

An abstract graphic in shades of gray. It depicts a hand, with fingers slightly curled, holding a large, detailed leaf. The leaf has prominent veins and is filled with fine, parallel lines. The background is a light gray, and the overall composition is minimalist and artistic.

VATCHAPUJ

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VATCHAPUJ

First formed in Thailand, Vatchapuj is a musical melting pot that combines the diverse influences of its members' different cultures. Theirs is a music of our times, which is invented moment by moment, but also draws on jazz and the other traditions that its musicians bring to the table. Based between Chiang Mai, Paris and New York, its personnel include saxophonist Pharadon Phonamnui, flutist Vincent Martial, drummer Uriel Barthélemy, upright bassist Travis DiRuzza and guitarist L.J. Bain Chompoowong.

By using their instruments in new and surprising ways, building their own instruments, or coaxing sound from unexpected objects, Vatchapuj creates a musical language that is richly varied, dream-like and above all, extremely generous.

Colored by its different backgrounds, growing through its explorations, and inspired by the places and people it encounters, Vatchapuj seeks to enact and encourage cross-cultural dialogue through music.

Vatchapuj is supported by the "Sonambule" and "Asa Djinnia" associations.



PROJECT

Vatchapuj hopes to share their vibrant and varied music with cultures and other artists around the world.

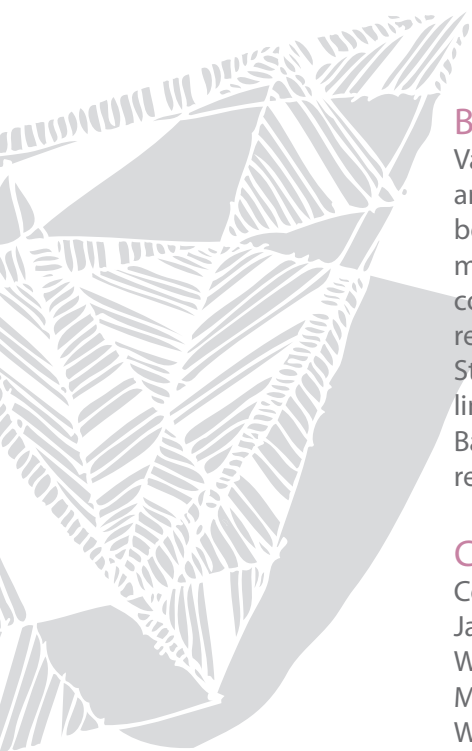
Using a mixture of composition and improvisation, Vatchapuj creates open forms that allow an evolution of their music night to night within consistent compositional structures. Inspired by jazz, rock and experimental music among others, Vatchapuj erases the borders between styles while creating a musical identity that is innovative, perpetually evolving and completely their own. The result is an energetic and refined music that is constantly cutting new paths.

Additionally, Vatchapuj runs workshops in schools that explore the subject of communication through music. Within the framework of improvisation and direction with signals, these workshops examine the power of vibration, rhythm and other musical sound in human expression and understanding.

Inquiring into spaces of communication beyond the language barrier allows the creation of new modes of expression, as well as the ability to switch between them.

Through their cultural and linguistic differences, as well as their singular search for expression through sound, Vatchapuj explores many worlds, which are brought together for a time in the unity of its own.





BACKGROUND

Vatchapuj was formed in 2007 by Pharadon Phonumai (saxophone) and Vincent Martial (flute). Initially performing as a duo, the group began a search for a common musical language that led them through many styles, including jazz, traditional musics, free improvisation and contemporary music. Joined by the drummer Uriel Barthélémi, they recorded their first album in June 2009 in Aubervilliers, France at Studio de la Villa on the Edogm label. The group reached its definitive line-up with the arrival of upright bassist Travis DiRuzza and guitarist Bain Chompoowong. After touring in Nepal and Thailand, the quintet recorded in Pai, Thailand at The Bebop music club in October 2009.

CV/RESUME

Concerts in Chiang Mai: Chiang Mai University, North Gate Jazz Coop, Jazz Gallery...

Workshop in Anusarn School for the Deaf

May/September 2008

Workshop and Recording at Freedom House

May/June 2009

European Tour in Berlin (B-flat music club, Zionkirche Church), Brussels (Dada Bar), and Paris (The Miroiterie, Industry Café, Onze Bar)

Recording of first album in Aubervilliers, France at Studio de la Villa. Planned release in December 2009 on the Edogm label.

