



# DUÒ LAVOÀ LAPÒ

Voice and Skin, the Strings of the Soul and the Drums of Joy!

## ESTIRADOR

by

Damien Toumi et Mànu Théron



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## ESTIRADOR

after-bal singing and music of resurgence

Made up of **Damien Toumi** and **Manu Théron** - both singers and percussionists - **Duò Lavoà Lapò** are driven by a shared energy and passion for **Occitan music and song**. To celebrate and revitalise their revival, they take up well-known and forgotten standards from all over the Òc region and introduce a playful, powerful and refreshing invention, combining **vocal and rhythmic games, passionate polyphony and trance music**.

*" Woven around the themes of spirituality and joy, this project goes against the grain of today's music, producing an unmissable festive work. "*

- Zébuline le Web -





**DUÒ LAVOÀ LAPÒ** is made up of **Damien Toumi** and **Manu Théron**, singer-percussionists whose backgrounds, passion and energy made them accomplices and com-plic partners even before they met!

It's the **revival of the Occitan language, popular vocals**, the reworking of a truncated imagination - and the blossoming of the latter in a modernity that has nothing formal about it - that have brought them to this new musical project..

**Damien Toumi** (Avignon) has sung in a number of vocal and instrumental ensembles, learning about **polyphony** and popular repertoires, the poetry of the Ventoux landscape and the simple spiritual

ity of everyday life.

**Mànu Théron** (Marseille) has been introducing contemporary musicians to the magic of voices, the joy of encounters and the exhilaration of **collective musical practice** for over 25 years. Between them, they explore all the modulations, positions and slopes of a **simple device**, varying and deviating the forms, games, addresses and referents.

Starting out with an indefinable repertoire that takes the Occitanie region to every corner of their fanciful imagination, they build on the idea that **two songs and two percussion instruments can say, arouse and reveal**. Their carnal, precise unison explores traditional melodies, extracting their juices and restoring them in all their strangeness; the **polyrhythm**, patiently developed, plays with the frameworks and rhythms imposed on traditional bodies of work, disrupting and saturating unexpected motifs; The **polyphony** borrows from **Mediterranean passions** and infuses harmonies bursting with powerful warmth; finally, the complementarity of the two timbres is exalted by the heady bubbling of a **chant-contrechant** mastered to the point of prowess.

It is in this concentrate of **jovial inventions** and never-failing spirituality that the two singers distil this precious material. Accompanied by **Cyril Pelegrin**, the project's sound engineer and sound designer, they concoct a lyrical-festive craft that escapes the norms of mass consumption, and gives back to those who love it that '**ESTIRADOR**' character that not only lasts, but also prolongs all pleasures.

# ESTIRADOR

## THE DIRECTORY

Les pièces sont issues du corpus des « **Chants populaires de la Provence** » mais proviennent aussi de **collectages, d'écrits et d'inventions** des musiciens du duo. Ils célèbrent la renaissance, l'éveil à la beauté vivifiante du monde, et puisent alternativement dans la trivialité ou dans la spiritualité d'histoires intemporelles pour parler de cet état privilégié de l'âme qu'est la **célébration de l'altérité**.

Les rythmiques basiques collent au texte et à l'âpreté des vies, qui persistent dans l'histoire populaire incroyablement colorée et organique que constitue la chanson traditionnelle des Pays d'Òc.



### PERSONNEL

#### MANU THERON

**Singer-percussionist-composer and choirmaster Manu Théron** is one of the instigators of the revival of popular vocal music in France and especially in the Pays d'Òc. Founder of Gacha Empega, then Còr de la Plana, he has been taking his Occitan polyphonies to all five continents for the past 25 years, as well as developing numerous other artistic projects within the Compagnie du Lamparo. Manu Théron's **interpretations are rooted in the tradition of mediterranean folk song, but are also informed by the contemporary practice**

**of 'chanson à texte', where language and rhythm intertwine powerfully. A passionate musician, he puts the originality of his interpretation at the service of a renewed Oc culture, which he strives to bring to life both on stage and in his teaching.**



#### DAMIEN TOUMI

Singer, musician, actor and storyteller, **Damien Toumi** discovered the **Occitan language and culture on a number of journeys that took him** from Mount Lebanon to the plains of Andalusia, **and he soon decided to make it his own.** Following in the footsteps of glorious elders such as Massilia Sound System, Gacha Empega and Lo Còr de la Plana, and as part of various adventures (first of all the Bande à Koustik, Tant que li Siam , Polifonic System, Lo Còr de la Plana and

now Piadas, Tramuntana and Duò Lavoà Lapò with Manu Théron) and in **workshops and courses dedicated to Occitan and Mediterranean polyphony**, Damien has developed a body of work designed to awaken the curiosity of as many people as possible about the language and culture of Oc, and the popular musical traditions of the Mediterranean.

