

Alain Monod – Al Comet – Mahadev Cometo

SHORT VERSION

1959

born in Fribourg / Switzerland

1966 – 1973

piano student at classical music conservatory

1973 – 1978

guitar player / singer / composer in various rock bands

1979

Swiss Air Force pilot school to start a a career as pilot.

1979 – 1988

rock bands, studio work and sound production

1989 – 2011

keyboard player of "The Young Gods"

Since 1989

"Al Comet" solo projects

2011

six months in Varanasi (Benares) – Sitar studies & concerts

2013

ongoing concerts with the All Star Jam Band: Mich Gerber on bass, Andy Pupato percussion, Wolfgang Zwiauer on mandocello / e-bass and Al Comet sitar

2014

Nepal-India Tour (with J.-L- Gafner and Bertrand B. Siffert)

2015

India Tour (with J.-L- Gafner and Pol)

2017

"Freedom", Release May 31, 2017

2022

"Taj Mahal Mafia", Released June 2nd, 2022

LONG VERSION

Alain Monod was born in Fribourg / Switzerland, March 26, 1959.

He starts studying classical music at the conservatory of Fribourg as a piano player at the age of 7.

Mainly influenced by Jimi Hendrix around 10/11 years old, he stops his piano lessons at the age of 14 and starts joining rock bands as guitar player.

At the age of 19 Alain joins the Swiss Air Force Pilot School and starts a short period of his life as an aircraft pilot. But this was short-lived as he was kicked out for failing to follow bed-making procedures.

Back to music... Alain decides to start a new band called TB with some friends. They play a lot of successful local shows. Their first studio experience (recording a 7") marks a big change for Alain - he realizes how far away he is from the expected sound...

TB don't survive.... Alain (Al Nox at the time) self-produces his first solo 12". He is learning how to make a sound in a studio...

In the mid 80's, he stops playing traditional instruments and concentrates his research on this new machine called "sampler".

In 1988 Alain joins The Young Gods as their driver. A few weeks later... during the same tour he gets behind the mixing desk as their FOH engineer.

In 1989 he becomes keyboard player of The Young Gods.

Also in 1989 Franz (TYG singer) produces the first Al Comet CD at Relief Studio with sound engineer Bertrand Siffert. The song **LAD** becomes a hit in the Pipeline (Newark's underground club).

Alain and Bertrand decide to go on a 10 day Europe Pirate Tour. They digitally record all the shows (4 per night!). Bertrand is playing keyboard and Al is singing through a megaphone.

The second Al Comet CD is a "live" one. The "**Europ Pirat Tour**" is also produced by Franz at Relief and is released in 1991.

Distributed by COD, they organize great promo days... Alain is taking reporters for a flight!
mahadev-cometo.com/videos

In 1992 Al Comet's song "**Plus d'accordeon**" is selected as part of the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Winter Games in Albertville, mahadev-cometo.com/albertville-1992.

In 1994 Alain is moving to NYC with The Young Gods. They stay there for almost a year writing "Only Heaven". Following the release of the album they go on an extensive world tour. After almost two years of the "**Only Heaven**" tour... Al takes a break and starts to experiment with ambient music. He gets married and becomes the father of two children.

1997, The third Al Comet CD "**Comet**" is an ambient one... he records and mixes it by himself in his living room!

Alain meets Team Lazer and buys a sitar-guitar off him. After playing improvisations every day at home or for friends for some time, Al decides to record this instrument... improvising melodies.

In 2000, this project called "**Sitarday**" is released on the net only.

At the end of 2002 Alain plays some more Sitar shows. He is joined by Jean-Louis Gafner who adds visuals to the performances. Jean-Louis is playing with oil projections, adding a beautifully psychedelic dimension.

Alain and Bertrand produce the new Al Comet project. They are back to their "power pirate duo" contest!!! This album is called "**White Planet**", released in February 2004.

Freedom, 2011 Al Comet won a residency of 6 months in Varanasi, India. He's studying sitar and Indian classical music.

After 5 years of intensive work Mahadev Cometo presents his first Sitar-Album: "FREEDOM". The Nord-Indian Raag is transformed in a new dimension. It is a fusion of sitar and electronics which has never been heard in this vehemence and sound.

2022

Taj Mahal Mafia released June 2nd, 2022

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Discography

Alain Monod – Al Comet – Mahadev Cometo

1983 – TB, first 45 rpm

1987 – Al Nox, 45 rpm of 4 songs (self production)

1990 – Al Comet, single L.A.D.

1991 – TYG (The Young Gods), TV Sky

1991 – TYG play Kurt Weil

1991 – Al Comet, Europ pirat tour

1993 – TYG, Live sky tour

1995 – TYG, Only heavens

1997 – TYG, Heaven deconstruction

1997 – Al Comet, Comet

2000 – TYG, Second nature

2000 – Al Comet, Sitarday

2002 – TYG, Music for artificial clouds

2002 – TYG, Six dew points (Swiss expo 2002)

2004 – Al Comet, White planet

2005 – TYG, XXY

2005 – TYG, Super ready fragmenté

2008 – TYG, Knock on wood

2010 – TYG, Everybody Knows

2017 – Mahadev Cometo, Freedom

2022 – Mahadev Cometo, Taj Mahal Mafia