

**von  
magnet**

"Tribe of dancers, performers, musicians of the french electronic elite, they are the only representants of their own creation, genre & peculiar style :

The Electro Flamenco

Impressive on record (10 C.D's yet released) & absolutely fascinating on stage, Von Magnet is the wild genuine group one ought to discover urgently !"

(Keyboards / France)

**polarized**

[www.myspace.com/vonmagnet](http://www.myspace.com/vonmagnet)

# biography

Von Magnet, born in 1985, London, hatched from the post industrial movement and set off in the underground UK scene while quite paradoxically expressing interest for Flamenco rhythms and gestures. In 1987, an intriguing mixture occurs – electronic sequences dialogue with zapateados (feet percussion), dance and flamenco guitars. From here they invent a new genre, "Electroflamenco".

From 1990 to 1995, while touring across Europe with several shows, the band mutates to a cosmopolitan and multidisciplinary traveling company. Musicians, comedians, visual artists and acrobats gather around a human cybergypsy core.

Ordered by the Transmusicales Festival (1990/1992) for the creation of "Computador", Von Magnet settles in residence in Barcelona, Rennes, Amsterdam and Paris. This show, with a mutant scenography, will invade several peculiar venues (slaughterhouses, churches, factories, warehouses, hospitals) compared by the press to the works of Royal Del Luxe or La Fura Dels Baus.

In 1995 Von Magnet collaborates with 18 classical dancers of the Berlin Komische Oper with the creation of the ballet "Nuevas Cruces".

From then and until now, the band electrifies rock, cabaret, gothic or even electronica scenes, with more compact shows that still mix electro-ethnic trances with sound and theater, visual impact with poetic expression.

Von Magnet tours regularly (through France, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Portugal, Denmark, Switzerland, Turkey, Tchequia, Hungaria, Iceland, Bosnia, Croatia) and shines with a passionate activist extravaganza. Von Magnet creates odd performances full of primitive futurism and ambivalent characters, and ventures through cinematic universes ("Mezclador" in 1997/1999, "El Planeta" in 2000/2002).

Several other collaborations with the contemporary dance scene (Ballet Kiel for the ballet "Guten Morgen Du Schöne" in Germany) or for the street theater scene ("Deadline Now" with the Persona company in Portugal, and "1+1+1+1= 1" in Turkey) will lead the band to contribute to major artistic events.

After the very flamenco-ish "De L'Aimant" in 2005, Von Magnet puzzles its audience again in 2007/2008 with "Neither Predator Nor Prey", a new album followed by a radical performance, inspired by the brutal and magnetic clash between two contemporary worlds, north vs south – orient vs occident...

And in 2009, with a brand new line up, Von Magnet, granted residency in the Theatre de Vanves in Paris, creates the new piece "Polarized", inaugurated at the Riddim Collision Festival of Lyon (France) and the Fade In Festival of Leiria (Portugal).

# polarized

VON MAGNET launched in 2009/2010 a brand new musical venture called "Polarized".

Once again proving that electronic music can be treated with flaming passion as well as digital humanity, VON MAGNET keeps exploring the future roots of a passionate multicultural wandering ... Cyber-sufis" or "flamenco-mutants", in a mission to transcend.

"Polarized" is originated by their last album "Neither Predator Nor Prey" (Ant-Zen / Jarring Effects.2009), a poetic approach focusing on the Middle East conflict as well as a reaction facing the brutal reality of our world today.

That new creation intends this time to explore the inherent fascinations which can connect opposite poles..., either tension or seduction between modern & archaic, coldness & transe, east & west, solitude & crowd. This ultimate "magnetic" concert-performance, profound and universal, embodies all the live "electro-ethnic" styles that made Von Magnet one of the most peculiar, innovative and original bands of last two decades.

The new company, featuring two drummers, a guitar player, a dancer & two actor-singers, invented a dense, varied and rich piece, all together cinematographic, theatrical, tribal and futuristic.

Difficult to define such an atypical unconventional performance when theatrical actions or choregraphic movements exist within the musical act, vibrating together with the same forceful energy.

With "Polarized", Flamenco inspired vocals and dance, acoustic drumming, feet percussions, electric guitars, video artwork and contemporary dance are entwined, creating an organic and powerful blend.

