

# Pieces of a Song



**CLOTILDE & CHRIS  
MCCARTHY**

Revue de presse  
Press reviews

## @skopemag Q&A Featuring the Chris McCarthy and Clotilde Duo

by Skope • December 1, 2019

We kick off December with an awesome Q&A from – Chris McCarthy and Clotilde Duo. With this duet, French vocalist, flutist and filmmaker Clotilde and acclaimed American keyboardist Chris McCarthy deepen their New-York born collaboration. Catch them live in NYC in 2 days –

On December 3 at 8pm, Abby London Crawford presents Clotilde and Chris Maccarthy in concert at Black Box Theater, 244 Rehearsal Studios in New York City – Tickets: \$20.



**When did you first know you wanted to become a musical artist? What was the first song you ever wrote?**

Chris McCarthy: I started at 10 and recorded an album. I wrote my first song after my first piano lesson cause my teacher told me to write something using only the black notes.

Clotilde: I started at 5. I was too small to play the flute which I wanted, so I had to spend a year doing only solfège. I wrote my first song when I was probably 7 or 8, we were writing « musical comedies » during summer with my sister and cousin.

**Who are some of your top 5 musical influences?**

Chris McCarthy: Stevie Wonder, Ahmad Jamal, Bach, Prince, McCoy Tyner

Clotilde: Gabriel Fauré, Stevie Wonder, The Beatles, The Great American song book, Meredith Monk

**What's in your IPOD this week?**

Chris McCarthy: Earl Sweatshirt, Sonny Rollins, Bon Iver, Professor Longhair

Clotilde: Jeanne Lee, Robert Wyatt, Kendrick Lamar, Farafina, Satie

### **How's the music scene in your locale?**

Chris McCarthy: I'm based in Brooklyn, and the scene is as vibrant as you would imagine, with all types of music happening around the city every night of the week.

Clotilde: I'm French, based between NYC and Paris. I'd say they are 2 quite dynamic scenes, where you can listen to any kind of music.

### **What do you like most about playing live?**

Chris McCarthy: What Clotilde said!

Clotilde: the interaction with the audience, taking risks, improvisation, finding the same breathing with the musicians

### **Is there a song on your latest CD release here that stands out as your personal favorite, and why?**

Chris McCarthy: My new album coming out in April is all original material, and this is my first release to feature only originals.

Clotilde : My latest release is mainly covers of the great American female protest singers. I guess one of my favorite one is the cover we did from Save the Children (by Marvin Gaye) inspired from Marlena Shaw's version. I like the twisted ending we added, and also the lyrics are still so accurate and resonating.

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### **What's the best concert you've been to?**

Chris McCarthy: I saw Bon Iver in Brooklyn last month and was blown away, that was my favorite show of this year.

Clotilde: That's a two hard question to be answered to. ha!

### **If you could meet, play a gig, co-write a song, have dinner, have a drink with any band or artist (dead or alive) who would it be?**

Chris McCarthy: Prince.

Clotilde: Nina Simone or Jeanne Lee or Meredith Monk. I will actually attend to one of her workshops early December! A dream come true!

### **What are your goals for the future?**

Chris McCarthy: To travel the world playing creative music that inspires others.

Clotilde: What Chris said! Yeah, always being more creative, explore different art forms, have no limit in

## **@skopemag Interview Q&A Featuring Chris McCarthy + Clotilde 'Pieces of a Song'**

by [Skope](#) • May 13, 2022



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Both inspired by the Beat Generation poets they create Pieces of a Song, a repertoire of rageous yet ecstatic original pieces in French and in English infused with the tender and subversive writings of the idiosyncratic Beat Generation poetess Diane di Prima.

To create a work that we can all relate to, accessible yet provocative, they intertwine their creative visions, where poetry meets hip-hop, spoken-word meets contemporary improvisation.

With this repertoire, they aim to explore the identity crisis brought out of poverty, of rebellion, of being a woman, of standing on the outside of the culture, of making bold choices in an always more constraining world.

Pieces of a Song has been made possible through the Jazz & New Music, a program of FACE Foundation, in partnership with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the United States.

### NYC LINE UP

– Soapbox Gallery, 636 Dean St, Brooklyn, NY 11238 // May 25 // 8pm // 20\$

Abby London-Crawford presents: A tribute to Diane di Prima.

An interdisciplinary evening with poetry reading by Phyllis Capello and the Ferlinghetti girls interspersed with Chris McCarthy and Clotilde's duo repertoire Pieces of a song.

– Rockwood Music Hall, 196 Allen St, New York, NY 10002 // May 29 // 7pm // \$10

They are also playing in Boston, Chicago, and St. Louis this spring!

**When did you first know you wanted to become a musical artist? What was the first song you ever wrote?**

In high schools with the first concerts

Chris : Sock in the motor. It was an exercise at the music school

Clotilde : He was, after being heart broken in High school

**Who are some of your top 5 musical influences?**

Laurie Anderson, Meredith Monk, Bartok, Satie, Chick Corea

**What's in your playlist this week?**

Chris : Rosalia, Bud Powell

Clotilde : Klaus Schultze, Meredith Monk, Dick Annegarn

**What do you like most about playing live?**

Having an audience and the fact that every show is different and unexpected.

**Is there a song on your latest CD release here that stands out as your personal favorite, and why?**

Chris : Ready, steady – The horn solo on it sounds really amazing

Clo : Hannah – love the musicians playing on that track

**What's the best concert you've been to?**

Too hard to answer, cause concerts at 13 are not the same as at 25. ;)

The best concert is yet to come!

**If you could meet, play a gig, co-write a song, have dinner, have a drink with any band or artist (dead or alive) who would it be?**

Chris : Prince because we have the same birth day and my music doesn't sound anything like him but I like his approach

Clotilde : Marina Abramovitch cause I'm totally fond of her artistic personality

**What are your goals for the future?**

More creations, more new repertoire and more album releases





#### How would you classify your music?

Experimental improvised poetic songs

#### Who are some of your top 5 musical influences?

Laurie Anderson, Meredith Monk, Bartok, Satie, Chick Corea

#### What do you want fans to take from your music?

Appreciation for the intersection of poetry and music

#### What are you looking most forward to in your tour?

Refining the same repertoire over the course of many shows in different types of venues and in front of different audiences.

#### When did you know you were destined for music?

in high schools with the first concerts

#### What is the best concert you have been to? What do you like most about playing live?

Too hard to answer, cause concerts at 13 are not the same as at 25. 😊

The best concert is yet to come!

Having an audience and the fact that every show is different and unexpected.

#### How have you evolved as an artist over the last year?

Chris : Priorities shifting to online presence whether we wanted it or not.

Clotilde : Taking time to create an interdisciplinary play involving projections, dancers and musicians on stage

#### If you could meet, play a gig, co-write a song, have dinner, have a drink with any band or artist (dead or alive) who would it be and why?

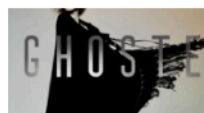
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#### What's next for you?

More shows, more new repertoire and more album releases

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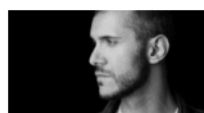
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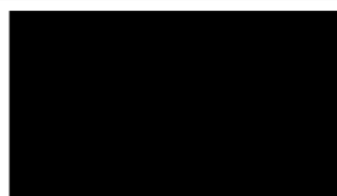
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