

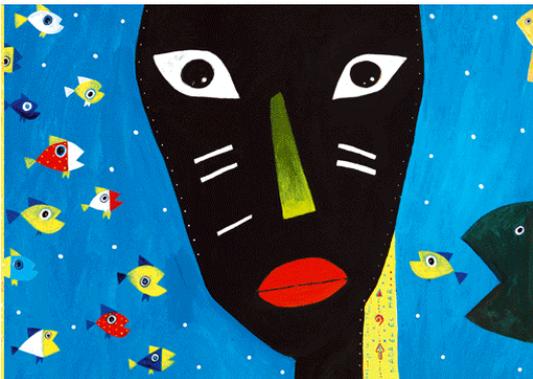
Saint-George - Wozniak

Le Maestro et le Peintre

St. George - Wozniak

The Maestro and Painter

"Colors, you are the tears Colors, you are crying," Guy Béart



Break down barriers between different artistic expressions to melt them in one setting: this is the concept of the new concert / show and which is proposed by the association "the Concert of Monsieur de Saint-George" in close collaboration with Wozniak.

The show, scheduled for 2016, will feature animated images of the painter on a music served by a chamber orchestra enriched with a solo violinist, a harpsichordist and a soprano who will perform the works of St. George. Projections of paintings, characters that haunt his portrait gallery, videos and improvisations will evolve on the music of "the chevalier".

Wozniak is one of the first artists to have had a passion for the rediscovery work of the "Black Mozart", conducted since the creation of the association in 1999. Drawings for the website and paintings for CD covers have succeeded to value the great works of this son of a slave and a French gentleman. In the early 2000s, when he created this beautiful idea of pictures and music" with the inventor of free jazz, Archie Shepp, Wozniak, for the first time, mentioned to us his idea to mix the two most popular artistic expressions. Fifteen years later, he followed up the performances with the great saxophonist, and with the jazz drummer Ramon Lopez, and singer Manu Chao.

The idea of working on his pictures with classical music as support and to animate them on that of St. George music, dense and emblematic composer, was evident. First, the two palettes, one of the composer and one of the painter match perfectly. The music of the Caribbean virtuoso climbs from bass to treble at a disheveled rate, alternating extreme contrasts between melancholy and joy. The painting of the artist of Polish origin, a political exile, explodes in flamboyant colors, like those of Chagall and his characters sometimes express unbridled joy, sometimes a profound melancholy. Wozniak painted southern peoples pain. It also carries with it their hopes, and their enthusiasm.



It is also the historical meaning of this show: to show how St. George is a man of today, he, who suffered racist prejudice, rebelled against the abomination of slavery and fought, sword in hand, for freedom.

St. George, today symbolizes the children who suffer, women mutilated, tears flowing. These are the vessels that are damaged in the oceans of water and indifference. His music, which always ends with odes to joy is also a song of hope. Like Wozniak's painting.



Biography

SAINT-GEORGE



Half-breed born from a senegalese slave mother and a noble planter, the chevalier de Saint-George appears as one of the most romanesque figures of the 18th century. After a childhood raised in the West Indies Guadeloupe Island, this elegant half breed was quickly adopted by the parisian aristocracy for his numerous and great talents : swordsman, danser, seducer and mainly as violinist, composer and orchestra leader.

Named by Gossec conductor of the Concert des amateurs orchestra and later the concert de l'Olympique which play regularly before hundreds of listeners a few times a week, this black man commissions Haydn for his six Parisian symphonies which he creates in Paris. Saint-George is also reputed for his virtuoso talents as violinist as well as for his compositions. Concertos written by this extraordinary musician attract a great public to the hotel de Soubise where the concert des amateurs take place (80 musicians)! Also his operas (one of the librettos is written by Choderlos de Laclos: author of liaison dangereuses) receive an undeniable popular success at the Comédie italienne situated near the actual Opéra comique. His reputation as conductor is such that his orchestras are considered the best in Europe!

First coloured man intronised as freemason in France, he is a close friend of the duke d'Orléans. He lives in one of the most luxurious left bank mansion. Saint-George is named as director of the royal opera by the king Louis XVI who is then obliged to abandon his choice having to face a refusal from opera singers who stays in London enhance his reputation as swordsman and match organised by his friend the young Prince of Wales he is given as opponent the chevalier d'Eon who has become "the chevalière!"



