

2024

ALEX
MADELINE

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SONIC JOURNEYS.

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ARTIST BIO

Alex Madeline, a French-born and trained saxophonist and composer, has become a vibrant force in the American jazz scene. His artistic journey has been marked by a profound connection to both classical and jazz traditions, through which he has beautifully infused his unique flair to create compositions that bring novel sonic experiences to the international jazz stage.

Early years and education

After discovering a love for the saxophone at age 14, Alex embarked on a musical journey which laid the foundation for his mission - to find the stories untold and through music, unravel them in a way that allows himself and his audience to travel into the in-between spaces - into the dream state, beyond the earthly realm.

This passion propelled him to the renowned Caen Conservatory at age 16 and at 20, Alex earned his diploma in classical saxophone, showcasing early signs of his commitment to musical excellence. Two years later, he obtained his diploma in jazz from Versailles Conservatory, training with Sylvain Beuf.

Journey to the USA

From the heart of Europe to the vibrant landscapes of the USA, Alex pursued his dreams. In 2013, he received a European scholarship that opened the doors to the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston and studied under the tutelage of George Garzone, Bill Pierce and Hal Crook.



photo cred: Mikhail Lipyanskiy

ARTIST BIO

CONT.

This transformative experience honed his skills, earning him a degree in jazz performance and setting the stage for a remarkable career, including performances and international collaborations, alongside acclaimed artists such as pianist Emil Afrasiyab and the bassist Antoine Katz, as well as renowned musicians such as Terrence Blanchard, Jon Clayton, and the legendary Bob James.

Awards and Debut album

Living in New York City, Alex immersed himself in the vibrant jazz scene, frequenting iconic venues, drawing inspiration in the beats and eccentric experiences on the Big Apple streets.

Alex channeled his inspiration into the creation of his own projects and musical expressions, now releasing into the world as his debut album "Unexpected Direction". In 2022, Alex was awarded the Queens Council on the Arts New Work Grant for this project, the "Alex Madeline Direction Band.". His journey has been punctuated by a multitude of accolades, including the prestigious Paul Wagner Award in 2015.

Global performances and collaborations

Recognized for his exceptional talent, Alex has graced renowned venues worldwide, from the iconic Carnegie Hall and the Blue Note in NYC to the illustrious Kennedy Center. As opening acts for Maceo Parker (as part of his band TBK) and Iggy Pop (featured in the rock band Kim Novak), his music has resonated at international festivals, including the Saint Germain d'ès Près Jazz Festival in Paris and the Mugham Center in Baku, Azerbaijan, showcasing the depth and versatility of his artistry.



photo cred: Mikhail Lipyanskiy

Sharing the stage and studio

Today, in between the stage and studio, Alex shares his professional experience and passion with the younger generations. In 2021, honored as a "Guest in residency" at the Conservatory of Lille in France, Alex conducted a four-day master class on thematic development in improvisation. In the same year, Radiofrance featured his insights on the technical elements of bebop - the 1940's jazz delivery style of the greats, like Charlie Parker.

Giving life to music as his voice

Alex's compositions are more than arrangements; rather they are poetic progressions and living entities that pull at the essence of the listener. He has crafted musical phrases described as "breathtaking" and compositions that are "rich, intelligent yet universally accessible" (Michael Valeanu). He has succeeded in finding ways in which to express harmonic vibes that unlock unexpected emotion and reveal his "unique voice with perfect control of execution and creativity in a Jazz improvisational setting" (Clovis Nicolas).

In the realm of Alex Madeline's music, every composition is an invitation—to find freedom through his art.



MUSIC BIO

From the heart of Europe to the vibrant landscapes of the USA, saxophonist and composer, Alex Madeline is continuously seeking the music that reveals the stories yearning to be told. He discovered his love for the saxophone at age 14 and has since infused 17 years of professional classical jazz into being a musician - composer who creatively brings novel sonic experiences to the international jazz stage.

Recognized for his exceptional talent, Alex was awarded a scholarship to the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston where he studied under the tutelage of George Garzone, Bill Pierce and Hal Crook. Since then he has garnered prestigious awards, including: Paul Wagner Award in 2014 and the Queens Council on the Arts New Work Grant in 2022.

