

An Aixois in L.A

**As a kid, he learned the guitare Rue Victor-Hugo. At 52,
Til realized his dream American becoming musician in Los Angeles, with his wife Tracy.**

The last time he went back to Aix les Bains, going through Chambéry Street by car earned him some cold sweat. "It's so narrow related to Los Angeles. The city is 100 kilometers long, can you imagine? L.A., its gigantism, its opportunities, its excessiveness. It is there that Fabrice Vignati unfolds his daily life of a musician, living to the full American dream, far from this spa town where he grew up. Last week, and for the first time since 2016, the group "The Vignatis", which he composed with his wife Tracy, played around the corner. A concert at the Bistrot du Port, two others at Brin de Zinc (Barberaz) and at the Café des Arts (Annecy). A kind of a rehearsal before a European tour in 2019 where the couple plans to move upmarket: "Our booker" takes care of it. We gonna try to festivals such as Musilac, Montreux, Jazz in Vienne, or the festival Cahors blues. » Already, they have found the music people who will accompany them: Bernard Lehoucq and Stephane Lambert, were on stage with them last week. And for the tour, we'll add a violinist.

“We invented the Gypsybilly »

But how did it make it happen? He says "my house" when he talks about California? Fabrice Vignati is a kid from rue Victor-Hugo, in the city center, where his parents still live to this day. As a child, he skied, learned classical guitar. Before moving to Lyon at the age of eight, with his family, where he dives himself deeper and more seriously into music. "I always wanted to live in an Anglo-Saxon country. » he says today. It was first Great Britain, to improve his English, then the United States.

He 's then 27 years old, with a tourist visa valid for three months. " I quickly acclimatized and i obtained a work visa." In 2002, he doubles his love for the United States for a woman, Tracy, whom he meets in the realm of music. She, a military father, between California and Georgia, went to school of jazz. Together, they form "The Vignatis" and invent their own style of music: Gypsybilly, an assumed mix of Gypsy, Rockabilly, Jazz and Country (Read below).

Of course, the daily life was not always a bed of roses. He worked hard, the expatriate Aixois, and not only his craft on the guitar. At a point, Paparazzi, other time professor of music, he mostly released three albums, with Tracy, since 2009 (Birth of the Gypsybilly 1 and 2, then Let's Hit the Road). The fourth, "Red White and Blue" is planned for 2019.

Authors, composers and performers, Fabrice and Tracy sing in English and French, Their small notoriety settles quietly, and earned them their entrance in the Recording Academy as voting members for the Grammy Awards. Live his dream does not prevent the Aixois to get up early. It was 5:30 a.m. in Los Angeles, the day of the interview. "Our group is completely Franco-American. France is one of the most respected countries in the USA. It is important that we keep this spirit. »

Pierre-Eric BURDIN

“Gypsybilly is like a soup”

Some jazz, country, gypsy music and rockabilly, here are the ingredients of "gypsybilly" the musical style that they invented. "It's like a soup, we mix four genres rooted in the 20th century," laughs Fabrice. His thing, to him, it's Gypsy music. "In Lyon, where /lived, he there were many camps. And his father introduced him to the Rockabilly, which he quickly adopted. Tracy, she is the daughter of a jazz singer. She has sung country for a long time. But as original as it is, the new genre is slow to shine in the light. "The American music industry is very oriented towards money, Pop music, they say, especially in the big cities. We have the impression that Europe is more open. »

BIOGRAPHY

Fabrice Vignati, 52, is born in Aix-les-Bains, where he grew up to age 8 years. I| then go through Lyon, Great Britain, Belgium, before fly away forever to the United States in 1993, at age 27.

THE VIGNATIS

The group he forms with his wife Tracy, The Vignatis, play the other side of the Atlantic and plans a tour Europe in 2019. I had produced in 2016 in Aix. To Théâtre de Verdure, during the music festival.

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www.thevignatis.com