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He wholeheartedly joins the French Revolution and creates a military unit : the American hussars regiment composed of blacks and half-breeds and named : Saint-George legion. He stops General Dumourriez the ex winner of the battle of Valmy who has turned against the Revolution. This first black colonel of the French army will pay a high price for his contribution to the French Revolution.

Abandoned by his protectors, he will go on as an orchestra leader but will live modestly compared to the luxury life he led under royalty. He will die in 1799 aged 60. "The Voltaire of music" says the abbé Grégoire, "Watteau of music" for La Laurencie, Saint-George in his time was highly praised in Paris – and London maybe – more than Mozart. He appears today as one of the major shipwrecked personalities of history.



Biography

WOZNIAK

Jacek Woźniak was born in 1954 in Krakow, Poland. If he bathes in his childhood in the world of art and the press -his father is a renown writer and journalist. Woźniak began his artistic career as an autodidact in revolt and political commitment. He published his first drawings in the influential Polish newspaper *Polytyka*. In 1980, in a period of crisis in the communist countries of Eastern Europe, he is actively involved in the development of news bulletins of *Solidarnosc* and also contributes to the publication of propaganda posters for many movements of strikers.



His work for *Solidarnosc* won him three months in prison and a forced exile in Paris, where he now lives. Quickly, his nature overcomes this change, and Woźniak starts to work for the press: *La Croix*, *Le Monde*, *Le Point*, *The Event of Thursday*, *Liberation*, *Playboy*, *Expansion*, *VOD*, etc. Much of the French media enjoy the talents of this satirical cartoonist genius. The year 1986 remains his professional turning point: , indeed, Woźniak publishes, his first drawing for *Le Canard Enchaîné*. He still works there today and every week, illustrates the cinema section, and political news.



Bulimic and a prolific artist, Woźniak, in the nineties, worked with France 2 for the cartoon "The Hard of the Wall," He also directed several animated films for AIDS and he creates, for the same period in 1998 the satirical website *Scurvy* with his friends Cabu, Kerleroux and Kiro.

But beyond the media aspects of his profession, Wozniak has never stopped painting. A painting in the service of poetry to address such crucial issues as those of migrants or of folly, a painting "*filled with footprints of colors so vivid, so intense, they tear a smile and excite the eye.*"



Today, illustrator, cartoonist, renown painter, he continues to maintain his "first loves", combining, as from the beginning of his career, painting and music. Evidenced by his successful collaborations and expo-concerts, notably with the jazz / rock band Krakow "Laboratorium", in Poland in the seventies, or more recently with Manu Chao, and their particularly fruitful and rich production: animation clips, album covers, posters, etc., just like those with Archi Shepp, the legendary creator of Free Jazz. The two men work together notably in 2000, on stage at the occasion of spectacular concerts combining music and animated pictures (a concept which he also declines with the drummer Ramon Lopez).

Exhibits

- October / December 2014: Foundation Jan Michalski, Montricher (Switzerland)
- March / April 2014: exhibition "Manwoz" Centro Cultural de la memoria Haroldo Conti, Buenos Aires
- June 2013 / March 2014: exhibition "Nazo Kanisa yo", Joan Miró Foundation, Mallorca
- March 2013: Obelisk Gallery, Paris
- June 2010: "Cuba miracle", French Institute, Barcelona
- May 2009: Cultural Centre, Guadalajara (Mexico)



Bibliography

Wozniak has published and co-published:

- I love Moscow (at Le Cherche pm)
- Revolution ! (Albin Michel)
- Those children who do not come from another planet: autistic (Howard Buten, Gallimard)
- Made in Guadany (Michel Santos, at the Bad Seed)
- Six billion prophets (with Yann Thomas, at Odeon)
- partial and biased ABC of globalization (with Ramón Chao & Ignacio Ramonet, Plon)
- Siberia Could Talk (Manu Chao)
- Stage Door (with Marjorie Guigue, at Ramsay)
- Cuba miracles (with Ramon and Antoine Chao and Marjorie Guigue Flammarion))
- Las andaduras del Che (Ramón Chao)
- The unprintable (with Cabu, in the Archipelago)
- Sarko, my love (with Archipelago)
- Chopin (at BD Jazz)
- Vive junk food (with JL Porquet O.Recasens, C.Labbé in Hoebeke)
- Manu Chao & ... there is the sea bottom off ... (at Because)...

