



PRESS KIT



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BIOGRAPHY

Orchestre Toubab was founded in 2010. It is an acoustic afrotropical jazz quartet. The name of the band is a reference to the mythical ‘Orchestre Baobab’, a legendary senegalese band. “Toubab” is also the name by which the Senegalese refer to the Europeans. The name of the band thus clearly depicts the musical identity of the group which gets a large part of it’s inspiration from the music of western Africa.

Orchestre Toubab plays original compositions by Robert Falk, half-way between jazz and world-music. Instruments are nylon guitar, violin, double-bass and percussions.

Their first CD “Tukki Janeer” takes us along an imaginary voyage. The opening track, ‘Fuuta Blues’ teleports us immediately on the banks of the Senegal river where the Tukuleur people are living. The voyage then continues in Brazil, Congo and even further into a mythical Phrygia with a few stops along the way in blues and progressive jazz.

Orchestre Toubab’s consciously eclectic repertoire is a reminder of how the multiple musical cultures of the world can interconnect and benefit from each other.



THE MUSICIANS

Robert Falk, the founder of the group, although Parisian by birth is a veteran from the Belgian afro musical scene. He has participated in numerous jazz groups in the 80s before switching to African music. He has released 5 CDs as a producer/arranger/musician with various African artists (Malick Pathé Sow, Embowassa, Pas Mal +, Ngaari Laaw, etc.). The song 'Daara', a mix between traditional Halpulaar (Fulani) folk and strings orchestra was a finalist in the Radio France International competition in 1994.

He has also released 2 solo CDs with numerous European and African musicians (Pierre Vaiana, Philippe Leblanc, Malick Pathé Sow, Serigne Gueye, Pierre Malempré, Pierre Bernard, etc) which are a fusion between jazz, African and contemporary music (Muzungu 2006 – Xelu Sowu 2008).

Benoit Leseure is a young violinist from Rennes (France) who settled in Brussels some years ago. He combines a thorough formal musical training (Conservatoire de Paris) with an outstanding sense of improvisation as well as a continuous musical curiosity. He is extremely well at ease within this band which allows him to express his talent at its fullest.

Alessio Campanozzi is a double bass/bass player who comes from Bari (south of Italy) and has settled in Brussels in 2012. He has participated in numerous fusion bands in Italy and in Belgium. He has a degree in film music and is currently undergoing additional training in the Brussels conservatory.

Gauthier Lisein is another veteran from the Belgian afro musical scene. After his graduation from the conservatory of Liège he has participated in many musical projects which are generally connected to Africa (Nfaly Kouyaté, Ben Ngabo, les Petites Frappes, etc.) He is also teaching percussions in Brussels and in the Democratic Republic of Congo (Ibi-Village a combined agro-forestal and cultural project on the Batékés plateau)



