

# noga

Hold back your voices, they will blossom

French with songs in Hebrew  
world-jazz - vibratory

## MUSICAL SPECTACLE

**What if, by mixing words and notes, present and past, languages and identities, we could shed light on the future?**

*« I was born in Geneva to a Berlin-born mother who emigrated from Germany, who fled Germany in 1933 to settle in Palestine. And to a father born in Haïfa, whose parents fled the pogroms of Kishinev in Moldavia. My father spoke several languages: Hebrew, Italian, English, French and Arabic. My paternal grandparents, whom I never knew, spoke Yiddish... »*

Noga welcomes us with open arms in her bedroom, her protected space, and relates...

The singer-actress weaves an intimate relationship between her personal story and millennia-old poems, the psalms of David. She invites her trio into her narrative and we find ourselves immersed into the heart of a polyphonic journey that blends theater and music, spoken word and song lyrics, each tune in Hebrew that allows for the emergence of memories linked to language and culture, memories that she evokes in French. In the course of Noga's thoughts, we navigate in her "little" story, which somehow joins our own and collides the "big" story across time and countries, at the crossroads of identities and dialects/languages/cultures.

Sounds, voices and instruments mingle for a sensory and emancipatory experience, shifting between Switzerland, Israel, Germany and Moldavia -- in a music that lies at the heart of our own time and echoes with everlasting sounds.



**“ ... daring and very inventive...  
A highly unusual journey, one in which the profane and sacred intersect with great freedom - LE MONDE, Patrick Labesse.  
(about the album LEV)**

Original idea, artistic direction and text: **Noga**  
Concept, editing, stagecraft and acting direction: **Sephora Haymann**  
Stage design and lighting creation: **Alex Kurth**  
Sound management: **I van Verda**  
With  
**Noga**: vocals, keyboard, small instruments  
**Patrick Bebey** : keyboard, senza, pygmy flute, vocals  
**Arnaud Laprêt** : percussions

Music: released on the album LEV (Evidence Music 2023), all tracks are composed by Noga, except for three traditional tracks revisited in their arrangements. The songs are excerpts from psalms of David/traditional songs that Noga selected and assembled.



[www.nogospace.com](http://www.nogospace.com)  
[www.youtube.com/nogaofficial](https://www.youtube.com/nogaofficial)  
[www.instagram.com/nogaofficial](https://www.instagram.com/nogaofficial)  
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[www.spotify.com/track/3Q6UsAX](https://www.spotify.com/track/3Q6UsAX)  
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## noga

A Swiss artist of Israeli-German origin, the singer, actress, musician and improviser Noga has developed a twenty year career that embraces side roads, in complete freedom. Over time and creations (notably more than ten albums, including one which was issued by Sony), her conviction in the transformative power of the voice has been affirmed.

Brought up in the Hebrew tradition, Noga has an intimate relationship with this language, which she loves to put into dialogue with all languages, to touch the soul. Faced with rising anxiety, she immersed herself in the psalms as long ago as 2020 and subsequently recorded her album LEV (*spiritual but not religious ou more spiritual than religious*), which was eventually released in early 2023. At that time, the first rehearsals for the musical spectacle *Hold back your voices, they will blossom* had begun. Noga had no idea of the turn international events would take and what we, one and all, would have to face... What to do when the very idea of humanity falters? More than ever, not remain silent and try to shed a little light...

Noga is also known for her sonoga© pedagogy and the centers to which she devotes herself. They are like oases where guests reinvent living well together, renew certain rituals and reinvest in the spiritual.

