

Muzzix



Radiolarians

by Michael Pisaro

Le Grand orchestre de Muzzix

Concert - Created on December 8th, 2021

Production : Muzzix in collaboration with M. Pisaro

Co-production : Le Vivat, scène conventionnée

d'intérêt national pour l'art et la création

d'Armentières (France)

Suitable for all from the age of 6 years old

Duration : 1h minimum

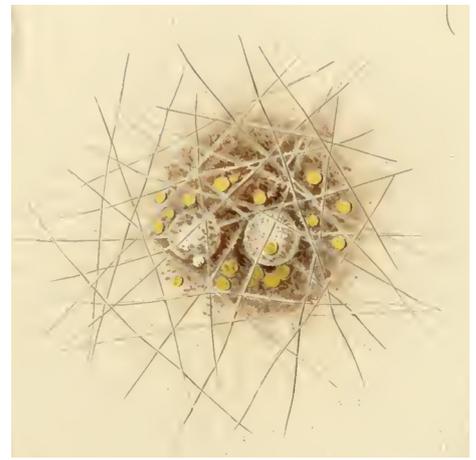
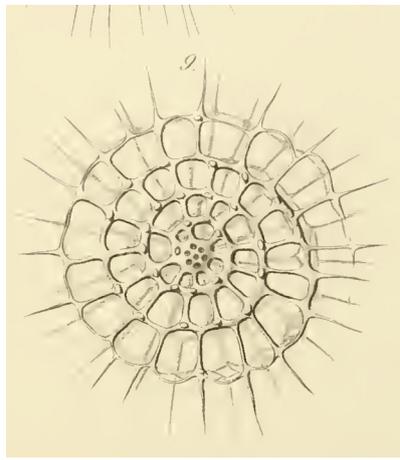
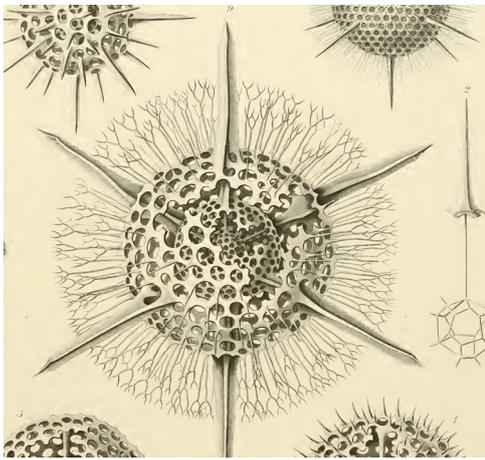
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ARTISTIC TEAM

Christian Pruvost Artistic direction, in charge of workshops with the amateurs

Le Grand Orchestre de Muzzix (30 musicians) :
Sakina Abdou (saxophone), Audrey George (flutes), Sébastien Beaumont (guitar), Samuel Carpentier (trombone), Claude Colpaert (trombone, gangsa), Ivann Cruz (guitar), Barbara Dang (keyboard), Xuân Mai Dang (flutes), Vincent Debaets (saxophones), Raphaël Godeau (guitar), Martin Granger (keyboard), Patrick Guionnet (voice, objects), Christophe Hache (double bass), Martin Hackett (melodica), Matthieu Lebrun (bass clarinet), Philippe Lenglet (guitar), Fred Loisel (guitar, percussions), Nicolas Mahieux (double bass), Claire Marchal (flute), Yanik Miossec (electronic), Maxime Morel (tuba), Rosa Parlato (flutes), Peter Orins (drums), Stefan Orins (piano), Christian Pruvost (trumpet), Maryline Pruvost (flutes), Antoine Rousseau (bass), Jean-Baptiste Rubin (saxophone), Anne Sortino (violin), Valentin Wetzel (viola)

Claire Lorthioir Lights

Sébastien Leman Video creation

CALENDAR

Premiere December 8th, 2021 | Le Vivat

Creation residency December 6>8, 2021 | Le Vivat

Distribution Available from January 2022

ALBUM RELEASE

Album release in spring 2022 (recording realized in July 2019 at La rose des vents - Scène nationale Lille Métropole Villeneuve d'Ascq under the artistic direction of Michael Pisaro)

DISCOVER

The project <http://muzzix.info/Radiolarians-de-Michael-Pisaro>

Sound extracts <http://bit.ly/RadiolariansSon>

PARTNERS

Production Muzzix

Co-production Le Vivat, scène conventionnée d'intérêt national pour l'art et la création d'Armentières

Financial supports With the financial support of the Région Hauts-de-France.

