



PRESS KIT

CONTENT

Introduction

The Project

“Le Voyage d’Hannibal”

Musicians

Collaborations

Album

Contact

Press

Tour Dates

Introduction

The Esperti Project is a union of 3 musicians coming from different sound horizons, eager to explore, to create and to broadcast an ethno-jazz sound, inspired by musical heritage of traditional cultures, of jazz improvisations and electronic sounds.

For their first musical creation "*Le Voyage d'Hannibal*", the trio Esperti Project invites you to travel through the different countries Hannibal Barca explored in the third century BC.

The Project

"I will either find a way, or make one." These famous words are attributed to Hannibal, son of Hamilcar Barca and Carthaginian commander of the First Punic War (264-241 BC). The proverb also applies to the sonic paths taken by Andrea Esperti, whose eponymous trio project sonically re-imagines the legendary military leader's travels. "When I was young I studied the history of Hannibal and Rome," recalls the Italian trombonist and composer, "and I immediately appreciated the courage, strength, and will of this man. No one would have thought he could win against the strongest empire in the world. His accomplishment therefore goes beyond historical fact. It's an encouragement to realize our dreams and overcome obstacles." Joining Andrea for this journey is his brother Antonio, a formally trained musician versed in the traditional music of Italy who plays duduk, clarinets, and recites original poetry inspired by Hannibal's cartographic sweep. With them is Luca Fusconi, a veteran circuit-bender who holds the narrative together with his spacious electronics.

For Andrea, a musician at ease in classical and jazz repertoires alike, the spirit of collaboration is paramount. Despite having composed all but the final piece, he characterizes the group as a purveyor of "world" music, welcoming a range of influences to a stage where figures known and unknown may once more stretch their muscles. Andrea elucidates the dynamics therein: "Antonio is a traditional Mediterranean musician. I studied classical and modern music but have felt it necessary to put myself in the line of tradition, following values of life, authenticity, and purity. Luca has been further involved with the theatre company at Italy's Teatro Valdoca. I felt a need to pull all of these elements together: the future through electronic music, the present through improvisation, and the past through traditional music." In light of this, we do better to experience "*Le Voyage d'Hannibal*" as both a deconstruction and preservation of history. As its winds pass through Maghreb, Andalusia, and beyond, picking up motifs and impulses along the way, the music leaves a trail of deep soundscapes for us to follow. Andrea: "*Le Voyage d'Hannibal*" is a musical and emotive journey around the Mediterranean Sea. Like life, it's a circle that redraws itself without end.

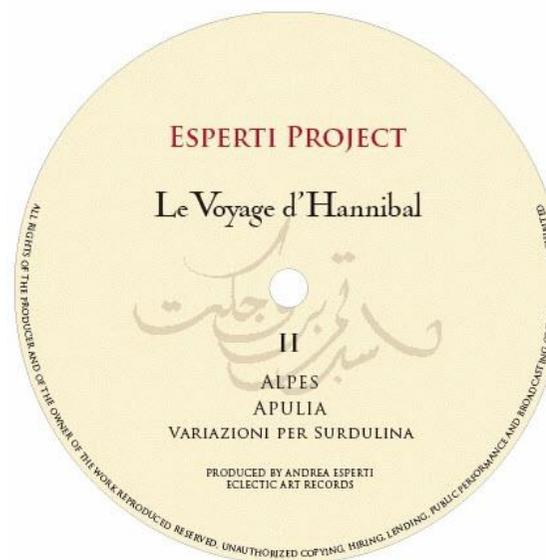
"Le Voyage d'Hannibal"

Despite the fascinations of the project's instrumentation, Antonio's texts are the most striking element of "*Kartajen*" (Carthage), which comprises the first leg. Antonio, who is also an ethnomusicologist, delivers his words in the dialect of Brindisi, a onetime Greek settlement in the heel of Italy's boot that became a major port of trade for the Romans after the Punic Wars. His images chart movements of time and color over a collage of shells, bells, and splashes of electric melody. Flanged hand drums give purchase, the clarinet its voice of reason, all wrapped around Andrea's breathy incantation.

Influences, witting or not, may strike the seasoned listener at unexpected moments. The voice of Jon Hassell looms large through Andrea's infusions in "Jabal Tariq – Iberia," Luca the mirage to Antonio's desert. Field-recorded street noise meshes with evocative beats all the while as the "Alpes" loom large on the horizon. This dance of danger is a collage of birdsong, footsteps in snow, words and breath. It is also the clearest expression of Hannibal's harrowing advance into Italy by way of the seemingly impassable mountains. This portion of the album sits somewhere between the nu-jazz stylings of Nils Petter Molv er and Lionel Marchetti's ambient gem *Portrait d'un Glacier*.

The final leg of Hannibal's journey delivers us to "Apulia" (Puglia) on a droning carpet. Here duduk and clarinet provide the heartbeat to a military march. Light modal touches lend a Middle Eastern feel, reaching frenzy before diffusing in cricket song. The words are most alive here, waxing as they do about fatigue, war, and the consummation of bodies and landscape. If these four of the album's five pieces seem elemental, that's because Andrea intended them that way, moving from earth ("Kartajen") and water ("Jabal Tariq") to air ("Alpes") and fire ("Apulia"). The solo "Variazioni per Surdulina", then, ends with a standstill in this travel through time. The surdulina, a Calabrian bagpipe, springs to life in Antonio's hands, his notes glittering across a hillside like childhood toys yielded by erosion. The layered, split voicings nevertheless hint at a journey yet to come. "Music is music," as Andrea is fond of saying, and it is this he and his allies will continue to follow on their own quest for a way.