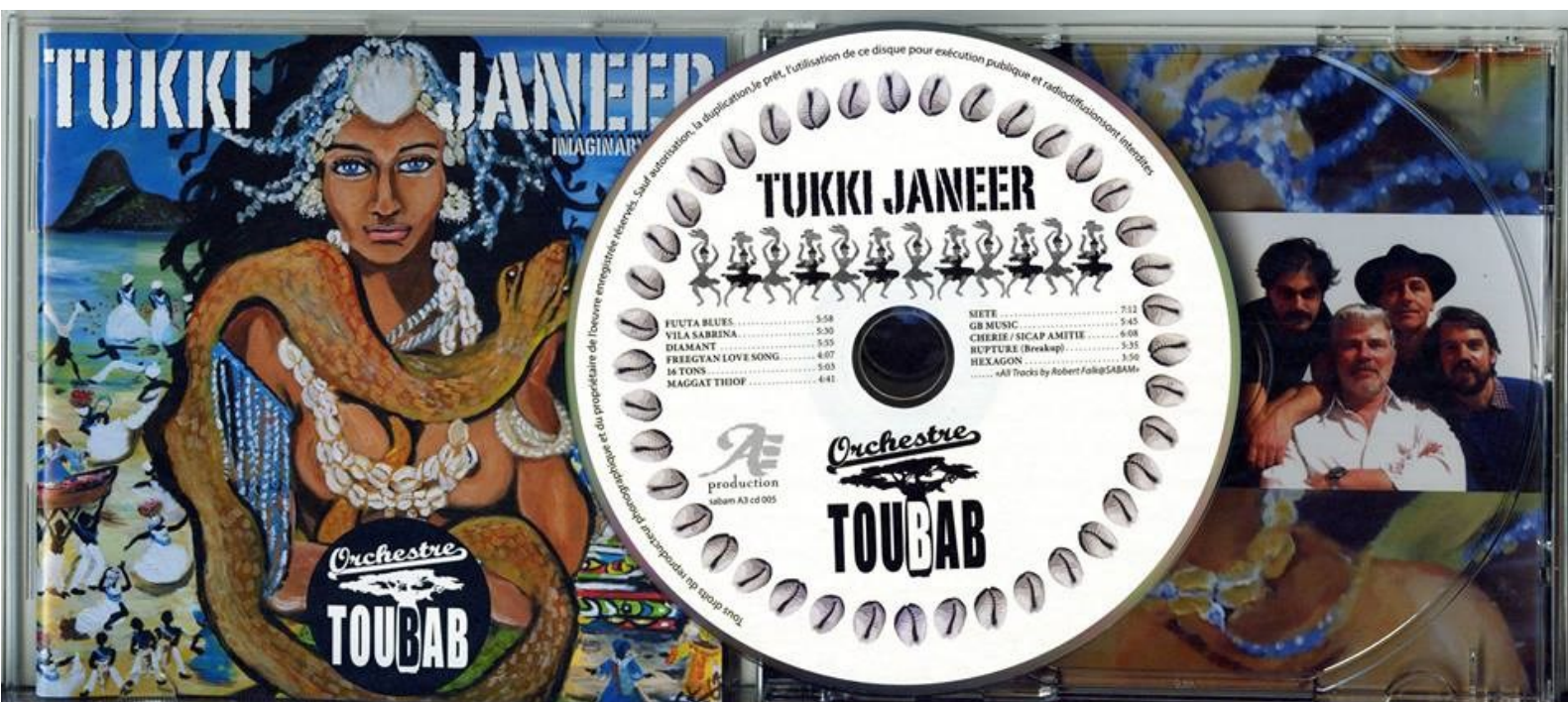
THE ALBUM

Tukki Janeer which means Imaginary Voyage in Wolof (the majority language in Senegal) is Orchestre Toubab's debut album. The original compositions are inspired by the rhythms and melodies of western Africa with additional central Africa and Brazilian influences.

Some more mainstream jazz themes are also present but always with a fusion touch. There is ample improvisation as well which should be the case for a music which claims to be jazz.

“As soon as the first notes of Fuuta Blues ring, one is teleported to the Tukuleur tribe along the banks of the Senegal river. The incantatory melodic line is swaying in the manner of these African blues of which Taj Mahal and Ry Cooder are so fond of. Violinist Benoit Leseure's and guitarist Robert Falk's strings are dancing on top of the djembes. No hint of electricity here but only acoustic instruments which reinforce the African colours and sounds. Maggat Thiof and Chérie also belong to that part of the continent, and if the rhythms are different, one feels the same empathy for these intoxicating melodies which overflow with nostalgia”

Dragon Jazz



Production : AE Productions
Distribution : Igloo

THE STAGE

2015

November : Abbaye de Stavelot
October : Sazz n Jazz (Brussels)
June : Birmingham Palace (Anderlecht)
May : Petit Théâtre Mercelis (Brussels)
Maart : Horloge du Sud (Ixelles)
LR6 (Brussels)
Fébruary : Sazz n Jazz (Brussels)

2014

November : Le Central (Jette)
September : Horloge du Sud (Ixelles)
July : Park of Brussels
May : Aquilone (Liège)
Grand Place (Mons)
Salle Maelbeek (Brussels)
Maart : Sounds Jazz Club (Brussels)
November : Aquilone (Liège)

2013

June : Sazz n Jazz (Brussels)
May : Centre d'Ecologie Urbaine (Brussels)
Maart : Centre d'Ecologie Urbaine (Brussels)



PRESS



DECOUVERTE - Robert Falk et sa formation : Un «Orchestre Toubab» d'inspiration africaine

Le groupe est baptisé Orchestre Toubab. Son fondateur, Robert Falk, était en visite vendredi dernier au journal Le Quotidien. Il est un artiste d'orig...

LEQUOTIDIEN... HABIBATOU WAGNE



Orchestre Toubab - World Jazz :
Autres Suggestions
World Jazz : sélection de CD



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Orchestre Toubab - Tukki Janeer

Orchestre Toubab is een crossover combo dat jazz combineer

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Teaser VIDEO LIVE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sErb5xN6sc>

LISTEN to the album

<https://soundcloud.com/orchestretoubab>

Website

<http://orchestretoubab.com/>