Von Magnet will present for the first time its new sound invention, the "Cajacuerdas", a percussion box where feet stamping can trigger string vibrations. These boxes are moved by the performers, transforming the space, they define scenographically every step of the show.

Von Magnet dreams of the existence of other possible paths ; Thin and minute. Those tightrope walking paths almost invisible. Bouncing in between two perils, two poles, above empires, across frames, which can slip through the breaches of any walls.

**Flore Magnet : vocals, actions**

**Def : percussions, machines, actions**

**Phil Von : vocals, zapateados, actions**

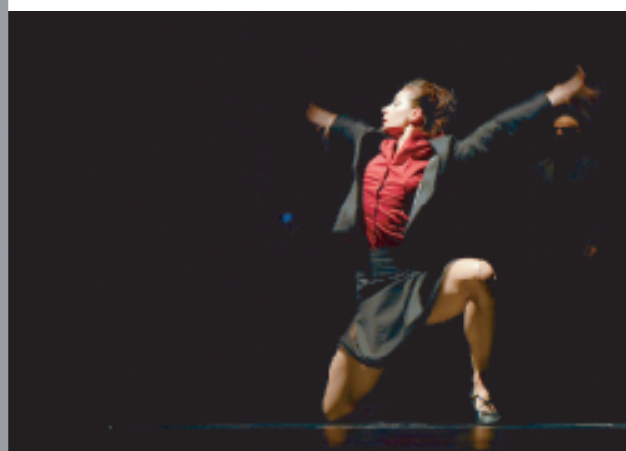
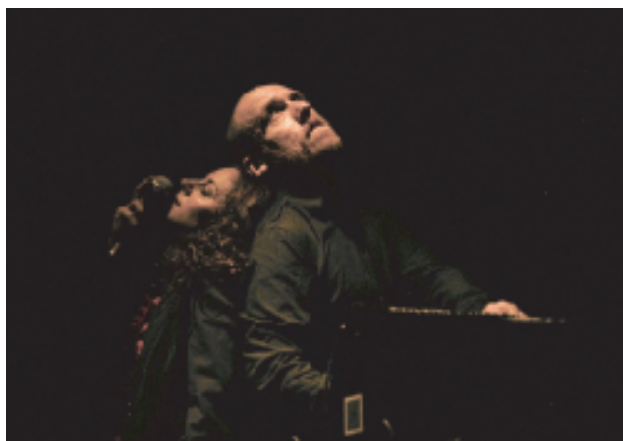
**Hugues Villette : drums, percussions**

**Tit'o : guitars, bass**

**Lisa May : dance, video**

**Séverine Krouch : live sound mix**

**Nicolas Triouzeau : lights**



photos © Ricardo Graça

## press

*"Not only are there musicians - Keyboard, guitar, percussion and saxophone players - there's also flamenco dancing, fire breathing and wrestling, physical expressions ranging from the sensual to the violent. The audience is invited to touch and smell as well as listen !"*

**MELODY MAKER (London)**

*"COMPUTADOR, the phantasmagoric multi media electro flamenco opera & VON MAGNET's new piece of agit pop is a hyperkinetic, colliding, grinding & melting of extreme elements of dance, action mime, theatre, sculpture, slides, cinema, symphony, appropriated noise, sax & flamenco guitar..."*

**FREE VOICE (Paris)**

*"VON MAGNET is a collective of artists from Spain, France, Switzerland and the United States. In their new productions they present total theatre including physical action, music, visual art, video, film, and slides presentations. An electric torrent of flamenco rhythms mixed with computer tones, voices, acoustic guitar and timpani drums, film and industrial sounds. The public walking around during the performance is confused. Are they pawns, musicians, actors or queen in the electric chess game by VON MAGNET" ?*

**SUMMER FESTIVALS (Amsterdam)**

*"Since its formation in formation in 1986, this international music plusultra group has gained both fame and infamy through its enormously expressive theatrical music shows and such experimental recordings as El sexo surrealista and Computador. Composed of a wide variety of musicians and performance artists, VON MAGNET defies all attempts at labelling. In every instance it breaches the very borders of rock, techno, dance, electronics, flamenco and theatrics.(...) Because of the spectacular nature of the shows, VON MAGNET often find itself compared to LA FURA DELS BAUS. In truth, the two groups are worlds apart. VON MAGNET is hardly concerned with the creation of stunning effects for their own sake ; but it is utterly dedicated to the transmission of higher states of feeling, particularly when displaying the deep emotive potentialities of flamenco."*