Radiolarians - Michael Pisaro has been made possible through Jazz & New Music, a program of Villa Albertine and FACE Foundation, in partnership with the French Embassy in the United States with support from the French Ministry of Culture, Institut français, SACEM (Société des auteurs, compositeurs et éditeurs de musique) and the CNM (Centre National de la Musique).

Partners In partnership with the ESMD - École Supérieure Musique et Danse Hauts-de-France - Lille.

WELCOMING CONDITIONS

Duration 1h minimum - No maximum duration

Audience Suitable for all from the age of 6 years old

Artistic team on tour Around 32 people

Set dimensions Around 300m²

Financial and technical conditions on request

IN A FEW WORDS

RADIOLARIANS BY MICHAEL PISARO

A piece composed in 2018 for the Grand Orchestre de Muzzix

After many collaboration with the french collective Muzzix, Michael Pisaro composed in 2018 the piece *Radiolarians* for the Grand Orchestre de Muzzix - a large ensemble of around 30 musicians.

Silence, ecology, noise and micro-tonalities are constituent elements of the pieces of the American composer. He draws its inspiration from our world

in order to create « artificial environments » inside its pieces. This piece *Radiolarians* is inspired by primordial zooplankton: radiolarians. The score gives birth to these witnesses of the first lives on Earth, that move into the piece in an aquatic universe..

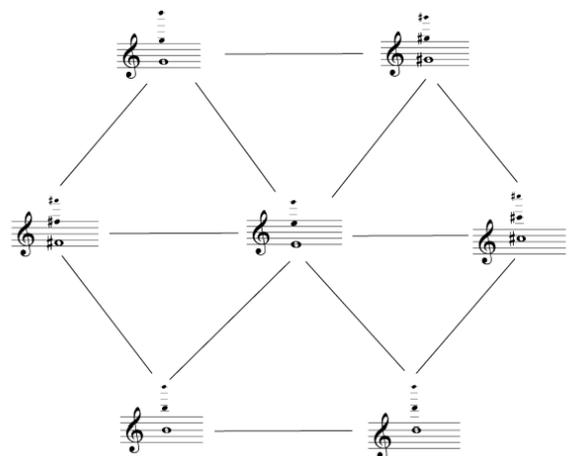
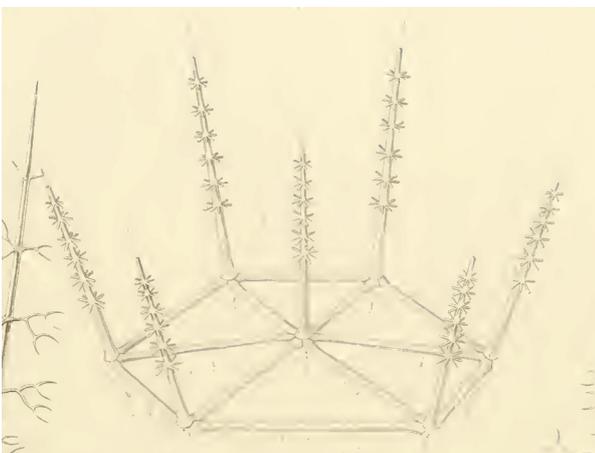
AN UNCOMMON WRITING PROCESS

The transcription of radiolarians drawings under scores

Radiolarians consists of transcriptions of some of the creatures drawn in Ernst Haeckel's book, *Die Radiolarien* from 1862. Fascinated by their forms and mineral skeletons, Michael Pisaro has created scores from 14 of Haeckel's representations. The choice of pitches, harmonies, melodic patterns and noise elements are determined by the skeleton forms of these 14 organisms. Each one becomes an independent musical entity made up of various rhythmic and melodic patterns.

Michael Pisaro has imagined these radiolarians as living beings floating in the primordial sea, which is conceived as a key component of the piece. Noise elements symbolize the water throughout the entire work, while the radiolarians appear and disappear, sometimes moving alone, sometimes simultaneously.

This uncommon writing process creates an infinite potential of orchestration, depending on the choices of the artistic direction. The interpretation of the piece is really determined by the score, but the piece organization remains free: the number of performers, the arrangement of each part of the piece, the selection of the radiolarians that will be performed and in which order, and even the instrumentarium can evolve.



