



Kulusé Souriant
DOUVAN



Official Launch : may 15th 2026

Biography

Deeply connected to his Caribbean roots as well as his early jazz influences, Kulusé Souriant is a versatile and always passionate drummer who has found his own voice by exploring many musical configurations. He was the composer and the bandleader of the contemporary jazz quintet Markit Zero with whom he played in many french venues and festivals (Jazz in Marciac, Sunset/Sunside...) from 2013 to 2019.



Kulusé grew up in a jazz musician family and is very attached to this music. Along his career, he played in many jazz bands such as Two Slides, Art Bop Jazztet or Swing Vandals. Loving jazz didn't prevent him to play in various other contexts including a forty drummers band (Ali Baba et les 40 batteurs) for ten years, a tour in Turkey with the rockabilly band Jerry Khan Bangers, a rock band with Maddy Keita, and to explore many creative music (Aram, Le Chantier, High Key...). He always was a substitute of choice in the Toulouse music scene, being able to adapt

to any genre. His curiosity prompted him to live in Rio de Janeiro in 2019 and travel South-America for two years.

Conscious that the Toulouse jazz scene was vibrant but not well enough represented, he co-founded the [Troisième Face collective](#), now regrouping more than one hundred young creative musicians. With the collective he had the chance to play with Romain Pilon, Nicolas Algans and Thomas Koenig. In 2017 and 2018, he recorded and toured with the Guadeloupean singer Edmony Krater, reconnecting with the music of his ancestors – Gwo Ka – and having the opportunity to play in La Cigale (Paris), Earth Garden Festival (Malta) and African Acid is the Future (Berlin) among other places.

In 2018 Kulusé was teaching in Toulouse Jean-Jaurès University of Jazz where he had studied (notably with Jean-Marc Padovani and Marc Ducret), as well a giving drums lessons in Montrabé music school and Agostini drums school, another school he graduated from.

In 2021 Kulusé moved to New York where he studied at the New School of Jazz under the wise guidance of Ari Hoenig, Allison Miller, Reggie Workman, Darcy James Argue and Darius Jones.

He finally settles down to Montreal where he earned a master degree in jazz

performance and composition at UdeM. Curious of other cultures, Kulusé plays with the Colombian jazz bands Jomalé and Santiago Ferrer trio, in the latin-jazz band of his former teacher Julián Gutierrez and with the Argentinian songwriter Julian Muro, releasing soon an album under the direction of Dave Douglas.

He created a new band in Montreal with which he recorded his debut album ["Douvan"](#) on Effendi Records.

Renowned for his great musicality, Kulusé is a sensitive and solid drummer who defends a very personal approach to the instrument and to music.

The album « Douvan »

Drummer and composer, Kulusé Souriant presents his forthcoming debut album *Douvan*, featuring a contrasting, highly personal and deeply lyrical music. Written on return from a trip to his island of origin, Guadeloupe, the album *Douvan* is a call to reconnect with what's important, with oneself, with nature and with others, to better move forward.

"I started thinking about my identity as human being and as artist, about my role in this society", and I tried to write a music that sounded like me. But I also gave my musicians the freedom to evolve my initial ideas to build a collective vision."

KULUSÉ SOURIANT **DOUVAN**

DOUVAN

Geneviève Gauthier alto saxophone
Antonin Bourgault tenor saxophone, effects
Salomé Perli fender rhodes, synths, voice, effects
Santiago Ferrer piano
Sean Burke double bass
Kulusé Souriant drums, perc, boulagyé, composition

Malika Tirolien voice on "Horizon"
Leo "Tibao" Leborgne ka, boulagyé, perc on "Anecdote"
Jaklin Etienne voice on "Heritage"

Recording, Mix & Mastering by Marc-Antoine Lussier
Artwork by Adeline Martiny
Original picture by Quentin Ducados

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FND177 - Effendi Records 2025
www.effendirecords.com
made in Canada

1 Horizon (feat. Malika Tirolien) 08:10
2 Resilience 06:34
3 Anecdote (feat. Leo Tibao Leborgne) 09:33
4 Solitude 08:44
5 Heritage (feat. Jaklin Etienne) 02:06
6 Gratitude 05:42
7 Refuge 10:55
8 Rhizome 08:10
9 Compassion 04:28

NAXOS **SODEC** **Québec** **EFFENDI records** **musicaction** **TROISIÈME FACE**

The ensemble, composed of musicians from diverse backgrounds, was able to draw on the richness of each individual to develop a unique sound and a common language.