**VOLSKRANT (Holland)**

*The french formation Von Magnet could well win the contest for the most original & interesting band of the world. They created their own style, being electro-flamenco but Von Magnet didn't even repeat themselves during their years of existence. Completely new possibilities were discovered and tried out on each album. And there is their live reputation. Their show is a mixture of spellbinding flamenco dance, the sophistication of the best theatre performances, the visual pioneering seen in avant-garde movies and scenery of early 80's concerts by Test Dept & Laibach.*

**PHOSPHOR (Berlin)**



photos © Ricardo Graça  
photos © Hippy Guitarist

*Von Magnet, probably best described as experimental-avant-garde, combines multiple layers of artistry to create an experience of sight and sound for their audiences. Painters, makeup artists, dancers, and even the musicians of Von Magnet all play an important role in the dramatic live presentations.*

*The music of Von Magnet builds from minimal and sometimes metallic sounds into immense pieces using a host of instruments. A wide variety of percussion instrumentation is present, in addition to flamenco, bass and electric guitars, sitars, violins, electronics & some of the most intense vocals heard by many.*

*Phil Von provides powerful vocals with unrelenting might. Every word is sung with such feeling it is as if it is being pulled from the depths of his soul. The emotional punch Phil delivers strikes at the core of one's being.*

*It is quite possible you will never experience anything quite like Von Magnet elsewhere. Von Magnet's unique style and approach continues to wow audiences wherever they go with their remarkable display of power, emotion, music & theater.*

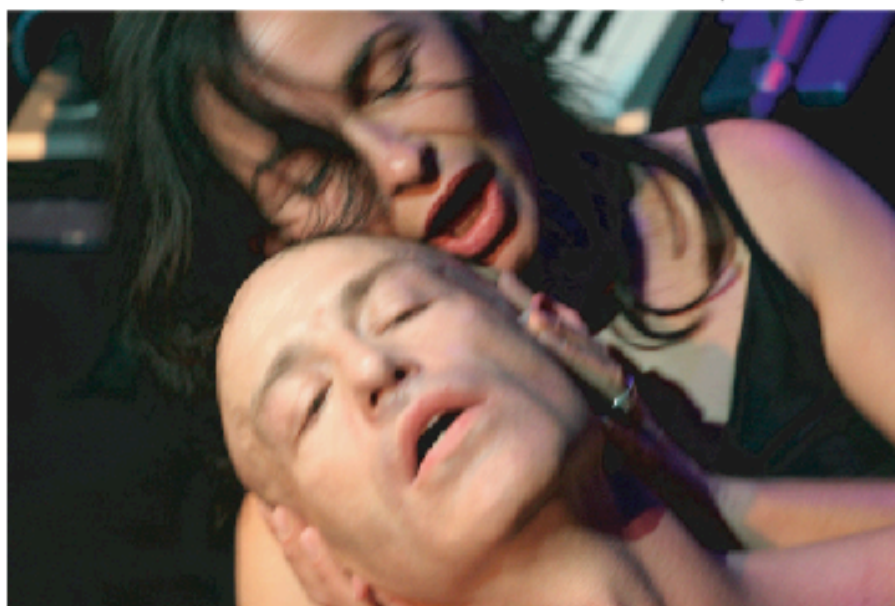
#### **Sublevel (U.S.A)**

*Von Magnet has always been a bright, out-reaching, barrier-braking, convention defying group, & now they are taking all of that to a whole new level with something that is truly unique! In fact, with the exception of German The Brave's 1994 "Fiesta Fatal!" hit, I can not think of any other band that has managed to successfully and tastefully mix the warm and dramatic world of flamenco guitars and cajon percussions with the digital electronics that Von Magnet is maybe best known for.*

*This music runs through you like a driven percussive minimal-electronic techno parade where Les Tambours Du Bronx stomp on one truck, Paco De Lucia strums on one next truck and the Young Gods go for their floating electronics on the following one. Now they got me thinking to "De L'aimant" I can't wait to hear the final product.*

