# WE ARE!

Concert for 10 musicians and 3 dancers - New creation by the Red Line Crossers band -



### PROJECT NOTE

Creation 2022

After their first show, a homage to the culture of New Orleans and the Second Lines, and 5 years of exhilarating, frenzied and irresistible participatory and ambulatory performances, including over a hundred shows across France and Europe, the Red Line Crossers have decided to write a new chapter in 2021.



Experiencing New Orleans and in particular the culture of the city's Second Lines\* left an indelible mark on the dancers and musicians and continues to be a source of inspiration. Drawing on the experience of having passed on part of the traditional musical repertoire of New Orleans to share it many thousands of miles away by inviting the public to dance in the streets, they have come up with a new performance based on **original material**.

\*In New Orleans, brass bands traditionally march to the rhythm of lively, irresistible jazz, which blends African, Caribbean and European influences. These parades are accompanied by dancers who march in front of the procession of musicians: the 'First Line', followed by an audience that follows the artists, dancing: **the 'Second Line'.** 

The majority of WE ARE! is made up of original musical compositions created for the show, as well as new choreography designed specifically for the stage. The artists of Red Line Crossers are incessant travellers, eager to learn, curious and happy to perform\*\*. They are determined to recreate the cultural melting pot, the incredible mix of cultures and histories of this Louisiana town, while adapting it to their own style and to a fixed, defined stage space.



Our intention is to show even more of the choreography created by the dancers of the Red Line Crossers.

For the dancers, this meant a trip to New Orleans\* in March 2020 and artistic exchange residencies with 'Buckjumpers\*\*' from local Second Lines. These exchanges have helped to create a new choreographic language, as well as other approaches to dance, in its relationship to music, the audience and the space. It is a unique and exciting experience.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The artists in the group have made one or more learning trips to New Orleans to work with the city's leading artists, and the choreographer has made two month-long trips to New Orleans to conduct research, collect dance and sound, and engage in artistic exchanges.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Behind this word, there are movements, which carry within them the memory of slaves whose feet were chained...

Reinvention is the very foundation of jazz. There is no doubt that the encounters with the city itself, experienced by most of the artists in the group, have profoundly marked and modified their artistic identities. The people and their cultures, the strength of memory and tradition, the functions and relationships of dance and music - all these ingredients come together in Second Line. It's passionate, and the procession takes over the urban space, changing its face as it goes.

And that is what this new creation is all about. Through music, dance ,the choice of costumes and the way they relate to each other.



We wanted to create a breathtaking show for all ages, to be heard and seen at any time of the day or night! 'To positively "infect" the audience to the point of wanting more, to the point of dancing, meeting each other, letting themselves be swept along, and ultimately sweeping us along too! The team's aim is to continue to be humble ambassadors of NOLA culture in Europe, but in their own way, with their own energy, identity and uniqueness. This new creation is intended to be festive, spectacular, enchanting and original. A shot of happiness and hope.

DANCERS



#### MARIE HOUDIN

Marie started out as a funkstyle dancer (locking, electric boogaloo). She joined Engrenage[s] in Rennes in 2004. After choreographing and co-choreographing a dozen shows in various formats, she created 'The Unexpected Dance' in 2014. It's an artistic and research project based around a heritage of dances from the African and Native American diasporas. Her approach revolves around the restorative, unifying and constructive value of dance in its social dimension. In particular, she is developing giant invitations to dance in public and non-dedicated spaces. Since 2018, she has been travelling to Senegal, Cuba and New Orleans to meet dancers and collect dance stories.

These journeys feed into a digital video and sound project, as well as international artistic exchanges, such as a project realised in 2021: 'New Orleans Fever'.

#### Main shows, projects and invitations to dance created or co-created since 2015:

'New Orleans Fever', the "Tout- Monde" Ball, "Unexpected", "Get Down", "Groove Nation", "Giant Soul Train", "Red Line Crossers - Tribute to the Second Line".

Coming soon (2022): 'We Are' with Red Line Crossers and 'Caillou'.