*The Aulosphaera radiolarian drawn by E. Haeckel
and transcribed into score by M. Pisaro*

AN IMMERSIVE CONCERT

The Grand Orchestre de Muzzix chooses a large orchestra to perform the piece

Radiolarians was interpreted for the first time by the Grand Orchestre de Muzzix in July 2018 at la malterie (Lille, France) in the presence of the composer. During this concert, the 26 musicians were placed in front of the audience. It is that first performance and its limits of interpretation that made Muzzix and Michael Pisaro want to imagine a new orchestration of the piece for a larger orchestra. Their aim was to transform the concert into an immersive experience for the audience.

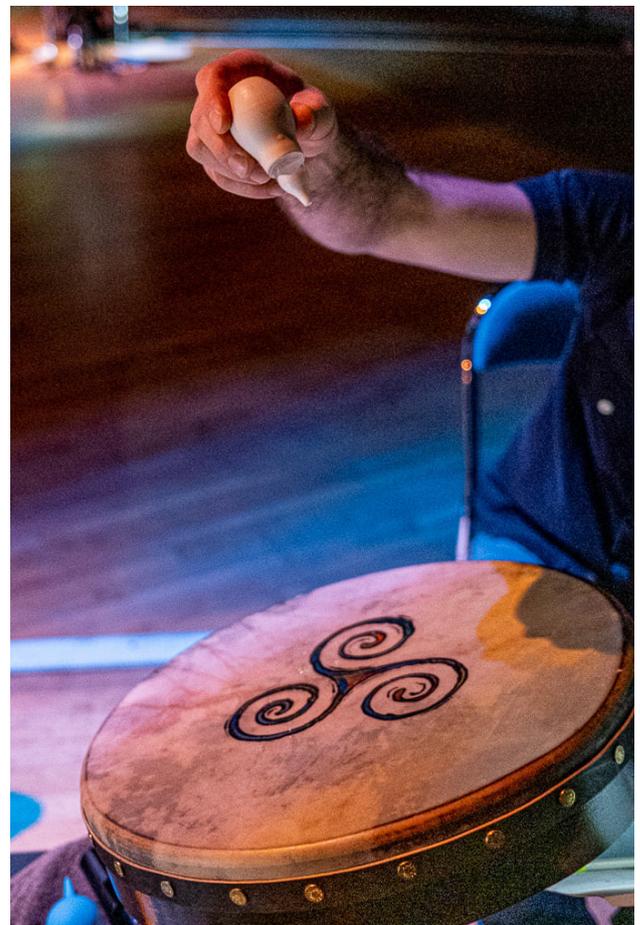
In 2021, Muzzix will perform for the first time a new version of the piece with a 50 musicians orchestra. This will allow the orchestra to split up on the set and allow the audience to move into the different rows of the orchestra. This will give the piece its full meaning and enable an active listening of the audience. Moreover, only working on this scale will allow the ensemble to perform the 14 radiolarians of the score.