#### **Chain DLK (New York)**

photo Inge Bekkers



## PUTTING A JOLT IN FLAMENCO

«Some young people seem happy to discover a dary, futuristic Gothic translation of flamenco, while other people are maybe shocked by the liberties we take with our use of the purest forms of flamenco», says percussionist, vocalist, dancer & Von Magnet co-founder Phil Von. The «liberties» he refers to include Von Magnet's blend of an electro-industrial legacy with the more animistic threads of European + Asian 20th-century performance art & theater. It's clear that a few shocked people in the audience have not inhibited Von Magnet's artistic freedom on 2006's *De L'Aimant*, where they take flamenco variations of rumba, siguiriya & buleria on a journey through post-industrial electronics. What separates its efforts from similar ethno-electro hackers such as *Deep Forest*, *Enigma* and *B-Tribe* is Von Magnet's embrace of the full potential of the stage & physical movement. This Choreographic element can sometimes be impressive. Yet even with Von Magnet's roots in London's seminal 1980s industrial music scene, it often achieves a result as lyrical as the human form itself.

More than conventional street theater, Von Magnet has grown using challenging, odd, site-specific venues such as disused factories, hospitals, churches, slaughterhouses & martial arts dojos, with an originality coming from the flamenco element.

For its 1987 debut studio work, *El Sexo Sur-Realista*, Von Magnet secured the services of producer Ken Thomas, known for his work with *Psychic TV*, *Wire* and the *Sugarcubes*. In celebration of the group's 10th CD, the innate trance-hop potential of Von Magnet was finally explored by DJ & composer Holog on *Spies Under Von Magnet Influence - Suvmi*.

Despite this worthy tribute, Von Magnet touches the techno-disco-ambient dance floor only lightly, instead seeking depth charges gathered from trends in avant-garde 20th century art. Many of these influences Von attributes to the group's co-founder, Flore Magnet.

«Her theatrical studies were partly dealing with Grotowski, Kantor, *The Living Theatre*, Pina Bausch & the Fluxus activists», he says. «She brought that knowledge within our musical work and helped us to channel charisma and become performance artists. We were, in those times, merely musicians, with a lot of ambition to challenge the stage & its boundaries».

«The first trigger we encountered was the Lindsay Kemp Company performing Jean Genet's *Flowers in London*, a crazy mixture of mime, dance, cabaret, Japanese percussion, singing, theater & blood.

From that moment on, we knew we would blend all art forms to create our own multidisciplinary form. The early Von Magnet formation in 1989 was composed of two people from art school, two theater people, two musicians & two members of a flamenco Peña».

Now, as the new millennium begins to unfold, Von Magnet's mixture doesn't sound all that crazy, especially compared to the similar atomic reactions of 20th-century Japanese Butoh artists. In that context, Von Magnet's work seems timely if not overdue. The merging of impulses from electronica, flamenco and Butoh is put in a framework of what Von describes as «dealing with the notion of state of being» rather than the fact of «acting», somewhere in between trance and control».

Prague's Open Air Cinema on Strelecky Island should provide Von Magnet with enough site-specific magic for its current work, which Von describes as a «musical drama where bodies and souls seeks ways of escape».

Darrell Jonsson / *The Prague Post*

# technic sound

1 sound system adapted to the area, of good quality.  
 (type Lacoustic, Nexo, DnB, with Sub bass.)  
 1 analog mixing desk 40 / 8/8 type Midas héritage or equivalent  
 1D-two digital delay ( must be)  
 2 reverb type Lexicon, spx900.  
 1 EQ 31 bands stereo  
 3 compressors type dbx  
 1 cd player  
 If you don't have the 3 FX machine, please contact me.  
 (please, no Behringer équipement.)