#### **VIRGINIE SAVARY**

BGirling and dancehall specialist, she trained with the best Jamaican dancers (Black Eagles, Xclusiv, Overload Skankaz). She has found her own personal hybrid style, mixing breakdance, dancehall and afrohouse. Increasingly renowned in France and among Jamaican dancers, she can be seen on videos with Badgyal Cassie or Oshane Overlaad Skankaz, in popular dance classes and in Engrenage[s] projects ('Red Line Crossers').



DANCERS



#### **BBOY CAMBO**

(Chonbura 'Cambo' Houth)

On his own, in the street, accompanied by his friends and cousins, all from the Khmer community... Cambo has been developing his style and his dance through video clips and films. Specialising in 'breaking' or 'bboying', he asserts himself with an original style of his own.

He forged his personality by following the influence of french bboys like Remind and Thias. He met virtuoso dancers such as CRUMBS, STORM and MOHAMMED from the famous group VAGABOND on various training courses. Now a well-known figure on the Breton and French dance scenes, Cambo continues to learn and to perform on theatres with companies such as Engrenages, S'poart or

Groove control, as well as on the floors of battles like BOTY France, MAYA BATTLE Russia, SOUL EXPRESSION Germany, and many others. Through his teaching, Cambo emphasises the fundamentals of break and his way of taming the music with fluidity and lightness.

**MUSICIANS** 



#### FRANCK BEELE - Trumpet

Franck began playing the trumpet at age 4 with his grandfather in a family musical association.

He entered the Armentières music school at the age of 6, in Patrick Lempierre's class, and continued his studies at the CNR in Lille in Jean Delangre's class, where he won a gold medal in 2003.

He continued his trumpet studies in Laurent Bourdon's class, in the Yvelines, and at the same time began jazz in Jean François Canape's class. In 2008, he entered the Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles to study jazz with Michel Paré, Jean Louis Rassinfosse, Phil Abraham, Fabrice Alleman and Arnould Massar.

He graduated with a Master's degree in Didactics in 2013.

A trumpet and jazz teacher, he is in charge of conducting junior bands, and was in charge of the brass department from 2006 to 2019 in various schools in northern France.

Trumpet player in the bands The HeadShakers (59) since 2008, Stomp (44) and Red Line Crossers (35) since 2020.

#### **ARNAUD LÉCRIVAIN - Trumpet**

Arnaud started out at the Conservatoire de Fougeres, then went on to perfect his classical music at the Conservatoire de Lorient and his jazz at the Conservatoire de Rennes. In 2012, he joined the Rennes military music corps, and at the same time developed a passion for New Orleans music. In 2017 he decided to swap his uniform for that of the Red Line Crossers and other musical ensembles (Les Fonk'Farons, Hot Shot Brass Band, Flok, Natah Big Band, Kengaï Orchestra, Garde à Vue). A regular fixture on the Rennes scene, he is appreciated for his skills as a lead trumpeter and improviser, as well as for his cheerful disposition!



MUSICIANS



#### GEOFFROY DE SCHUYTER - Trombone

He started playing music at the tender age of 5 and studied classical piano for 14 years, first in private lessons and then at the Granville music school. Passionate about jazz from an early age, he decided to study this field as well when he was a teenager. Playing in the Granville big band, he was seduced by the trombone and decided to take up a 2nd instrument. In Jean-Pierre Guillouet's class, he obtained his diploma in 5 years. He continued his jazz training as a trombonist at the CRR of Caen with Thierry l'Hiver and François Meshali. He also taught trombone and jazz for 4 years at the Saint-Lô music school and perfected his skills on a course in New Orleans. He also plays in n a wide variety of styles,

including funk brass (Les Fonk'farons), blues/soul (Spoonful), classical music (Imperial Brass band from Caen, on bass trombone), hip-hop (ASM A State of Mind, with whom he toured Europe), jazz (La Machine Ronde, Togo), as well as street shows (Flok, Red Line Crossers)...

