

If you would like to receive a hard copy of this Promotional Kit, including the Promotional CD
please send an email to PromoKit@ElsieDeeProject.com

The
Elsie Dee
Project

...believe in the freedom of music!

<http://www.ElsieDeeProject.com>

<http://www.ProjetElsieDee.com>

<http://www.ProyectoElsieDee.com>

Index

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Who is Elsie Dee? | 3 |
| What is the Elsie Dee Project about? | 4 |
| How does this music come about? | 5 |
| Where in the World is the Elsie Dee Project? | 6 |
| What's on the Elsie Dee Project Promotional CD? | 7 |
| Invitación al aire | 8 |
| Palabras Serenas | 9 |
| La Ralentie | 10 |
| L'Explosion | 11 |
| The Butchers Equation | 12 |
| Moving Awhile | 13 |
| Manyoshu | 14 |
| What about Copyrights and Approvals? | 15 |
| How do you contact the Elsie Dee Project? | 16 |
| FAQ's | 17 |

Who is Elsie Dee?

The Elsie Dee Project is an experiment in music composition and a collaborative effort between Pierre Voyer from Quebec and Boyd Williams from Saskatchewan. True to its Canadian roots, the Elsie Dee Project performs songs in both French and English. True to their North American roots, the Elsie Dee Project also sings in Spanish. And as residents of planet Earth, the new album (3rd in a series) presents a song in 5th Century Japanese.

Boyd Williams grew up on a farm in northern Saskatchewan. He started playing music on his own at a very early age, going on to perform as a singer songwriter at the World Exposition in Vancouver. This was followed by two recording contracts with the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Company). The recipient of FACTOR (Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent On Record) support, Boyd studied audio engineering at the Banff Center in Alberta and music theory at the University of Saskatchewan. He currently lives in Laval, just north of Montréal in Quebec Canada.

Pierre Voyer is no stranger to the Montréal arts scene. A prolific composer, painter and author, he has just recently seen the performance of one of his numerous musical productions, "Juno Wants a Divorce". The show ran in Montréal to rave views. Pierre grew up on the Island of Pariseau and started with music at an early age. He is currently retired from teaching Musical Theatre at College Lionel-Groulx just north of Montréal. He now spends his winters writing and painting in Costa Rica and his summers in Canada gardening and recording music.

The Elsie Dee Project is dedicated not only to the diffusion of poetry, but also to the exploration of the musical formulas which one could call the 'lowest common denominator'. One of the founding principles of the Elsie Dee Project is to use the words of great poets such as E.E. Cummings, Lewis Carroll and Charles Swinburne, in English; Charles d'Orléans, Gabriel Pariseau, and Verlaine in French; and 2009 was the first time the Elsie Dee Project recorded in Spanish the poetry of Pablo Neruda and Ruben Danio.

The newest edition of music (Volume 3) includes greats like Shakespeare, Rafael Alberti, Jules Supervielle, Henri Michaux, Gabriela Mistral and Walt Whitman.

What is Elsie Dee about?

The Elsie Dee Project is all about having fun and enjoying life. Well maybe there's a bit more to it than that... we like to believe in the freedom of music while we go about exploring new avenues of musical expression. That's why we post all of our music online free for anyone to download and enjoy.

...believe in the freedom of music!

To a large extent the Elsie Dee Project has become about the fans, the people who come back regularly to visit the web site, check out the lyrics, download the songs and enjoy the music. Knowing there are fans around the world in countries like Brazil, France, Ireland, Belgium, Japan, and of course 'our home and native land' Canada, has made what this is all about all the more meaningful.

By presenting some of the most influential poetic works in history, we can perhaps spark further interest in these great works and the lives of the people who created them. We are fortunate enough to live in a time where communication with the world is literally at our fingertips. As a result, our commitment to the freedom of music and the proliferation of great poetry can extend from artistic expression, to global distribution.