The Project and "Le Voyage d'Hannibal"
text by Tyran Grillo



Musicians

Andrea ESPERTI

Trombones, Shells

Composition

Andrea is originally from Mesagne (Puglia, Italy), growing up in the world of artists from his early age, he plays around with the classics, fanfare and some jazz in an eternal approach of exchange and encounters. He travels the world, listening to others, his breath - rich and at the same time delicate - interacts with these cultures to tell us all his emotions lived abroad.

Collaborations : Dave Liebman, Marcello Giuliani, Enrico Rava, Julien Feltin, Ndiaga Mbaye, François Jeanneau, Mathieu Michel, Jérôme Thomas, Massimo Manzi, Ohad Talmor, Daniel Perrin, Hector Martignon, Volker Goetze, Ablaye Cissoko, ...



Antonio ESPERTI

Duduk, Clarinets

Text

Experienced and proven classical musician, poetic in his soul, Antonio takes a long trip through the Mediterranean to search for traditional music and “wind“ instruments, studying their origin, their manufacturing and their complexity of sound.

Collaborations : Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino, Fratelli Forastiero, Cugini Nigro, Fatmir Pireci, Emanuele Licci, Daniele Durante, Djibril Ndiae Rose, Filippo Gambetta, Rocco Nigro, Mario Salvi, Tonino Zurlo, Orazio Corsaro, ...



Luca FUSCONI

Computer

Sound designer

Born in Cesenatico, Luca Fusconi toured during 8 years with the famous italian company “Teatro Valdoca” as sound engineer. Influenced a long time by rock and electro-acoustic music, he explores today the digital world and its endless possibilities.



Collaborations

More than music, constantly in quest of joining multi cultural arts and artists from all over the world, the project gathered the worldwide known irakian calligrapher [Hassan Massoudy](#) and Mattia Soranzo from the italian emerging filmmaker’s association [Muud Film](#).

Mattia Soranzo created an original abstract film projected behind the band in live sessions, thus adding a visual dimension to the project.

video sample on [Vimeo](#)

Original soundtrack of the swiss science-fiction movie “[Dog Men](#)” realised by Mirko and Dario Bischofberger includes samples of “*Le Voyage d’Hannibal*”.

On the limited LP album appears Hassan Massoudy’s calligraphies who gracefully offered his participation, after being keen on the project.



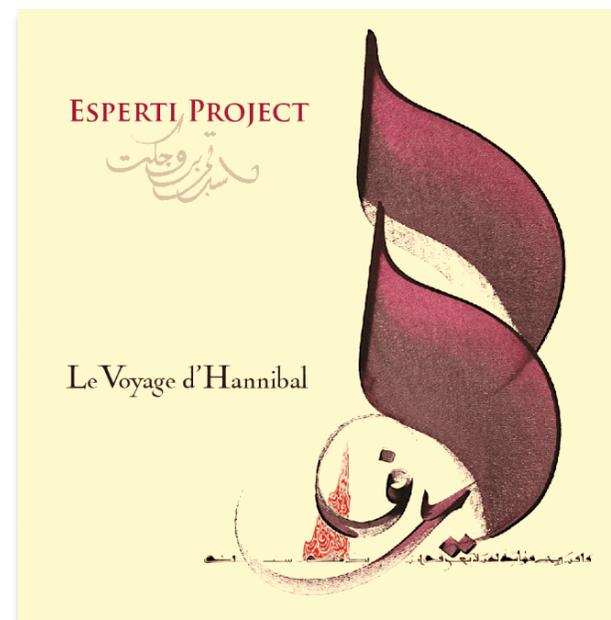
Esperti Project calligraphied in arabic by H.Massoudy

Album

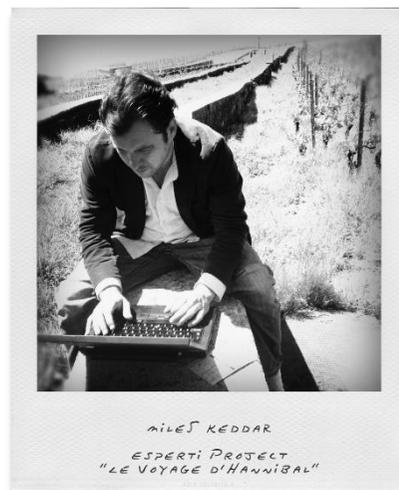
“LE VOYAGE D’HANNIBAL“

listen / buy on [Bandcamp](#)

Kartagen	15min.
Jabal Tariq - Iberia	15min.
Alpes	8min.
Apulia	15min.
Variazioni per surdulina	5min.



LP album – front cover



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Press

August 2014	Radio broadcast “Global Village” on KMUW	(USA)
26.07.2014	Radio broadcast on RootsWorld Radio	(USA)
09.07.2014	Radio broadcast on BRAM FM	(FR)
July 2014	Web article in “RootsWorld”	(USA)
12.04.2014	Article in the newspaper “La Liberté”	(CH)
27.03.2014	Radio broadcast “Netlabels review” on Radio-Usine	(CH)
12.03.2014	Article in the newspaper “La Côte”	(CH)
12.02.2014	Radio broadcast “Jazzz” on RTS Espace 2	(CH)

Tour Dates

Festival de la Valsainte	30.08.2014	Vevey
Canzoniere	01.03.2014	Zurich
Canzoniere	28.02.2014	Zurich
Entre Terre & Mer	23.02.2014	Rue
Caveau du Cœur d’Or	21/22.02.2014	Chexbres
CITYCLUB	27.10.2012	Pully
Caveau du Cœur d’Or	8/9.06.2012	Chexbres