#### **QUENTIN MAUDUIT - Trombone**

He studied trombone at the ENM in Lisieux (14), where he won a gold medal. Always drawn to popular music, he discovered street music and joined the Salade de Bruits brass band in Caen in 2000. He then went on to study jazz at the CRR in Caen with Thierry Lhiver. After moving to Rennes in 2013, he specialised in Afro-American music and made a number of trips to Cuba and the U.S. He has played with Le Bibendum Jazz, Out of Nola, Cadencia Perfecta, Gombo Combo, Big Joanna, Mitchel Septeto and General Strike. He is currently performing with Red Line Crossers and Hot Shot Brass Band.





#### **ALEXANDRE TANET - alto Sax**

Alexandre is a multi-instrumentalist, author, composer and performer.

He has played saxophone in a number of street bands, including the Fonk'farons and the Gros Tube. He set up the pocket brass band Gloups, for which he composed three albums.

As an improviser, he plays a wide range of styles (contemporary music, world music, jazz), which has led him to perform all over France and elsewhere (New Orleans, Spain, Italy, Austria, Serbia, etc.). He then created 'Lalec', his project for young audiences, a concert/show featuring him on vocals and guitar. He joined the Cie Ne dites pas non, in the show 'l'histoire du vieux black Joe' (the story of old black Joe) and

in 2020, he performed his first concerts with his new folk duo 'Isn't It'. Alexandre also composes original music for a number of documentaries.

#### GUILLAUME SENÉ - Sax baritone

A saxophonist, beatmaker, video director and IT developer, Guillaume is a true artistic Swiss army knife.

He has carved out beats for the Franco-American group Sax Machine [>20 countries / >1000 concerts], brass band 2.0 Dynamic Blockbuster [Transmusicales 2017], and French slammer Govrache [Prix Album Charles Cros 2019].

As an alto, tenor and baritone saxophonist, composer, arranger and performer, he has played alongside KAZ HAWKINS [IRL], LEON NEWARS [FR], THE BIG HUSTLE [FR], SERGENT GARCIA [CUBA/ES] and KARL W. DAVIS [USA/FR] on their tours.



These encounters have taken him to play all over the world: Europe, USA, Canada, Russia, South Korea, South Africa, India, Brazil, Guyana, Tunisia...

In parallel with these tours, and with his computer science training and a bit of a geek in him, he designed the unique software for the interactive digital art installations Snsitiv and Inqk.

Lulled by his parents' vinyl records, from Jimmy Hendrix to Éric Satie and Miles Davis, Guillaume likes to build and increment his musical identity through his travels and multi-cultural experiences..

**MUSICIANS** 



#### **ERWAN CAMPER - Bassophone**

Erwan began learning music at the age of 6. His first instrument was the trumpet, which he played for 10 years at the Brest Conservatoire. After playing percussion and guitar, at the age of 18 he concentrated on the saxhorn and euphonium, while studying musicology at the University of Rennes 2, where he obtained a bachelor's degree. He then moved on to the bass tuba and double bass, which he learned with his teacher Thierry Thibault at the Rennes conservatoire. By then, he was already an active musician in various street music groups and orchestras. Two musical journeys were to leave their mark on his career: one to Macedonia, where he met Gypsy musicians with whom he worked on the traditional

brass band music, and the other in New Orleans in the United States, as part of a course on traditional and modern brass bands.

#### **EDDY LECLERC** - electric Guitar

Passionate about African-American music since the age of 12, Eddy took up the guitar after discovering Hendrix and Led Zeppelin.

Influenced by the Blues with artists such as BB King, Albert King and Buddy Guy, Eddy performed in Basse Normandie with Blues-Rock bands.

He studied in Brittany (Bachelor of Musicology and DEM Jazz) before moving to Paris where he joined the CMDL (Centre de Musique Didier Lockwood).



**MUSICIANS** 



#### **GEOFFROY LANGLAIS - Snare drum**

A classically trained percussionist with a conservatory diploma, he first played in orchestras.