September/October 2009

Tour in Nepal for Jazzmandu (Kathmandu Jazz Festival): House of Music, Gokarna Jazz Bazaar, Patan Museum, Shangrila Hotel

Tour in Thailand in Bangkok (Jazz Happens Bar, Rain Dogs), in Chiang Mai (North Gate, Birdsnest, Freedom House, Chiang Mai University), and in Pai (Pai Post, Bebop music club).

Recording of second album at Bebop music club in Pai, planned for release in 2010.



Eric Pailhé

Professional musician, composer and improviser, Pailhé's instrument of choice is the saxophone.

Uncompromising in its inspiration and enamored with freedom of form, cross-genre approaches and multimedia, Pailhé's music makes known its thirst for discovery, the fruits of intercontinental adventures, poetic encounters and wild experimentation.

While living and traveling in the US as well as Europe, Pailhé played and recorded with: singers Equidad Barè and Jessica Constable as well as the Basque singer Béniat Achiary; the musicians Jim Black, Andrew d'Angelo, Andrew Barker, Roy Campbell, Thomas Truax, Howe Gelb, Mark Southerland, the DJ Toshio Kajiware, Denis Badaut, Noël Akchoté, Médéric Collignon, Guillaume Orti, the Friture Moderne fanfare, Massacre privé, Joost Buis, S.E.U, 3 JaZzz Ensemble; and the dancers Lucie Vigouroux, Talal al Muhanna and Eiju Kawasak among others.

Eric has recorded albums with Spontane, Tlön5, We are the Lilies featuring Iggy Pop & Jane Birkin, Tahiti Boy and the Palmtree family, I&Fused and Katcross...

Impassioned by the handing down of musical knowledge, Pailhé runs Jazz, Rock and Improvised Music workshops, as well as teaching saxophone both privately and in music schools.

Also a composer of original scores, Eric wrote music for the following directors' films: Aurélien Réal (2008 Le Grand Souffle Editions «Ca n'arrive pas qu'aux autres») Marcel Czentre (2010 Prudis ou le formalisme de l'audience au conseil des Prud'hommes) Marie Drach (2007 Le Grand Souffle Editions «Traverses»)



Pharadon Phonamnuai

He began his career as a self-taught guitarist, later studying tenor saxophone at Chiang Mai University in Thailand. After working in the jazz idiom for some time, he went to New York where he became interested in more extensively improvised music. Pharadon then went to Japan where he played and recorded with various artists. In 2006, he and Russell Inbach opened the «North Gate Jazz Coop,» which quickly became the center of improvised music in Chiang Mai. Presenting live music every night, he met and played with every imaginable type of musician passing through from around the world. From this base, Pharadon launched or was invited to play with groups such as the Kantoke Jazz Ensemble, the Bohemian Jazz Quintet and the New City Gurus, among others. He also collaborates with individuals such as Eric Pailhe, Maxime Lessens, Sergio Dia, Thomas Kpade, Ralph Thomas and Bain Chompoowong.

Bain «LJ» Chompoowong

L.J. is a guitarist, performer and composer. He was born in Chiang Mai, Thailand. He was first introduced to guitar when he was 10 years old when he was in Nashville, Tennessee. After taking the country-folk influence, it was time to come back home to Thailand. L.J. graduated from Bangkok Christian College and in his senior year also studied at the famous Suprakarn School of Music. He then headed up north to study at the Music department of Payap University with Dr. Thorstan Wolhman in Big Band, Film scoring and with Prof. Peter Vandermoortele in Jazz. After he went to Pitzer College of the Claremont Colleges where he studied with Reed Gratz in 20th Century Jazz Culture and studied with the living legend, Bobby Bradford.

He's active in The Jazz Scene since his Junior year in University (2006). He is co-founder of The Bohemian Jazz Quartet and member of an independent band called «S.S.D.» and his new band «KOBÉ» pronounce «Go-Bay».

Right now, he is mostly active with his new independent band, KOBÉ. The demos will be coming out very soon.



Vincent Martial

After studying flute and percussion at the Charles Munch conservatory in Paris, Vincent Martial went to New York where he became interested in improvised music as well as combining acoustic and electronic music. Upon returning to France he played with numerous musicians including Roger Cazenave, Eric Pailhé, Hélène Breschand, Sergio Dia, Richard Turregano, Tounde Adebimpe, Tahiti Boy, David Aknin and Eiju Kawasaki, among others.