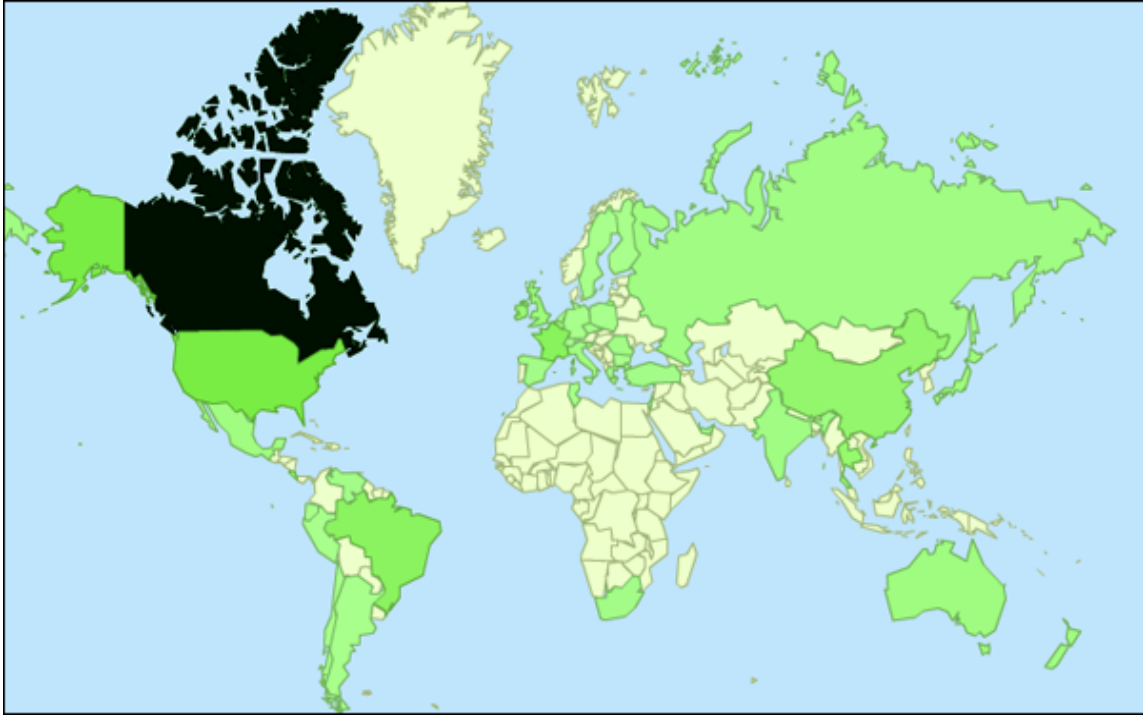
How does this music come about?

The Elsie Dee Project is about experimenting with music within a predefined set of parameters. The artists involved each take turns composing and recording tracks of music. The primary parameter of which is that what ever is done by each artist, it must be the 'lowest common denominator' (LCD ...get it?). That is to say it must be the simplest thing that can be done to enhance the outcome of the song. Other than that, you are free to do what ever you wish while it's your turn.

As a result of this, when a song is started neither artist has a predefined idea of how it will turn out, as each can change the direction of the composition during their turn. Bearing in mind that once a song is completed it must be added to the list of ten songs for publication, whether the artists like the song or not.

Once a consensus is reached that the musical 'bed tracks' are complete a poet is selected as the source for the lyrics. Preferably it's a poet who has been dead for a considerable time (a couple hundred years is best), although we have been known to select more recent poets when it seems appropriate for the song. Once a poem has been selected, it is crafted into the song (...yes from time to time we take artistic liberties with the texts). And "Ta-da!" the composition is complete.

Where in the World is the Elsie Dee Project?



Through our multi-lingual website, all of our songs are available to the world free of charge. It's a bit surprising how far our music has traveled, above is our distribution map from Google Analytics. The darker the green the higher the web site traffic is. The USA, China, Thailand, France, Ireland and Brazil are all contenders for second place after Canada. Belgium is also starting to pick up in traffic. Our recent inclusion on the "QQ829.com" site in China has resulted in some very good exposure in this country. In Canada most of the support is in Quebec and Western Canada. The Brazilians are the most loyal fans though, in that they come back to the site more than any of the others (return visits). We are also gaining ground in Japan were we are seeing a high return rate.

