

Gwendoline

Roll Call

We are two members for writing.

Pierre : lead singer and synth

Mickoune : lead singer, guitar, drums productions, and synth

For live performances, Romain and Maëlan accompany us at synths.

When did the band form and what was the original intention of the band?

Gwendoline : Gwendoline started out in a bar called Le Terminus in the Gare Sud neighborhood of Rennes in 2017. After several rounds of Ricard (a French aniseed-flavored spirit) and passionate conversations, we decided to form the band. Our goal was to speak with no filters of our personal demons, about the loss of sense in our lives and about all this Macronist generation that sickens us. Our country, just like our president, is getting more and more liberalist, taken up in this worldwide race for productivity and new technologies. We don't feel like we belong at all in this consumerist religion and we wanted to spit real hard on people who concur with this society and almost brag about it in their behaviors. ("You don't have a smartphone?" How do you even live without one? Look at all I can do with mine!"). All of that just despairs us.

About your name: how does it communicate the sound or vibe of the band?

G : Gwendoline is just a generic lady first name that we find very ugly. It just cracked us up to take an ugly, useless name, without any particular meaning. It's just a way of showing that we do this without any pretentiousness, that this project was not a way for us to communicate anything, that we don't take ourselves for novelists.

How would you describe your music to someone who has not yet heard you?

G : Right-wing music made by people on the left or vice versa. Actually, our lyrics are full of contradictions: either we say things that we really mean, or we put ourselves in the shoes of people with ideologies or behaviors that we hate in order to ridicule them. The idea is to make something funny and very depressing at the same time. Musically, we take a lot of our inspirations in cold wave (Lebanon Hanover, Motorama, Noir Boy George, She Past Away...) and we just talk over the music.

What inspires you to create this style of music?

G : Humanity's depression, all the negative waves that surround us. Me and Mickoune often go to bars, we observe people, we drink and talk about what we see and what we hate to see. It inspires us a lot for the lyrics. Other than that, we relate a lot to the whole hip hop culture and this way of taking up the microphone to narrate one's life, even though it has nothing to do with the music we make.

What influences in fashion, literature, and culture impact your creativity?

G : We have no specific influences for this project. Only humanity. We're not very interested in fashion. As for films and literature, we enjoy thrillers and science-fiction for the distressing ambiances. We also watched loads of *Strip-Tease*, a Belgian documentary television show from the late 1980s that immerses the viewer in people's everyday lives.

What other bands are inspiring you right now?

G : Tripwires.

How would you describe the current alternative music scene where you live?

G : Actually, we don't know many bands around us that are in the same genre as us. We mostly hang out with people with whom we share and defend the same vision of music. Bands that don't seek at all price to enter band competitions, battle of the bands and so on, or to consent to anything in order to gain some popularity. We like bands from our region (Brittany) like Lesneu, Mermonte, Bantam Lyons, Djokovic... there are some associations and bars in Rennes that follow the same dynamic of not taking themselves seriously.

What are your favorite tour or stage stories? Share 'em here.

G : We don't know, we haven't done too many concerts yet. Our first gig took place in a small bar in Angers, all our friends were in the front, chanting the lyrics, that was funny. The day after, we played a gig in Brest, a town at the very western end of Brittany. When we got back from there, we drove through a very violent storm, it was surrealistic. At our last gig, the police arrived during our last song to have a word with the party organizers. Very funny as well...

Tell us about your latest release.

G : *Après c'est gobelet* is a physical release of our first album. It was released on the Dead Wax Records label, which we thank greatly for its perseverance and work.

What's next for your band?

G : We're working on a new album. We're trying to stay in the same vein as the first one. We'll see if it ever gets released, we make it according to our inspiration, without any pressure at all.

We also are going to try and put on some gigs, even though it's complicated to look to the future these days.

Where can people find out more about your band and any other projects members are involved in?

On our Bandcamp: gwendoline.bandcamp.com
musicfromthemassex.bandcamp.com/album/mirage
kshantu.bandcamp.com/album/melatonin-spreec
desroses.bandcamp.com



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