Composer and performer, Vincent divides his time equally between different companies such as "le théâtre de l'estrade" (live instrumental performance) "Naforo-Ba" (composition) and "succursale 101" (soundtracks and composition).

From 2001 to 2007 he worked at the medical-professional institute «Faites des Couleurs» (word-play meaning both «Make Colors» and «Festival of Colors») where his research was directed toward sound and music communication as well as developing sonic structure modules.

Uriel Barthélémi

Cofounder of the Asa Djinnia association, Uriel Barthélémi is a drummer and an electro-acoustic musician. He studied drums and electro-acoustics at the national conservatories of Reims, La Courneuve and Montreuil, and during workshops at IRCAM.

Since 2002 he has composed music for the Puppet theater companies "Pseudonymo", "Ka", "pUnChiSnOtdeAd" & "La Strada", and also for the dance and multimedia companies "Mobilis-immobilis // Mafloré Passedouet" & "Anouchka Vallon / Veronica Vallecillo". Additionally he is working with the video-artists Cécile Béthéem and Elise Boual.

Working regularly with the Puce Muse Studios as a musician and/or multimedia artist, Uriel is the co-creator of shows like "sonnerie pour sirènes, 40 souffleurs et un méta-instrument" with Serge De Laubier.

Intimately combining drums and electronics, a flexible composing style and improvisation, he's currently associated composer to the "company Soundtrack" and collaborates with numerous musicians such as Hélène Breschand, Arnaud Cuisinier, Joelle Khoury, Tarek Atoui and Travis DiRuzza, among others.

"Percussionist-synth man Uriel Barthélémi does a convincing impersonation of an amphetamine-revved Buddy Rich" (Jim Quilty – Daily Star)



Travis DiRuzza

Dissatisfied with the size of his violin, Travis DiRuzza began playing the upright bass at the age of 12. He received his bachelor's degree from Columbia University in New York City where he studied music composition with spectral music composer Tristan Murail, as well as John McGuire, one time student of Penderecki and Stockhausen. Travis played jazz, klezmer and world music in New York until 2005, working in diverse venues such as the Knitting Factory, Carnegie Hall and Satalla World Music Club. He also traveled abroad to record albums with foreign musicians such as "spontaneous actions" with jazz guitarist Carsten Radtke in Germany and "Without a Country: Songs of Stateless Peoples" with singer Maria Krupoves in Lithuania. Travis moved to Paris in 2005 to continue his musical pursuits, such as performing and composing for the touring production of Mille et une Nuits: an adaptation of "A Thousand and One Nights" by the Pseudonymo marionette company. He also continued to perform and record abroad, such as in Romania with native-born singer Maria Raducanu for the 2006 summer music festival; and in residence at Steim (electro-acoustic music research center) in Amsterdam, recording in trio with Diaspo Rama. Currently he is the resident doublebassist at the North Gate Jazz Coop in Chiang Mai and continues his musical explorations around the world.



Sonambule

Created in 2006 by Max Hoton and Vincent Martial, the Sonambule Association directs its research toward various issues of sound communication and building its own «instrumentarium,» which extends from acoustic instruments to robotic machines. Whether giving workshops with their mobile sonic structures or creating installations, Sonambule supports both musicians exploring improvisation, as well as new and creative approaches to existing or not-yet-existing instruments.

Some of Sonambule's past projects include:

2006

"The Wagon": Sonic structure on wheels paraded through Paris, in collaboration with the Medical-Professional Institute "Faites des Couleurs".
Artistic direction of the "Festival de l'Arc en Cielage", in partnership with the "Arcencieleurs".
"Spiders": Sound installation in the trees of parks in Paris.

2007

Installation in the "JM Arts" gallery in Paris with youths from L'IMPRO "Faites des Couleurs".
Creation and construction of an electronic floor pad with sensors, in collaboration with "Asa Djinnia".

2008

Musical composition for the theatre piece "Ailes" with the "Naforo Ba" company.
Installation and live performance for the theatre piece "Gengis Khan" with "Le Théâtre de L'Estrade".

2009

Musical composition for Claudette Michard and Petit Bleu with "Succursale 101" company.

Currently Sonambule is working on an installation/concert project, "Five Machines, Two Musicians", using robotic musical instruments paired with live performers.