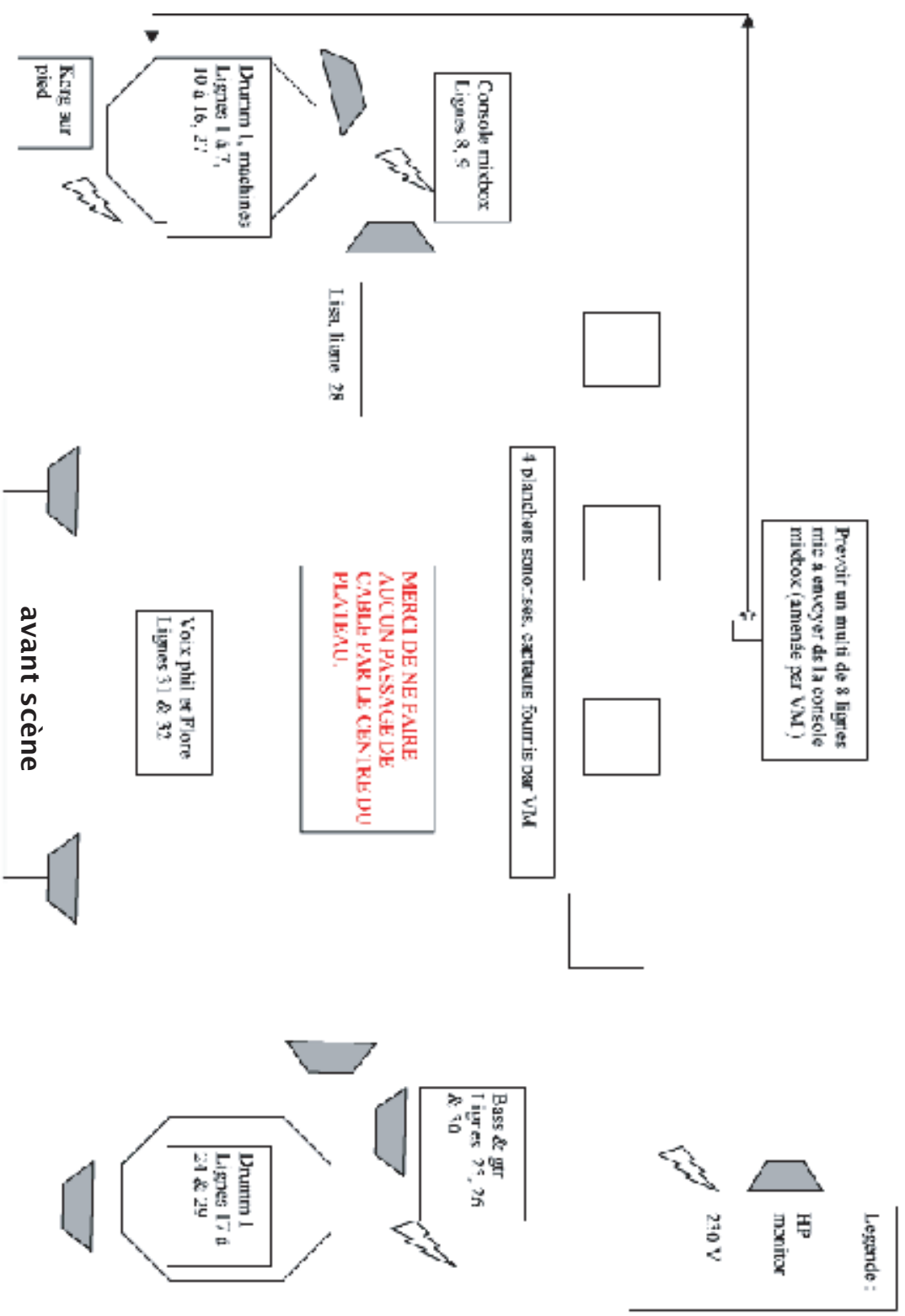
## STAGE

1 sound engineer (Von-Magnet doesn't come with a monitor engineer)  
 1 stage manager  
 1 mixing desk 32in/8 aux  
 7 wedges on 6 aux  
 3 EQ 31 bands stereo

