

OCTANTRION



Trained on the violin both by oral tradition and by a conservatory course, she then turned to nyckelharpa and Scandinavian music. She will thus be the first French musician to complete a full training at the Erik Sahlström Institute in Sweden -2003-2004- a country whose language and culture she will embrace.

Inspired from her childhood by traditional, classical or baroque music, or even French song, her limitless curiosity the door to new sound and creative territories and many musical collaborations from very varied horizons, in France and abroad. .

Passionate about collective play, transversality, compositions and "sharing of ideas", she participated in the creation of BOANN in 2004, a Celtic music quartet, SYM in 2007 (England / Norway / France) string trio which will tour for a few years in England, Norway and France, then TOKSO Folk String Quartet in 2008 (Norway / Crete / France) which released its 3rd album for the group's ten years in 2018.

In 2007, she received a commission from the "les Boréales" festival in Normandy, focused on Scandinavian literature, for the creation of a show for young audiences. She joins the company of Martin Coudroy, a Breton accordionist passionate about Scandinavian culture and musician. Together, they created the musical tale "Le Merveilleux Voyage de Nils Holgersson" which will be a flagship show of the 2015-2017 JMF tour and which has been in theaters all over France for almost 15 years. An English version was also played in Wales or in Belgium!

In 2012, she created, with Gaëdic CHAMBRIER, the duo OCTANTRION which will be spotted by Jean-François ZYGEL: the group will be devoted a long sequence in the Music Box in 2015, participating in the recording of a DVD of the program (released by Naïve).

The duo Octantrion is signed by Quart de Lune and distributed by UVM.

Proudly wearing the colors of Scandinavian culture, and appointed as a specialist in nyckelharpa in France, she is regularly invited and has worked on stage or in the studio with:

- Malicorne, Gabriel Yacoub (2014)
- Laurent Vercambre (2014)
- Eskelina (Album The Vertical 2017)
- The Green Box (Album 2017)
- Tour with Rue Kétanou (2017)
- Orchester National de Lyon, hardingfele solo in Peer Gynt (2018)
- Adventure video game soundtrack, A Plague Tale, Innocence (2019)
- Soundtrack of an animated film "Maija" (2019)
- Audiobook at Audible: the Divine Comedy of Amélie Nothomb (2021).

She founded with Gaëdic Chambrier the Compagnie de l'Essaim, in 2008, an associative structure which takes care of the administrative aspect of their shows, the recording of albums via their private studio, Vargstudio, the production of books and records and the dissemination of their activities.

Passionate about transmission, she regularly teaches the practice of nyckelharpa during internships in France and abroad and, in 2016, writes a method for learning the instrument, as well as collections of scores.

Many nyckelharpa players in France have been training alongside her for 15 years. She conducts the "Ensemble de nyckelharpa" which will have the opportunity to share the stage with the famous Swedish group Väsen in March 2018!

She also works in close collaboration with Jean-Claude CONDI, luthier and bow maker specializing in the instrument, and they reflect, together, on evolutions of the instrument (such as the "Billy" keyboard).

Since 2014 she has been training with Jérôme Hantaï on bass viol and baroque music.

Eléonore BILLY is endorsed by SAVAREZ strings.