

COMPAORÉ & HOSDIKIAN

Free jazz / FRANCE



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The encounter between two references of the Marseilles' free jazz scene: drummer Ahmad Compaoré and saxophonist Ed Hosdikian. Founding members of the trio *Oriental Fusion* and fellow musicians for 25 years, they evolve at the crossroads of jazz, virtuoso improvisation and ethnic music. Keen on musical experimentation of all kinds, they create a dense and mixed style through an exclusive bond with their instrument, giving a set both energetic and sensuous, spiritual and fierce.

AHMAD COMPAORÉ: drums, percussion

Of Egyptian and Burkinabé origins, Ahmad Compaoré is an unmissable musician. With feet, fists and hands, he hits, strikes, whips and strokes the brass of his cymbals, the skin of his drums where power and freedom make up the essentials of his playing. He confirms his singular talent alongside Fred Frith, Marc Ribot, Jamaaladeen Tacuma, Barre Phillips, Camel Zekri or Egyptian choreographer Karima Mansour. Twice recipient of the Culturesfrance "Hors Les Murs" award, he stayed in India in 2005 then in Japan in 2008 as part of residencies of creation. Free from boundaries, he equally enjoys the most extreme experiences in alternative and improvised music, jazz and fusion.

ED HOSDIKIAN: saxophone, larsenophone

Original, sensibly wild and label-free, the style of this musician is unique. After classical studies at the *Conservatoire de Marseille*, Ed Hosdikian immersed himself in the world of regional rock bands, before setting off to the United States where he practised jazz at the renowned *Berklee School of Music*. Back in France, he returned to his roots through the creation of the trio *Oriental Fusion* in 1995 with Hakim Hamadouche and Ahmad Compaoré. However, he constantly seeks new musical experiences through collaborations with artists like Jacques Higelin, Michel Petrucciani, Nina Simone, Fred Frith, Jamaaladeen Tacuma and Youssou N'Dour.

« No pretence to be found in this spectacular musician, who is recognized as one of the most creative saxophonists of his generation, due to his obvious technique but mostly thanks to his soul, his generosity and his vital need to share a genuine emotion. » - Stéphane Ollivier, Jazzman

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