## PATCH LIST & MICROPHONES

1 Dvd out L DI  
 2 Dvd out R DI  
 3 Backing L DI xlr input  
 4 Backing R DI xlr input  
 5 Key L DI xlr input  
 6 Key R DI xlr input  
 7 Korg DI  
 8 Mix Box L DI  
 9 Mix Box R DI  
 10 Kick 1 B91, B52 Small stand  
 11 Snare 1 SM 57 Small stand  
 12 HH 1 SM 81, C 535 Big stand  
 13 Floor tom 1 E604 Compress  
 14 Tom medium 1 E604 Compress  
 15 OH L SM 81, KM184 Big stand  
 16 OH R SM 81, KM184 Big stand  
 17 Kick 2 B52, D112 Small stand  
 18 Snare 2 SM57 Small stand  
 19 HH 2 SM81, C535 Big stand  
 20 Floor Tom 2 E604 Compress  
 21 Tom med 2 E604  
 22 Tom High 2 E604  
 23 OH L 2 SM81, KM184 Big stand  
 24 OH R 2 SM81, KM184 Big stand  
 25 Bass DI  
 26 Guitar E609, SM57 Small stand  
 27 Vox Lisa SM 58 Big stand  
 28 Vox Hug SM58 Big stand  
 29 30 Vox Tito SM 58 Big stand  
 30 Vox Phil SM58 Big stand with long xlr  
 31 Vox Flore SM58 2 Big stand with long cable

CONTACT (SOUND) : Séverine 0033 6 74 45 14 40, or sevkrouch@yahoo.fr



# plan

עבודת צוות

# lights . video . backline

## LIGHTS

Light Desk with memories 48 circuits  
+ 12 submasters minimum  
Type : Lightcommander 24/6 – Jands Event 24/48

4 : PC 1 Kw

2 : PC 2 Kw

11 : PAR 64 cp 61

7 : PAR 64 cp 62

1 pair or ACL

16 : Profile Spots 1 Kw type 614 + 5 hold gobos

4 : Stands height 2m

LEE FILTERS : 106/136/151/152/174/180

Minimum stage size needed :

Width : 10m / Depth : 9m

Black curtains on sides (5 plans)

1 White cyclo (screen) at the back of the stage

with a black curtain in front

Intercom might be needed for the opening & the closing  
of that curtain in front of the screen

VON MAGNET will bring 4 small platforms (feet percussion boxes) (1x1m)

## VIDEO

1 video projector with sufficient power (minimum 3000 lumen)

We will use a laptop placed close to the main mixing desk  
(used by our sound or light engineer)

We will need one DVD player. (for safety)

The video out (yellow rca) must be connected to your videoprojector.

Please provide the connecting cable.

Install a screen (cyclo) at the back of the stage with a minim. size  
width of approx. 6 m. (see the light rider) to project the vidéo.