Credits & links

Geneviève Gauthier – Alto saxophone
Antonin Bourgault – Tenor saxophone, effects
Santiago Ferrer – Piano
Salomé Perli – Voice, keyboards, effects
Sean Burke – Double bass
Kulusé Souriant – Drums, percussions, boulagyèl, composition

Guests :

Malika Tirolien – Voice on “Horizon”
Jaklin Étienne – Voice on “Heritage”
Léo Tibao Leborgne – Ka, percussions, boulagyèl on « Anecdote »

Marc-Antoine Lussier – Recording, mix & mastering
Adeline Martiny – Artwok
Quentin Ducados – Original Picture

[Album Teaser](#)

[Horizon \(feat. Malika Tirolien\)](#)

[Anecdote \(feat. Léo Tibao Leborgne\)](#)

[Streaming links](#)

Press & Radio

[Quand le jazz est là \(Radio Canada\) – may 19th, 2026](#)

[Jazzistiquement Vôtre \(CIBL\) – may 12th, 2026](#)

[Show Review \(Panm360\) – may 21st, 2026](#)

[Album Review \(SortiesJazzNights\) – june 11th, 2026](#)

[Plein Jazz \(Radio FMR\) – march 21st, 2026](#)

They talk about us

"The Kulusé Souriant collective offers an enchanting, exploratory vocal jazz that evokes the soundscape of Nils Petter Molvaer and the refined productions of the ECM label. With a progressive and evolving structure, the album Douvan unfolds skillful melodies and measured exploratory impulses, served with just the right touch of audacity. This debut opus, deeply lyrical, bears witness to great musicality where every note is crafted to reach the listener, without ever falling into the superfluous."

Boulimique de musique – 2026

"From one piece to the next, the musicians are showcased. The saxophones alternate, sometimes even synchronizing. During some of Geneviève's solos, Kulusé seemed to savor the moment, closing his eyes to better absorb it. We are immersed in different musical worlds throughout the concert, moving from gentle and introspective to more intense moments with breathtaking solos."

Sandra Gasana – Panm360 2026

"For a first album, we discover a consistent novelty marked by very close attention to the composition, the choice of works as well as the complement between the different performers."

Christophe Rodriguez – SortiesJazzNights 2026

"These compositions show a great sense of detail, notably in the diversity of orchestral combinations, and the development that makes the orchestra play, and makes you forget that a beer is waiting for you at the bar."

Frank Bergerot – Jazz Magazine 2015

"Everything is coherent well constructed with original ideas with Markit Zero [...] you can let yourself stroll through their fluid, colorful and never demanding compositions"

Jury of the Tonnerre de Jazz competition – Billère 2015

"Here is a jazz which is not content to be heard in an absent-minded way, in bandwidth but which can be listened to with attention. Both written and free, it is nourished by strong impressionist connotations, structured by an impeccable groove which mixes electric, rock or ethnic influences without artifice, in a flexible way, and held at the end of sticks by the energetic drums of Kulusé Souriant."

The group functions as an explorer of atmospheres and moments. A day unfolds before us with its moments of calm or urgency, its evening rests, its worries and its whispers, its racing thoughts, its hurried madness and its little joys. Henri Lassemillante's loose, tender or wild double bass echoes the anxieties of the night. The woody sound, full of singing clarity of Carla Gaudré's soprano sax brings the day's unfolding. The steps or the guitar gallops of the beautiful rock or blues flights of Dorian Dutech, accompany the setbacks and the questions and the sometimes romantic, sometimes squeaky piano of Jules Gabriel marks the worries or the delusions.

Each color of the piece is transformed into a kaleidoscope, with an attractive diversity of orchestral compositions, a balance between harmony and melody, and a highlighting of each instrument. If a musician is silent it is to better leave room for the other and gently resume in echo or support. The listener does not let his guard down, but lets himself be carried away by pieces of frescoes, snippets of backlit cinemas.

An inventive and well alive jazz"

Annie Robert – Action Jazz 2016

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