About 66% of all our web site traffic is returning visits and about 33% are new people visiting. Our Podcasts have over 18,000 hits a month. With over 3,000 unique visitors on the web site in an average month, we equate this to the approximate exposure of performing in a bar 2 nights a week in front of over 300 people each night; all of whom are there to hear the music and not just to drink beer! Not bad exposure at all, considering it's every weekend all year long. Think of all this as '**Virtual Touring**' and it covers the entire planet every day.

<http://www.ElsieDeeProject.com>

<http://www.ProjetElsieDee.com>

<http://www.ProyectoElsieDee.com>

What's on the Elsie Dee Project Promotional CD?

We have selected two of each of the three languages Elsie Dee Project performs in and as a BONUS TRACK we've thrown in our song in 5th Century Japanese. After all what would a promotional CD be with out a bonus track! LOL ; -)

Thank you and your station for supporting us by playing our music on air.

In Spanish:

Palabras Serenas (4:16)

Invitación al aire (4:02)

In French:

La Ralentie (4:15)

L'Explosion (3:14)

In English:

The Butchers Equation (3:11)

Moving Awhile (4:53)

BONUS TRACK

5th Century Japanese:

Manyoshu (3:50)

Total Time (27:45)

**There are thirty (30) original compositions available for FREE
online for your listeners listening pleasure:**

<http://www.ElsieDeeProject.com>

<http://www.ProjetElsieDee.com>

<http://www.ProyectoElsieDee.com>



Palabras Serenas

Gabriela Mistral (1889-1957) preceded Neruda in Chilean poetic adventure. Awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1945, she has also worked in the field of education. Elsie Dee has a bit of a crush on this strong woman who was called at birth Lucila Godoy y Aclayaga. Her pseudonym reminds Elsie of one of her four grandmothers and the street where she lives.

Palabras Serenas

Ya en la mitad de mis días espigo
esta verdad con frescura de flor:
la vida es oro y dulzura de trigo,
es breve el odio e inmenso el amor.

Mudemos ya por el verso sonriente
aquel listado de sangre con hiel.
Abren violetas divinas, y el viento
desprende al valle un aliento de miel.

Ahora no sólo comprendo al que reza;
ahora comprendo al que rompe a cantar.
La sed es larga, la cuesta es aviesa;
pero en un lirio se enreda el mirar.

Grávidos van nuestros ojos de llanto
y un arroyuelo nos hace sonreír;
por una alondra que erige su canto
nos olvidamos que es duro morir.

No hay nada ya que mis carnes taladre.
Con el amor acabóse el hervir.
Aún me apacienta el mirar de mi madre.
¡Siento que Dios me va haciendo dormir!



Invitación al aire

Rafael Alberti, born in Cadiz in 1902, belongs to the generation of 1927 and is identified with the Spanish Renaissance literature and played an important role in their access to modernity.

Invitación al aire

Te invito, sombra, al aire.
Sombra de veinte siglos,
a la verdad del aire,
del aire, aire, aire.

Sombra que nunca sales
de tu cueva, y al mundo
no devolviste el silbo
que al nacer te dio el aire,
del aire, aire, aire.

Sombra sin luz, minera
por las profundidades
de veinte tumbas, veinte
siglos huecos sin aire,
del aire, aire, aire.

¡Sombra, a los picos, sombra,
de la verdad del aire,
del aire, aire, aire!



La Ralentie

The Elsie Dee Project uses only the beginning of one of the most famous and most beautiful poems of this misfit of French speaking literature. Familiar with the morbidity and the suffocating lack of differentiation, Henri Michaux sometimes bursts into frenzies of abundant details and minute descriptions.

La Ralentie

Ralentie, on tâte le pouls des choses ; on y ronfle ; on a tout le temps ; tranquillement, toute la vie.

On gobe les sons, on les gobe tranquillement ; toute la vie.

On vie dans son soulier. On y fait le ménage. On a plus besoin de se serrer. On a tout le temps. On déguste. On rit dans son poing. On ne croit plus qu'on sait.

On n'a plus besoin de compter. On est heureuse en buvant ; on est heureuse en ne buvant pas. On fait la perle. On est, on a le temps. On est la ralentie.

