoble, facilité par la plateforme régionale Jazz(s)RA, NADJA est une commande faite au compositeur Guillaume Grenard autour de l'œuvre du même nom d'André Breton qui raconte «sans affabulation romanesque» (surréalisme oblige) sa liaison de neuf jours avec une jeune femme. A sa parution en 1928, l'originalité de Nadja était celle d'un texte accompagné de photos et de dessins ; avec la musique de Guillaume Grenard, le récit illustré s'enrichit aujourd'hui d'une bande originale, sorte de musique de film intemporelle, qui emprunte aux musiques contemporaines, traditionnelles et bien sûr au(x) jazz (s), en prenant les accents totalement décomplexés et surréalistes d'un ensemble de six clarinettes basses. Les six musiciens proviennent de différents collectifs régionaux, Jean Paul Autin et Clément Gibert de l'ARFI, Michel Mandel de la Forge, Sylvain Nallet de l'Arbre Canapas, Elodie Pasquier de Imuzzic, et Emmanuelle Saby de la Tribu Hérisson.

La pièce musicale est constitué de douze tableaux qui comme un puzzle ordonné se réfère à une phrase ou à quelques mots interpellants de l'œuvre, énoncés chaque fois par un musicien différent en préalable à la composition musicale. On traverse entre autres (de façon surréaliste) «savoir qui je hante»... ; «l'étreinte de la pieuvre» ; «le corps ensanglanté de l'enfant apparait la tête en bas» ; «je veux toucher la sérénité d'un doigt mouillé de larmes» ; «on est venu il y a quelques mois m'apprendre que Nadja était folle» jusqu'à la dernière phrase de l'œuvre de Breton «la beauté sera convulsive ou ne sera pas». Les thèmes musicaux sont très variés et toutes les combinaisons d'un ensemble de clarinette sont passées en revue (à une, à deux, à trois ...) ainsi que toutes les possibilités sonores de l'instrument, avec bec ou sans, avec souffle ou sans ..., toujours follement virtuose et innatendu. Pas possible de résister, car on se fait balader, bousculer et finalement cueillir avec plaisir, au point de regretter qu'il n'y ait pas un treizième tableau (comme ça juste pour voir si l'effet persisterait !) Une expérience totalement surréaliste et envoûtante.

Gérard Brunel

>>>> next CD release available in Autumn 2015



# L'Arbre Canapas



Formed in 2004, L'Arbre Canapas (Canapas Tree, from Henri Michaux novel *Ailleurs*) is a collective of Jazz musicians creating music, and leading education and community programs together. Our music is a crossover inspired by jazz, world music and new music.

## A musician gathering

Each band develops a unique relationship with music communities. L'éléfanfare is an outdoor orchestra for everyone, which turns streets and common places into surprising concert hall. La Corde à Vent creates performances for young people. It's surprising and creative music blends traditional musical instruments with inventions out of everyday objects (wild lute). L'effet de Foehn offers to everyone, musical enlightened or not, young and adult audiences, a contemporary composition based on musical and visual landscapes. The quartet La Table de Mendeleiev offers adventurous and explosive compositions, shaking up Bunsen burners. Nadja is a bass clarinet sextet performing André Breton's fantasy. TTTW is a new and original re-reading of the Who's compositions by six multi-instrumentalist musicians.

L'Arbre Canapas is an independent association. It provides administrative and public relation support for music creations and broadcastings (concert planning, record production, communication tools...) as well as education and community programs for each project.

L'Arbre Canapas is a Jazz(s)ra member, «platform of action and reflexion» managed by cultural jazz members from the Rhône-Alpes : artists and collectives of artists, education structures, venues and concert hall, production and edition structures.

L'Arbre Canapas is supported by the General Council of Ain, The Regional Council of Rhône-Alpes, the DRAC (Ministry of Culture), the ADAMI and the SPEDIDAM.



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