If there are any questions, please contact Phil Von

Tel : 0033685215873. vonmagnet1@aol.com

## REQUIREMENT FOR BACKLINE & SCENIC MATERIAL

1 Drum kit:

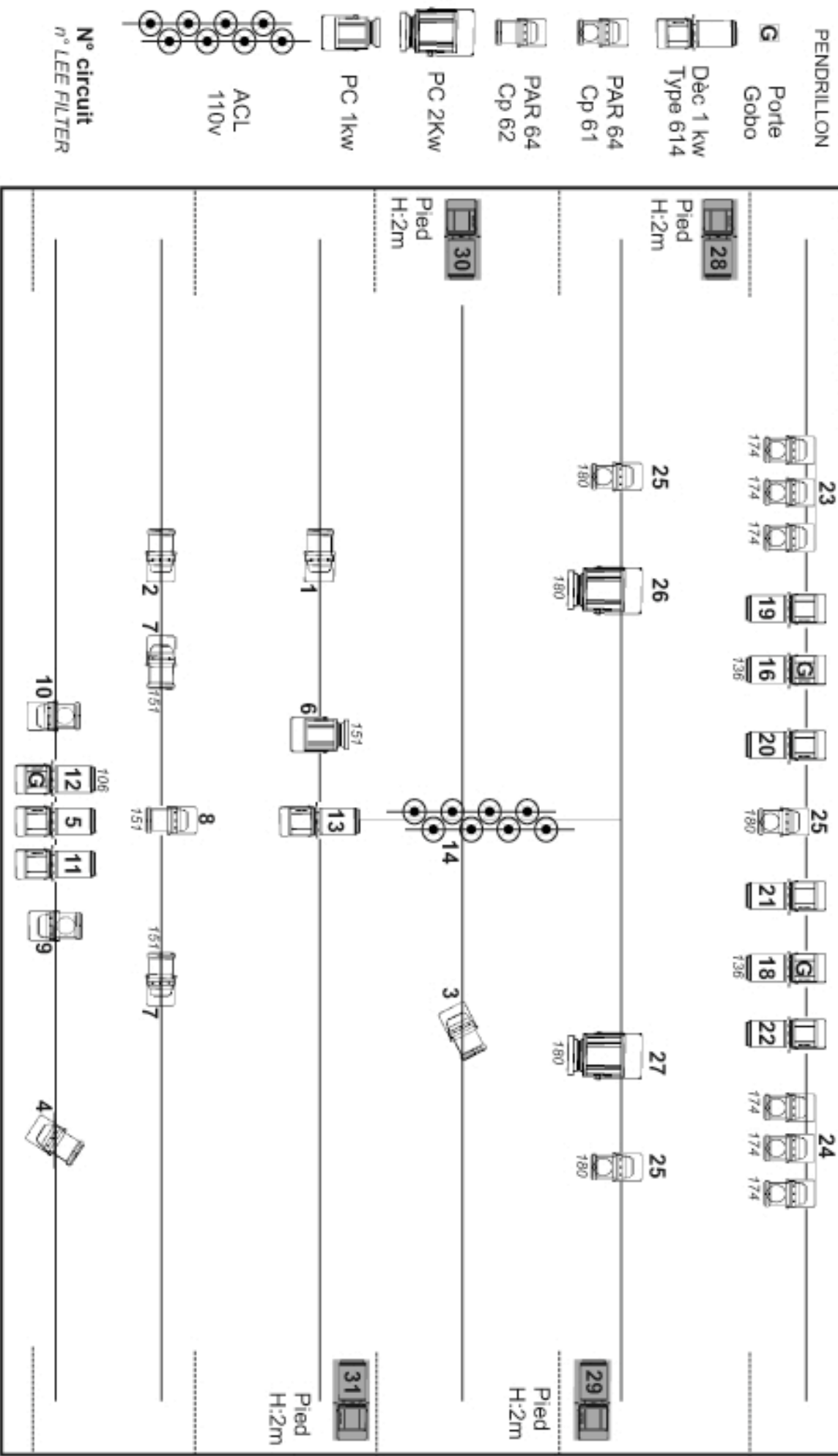
(if possible : color black)

with elements as follows:

1 kick + pedal, 1 floor tom, 1 medium tom , 1 snare + stand, 1 crash +  
stand, 1 ride + stand, 1 HH + pedal + stand, 1 carpet, 1 tilter + 1  
matsound, 1 drum seat.

4 wooden chair (without arm rests)

Fond de scène sur patience



PENDRILLON

G Porte Gobo

Dèc 1 kw Type 614

PAR 64 Cp 61

PAR 64 Cp 62

PC 2Kw

PC 1kw

ACL 110v

N° circuit n° LEE FILTER

Contact technique:

Nicolas Prouzeau

+33682030658

nicolas.prouzeau@gmail.com

VON MAGNET POLARIZED

ECHELLE: 1/50

# rider

08 persons in the band:

- 06 artists (singers, musicians, dancers & performers)
- 02 technicians: sound engineer & light & video engineer.

Arrival: a part of the band can travel by plane or train, in that case, runners are needed to pick them up.  
(name of the persons & schedule will be precised a few weeks before the show.)

Backstage accommodations:

- Showers
- 06 large towels for dancers/performers
- 06 small towels for stage
- mirrors

Catering will be really appreciated at the arrival of the band  
For food: Bread, ham, sausage, cheese, chips, fresh fruits (banana, kiwi for exemple, fruits of the season...), salads, yaourt, cookies, chocolate...

For drinking: arabica coffee, tea, 6 bottles of mineral water, 6 bottles of sprakling water, orange & passion fruits juice, 20 bottles of good beer (Heineken or Leffe for exemple), 2 bottles of red wine & 1 bottle of good whisky.  
(Ballantines for exemple).

In the evening: Hot meal for 8 persons with starters, main dishes, cheese & dessert.

The meal would be served at least 2 hours & a half before the show.  
(if not better for us after the show)

Aftershow: some catering mentionned for the afternoon will stay backstage.

In the morning : Breakfast for 8 persons.

Sleeping:

- 6 singles
- 1 double

In 2 stars hotel minimum

Departure on the day after: a previous running to bring back the band at the airport, train station.

THIS RIDER HAS TO BE RESPECTED.  
IN CASE OF QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS  
DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT TIT'O:  
Tel: 0033(0)663236334  
Email: jfxtito@gmail.com