

ISWOR

Biographie

ISWOR is an original musical trio, based out of Poitiers, France, motivating progressive original sounds and instrumentals. Their music includes elaborate sound modulations on slide electric and acoustic guitars and special string instruments, together with original drum work and screeching melodic violin play. Within an atypical sound research, experimentation and incubation, the ISWOR trio proposes songs touching on rock, blues, and folk influences, as well as Indian instrumentations.

In 2005, while on a humanitarian mission at Kathmandou, Nepal, Mehdi RIGAUD met with Iswor JOSHI, celebrated local Mohan Veena player (Indian guitar played in Lap steel format, comprising 8 melodic strings, with bluesy tones, and 12 extra sympathetic strings). Mr. Joshi sold one of his personal instruments to Mehdi, inspiring him, on his return to France, to modify his own electric and acoustic guitars, and play them in slide, similar to the play of the Mohan Veena. From this originated a solo musical project, which later was called Iswor, in tribute of the Nepalese musician.

After three years of composing and numerous solo concerts, Mehdi started working with a percussionist, André CAISSIE, who joined the Iswor music effort. His affiliation with the group proposed a percussive research with a modified drum kit, including diverse percussive and metallic sounds.

In June 2009, after many concerts in duo, the group integrated a saxophonist and clarinetist player, Mathieu LEMAIRE, to work on the first studio recording, the first album effort "Hamamelis". A French tour in France followed, with numerous presentations.

The following two years saw changes to the formation, including the leave of LEMAIRE and a new contribution from cello player Fanny PALARD to song arrangements. Iswor kept evolving this way, enriching its compositions and concert experiences. The current formation is comprised of a trio RIGAUD, CAISSIE, with the addition of violinist Jérémy SORIN, member since November 2011.

Iswor reentered the studio in May 2012 to record their second album effort, due out as early as May 2013.