# **Esling**



Hailing from the Celtic land of Brittany, Esling is a band that blends the traditional sounds of concertina and wooden flute with a powerful rhythm section of bass, guitar, and drums. Their music fuses the soulful melodies of Irish music with the electrifying energy of modern jazz-rock, creating a captivating sonic experience that transcends cultural boundaries. With a nod to Brittany's rich heritage and a spirit of innovation, Esling invites listeners on a mesmerizing journey through time and space, where the old meets the new in a harmonious fusion of tradition and experimentation.

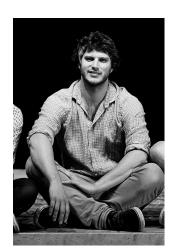
#### Liam Roudil: Guitar



Franco-Irish Liam was immersed in traditional Irish and Breton music from childhood. He began performing in concerts, sessions, festoù-noz, and festivals during high school. Continuing his musical journey in Rennes, he studied at the Pont Supérieur de musique, collaborating with notable musicians like Nicolas Quemener, Gilles Le Bigot, Ronan Pellen, and Erwan Bérenguer. Today, Liam plays with various groups (Talea, Hin, Esling...) and collaborates with local and international artists. He's part of the "Celtic Odyssée" productions initiated by the Lorient Interceltic Festival, sharing the stage with influential musicians like Karen

Matheson, Karan Casey, and Denez Prigent. Liam is also involved in projects like "Ethno," international music gatherings that allow him to travel, meet, and play with musicians from around the world, including Scandinavia.

### Rémi Bouguennec: Wooden Flutes



At 15, Rémi Bouguennec began flute studies in Guingamp, quickly drawn to Breton and Irish traditional music. Within two years, he switched to a wooden flute, leaving behind the Boehm flute. Self-taught, with guidance from masters like Erwan Menguy and Jean Michel Veillon, he honed his craft. By 18, he was performing regularly in festoù-noz with groups like Kerlutin and Klegaden. Studying abroad in Ireland, he deepened his knowledge alongside renowned flutists. Returning to Rennes in 2014, he co-founded Zorba and Nâtah while completing his music degree. In 2023, he joined esteemed groups like Ampouailh and Poppy seeds, as well as Talea and Esling, blending Irish music with jazz/rock. He's

also part of the Nâtah big band, merging Breton, jazz, funk, and contemporary genres.

#### Pierre Banwarth: Concertina



Influenced by Irish and Scottish repertoires, Pierre Banwarth stands out as one of France's few concertina players. He showcases his expressiveness in various formations, including Berny Trad School quartet and the Banwarth Neveu Duo, each delving into regional dance repertoires. Immersed in traditional music from a young age, Pierre started with bodhran and whistle, later teaching himself concertina and refining his skills through masterclasses with Irish, Scottish musicians, Niall Vallelt and Mohsen Amini. He founded the Irish music group Full4 and collaborated on the Galanta trio with Neven Sébille Kernaudour. Pursuing new sounds, he

embarked on a project to create a fully electronic 3D-printed MIDI concertina.

#### Daravan Souvanna: Bass



Daravan Souvanna, a young musician from Rennes, initially self-taught in bass before honing his skills in jazz conservatories. He started his career with Martinican singer-guitarist Sam Patole's trio, then joined neo-soul group Niomoye with vocalist Stellis Groseil. Later, he immersed himself in Breton music with Nâtah Sextet, now expanded into Nâtah Big Band, and contributed to their latest album "Drioma". In 2017, he joined Egòn for experimental Irish music, Togo for modern jazz, and recently Kengaï Orchestra for funk, afro, and salsa. He's also involved in Annie Ebrel's project "Lellig", adapting Anjela Duval's poems into music.

Influenced by soul, funk, and world music, his versatility and musicality define his unique style.

## Raphael Chevé: Drums



As a self-taught musician, he appeared behind the drums with bands like Taliesin (electro-rock), Mahongo (with Robert Abubass), and Skrilh Quartet (Bret-world-jazz) around 2007-2010. He furthered his skills with jazz workshops during this time. He continued his musical journey with projects like Sam Patole Trio, Tasar Experience (with Yannick Jory and Charles Lucas), the brass band Out of Nola, and the Big Band La Machine Ronde led by saxophonist Jordan Philippe. His love for crafting diverse rhythms from his travels (New Orleans, Ivory Coast) led him to collaborate with artists like Jeff Alluin, Mehdi Haddab, Edouard Ravelomanantsoa, and

Jacques Pellen. He contributed to dance projects with companies like Dounia for ethno-contemporary and Engrenage for funk and hip-hop. Throughout the years, he refined his vocal skills and remained faithful to his Brittany roots, participating in projects with regional artists like Roland Becker, Spontus, and the Hamon-Martin Quintet.