His performances have graced renowned venues worldwide, from the iconic Carnegie Hall and the Blue Note in NYC to the illustrious Kennedy Center. As opening acts for Maceo Parker (as part of his band TBK) and Iggy Pop (featured in the rock band Kim Novak), his music has resonated at international festivals, including the Saint Germain dès Près Jazz Festival in Paris and the Mugham Center in Baku, Azerbaijan, showcasing the depth and versatility of his artistry. Alex has collaborated with luminaries in the music industry, including multi-Grammy award-winner Terence Blanchard, Jon Clayton, and Bob James.



Alex is infectiously passionate about his musical endeavors which reflect a commitment to pushing the boundaries and exploring new artistic frontiers. In the realm of Alex Madeline's music, every composition is an invitation—a practice, a progression, a discovery. It is a magical transformation that strips the listener bare, transports them into the places in-between and beyond, leaving them changed and whole. A testament to the deep love and passion Madeline shares with the world - finding freedom through his art.

Alex brings the world his long-awaited debut album "Unexpected Direction". Inspired by his journey as a young musician, into a new country - the heartbeat of Jazz, speaking a new language and meeting people from all around the world. Life will take you into unexpected directions if you let go - and flow.



ARTIST STATEMENT

Jazz Alchemy: Traveling the Uncharted Realms of Rhythm and Time

I love making music because I can travel through places that don't exist on earth to sonic spaces where pure expression takes flight, where I feel free.

As a French-born artist and now New York City jazz scene composer and saxophonist, I infuse my worlds into my music. I create in the flow of experimentation, allowing an experience, thought, emotion or dream lingering in my mind to take form in a piano progression. Then, allowing each arrangement of notes to unfold organically, revealing itself and evolving into unexpected directions - into fully realized compositions - seeking for the stories untold, both on stage and in the studio and sometimes just in time to be captured on record.

Music is the voice of balance in a world of diversity. And Jazz, to truly hear and understand it, one must remain open— to the flow of the inner tempo, the exploration of identity, vulnerability, and the beauty found in imperfection, both individually and collectively. The in-between note, the off-beat tempo and the harmonic vibe that perfectly blends in chaos and calm. It's a fusion of introspection and observation, anchoring you in the present moment.

In my endeavor to create musical journeys that move, transform and transcend, I offer you a glimpse, an invitation - to travel in the way that I do when I play and create, to tap into the energy of the collective sound and embark on a transformative journey, into the unexplored parts of your being.

PRESS RELEASE

Daring into the Unexpected Directions of Rhythm and Time: Alex Madeline Unveils Debut Album "Unexpected direction"

New York City, January 19th, Renowned international artist Alex Madeline, known for seamlessly blending American jazz with French flair, is set to embark on an exhilarating musical journey with the release of his debut album, "Unexpected Direction." The album's first single, "Balance," will be available on all music platforms starting January 19th, offering listeners a taste of Madeline's unique approach to jazz and his ability to navigate the unexpected twists of rhythm and time.

Madeline's musical journey started at the age of 9, blossoming into a lifelong affair with music when he discovered the saxophone at 14. And now, with over 17 years of experience, his passion is felt in every note. His music is like a language that goes beyond words, allowing listeners to imagine new places and feelings.

Hailed as possessing a "unique voice with perfect control of execution and creativity in a Jazz improvisational setting" (Clovis Nicolas), Madeline has crafted musical phrases described as "breathtaking" and compositions that are "rich, intelligent yet universally accessible" (Michael Vaeleanu). His formal education at the renowned Caen and Versailles Conservatories laid the foundation for a remarkable career that has seen him collaborate with famous musicians such as Terrence Blanchard, Jon Clayton, and the legendary Bob James.

Madeline's journey includes receiving a European scholarship that led to enrollment at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston in 2013 where he studied with George Garzone, Bill Pierce, Hal Crook. His eclectic style, seamlessly blending jazz and classical influences, has captivated audiences from Carnegie Hall in NYC to the Kennedy Center of Performing Arts in Washington DC. Notable achievements include the prestigious Paul Wagner Award in 2015 and performing at festivals worldwide.

Reflecting on his favorite show at 'Culture Lab in 2022', where he introduced his new project, the "Unexpected Direction," Madeline fondly recalls receiving the New Work Grant from the Queens Council on the Arts. This grant enabled him to bring his full band on stage, including strings, and opened the door to new opportunities and recognition.

