<u>Démarche et Evolution</u> <u>Créative</u>

Approach and Creative Evolution



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Hi

All begin with a pencil, a sheet, ideas or not, When I paint, I always begin with a kind of sketch, the main lines on a sheet that I will reproduce on a canvas.

It can take hours, days, weeks, or even years before finishing a painting or a song, imagine an album. My latest album took me about 2 years, from the writing process to the release of the album.

Passion and perseverance are the keywords to describe the way I work on my artistic projects.

After thousands of paintings and 7 albums. Don't forget there are, maybe, 11 or 12 songs per album. I mean the songs I chose to make an album.

I have written, I don't know, 50 songs behind the 12 songs of my latest album SEVEN ELEVEN, I don't talk about the versions of the same song when I was working on a song. With these 12 songs, there are 12 videos, plus one, medley of the 12 videos.

The process of creation is similar when I paint, there are about 20 little sketches, before having a picture I like or songs I like.

You as an audience, see the paintings and hear the songs.

I decided to talk about my latest album, and how I approach this album, a lot of things change during

the recording. I tried to not repeat the things I used to do, I wanted to go out of my secured zone, and it gave results that I did not about.

Concerning SEVEN ELEVEN, my 7th album, pretty obvious why I called it SEVEN, about the ELEVEN, it was too easy, 11 songs, I said to myself, Why not 12 songs, one more in bonus? Why not.

Inspiration comes from anywhere, a book, I like to read, a movie, a conversation in real life, or my thoughts. When I've got something interesting for a song, it hits me, I know this feeling, this emotion, I don't have any choice, I stop what I was doing, I wrote a couple of words or lines if I'm lucky I have the chorus or a verse.

When the beginning of the lyrics seems interesting I complete the song. As long I have inspiration I write. I write every day.

So I have a lot of songs, and I read them, If I like the lyrics, I keep them, if not, it goes in a file for the album I make.

At home, I have a little home - studio, A computer with Pro Tools, Eleven Rack, a Fender amp, a drum machine with Guitar Bass in it, electric guitar, a Roland module guitar, and a vocalist for the voices.

When I begin to work on a song, I have the Drum and Bass, on my amp, guitar, a module on Eleven Rack, and a basic voice track on Vocalist.

I tried different drum patterns and Guitar Bass, change the keys, try to sing with emotion. in a couple of days, the basic tracks are recorded, I mean the lead voice, lead guitar, lead Drum, and Bass part.

Here comes the part of the arrangement, a thousand questions that come with it, another voice? or not, guitar? Piano? Organ? Hands clap?, solo or not, what sounds do I want? What are the chords for these instruments? While this process, I keep a look at the lyrics, are still good?, or I can write something better, is it the better place in the song for this or this line? Work in progress you know.

After days, all the instruments are recorded, I make the first mix and tracks on MIDI are changed into WAVE tracks.

Once done, on every track, I add E.Q., Compression, and Reverb.

Another mix of tracks, with plugs-in, added. once, second, third, as often the song needs to have the best song as possible.

For your information, I always mix it with earphones.

Every track is in stereo, I modified them in mono, but I don't delete the stereo tracks. A mix of mono tracks and stereo tracks. I begin with lead voices and back vocals tracks, add the lead guitar, add the instrument that I hear mainly in the song.

Then I complete the mix with the other tracks (Mono, first, stereo if needed)

Repeat as long as you need, as long as your ears won't tell you IT IS PERFECT.

To conclude the mix I change the Master fader tracks into mono,

I add to both tracks De Esser, Power Dither,

Stereo Width, Reverb, and E.Q. (In this order)

Make Bounce in WAVE and MP3.

It is not over yet. I'm going to hear the song mixed on my HI-FI Stereo and in my car when I'm driving. If everything sounds great, to my ears. The song is done. Ready to make part of an album.

when I'm not absolutely satisfied when I feel there is something that bugs me, I look for what can I do to change it, and I'll do it.

According to Google, in my 3 last albums, ATYPICAL SO (A) TYPICAL, UNICITUDE DOOR 5 and PORTRAITS OF A CONFIDENCE DOOR 4.

there is a list of my best songs. The first you've got / Feeling mine to be / Miss Classy Woman / Unicitude (Unique link) / So wise So late / Too much pain for a brokenhearted / living with life (In the morning) / Tears in a crowd / A new after / So your day / Pouring love / Ton sourire.

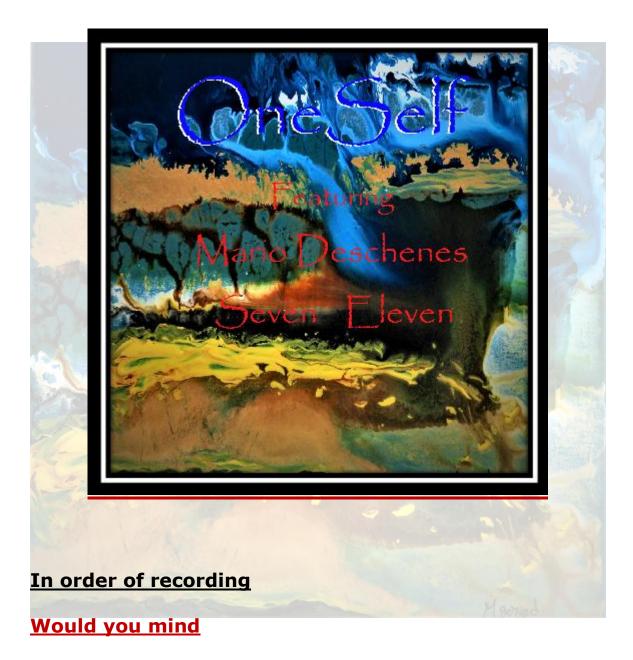
Regarde (Ecoute Croyer) / Je sais Je suis / Savoir / Fire (Peace and Freedom) / Will you Won't you / A song for a change / All happy / Personne / Nothing's wrong (All is fine).