## Patrick Bebey

A multi-talented musician, Patrick Bebey studied classical music, Jazz, Brazilian and African music at the Paris Conservatory. Of Cameroonian origin, he is son of the famous "African music visionary" Francis Bebey, with whom he played prolifically. He works with well-known artists such as Arcade Fire, Mory Kante, CharElieCouture, Papa Wemba, Francis Lalanne, Myriam Makeba, MininoGaray, Pierre Vassiliu aso. Patrick also performs as a guest soloist-composer with classical orchestras. Encompassing African tradition, jazz, and songs, he plays multiple keyboard instruments - among them piano, synthesizer, and sanza - in addition to the pygmy flute and percussion. His voice exudes an astonishing spectrum, which draws from the heritage and vocal techniques of his origins. During his group concerts, he is accompanied by the best of the Parisian world jazz music. Patrick is also a much sought-after arranger. Committed to transmitting the ancestral breath of African music, and a great humanist who mixes seriousness, fantasy, and humor, Patrick has been accompanying Noga since 2010.

## Arnaud Laprêt

A trained percussionist and drummer, Arnaud has performed on stage and in the studio with numerous groups, from improvised music (with the "collectif Grolektif" in Lyon, Denis Badault, Stéphane Payen), dub (with "les Dynamics"), blues (with "Automatic City"), experimental electronics (with his solo "Bongo808", Booster), french song (Lior Shoov, Miossec, Pauline Croze, Cléa Vincent, Michèle Bernard), theater (cie Théâtre Déplié), and the circus (Surnatural Orchestra). Simultaneously, Arnaud composes and produces the music for numerous documentary films. Passionate about various crafts and technologies, he trained in studio techniques and sound design. Arnaud divides his time between the stage and the studio, producing albums for various artists. Regarding sound recording, mixing, and mastering, he has worked for: Le Migou, Birgrel, Steve Waring, Pauline Croze, La Litanie des Cimes, O.U.R.S, Elodie Pasquier et Gilles Coronado, Pimai, Mr Lulu, and This Is Avalanche...

## Sephora Haymann

Actress, author, dramatist and co-director of the WeToo festival, feminist and family oriented, Séphora Haymann regularly accompanies directors at the dramaturgy, including recently Muriel Coulin on Charlotte (Rond-Point) or Julie Foronget on You don't own me (Echangeur). She writes, designs, plays and stages her own creations according to a form of documentary theater with Vanessa Bettane within the company Mare Nostrum. And their dancing brains is currently on tour and To be continued, next creation, will be created in 2024.



## Decor

The stage could be bare, were it not for the keyboards, the percussion and the microphones that accompany it, not to mention the set of diatonic bells, in childhood colors.

Little girl's room and "one's own room", the room is a space of memory where flashes arise: snapshots, sequences, presences, voices from the past. That of Noga's mother, for example, through which the story takes shape.

Few accessories: hanging, filled sheets and empty frames, a piece of furniture and two mats, a few books, a cassette recorder...

Light plays a key role.

## Acts

The eleven songs in Hebrew blend into the spoken word in French, they establish a link between the acts, intertwining.

- Bedroom
- The Scream
- Lasagna
- The bastard
- The question

## Themes

- Relationship to language
- Return to oneself - Identity
- Emancipation
- Heritage - thousand-year-old poems - psalms

## Creation

January 2022: First stage of work with the recording of the LEV album.

Summer 2022: the show starts from this raw material, continues and deepens Noga's reflections on her origins and languages, in order to open up a new dimension.

December 2022: Creation residency at the Silo in Mérévilleis - France (91)

Writing on stage from the autobiographical elements collected – First public performance, the show is built upon a close relationship with the public.

February 2023: Residency 2 - Catalyse in Geneva – Switzerland - Continuation of writing work on set.

June 2023: Residency 3 - Alchimic Theater in Geneva, Switzerland.

September 2023: Residency 4 – Caecilia Theater in Geneva, Switzerland

## Practical infos

Duration : 80 min, without break

Sound and lighting according to technical rider provided (adaptable)

Stage measures (idealy) minimum 6m wide / 6m depth 7 4m height

Black box if possible

A good sound system - we can adapt if necessary

Production : goElan

With the support of :

Théâtre Alchimic - Genève /CH

Théâtre Caecilia - Genève/CH

Catalyse - Genève /CH

Le Silo - Mérévilleis /FR