## CREATION hosted by:

U Svegliu Calvese (Calvi- Corse) / CERC (64) - Centre de Creacion Musicau / La Grande Bou- tique (56) – Centre de création des musiques populaires - Scène conventionnée d'intérêt na- tional « Art en Territoire » / Derrière le hublot (12) - Scène conventionnée d'intérêt national « Art en territoire » en partenariat avec le Département de L'Aveyron / Espace Culturel de Chaillol (05) - Scène conventionnée d'intérêt national « Art en Territoire »

## THE DUO LAVOA LAPO PERFORMED AT:

**Biennale Internationale de Percussions (Djembe Fola) – Conakry (Guinée) ;** Fora do Lugar - **Festival Internacional de Músicas Antigas- Idanha-A-Nova (Portugal) ;** La Meson – Mar- seille (13) ; **Teatro Nuovo – Pise (Italie) ; Festival Villes et Musiques du Monde – Aubervil- liers (93) ; Festival Occitania - La Cave Po - Toulouse (31) ; Festival des rencontres de chants polyphoniques de Calvi (Corse) ; Festival de Chaillol (05), Il teatro dell'ExFadda Via Mare, San Vito dei Normanni (Italie) ; Cerc - Pau (64) ; La Grande Boutique – Langonnet (56) ; Salle des Fêtes – Asprieres (12) ; Festival Au fil de l'eau – Aramon (84) ; Festival les Suds – Arles (13) ; Musée Agathois – Agde (34) ; Escapade aux Jardins de l'Europe – Annecy (74) ; Mare e Miniere – Portoscuso (Italie) ; Le Non-Lieu - Marseille (13) ; Maison pour Tous - Avignon (84) ; Journée Travers « Derrière le Hublot » - Faycelles (12) ; Festival Provence - Saint Ra- phaël (83) ; Festival Rhizomes - Paris (75) ; Apéros Klam - Camors (56) ; La Granjagoul Parcé (35) ; Festival Trad'Hivernales - Sommières (30) ; Festival Allez Savoir - Marseille (13)**

## COURSES OFFERED BY DUÒ LAVOÀ LAPÒ :

Manu Théron and Damien Toumi are no strangers to passing on their shared or respective repertoires. Workshops, master classes and courses are regularly organised around or independently of the concerts. They may focus on different types of repertoire, the specific features of popular harmony or monody, or in-depth work on rhythm and polyrhythm and all the specific situations of group singing, songs for dancing, answering, drinking, table tunes or dance tunes, etc ...



## LA COMPAGNIE DU LAMPARO

Founded in 2002 by Manu Théron and Nora Mauriaucourt, La Compagnie du Lamparo, a National Company based in Marseille, is an association which brings musicians together and initiates artistic projects dedicated to research and creation in keeping with Occitan heritages and cultures in Marseille's area.

Collection of sound documents, creations or transmission of popular knowledge, the territories explored by the Lamparo mark the possible ways that the Occitan culture and language maintain, in a sometimes unexpected manner, with their sisters from the Mediterranean basin, the ones that have been irrigating Marseille since its foundation.

Rubbing very diverse musical aesthetics with a singular poetic approach, the Lamparo sets its way toward a reappropriation of mediterranean popular musical traditions with an ambition of rediscovery and interrogation of its region's immaterial heritage. Far from looking for the perpetuation of a tradition, these activities aim – more modestly but no less ambitiously – at bringing into contact the audiences with the most volatile as well as the most exciting aspects of history – unwritten but registered – by the melody of a language, in every corner of its territory and in every perspective of its horizon.

## Contact

### La Compagnie du Lamparo

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[www.compagniedulamparo.com](http://www.compagniedulamparo.com)

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