

LUTHERIE URBAINE



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LUTHERIE URBAINE

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LUTHERIE URBAINE is a non-profit organisation which gathers musicians, stringed musical instrument makers, technicians and other artists. Jean-Louis Mechali, a composer, is undertaking the artistic direction of creative projects. The social, ecological and multi-cultural aspects of the projects, inseparable from our time, are taken into account for and in their development process.

Lutherie Urbaine, aims:

1. To collect and recycle **waste products**
2. To devise and construct **completely new instruments**
3. To create and perform **multi-discipline, multi-cultural new musical works**



Lutherie Urbaine has three objectives:

- **Cultural mission**

- A place for experiment: the laboratory of the Urbs
- An instrumental ensemble comprising 5 to 12 musicians: « Les Urbs »
- A label: « Métal Satin ».

- **Social mission**

Give access to music creation to those who otherwise could not achieve it. Encourage inter-generation exchange. Discover other new musical forms through artistic exchange across South Africa and other distant cultures.

- **Educational mission**

Release musical talent by non-academic, practical activities. Make children and all people aware of the world of sound through the making of instruments and music. Encourage invention and expression.

International Experience

Following the “residences” of Jean-Louis Mechali and “Les Urbs” at the Halle de la Gombe, French Cultural Centre of Kinshasa (*Democratic Republic of Congo*) in 2002, the Lutherie Urbaine’s team was, from 2003 to 2006, at the Franco-Mozambican Cultural Centre in Maputo. These residences of teaching, creativity and exchanges involved about sixty artistes from two countries and resulted in three shows: **"Liboma Minghi", "Es muito loco" et "Nhanssalà!"**. For each of them, new shows took place in Africa and in France with, on each occasion, the same attention turned to the reciprocity and optimization of the cultural exchange and mutual initiation.