PRESS RELEASE CONT.

After immersing himself in the vibrant New York jazz scene, Madeline is sharing his love for music through master classes and was invited as honorary "Guest in residency" at the Conservatory of Lille (France). Madeline is poised to unveil the "Alex Madeline Music experience." His debut album, "Unexpected Direction," promises a transformative journey into the collective sound, offering listeners an invitation to explore the diverse energy that music embodies.

"Music is the voice of balance in a world of diversity. And Jazz, to truly hear and understand it, one must remain open— to the flow of the inner tempo, the exploration of identity, vulnerability, and the beauty found in imperfection, both individually and collectively. The balance of life in each of us." - Madeline.

"Balance," the first song to be released from the album, is inspired by the legendary saxophonist Wayne Shorter's "harmonic vibe" and created from the $\frac{3}{4}$ time signature which Madeline found hiding in the balance. The release will be available on all music platforms on January 19th.

Catch the magic of Madeline live on stage at Fiction on February 10th.
For more information, visit www.alexmadelinemusic.com.

ALEX MADELINE

A BIT ABOUT



New York City based

French born and trained

International Saxophonist - Composer

Professional musician - 17 years - 6 countries

Classical Jazz influences

Improvisation - centred compositions

Academic | Background

2004: Saxophone discovery (age: 14)

2010: Diploma in Classical Saxophone
Caen Conservatory (age: 20)

2012: Diploma (DEM) in Jazz
Versailles Conservatory (age: 22)
Trainer: Sylvain Beuf

2013: European scholarship from Berklee
Berklee College of Music in Boston
Trainers: George Garzone, Bill Pierce, Hal Crook
Full scholarship extended to 3 years.

Awards | Honorary work

2010: "Foire de Caen" Award
for Electro-jazz quintet project: "Band TBK"

2015: Paul Wagner Award

2021: 'Guest artist in Residency'
(By invitation from Conservatory of Lille)

2022: Queen's Council on the Art: New Work Grant for project "Alex Madeline Direction Band"

Noteworthy | Moments

Opening acts

Maceo Parker with "Band TBK" (France)

Iggy Pop with rock band "Kim Novak" (France)

Collaborations

Pianist Emil Afrasiyab and Bassist Antoine Katz
(Washington DC, Switzerland, France)

Multi-Grammy award winner trumpeter,
Terrence Blanchard & bassist, John Clayton
(Berklee Concert Jazz Orchestra)

Performance featuring

Pianist Bob James at the Baku Jazz festival.

Press | Contact

MEDIA/ BOOKINGS: info@alexmadelinemusic.com

LABEL: lyonhillrecords@gmail.com

EXISTING PRESS: www.alexmadelinemusic.com/press

Current work | Projects

Debut album: Unexpected Direction

Collaborations: Ensembles - Visit Gigs & Events

PRESS

Ouest-France

"Alex Madeline, this saxophonist from Caen who records in New York"

Read >

Jazz à Caen

"Support Alex Madeline's project"