Asa Djinnia



Asa Djinnia was founded in 2004 by two musician-composers and performers, Tarek Atoui and Uriel Barthélémi, with the aim of spreading their music, which remains linked to electronics and new technologies, in the concert format and also in the context of collaborations with other artists and companies... Asa Djinnia is thus either at the source of, or participant in, numerous projects such as performances/shows combining music and dance, and/or video, in the theatre or marionnette field. Amongst the structures and companies with whom members of Asa have worked with are the following:

-Danse companies Anouchka Vallon/Veronica Vallecillo, cie Mobilis Immobilis, puppet-theater companies Pseudonymo, cie KA, cie pUnChiSnOtdeAd, the Puce Muse studios, STEIM, Staalplatrecords, Bip-hoprecords, the directors David Zard & Amélie Labourdette, Ashkal Alwan, E.C.F. (European Cultural Foundation), Theater Adhoc, Diego Gill (...)

Some musical collaborations : Serge De Laubier, Mié Ogura, Marc Piéra, Jonas Muel, Joelle Khoury, Charbel Haber, Arnaud Cuisinier, Alex Stuart, Chimère, Médéric Collignon, Viviane Ginapé, Paco el Lobo, Ayankoko, Raed Yassin, Mazen Kerbaj, Maria Raducanu, Takuro Mizuta, Nicolas Cante, Patricia Dallio (...)



Asa Djinnia

Collaborations dans le spectacle vivant et productions

2003 Tchitshai Trio Asa Djinnia	2005 Sonnerie pour 40 souffleurs studios Puce Muse Marie des grenouilles cie KA Citée Rêvée studio Puce Muse	2006 Alb'atroz I , du goudron sur nos ailes de géant cie Anouchka Vallon Outfocus cie Mobilis Immobilis Smart Digits Asa Djinnia	2007 Les Mille et une Nuits cie Pseudonymo Sans aucun faux pli cie Mezzencoprs La part invisible cie Pseudonymo Nuit cie Pseudonymo	2008 Alb'atroz II , le temps de la chute cie Anouchka Vallon La Tricoteuse de Terre Cécile Béthléem Le petit chaperon UF cie Punchisnotdead Sortilèges cie Pseudonymo Huygens Suite Theater adhoc Projet Lap-bop Asa Djinnia & Joelle Khoury
2004 Le Golem cie Pseudonymo Narval cie Mobilis-immobilis Ohneszene Corps Sonore Infini Asa Djinnia & Cie Pseudonymo Le Concert Interactif studios Puce Muse le Désaveux avec les réalisateurs David Zard et Amélie Labourdette	L'Antichambre Asa Djinnia & avec David Zard et Amélie Labourdette 2005-2008 Empty Cans Asa Djinnia Diaspo Rama Asa Djinnia			2008-2009 About Falling Diego Gil /Igor Dobricic La vie Burale cie KA Imomushi Cie Pseudonymo Un-drum/stratégies of surviving noise Asa djinnia

Vatchapuj ----- technical rider :

Required equipment :

- > Microphones & microphones stands :
 - 1 Flute mic type DPA 4041 or SHURE beta 58
 - 1 saxophone mic
 - 1 complete mics kit for drums : - 2 «overhead» type neuman KM184 or AKG C451 or C414 // 1 shure beta-91 (bassdrum) // 2 mics for toms // 1 for snare // 1 for hi-hat (type akg SE300B)
 - 1 small boom mic stand (for the bass drum)
 - mic stands with boom (1 for flute, 1 for sax, and for the drums)
- > 1 drum set including :
All skins over and under white coated skins (Remo ambassador, Evans G1 coated) (bass drum included).
 - : 1 bass drum 18" or 20"
 - : 1 Tom 10" or 12"
 - : 1 floor tom 14" or 16"
 - : 1 hi-hat stand + Tilter
 - : 1 bass drum pedal (type DW7000, DW5000)
 - : 1 snare drum stand
 - : 3 cymbals boom stands (type Dixon 709 Cymbal Boom Stand)
 - : 1 drum stool
 - : 1 black Carpe dimension minimum: 2 meters x 2 meters
- > Amps :
 - 1 Fender guitar amp « Jazz King » or Roland JC 120
 - 1 Ampeg bass amp type micro VR, or SVT 810
- > Stage speakers :
 - 1 speaker by musician

sound material and instruments brought by the band :

- 1 double bass
- saxophones
- 1 snare drum / cymbals
- effects pedals for the double bass and guitar
- 1 flute microphone with preamp (ref : SDsystems lcm 70)
- 1 guitar
- Flutes, reeds
- 1 preamp for the double bass

For any technical question please contact Uriel Barthélémi :
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