

Centre aéré

Frédéric L'Homme Solo



Concert
Available for programming
Production: Muzzix
Duration: 45 minutes

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DISTRIBUTION

Frédéric L'Homme

Drums, quadraphonic setup

CREDITS

Production Muzzix (59)

Support Le Grand Mix | Les 4Ecluses | This project is supported by La Malterie (Lille) for the 2023-2024 season, as part of the "Résidence Tremplin" program, backed by the Hauts-de-France Regional Affairs Directorate.

LINKS

Project page <https://muzzix.info/centreaere>

Video clip https://youtu.be/uUecuB4r_4s

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

Available for programming now

Work Residencies

June 3-5, 2024 | 4Ecluses, Dunkerque (59)

March 18-22, 2024 | Le Grand Mix, Tourcoing (59)

October 24-28 2023 | La Malterie, Lille (59)

RECEPTION CONDITIONS

Duration 45 minutes

Touring team 1 person

Financial and technical conditions available upon request

CENTRE AÉRÉ

A drummer, a drum kit, microphones, electrical impulses. Solos amplified with quadrasonic effects that use the sonic texture and harmonics of the acoustic instrument as raw material, eventually creating hypnotic rhythmic and sonic landscapes. Sometimes, these even verge on melody.

With this solo project, Frédéric L'Homme pushes the sonic boundaries of the drums: moving beyond its traditional role as a rhythmic accompaniment, he stretches the instrument to its limits, creating new sonic textures and even melodies. An electronic setup allows him to manipulate the drum sounds captured by microphones, generating harmonics broadcast through 4 speakers placed in the corners of the room. The drum thus becomes the total orchestra of a sonic experience, immersing the audience in a field of sound, encouraging them to move freely in the space.



STATEMENT OF INTENT

In 2014, during his participation in the Incubate Festival in Tilburg, Netherlands, Frédéric L'Homme was invited to perform in a drum composition written by Kid Millions, Oneida's drummer. Kid's experimental approach to the instrument immediately inspired Frédéric to explore conceptual ideas that he wanted to realize in a drum trio. Although the collaborative aspect of this project didn't come to fruition, the idea of developing it solo with the help of digital tools remained. This project finally took shape during a residency at Le Grand Mix, supported by Muzzix.

Frédéric has always approached drumming and percussion organically, and this solo performance seeks to explore the limits of the instrument using playing techniques and simple electronic effects. His goal is to push the drums beyond their traditional rhythmic role by creating textures that add other sonic dimensions—melodic and harmonic ones. His ambition is to push the instrument to its limits, turning the drums into the complete orchestra of a unique sonic experience for the audience.



At the heart of this musical project lies the synergy between an acoustic instrument and a sound system that retransmits the sound to the audience. The work around the instrument's harmonics is done through the use of various effects applied to essential elements of the drum kit, which are then broadcast through 4 speakers positioned in the corners of the space, creating a quadrasonic setup. Within this immersive sound field, the listener is free to move around, experiencing the sound in its entirety.

Several influences converge in this project, with one of the most foundational being *Man Forever* by Kid Millions, and his compositions for drums and percussion, which engage with the inherent acoustic properties of the instrument as well as the space in which they are performed. The broader influence of improvised music is also evident, such as the various projects within Muzzix that he has been a part of, or come into contact with. Notably, projects like "La Pieuvre," which are experimental pieces based on sound concepts and sound painting, and *Radiolarians* by Michael Pisaro-Liu, performed by Le Grand Orchestre de Muzzix, which has helped him explore sound spatialization, a key element in this project.

This solo was introduced to the audience in a test concert programmed by Muzzix on April 3, 2023. Since then, it has been further developed in collaboration with Antoine Rousseau, a musician and designer of interactive installations, who assisted with the creation of the custom software that perfectly meets Frédéric's musical and sonic expectations.

FRÉDÉRIC L'HOMME



A trained drummer, Frédéric L'Homme began playing drums at the age of 17, first as a self-taught musician before quickly joining the ADRIEM Regional Drum School led by Adrien Zampieri. He continued his studies in jazz at the music academy Conservatoire de Tourcoing, where he was exposed to professors who significantly broadened his musical palette. It was here that he discovered free improvisation for the first time, under the guidance of Jérémie Ternoy.

In parallel, he played in a variety of musical groups, spanning a wide range of styles—from jazz to math-rock, pop, and improvised music. His eclectic playing can be heard on numerous recordings from Lille-based bands, with whom he has performed extensively.

Nevertheless, his approach to the instrument goes beyond stylistic boundaries, exploring the essence and form of music, which he views as a profoundly organic practice. It is in this spirit that he has been developing his first solo project since 2023.

THE MUZZIX COLLECTIVE

Muzzix is a collective of about thirty musicians based in Lille, which has been thriving for over twenty years. Its musical universe spans from jazz to experimental and improvised music, in various formats ranging from solo performances to large orchestras, sound installations, and performance art.

Muzzix's overall activity revolves around artistic creations emerging from the collective, which explore contemporary musical and sonic languages with an emphasis on experimentation. Every year, more than thirty projects showcase the vitality and creativity of the collective's musicians, who perform across the Hauts-de-France region, throughout France, and internationally, notably in Europe, Asia, and North America.

Muzzix also engages in programming, closely connected to the projects of the collective, in various venues around the Lille metropolitan area. Each quarter, they organize the Muzzix & Associés series, allowing them to host French and international touring artists, experiment with new musical configurations, and develop partnerships with cultural institutions in the region. Additionally, the collective runs outreach activities through concerts in collaboration with local organizations, and workshops for schools, professionals, and amateurs.

Some collaborations of the collective in France and abroad include : Ensemble Dedalus (Montpellier), Coax Collective (Paris), the transatlantic network The Bridge, Alternativa Festival (Prague, Czech Republic), Avant Art & AirWro (Wroclaw, Poland), E-IMP LTD Association (Katowice, Poland), Impakt Collective (Cologne, Germany), Tour de Bras (a collective and label in Rimouski, Quebec), and Citadelic (Ghent, Belgium).

Centre Aéré
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Photo Credits

Residency at Le Grand Mix - March 2024 © Laëtitia Galita