Read >

Jazz à Caen

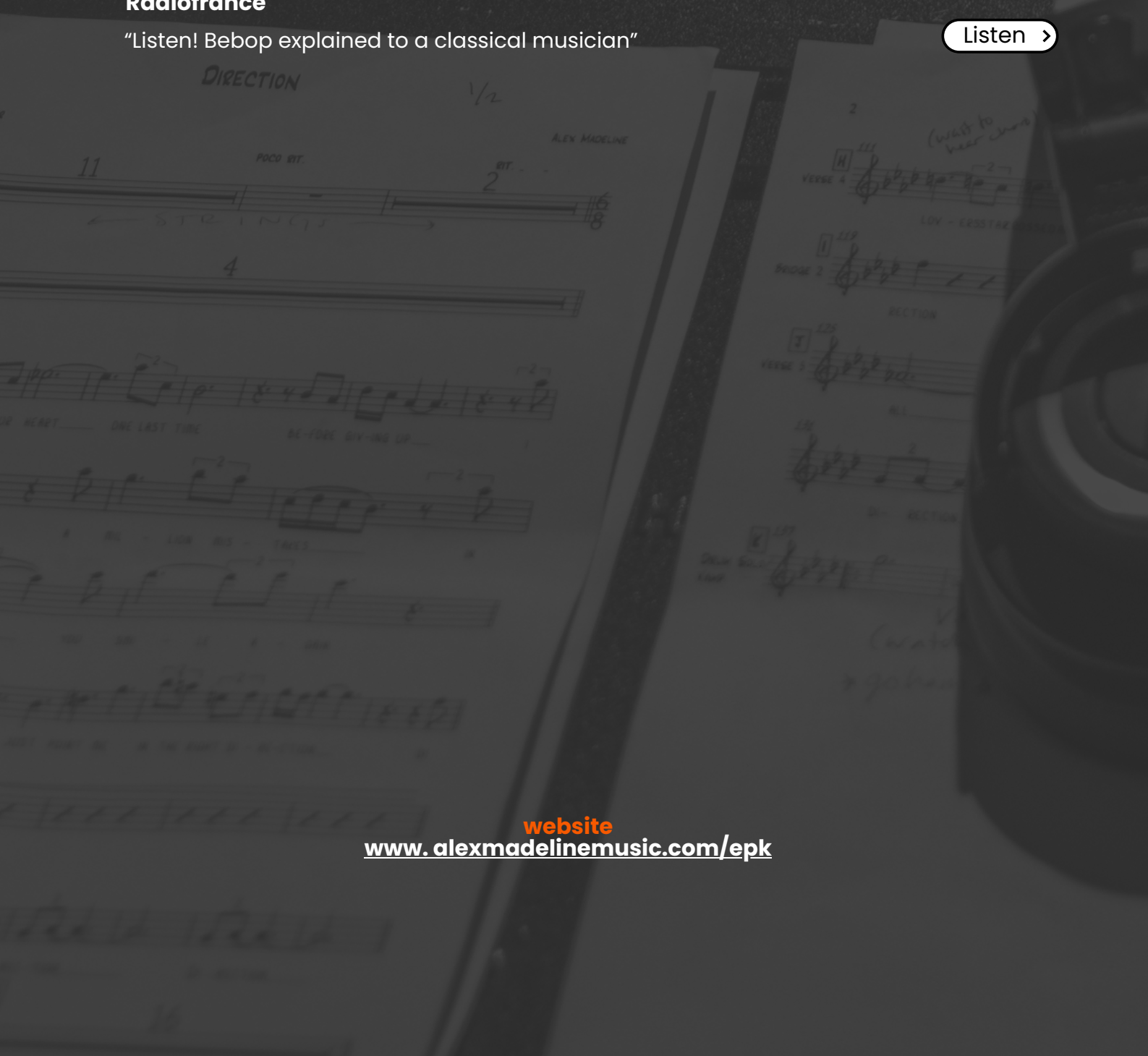
"Alexandre Madeline: the American dream"

Read >

Radiofrance

"Listen! Bebop explained to a classical musician"

Listen >



website
www.alexmadelinemusic.com/epk

PERFORMANCES

USA

Carnegie Hall (NYC)
The Blue Note Jazz Club (NYC)
Kennedy Center of Performing Arts (Washington DC)

France

Saint Germain dès Près Jazz Festival (Paris)
Sunset Sunside (Paris)
Sunnyside Jazz Festival (Reims)
Festival Jazz Sous Les Pommiers

Switzerland

The Kursaal (Bern)

Belgium

Gaume Jazz Festival
Music Village (Brussels)
L'Archiduc (Brussels)
"Sounds Jazz Club" (Brussels)

Netherlands

Den Haag

Azerbaijan

The Mugham Center
Baku Jazz festival



UNEXPECTED DIRECTION

MY DEBUT
ALBUM

Direction

Balance

OR3

Voyage

Thoughts

Dream

DIRECTION

Alex Madeline

Saxophone/ Composition/ String arrangement (with Jannek Zechner)

Sextet

- Sami Stevens : Vocal
- Michael Voleanu : Guitar
- Chris McCarthy : Piano
- Clovis Nicolas : Upright bass
- Clemens Grassmann : Drums

Recorded at Samurai Hotel Recording Studio in Astoria NY, Sound engineers: David Stroller and Grady Bajorek

String Quartet

- Sean Lim : Violin 1
- Josh Henderson : Violin 2
- Kayla Williams : Viola
- Julia Henderson : Cello

Recorded at Conveyor in Brooklyn NY Sound engineer: Andrew Sheron

Lyrics by Russell Johnson.