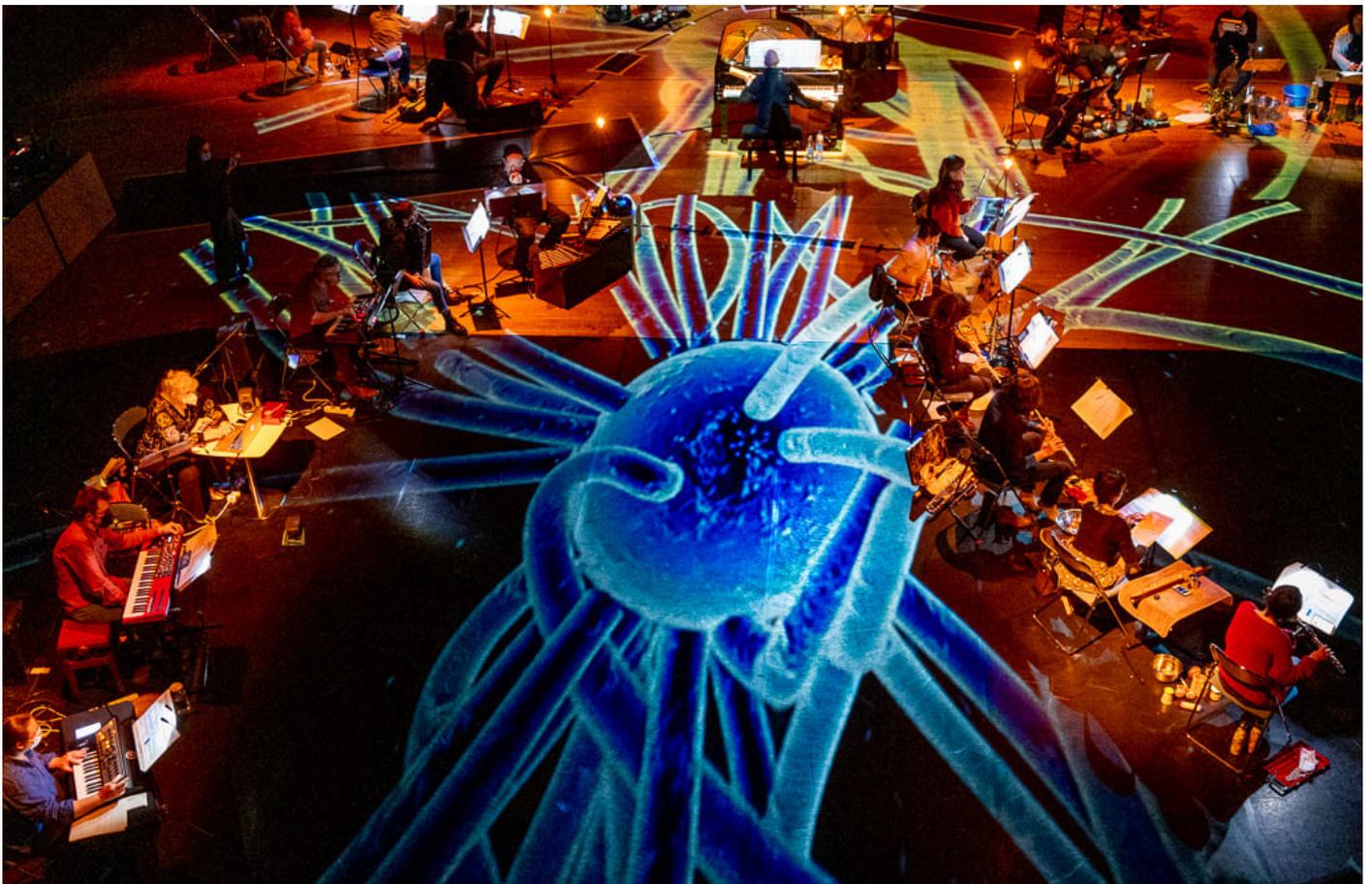
THE CREATION OF A PARTICIPATIVE ORCHESTRA

An orchestra involving musicians of the Grand Orchestre de Muzzix and amateurs from the territory

In order to complete the orchestra with 20 more musicians, the Grand Orchestre de Muzzix invites volunteers from local associations and structures (with or without an instrument practice) and amateur musicians of the area to join the orchestra.

This experience should allow them to immerse themselves into the musical universe of Michael Pisaro by questioning the instrument practice, to approach a singular shape of musical writing through the search of sound material, and to be aware of their place inside an ensemble that creates a sound environment in a performative dimension.





ARTISTIC TEAM

COMPOSITION - MICHAEL PISARO



Michael Pisaro was born in Buffalo in 1961. He is a composer and guitarist, a member of the Wandelweiser Composers Ensemble and founder and director of the Experimental Music Workshop at the California Institute of the Arts near Los Angeles.

His work is frequently performed in the U.S. and in Europe, in music festivals and in many smaller venues. Concert length portraits of his music have been given in Munich, Jerusalem, Los Angeles, Vienna, Merano (Italy), Brussels, New York, Curitiba (Brazil), Amsterdam, London, Tokyo, Austin, Berlin, Chicago, Düsseldorf, Zürich, Cologne, Aarau (Switzerland)...

He has been selected twice by the ISCM jury for performance at World Music Days festivals (Copenhagen, 1996; Manchester, 1998) and has also been part of festivals in Hong Kong (ICMC, 1998), Vienna (Wien Modern, 1997), Aspen (1991), London (Cutting Edge, 2007), Glasgow (INSTAL 2009), Huddersfield (2009), Chicago (New Music Chicago, 1990, 1991) and elsewhere.

He has had extended composer residencies in Germany (Künstlerhof Schreyahn, Dortmund University), Switzerland (Forumclaque/Baden), Israel (Misknot Sha'ananim), Greece (EarTalk) and in the U.S. (Birch Creek Music Festival, Wisconsin).

Several CDs of his work have been released by such labels as Edition Wandelweiser Records, Compost and Height, Confront, Another Timbre, Cathnor or Nine Winds. His translation of poetry by Oswald Egger ("*Room of Rumor*") was published in 2004 by Green Integer.

