

# Freedom

An avant-garde performance



**Mahadev Cometo** (sitar, electronics)  
**K-soul** (holokinetic light partition)

## A journey of initiation

In 2011, Al Comet travels to India to be initiated into the art of the sitar by a Benares master on the banks of the Ganges. Al Comet becomes Mahadev Cometo and starts blending the technology of his dreamy machines with the spiritual swirls of the ancestral Indian sitar. In combining his knowledge of both, he develops a new musical experience between tradition and modernity.



Mahadev Cometo (sitar, electronics) - K-soul (holokinetic light partition)  
Laboratoire Jardin Cosmique - 24 June 2017

## Two artists meet

In 2017, Mahadev Cometo meets artist K-soul. Inventor of the holokinetic painting, K-soul has created an art form that is a living partition, blending painting and music and evoking the artistic dreams of Kandinsky, Malevitch or Paul Klee. In a process of constant metamorphosis, these living paintings have found their place within the evolution of musical codes. They extend the kind of research initiated by Schönberg, John Cage or Xenakis. Into the silence of this holokinetic partition steps Mahadev Cometo - and begins his musical dialogue with the images. An avant-garde œuvre unfolds before the audience.

## **Mahadev Cometo**

As a member of The Young Gods for more than 20 years, Alain 'Al Comet' has been a defining influence on the industrial sound of the 80s. Leaving the Gods in 2014, he decides to turn his energies to his own evolution. Having broken through the sound-barriers of sampling, he alights on the pure ancestral sound of the Indian sitar under the name of Mahadev Cometo and offers us an entirely new sound experience:

Cometo has tamed the electric fairies that play on the small keyboards hidden inside samplers, as much as the 20 strings of a sitar. Performing on his instrument, he fuses the traditional sitar into his own universe and blends it gradually with his electronic sounds. And with visionary and expressive powers, like Orpheus on his lyre, he connects them to the soul of the world and reaches out to restore concord, harmony and symphony between the seven spheres of the cosmos.

## **Raag liberation**

As the melodic framework in classical Indian music, the Raag is defined as the act of 'colouring or dyeing the mind and any feeling of passion, especially love, affection, sympathy, vehement desire, interest, joy or delight'.

Cometo produces the sounds of the world by playing on everything and anything that can emit sound: warning horns, doors, bleating sheep, hookahs gurgling, a shop curtain going up and the belly of tires pressing against the tender belly of India. Cometo moves up and down the invisible strings of his sitar, and the clouds and traffic part before him in amazement.

The sound universe of the sitar reconnects us, via inspiration, with the timeless arch of History - which is love of music, respect and affection for our elders and teachers and the principle of reminiscence. Cometo leads everything back to the unity of indomitable music. The world in his Raga takes shape in a bluish light; with its centre everywhere and its circumference encompassing all that is yet to come, it holds up the completeness of being: trance in sobriety, power in serenity.

All these themes unfold... And one after another, the four arms of Cometo's liberating and already legendary quartet reveal the one single treasure within them, which is Love Triumphant, the love of Dante's final vision 'that moves the sun and the other stars'. Or in the words of the Renaissance humanist Ficino - who like the Mahadev play stringed instruments of revelation: "Through a sympathetic vibration" - such as the cords of a sitar - "the human soul is brought back to its natural congruence with the cosmos."

## **K-soul**

The artist K-soul has devoted many years to elaborating his art. Holokinetic painting represents a living partition of light, a method of painting for the 21<sup>st</sup> century that crosses a historical threshold. Throughout history, painters have sought to express light and movement through their paintings; the art of holokinetic painting fulfils this quest and heralds a new era of creation.

At the crossroads of art and science, K-soul paints the creative processes of the universe, the mysteries of light and darkness. Holokinetic painting takes shape by hand: using the screen as a canvas, the artist paints directly with light. A computer-based system records the movements and motions of his paintbrush. Following a precise pictorial language, the artist creates a living cosmos of light. To this day, K-soul is the only artist to have mastered this technique.

## **Holokinetic light partition**

Astonishing flowers unfold and silently wilt away. Bright stars emerge, worlds fall apart and rise up again. The blaze of summer and crystalline winter shapes, the autumnal passing of things and springtime resurrections foreshadow the meaning of our presence on earth. Metamorphoses of form and colour that speak the secrets words of a universal language; mysteries revealed in the tender light at the heart of a seed.

The holokinetic light partition is an aircraft of metaphysical exploration propelled by pictorial and musical means of expression. Its psychic powers oscillate between sympathetic and antipathetic poles, between attraction and repulsion, between expansion and contraction. Alternating between warm and cold colours, the evolving pictures reveal these forces at work. Translated into music, these colours reveal all the nuances of sound and tone.

The colors themselves are complex, vibrating structures that gradually break free and detach themselves from their environment, then rhythmically assemble into an epidermis, an outline, and give birth to a variety of infinite forms. These shapes with their specific life cycles represent summits, clusters, melodic lines, and polyphonies emulating Nature, which surrounds and inhabits us.

## **Contact and links**

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