On est sortie des courants d'air. On a le sourire du sabot. On n'est plus fatigué. On n'est plus touchée. On a des genoux au bout des pieds. On n'a plus honte sous la cloche. On a vendu ses monts. On a posé son oeuf, on a posé ses nerfs.



L'Explosion

Gabriel Pariseau was born at L'Île Ronde in 1949. This poem was inspired by a jogger in the midst of traffic in down-town Montreal. Take part in a dreamed explosion involving everything...

L'Explosion

Il court.
À sa foulée farouche
Obstinément répétitive
On le dirait furieux
Comme une folle dent
Contre la terre

Il court
À côté des autos closes
Où s'axphyxient
Sans jamais le regarder
Les chauffeurs convaincus
D'avoir les pieds sur terre

Il court
On songe à l'ouragan
Tant son visage semble tourmenté
Le métal des sabots
Claque en secousses
Fracassant

On sent qu'il cherche
À éclater
Il court à coeur ouvert
Et contre le courant
On entendra
Même enfermé dans une auto
La voix de sa déflagration

Il emporte avec lui les maisons :
Vol de vitres en éclats
Lancées de pointes meurtrières
Tissu de vitre à traverser
Une pluie de briques en vol
Une ville en ruines éventrée

Les murs sautent les clôtures
Les corniches écorchées
Suivent les cheminées
Dans une migration finale

Il est heureux dans la déflagration



The Butcher's Equation

Lewis Carroll, pseudonym Charles L. Dodgson, was born in Daresbury in 1832. A celebrated intellectual, he is especially known for *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*. He left many poems including the masterpiece *The Hunting of the Snark*. "The Butcher's Equation" is a part of the fifth fit of this masterpiece.

The Butcher's Equation

"The thing can be done," said the Butcher, "I think.
The thing must be done, I am sure.
The thing shall be done! Bring me paper and ink,
The best there is time to procure."

The Beaver brought paper, portfolio, pens
And ink in unfailing supplies:
While strange creepy creatures came out of their dens,
And watched them with wondering eyes.

So engrossed was the Butcher, he heeded them not,
As he wrote with a pen in each hand,
And explained all the while in a popular style
Which the Beaver could well understand.

"Taking Three as the subject to reason about –
A convenient number to state –
We add Seven, and Ten, and then multiply out
By One Thousand diminished by Eight.

The result we proceed to divide, as you see,
By Nine Hundred and Ninety and Two:
Then subtract Seventeen, and the answer must be
Exactly and perfectly true.

The method employed I would gladly explain,
While I have it so clear in my head,
If I had but the time and you had but the brain –
But much yet remains to be said.

In one moment I've seen what has hitherto been
Enveloped in absolute mystery,
And without extra charge I will give you at large
A Lesson in Natural History."



Moving Awhile

Walt Whitman is another lover of simplicity, but of a fiercer kind of robust simplicity. No lace making, but sophisticated nakedness. People who prefer daylight to romantic moonshine, the early risers of happiness, will easily identify with this violent optimist and soon forgive him his naive narcissism. Moving awhile is a patchwork the Elsie Dee Project made out of bits of much longer poems.

Moving Awhile

What do you seek so pensive and silent?
What do you need camerado?
Dear son do you think it is love?

Moving awhile among it

I will sing the song of companionship
I will be the bard of personality
For you these from me O Democracy
For you I am trilling these songs

Moving awhile among it

I will make divine magnetic lands,
With love of comrades,
With the life-long love of comrades

Moving awhile among it

I will plant companionship thick as tress along
all the rivers of America,
and along the shores of the great lakes, and over the prairies
I will make inseparable cities with their arms
about each others necks...

Moving awhile among it

However high the head of any else that head is over all



Manyoshu

This first Japanese song by the Elsie Dee Project is made of six tankas (short poems of five lines of 5-7-5-7-7 syllables) related by a common theme: the *mono no aware* or "feeling of things". They are sometimes attributed to the legendary emperor Yuraku, but as we know more about them since the German scholar H.J. Klaproth has translated them and made them available to the western world, we realize they originate from the ancient Japanese oral tradition kept in the Manyoshu. We do not expect you to speak much 5th century Japanese so we have provided a translation.