He has performed many of his own works and those of close associates: Antoine Beuger, Kunsu Shim, Jürg Frey and Manfred Werder, and works from the experimental tradition, especially John Cage, Christian Wolff, James Tenney and George Brecht.

ARTISTIC DIRECTION - CHRISTIAN PRUVOST



Generous, insatiable and prolific musician, Christian Pruvost has spent many years engaging in collaborations in the areas of contemporary music, jazz, improvisational music and live performance.

As a soloist, he explores the entire range of the trumpet, from the softest breaths to the most vibrant bursts of sound. With a performance that is 100% acoustic, he develops his sonic monolog peacefully and deliberately, aided by a few objects that lend a wealth of additional tonalities. The originality of his artistic process has led to solo performances in France as well as internationally.

In the Muzzix collective, he can be seen in the company of Satoko Fujii, Natsuki Tamura and Peter Orins in the fabulous Franco-Japanese quartet Kaze. In 2015, an extension of the quartet was created with the pianist Sophie Agnel and the percussionist Didier Lasserre (Trouble Kaze, album June, 2017). He is also a member of the wind quartet WABLA (We Are Bodies Listening in Action) created in 2012 with Thierry Madiot, Yanik Miossec and David Bausseron. He is also a member of the contemporary musical ensemble Dedalus, associate ensemble of the GMEA, Centre National de Création Musicale Albi-Tarn. The ensemble's repertoire is based on scores for open instrumentation originating from the contemporary North American and European experimental music from the 1960's to the present.

He has been the Artistic Director of the Grand Orchestre de Muzzix since 2013.

LE GRAND ORCHESTRE DE MUZZIX

Muzzix is a collective of around thirty musicians based in Lille, active since the late 1990's. Its musical universe spans from jazz to experimental and improvised music, in varied forms that range from solos to large orchestras, from concerts to sound installations and performances.

Muzzix's overall activity revolves around artistic creations emanating from the collective, exploring contemporary music and sonic languages while focusing on experimentation. Today, there are over thirty projects annually that express the lively creativity of collective musicians, produced in France and internationally, especially into Europe, Asia, and North America.

In 2013, the musicians officially inaugurated this large orchestra of variable scale, which can feature up to around thirty performers, and in which nearly anything is allowed. The Grand Orchestre de Muzzix focuses on large ensemble musical creation, open or structured improvisation, and on a contemporary repertoire, and invites international composers to collaborate on the interpretation of existing pieces or to compose especially for the Orchestra.

Artistic direction of the orchestra has been entrusted to Christian Pruvost, but the project is above all collective, which means that musical direction may vary according to the pieces performed.

Pieces undertaken by the Grand Orchestre de Muzzix:

2021 | Le Vivat in Armentières (59) : creation of *Le Cercle* // Muzzix under the artistic direction of Camel Zekri with musicians from the Grand Orchestre de Muzzix and the Diwan de Biskra (Algeria).

2018 | La malterie in Lille : first version of *Radiolarians* by Michael Pisaro, and recording of *Helligkeit, die Tiefe hatte, nicht keine Fläche* by Michael Pisaro

2017 | Collaboration with James Saunders at La malterie, Lille (59): *Things to do, All voices are heard, laughter studes, Constant interchange of the most various kind*
La malterie à Lille (59) : *Helligkeit, die Tiefe hatte, nicht keine Fläche* by Michael Pisaro

2016 | La rose des vents in Villeneuve d'Ascq (59) : *In motion* by Philip Glass with the Dedalus ensemble

2015 | La rose des vents in Villeneuve d'Ascq (59) : *Les vaches de Narayana* by (and in the presence of) Tom Johnson, *XXX* by Christian Pruvost, *Fukushima* de Satoko Fujii, a piece especially written by Anthony Pateras, *L'acheminement vers les voies tranquilles* by Falter Bramnk

2014 | Gare Saint Sauveur in Lille (59) : *Fukushima* de Satoko Fujii

2013 | Espace culture de Lille 1 in Villeneuve d'Ascq (59) : *Les vaches de Narayana* by Tom Johnson, *Les moutons de Panurge* by Frederic Rzewski, *5 Moondog Madrigals* with the Dedalus Ensemble.





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Le Grand Orchestre de Muzzix**

Created on December 8th, 2021

Credits

Le Grand Orchestre de Muzzix / Rehearsal at Le Vivat © Gérard Rouy
Radiolarians (p. 4) © *Die Radiolarien* de Ernst Haeckel
Michael Pisaro (p. 7) © DR
Christian Pruvost (p. 7) © Muzzix

MUZZIX



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