Today, he chooses to work mainly as a drummer, after attending various training courses and master classes. Influenced mainly by Afro-American and world music, but also rock and classical music, he has been playing and touring for several years with a variety of stage and street bands: the Fonk'Farons, the Red Line crossers and Hot Shot Brass-Band, and 6 singes (currently being formed). He also performs with a variety of musical acts, including La piste à dansoire, Les Frappovitch and Flok.

He is also a regular substitute in various bands. Geoffroy taught drums for 10 years at the MJC Brequigny in Rennes.

#### **BENOIT RUTTEN - Bass drum**

Trained as a drummer and percussionist, Benoît began by learning human beat box and body percussion. He has also travelled extensively, perfecting his knowledge of New Orleans and Balkan music. Over the last few years, he has worked with street performance companies such as Compagnie Blaka, the brass band A la gueule du ch'val and Cirque Baraka 87. His versatility means he can now play with the exotica group Tiki Paradise, Les Frappovitch and the Collectif Volkanik.



#### TECHNICAL STAFF



#### **MATHIEU ROGUEZ - Sound Engineer**

Passionate about music from an early age, Mathieu has been involved in the field both as an amateur musician and as a volunteer in associations.

These peregrinations led him to train as a sound engineer at the end of 2000.

Since then, sound engineering and recording in all kinds of contexts have become part of his daily routine.



#### LOIC CHAULOUX - lights engineer

Lighting technician, artificier and builder. Loïc has worked mainly for circus and street companies since 1999 (La française de comptage, SPPI, La Piste à Dansoire, Galapiat Cirque, Féerie, etc.).

'Since the age of 7, I've been fascinated by shows and all those things full of buttons, wires and joysticks... What I like is that I don't really feel like I'm going to work'.

#### TECHNICAL STAFF



#### **ALICE BOULOIN - Costum designer**

Alice Boulouin is a costume designer, dressmaker, stylist and illustrator.

A graduate of the École Supérieure des Arts et Techniques de la Mode (ESMOD) in Paris, Alice is now a multi-faceted enthusiast. A designer and pattern-maker, she has launched her own line of handmade clothing for men and women: Atii, an original and colourful mixed wardrobe. She is also a stylist and stage costume designer for music groups and dance and theatre companies, including Engrenage in Rennes, Théâtre de Papier in Laillé and Arenthan in Saint Brieuc. In collaboration with dancer Morena Safar, Alice will soon be offering a collection of gypsy and flamenco dance skirts.

Alice also draws and paints, and illustrated her first book, 'Noms de Noms', published by Kerjava. She is currently working on a new illustration project on the work clothes of yesterday and today, by Pascal Aumasson, and would like to create a collection of performance books, with audio and educational booklet.

### **CULTURAL ACTIONS**

DANCE / MUSIC

As part of the co-production partnership with the town of Betton, the Red Line Crossers team is taking part in cultural initiatives in local schools.

Drawing on the teaching skills of some members of the team and the many cultural initiatives undertaken since 2016 (e.g. We are New-Orleans project), 200 pupils have already taken part in dance and singing workshops between September 2021 and April 2022.

The idea was to choreograph 2 songs from the New Orleans repertoire, danced by around 50 children and sung by 150 other schoolchildren.

The high point of the project was to give them the opportunity to perform in front of a large audience in professional conditions as the opening act for WE ARE! on the day the show came out, 1 April.

Dance instructors: Virginie Savary / Cambo Hondura

Singing teacher: Astrid Radigue

A formula adaptable to your establishment and your desires.









#### Production Engrenage[s]

**Partenaires** Opéra de Rennes, Diapason Université Rennes 1, Rennes métropole, Ville de Betton, Réservoir Danse, le Grand Logis à Bruz, Drac Bretagne plan d'urgence musique, Appel à projet musiques actuelles DRAC/CNM/Région Bretagne







# **VIDÉOS**

Résidences - WE ARE ! au Garage - Rennes (35)





Résidence - WE ARE ! à Betton (35)



Résidence - WE ARE ! au Diapason - Rennes (35)



Résidence - WE ARE ! à l'Opéra - Rennes (35)





## **ENGRENAGE[S]**



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