When I approach the piano, I improvise with chord changes. Beginning with a central key, I allow the bass line's motion to guide me, revealing the path the music desires to take, showing me where the song wants to go. This creative process inspired the title "Direction." The lyrics, written by my friend Russel Johnson, turning the word "direction" into a love story.



BALANCE

Alex Madeline

Saxophone/ Composition/ Lyrics/
String arrangement (with Martina
Liviero)

Sextet

- Sami Stevens : Vocal
- Michael Valeanu : Guitar
- Chris McCarthy : Piano
- Clovis Nicolas : Upright bass
- Clemens Grassmann : Drums

Recorded at Samurai Hotel
Recording Studio in Astoria NY,
Sound engineers: David Stroller
and Grady Bajorek

String Quartet

- Sean Lim : Violin 1
- Josh Henderson : Violin 2
- Kayla Williams : Viola
- Julia Henderson : Cello

Recorded at Conveyor in Brooklyn
NY Sound engineer: Andrew
Sheron

Inspired by sacophonist Wayne Shorter, I wrote or I composed a song with a harmonically rich atmosphere. I found a nice balance in the 3/4 time signature, and that inspired me to write lyrics about finding balance in life.

OR3

Alex Madeline

Saxophone/ Composition/ String arrangement

Sextet

- Sami Stevens : Vocal
- Michael Voleanu : Guitar
- Chris McCarthy : Piano
- Clovis Nicolas : Upright bass
- Clemens Grassmann : Drums

Recorded at Samurai Hotel Recording Studio in Astoria NY, Sound engineers: David Stroller and Grady Bajorek

String Quartet

- Sean Lim : Violin 1
- Josh Henderson : Violin 2
- Kayla Williams : Viola
- Julia Henderson : Cello

Recorded at Conveyor in Brooklyn NY
Sound engineer: Andrew Sheron

Extract of speech Carl Sagan "Pale blue dot"

This piece is part of a music collection I began working on a few years ago. As I listened to it again, I got inspired to write about evolution—how we, as humans, change. It's like the Earth, with life growing and fading away. The music starts with gentle guitar and piano sounds and transforms into something powerful and loud, much like life itself—full of randomness, surprises, and beautiful chaos.

VOYAGE

Alex Madeline

Saxophone/ Composition

Sextet

- Sami Stevens : Vocal
- Michael Valeanu : Guitar
- Chris McCarthy : Piano
- Clovis Nicolas : Upright bass
- Clemens Grassmann : Drums

Recorded at Samurai Hotel
Recording Studio in Astoria NY,
Sound engineers: David Stroller
and Grady Bajorek.

I aimed to blend Jazz and classical music, giving the song a bit of both. It has some classical vibes and a modern groove, kind of like a blend of old and new styles.

THOUGHTS

Alex Madeline

Saxophone/ Composition/ String arrangement

Sextet

- Sami Stevens : Vocal
- Simon Moullier : Vibraphone
- Chris McCarthy : Piano
- Clovis Nicolas : Upright bass
- Clemens Grassmann : Drums

Recorded at Samurai Hotel recording Studio in Astoria NY, Sound engineers: David Stroller.

I crafted a song about addiction, taking cues from modern jazz composers for the musical elements and drawing on my experiences on the streets of New York City for the lyrics. It all came together to capture the right vibe.

DREAM

Alex Madeline

Saxophone/ Composition

Sextet

- Sami Stevens : Vocal
- Simon Moullier : Vibraphone
- Chris McCarthy : Piano
- Clovis Nicolas : Upright bass
- Clemens Grassmann : Drums

Recorded at Samurai Hotel
Recording Studio in Astoria NY,
Sound engineers: David Stroller.

Video edited by Grady Bajorek.

I drew inspiration from a dream I had where I was flying. When you listen to the first notes, you can really feel the emotion. The mix of piano and vibraphone gives it a dreamy vibe, and the long melody feels like flying through the air.

GIGS & EVENTS

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A SONIC TIME TRAVEL JOURNEY

GIGS & EVENTS

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