Manyoshu

Todome yenu
Inochi ni shi areba
Shikitaye no
Iye yuwa idete
Kumo gakuriniki

Because destiny cannot be stopped
Leaving my splendid house
I hid in the cloud

Awa yuki wa
Hadare ni fuyo to
Miru made ni
Nagarae chiru wa
Nami no hana zo mo

Is it light snow sprinkled about
Seeing its oblique fall I wonder
What flower is it?

Tago no ura yu
Uchi idete mireba
Mashiro ni zo
Fuji no takane ni
Yuki wa furikuru

Waking on Tago beach
I saw pure white snow fall
At the top of Mount Fuji

Sazare ishi ni
Koma wo asasete
Kokoro itami waga
Omou imo ga
Ie no atari kamo

My heart hurts
As if a pony was walking on stones
O the house of my love!

Kazama matsu
Amashi kazukaba
Au koto no
Tayori ni namiwa
Umi to naruramu

Before they can dive
Fishermen wait for the wind to fall
As I will meet him the waves will go to the sea

yo no naka ni
taete sakura no
nakerisaba
haru no kokoro wa
nodokekaramashi

In this world
If the cherry blossom would have come
in the springtime
The hearts would have stayed calm.

What about Copyrights and Approvals?

This Promotional kit and the music contained on the accompanying CD were produced by the Elsie Dee Project. The music is by Pierre Voyer and Boyd Williams. Lyrics are selected from the poets as noted for each song.

The attached CD is provided for "Promotional" use only. Any use other than the promotion of the Elsie Dee Project is expressly prohibited.

TV and Radio stations, Pod and Web Casters are free to play any of the contained songs as part of their daily music programming.

All rights are reserved.

© 2009 Pierre Voyer and Boyd Williams SOCAN

How do you contact the Elsie Dee Project?

By E-mail:

info@ElsieDeeProject.com

By regular mail:

The Elsie Dee Project
22 Chemin du Mistral
Laval, Quebec
Canada
H7Y 1S1

FAQ's

How did you come up with the name Elsie Dee?

Boyd was calling the project the "LCD Project" because they had agreed to always use the 'Lowest Common Denominator' when composing tracks. Pierre, being francophone, heard this as "Elsie Dee" rather than "LCD". So when it came time to pick a name they both agreed to the Elsie Dee Project, but Pierre had to write it on paper before Boyd caught on.

How did this project get started?

Pierre came to Boyd, who had a digital recording studio, with a proposal to record the Cole Porter song "Night & Day". After the completion of the song the two decided to continue recording together.

How long has the project been running?

The Elsie Dee Project started in 2007 and has released ten new songs each year. There are 30 songs on the website... so to answer the question, 3 years.

What's with the cat on Elsie Dee 2?

The cat's name is 'Momo', short for Maurice, and he lives in the studio. Of the three of them there during the recording, he was the best looking one of the bunch. So, they put him on the cover of the CD and on the web site.

How many pod casts are there?

There are a total of 18 pod casts on the web site at this time.

What's your favorite Pod cast?

The "Spanish Only Pod Cast" has to be one of our favorites Boyd thinks that Elsie Dee rocks in Spanish. Why that's the case we're really not too sure.

How has Pod Casting helped the Elsie Dee Project?

Pod casting has been a vital key in the promotion of the Elsie Dee Project world wide. Pod casting builds links for a solid fan base and the Project has people around the world accessing the music via this medium.

How long does it take to write a song?

It can take anywhere from a couple of hours to a couple of days. It varies for each song.

How do you decide what gets recorded first?

We usually start with the drums and the base, but that is not always true. Sometimes we start with the piano or some other instrument. It depends on who has an idea when we start.

Who picks the poets?

Pierre picks the poet but we both have to agree to the poem.

Do you play all the music yourselves?

Yes all the tracks are created by Pierre and Boyd.

Is there an Elsie Dee Project Volume 4 in the works?

Yes work has begun on the new set of ten songs.

With songs already in four languages are there plans to record in other languages?

Yes, we plan to use other languages as part of the project. We have been talking about possibly using Latin in an upcoming project.