Thank you to Google

Lately, I read about y 6th album ATYPICAL SO (A) TYPICAL out of 11 songs, 7 are listed by Google as the best song of the album.

The first you've got / Miss Classy Woman / Tears in a crowd / So wise So late
Nothing's wrong (All is fine) / Feeling mine to be /
Too much pain for a brokenhearted.

My little story behind the songs



Where does this song come from? This song is inspired by one of my brothers, younger than me, from now on, he still doesn't know, but a part of his life inspired a song in my album called Seven Eleven

by OneSelf Featuring Mario Deschenes. Would you mind is about when he called me up on the telephone, to discuss a little about what he was living at home with his family. I listened to him, I did not agree about his way to see, but I realized it was his life, his way to change if he wants to, only if he wants to.

The first four lines of the song represent what I thought at that time. The only thing I have to do is support him, that's why my ears are open for him, so he is one of my brothers you see.

A stranger for me

Inspired by a teacher which I worked with, in my first life, I was an Art teacher, in a primary school, she was a teacher too, she had and she has a voice, the voice, her class did not have the choice, students has to listen to carefully. The sound of her voice was so impressive. By the way, she was a good teacher, loved by her students, When she was talking, we, as teachers, we're sure to listen to her, we did not have any choice. She was so funny too, and a great teacher.

Dans les yeux d'un enfant

Is a song I wrote about the childhood of my nephew. I thought and I still think the best place he could be safe, was in his bed, sleeping and dreaming of a future with adults around him. then, someday, as an adult, he will dream of his childhood.

Me too (I hate too)

About the fact that I hate when something, anything doesn't do what it was supposed to do, or someone, anyone. In this song, I add a part about things that must be told, shown, known, and owned. Especially

when I'm getting old. What I mean is I have to live with it.

Oh Mademoiselle (Let me tell you)

Is an old song of mine, an old one I wrote because I've never known what to say to a girl or a woman. You have to understand the one I was interested in. There is a part I add years later,... They don't understand..... I mean the bridge of the song. I changed the end of this song because it was important to write I'm with someone I loved, I found it funny to write to an imaginary girl I'm with someone else I love so much more than her, this Mademoiselle, let me tell you...

La mère c'est une mère

A mother is a mother, whatever she made, said, or done. Who else can she be, what else can I write. as his child, I'm a witness to her stories, I mean the way I lived in our family, my brothers had their stories with her, we did not see the same things, understood the same things, we had a different point of view, What I'm sure about this past, we were a family, with good events and some not so good. With this song, I wrote a tribute because she was my mother.

Originale et Originelle

I realized that it was time you could say, it is never too late to realize people around me are original, not quite the same as everybody, they can think by themselves, no need of someone to take a decision, you see my point of view? I wrote this song thinking about them, and to a good friend of mine, you know I wrote a song about her, Miss Classy Woman. It made a lot of years for us to know each other, she always

was unique in her style, this is what I admire about her, from year to year she stays herself, she is so authentic, I'm sure she will stay herself for years to come.

Peur d'avoir Peur

It was a motto that my father always said to me when I was a kid. I was shy and afraid of things I didn't live before. This sentence from my father you are afraid of getting scared. It is last year I understood what he meant, he was so right, you know in teen years, we act as if we know everything but I was afraid of getting scared.

You 'n' your children

I don't know what to write, I think you'd better read the lyrics of this song, to understand the mood I was in.

Dreaming of Tomorrow

Came with a visit from the sister of my woman, you know the one I share my life with, she has a child, a girl, 16 years old, it is when we discussed, that I wrote this song, she talked about her future, what job she would like, the way she sees her years to come. She was so sure that her path is traced and it won't be changed. I explained she will have to think about a B plan, not get scared of her own fears, she has to learn to trust herself, she has all her life in front of her, and the best part is when she said (I have knowledge) She thought she was able to convince me, her, 16 years old, me 60 years old. She told she was honored to inspire me to write a song. Nice girl.

(Here 'N' There) 'N' Anywhere

I wrote, at least 20 versions of the lyrics, and at least a couple of versions of the music, once I found the best lyrics and the music I liked to play, it was easy to record and find the arrangements. There was a sentence floating in my mind, it was Keep it simple, layer by layer, you wrote for the songs. From the beginning of working on this song, there were 2 songs "You will get a little nothing and Instead of being here,I gonna be there... I found the best way to use the lyrics,

and it gave this song, one of my favorites on this album. Sure it is the one I finished yesterday.

Too much 'N' Not Enough

The last song I recorded for my album Seven Eleven, is this one, the title of this song comes from a book I'm reading during the recording process when I worked on the lyrics. The author talks about the fact we always look for a certain place, a way to be between the too much and the not enough

The first line is something that my mother always said: For heaven's sake there always are limits. She told this when she had enough of our behaviors.

I wrote in the song I'm doing my life, I'm doing all right, I'm doing my life Yeah, I'm doing all right.

Me too I'm looking for a place, to be, to do, and about the fact I hate waiting, it is not my mother, it is about me, It is true that I hate to wait for

Finally, this song is about doing what you have to do, the best you can do, it is sure I would like to know

what will happen next, I make my life and I try to stay between the Too much and the not enough.

I always try to do my best, as my album <u>SEVEN</u> <u>ELEVEN</u>.

