

PAUL GARCIN

PORTFOLIO 2025

SELECTED WORKS



PERFORMANCES (CREATION / INTERPRETATION)

2024 - *Forever Mentone*, Jerk Off festival, Point Ephémère, Paris (75)
Forever Mentone, Fauves festival, TU-Nantes (44)
The Phase de Doute Performance, Nuit Blanche at Villa Savoye, Poissy (cur : Théo Diers) (78)
I heard it all before + Forever Mentone (extrait), an performance evening with Léa Puissant, PAN, Île Saint-Denis (93)
I heard it all before, exhibition closing of Am I A Nepo Baby?, Rue des Quatre Fils, Paris (cur : Théo Diers) (75)

2023 - *Forever Mentone*, end-of-residency show, TU, Nantes (44)
Forever Mentone, end-of-residency show, Point Ephémère, Paris (75)

2022 - *Le pouvoir de l'amour, de la fascination et de Céline Dion, Freed From Desire #3 exhibition*, Bletterans (39)

2021 - *An American Teenage Dream*, exhibition closing of GO FAR, GO HARD, Glassbox, Paris (75)
An American Teenage Dream, exhibition closing of «de 5 à 7», Latelier Gallery, Sète, France (34)
Les Garçons de la Colline (Hillside boys) (with KimPetrasPaintings), Maison des Arts de Malakoff, France (92)

2020 - *Dancing On My Own #3 (Premium Quality)*, Felicità19, Palais des Beaux-Arts, Paris (75)
The Encounter Pt. II (Feat. Beyoncé), season opening of Terrain Neutre Théâtre, Nantes (France) (44)
The Encounter Pt. II (Feat. Beyoncé), Splash festival, Visual arts / Performance arts, TU-Nantes (France) (44)
TAPE8 Live, Liquid Sunshine exhibition opening, Open School Gallery, Nantes

2019 - *Dancing On My Own #2 (Nap Queen)*, Pride'n'Art festival opening, POL'n, Nantes (FR) (44)
TAPE8 Live, Lost Horse Saloon, Marfa, Texas, USA

2017 - *Clipologie*, BAM! festival, TU, Nantes (44) - with Meg Boury and Opale Mirman
Saumon Lamour présente!, Turbulence festival, TU Nantes (44)

2016 - *Dancing On My Own #1 (Good night)*, All Tomorrow's Parties, Félix Thomas, Nantes Art School, Fr (44)
Conférence sur l'avion, Je fais ce que je fais #5 festival, (cur : Claudia Trioletti ENSA Bourges (18))
Conférence sur l'avion, Soirée Performances en Acte #1, Dulcie Gallery, Nantes, France

CURRÍCULUM VITAE

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Born in 1996

Works and lives in Aubervilliers, France.

EXPOSITIONS COLLECTIVES - PROJECTIONS - ETC.

2025 - *Studio opening* with Louise Mervelet, Synagogue de Delme residency, FR
Changing Room, Soft Power, Berlin (cur. Clémentine Proby) - with Kim PetrasPaintings

2024 - *Mostra Artistica*, Porta Soprana, as part of Nouveau Grand Tour residency with the French Institute, Cairo Montenotte (Liguria, Italia)
The Echo Chamber with KimPetrasPaintings, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (75)
Am I A Nepo Baby? (cur : Théo Diers), Rue des Quatre Fils, Paris (75)
Vidéo Flash screening evening, Point Ephémère (75)

2023 - *Want More and More..*, curated by Freed From Desire collective, 59Rivoli, Paris (75)

2021 - *GO FAR, GO HARD*, Glassbox, Paris (75) - with KimPetrasPaintings
Studio opening of the Mobilisé.e.s residency, Maison des Arts de Malakoff (92) - with KimPetrasPaintings

2020 - *13ème Biennale de la jeune création*, La Grainerie, Houilles (78) - (Cur. : Maud Cosson/Alexandra Servel)

2019 - *Felicità 2019*, Palais des Beaux-Arts, Paris (75)
Go West, Nantes Art School, Nantes (44) (Cur : Clémence Agnez)

2018 - *Liquid Sunshine*, Open School Gallery, Nantes Art School (44)

2014 - *HORS SITU IV*, Chapelle du Quartier Haut, Sète, FR (34)

RESIDENCIES

2025 - *Synagogue de Delme* - with Louise Mervelet
SOMA, Marseille - with Léa Puissant

2024 - *Nouveau Grand Tour*, II Gattopardo à Cairo Montenotte (Italy), French Institute

2023 - *TU-Nantes* (44)
Maison Artagon, Vitry-Aux-Loges (45)
Dispositif Spectacle Vivant, Point Ephémère, Paris (75)

2022 - *Dispositif Spectacle Vivant*, Point Ephémère, Paris (75)
Freed From Desire #3, Bletterans (39)

2021 - *L'Estive*, Glassbox, Paris (75) - with KimPetrasPaintings
Mobilisé.e.s, Maison des Arts de Malakoff (92), invited by Jimmy Beauquesne

2018 - *Fieldwork*, Marfa, Texas

2017 - *BAM!*, TU Nantes (44) - With Meg Boury & Opale Mirman

2016 - *PULSE*, TU Nantes (44) - With Meg Boury & Opale Mirman

2014 - *HORS SITU IV*, Chapelle du Quartier Haut, Sète (34)

PUBLICATIONS

2025 - *Text by Clémentine Proby*, studio opening of the Synagogue de Delme residency

2021 - *FIELDWORK MARFA*, TEXAS USA, 11-20, Jannink Édition

2020 - *Text by Florian Gaité*, 13th Biennale of the Young Creation of Houilles catalog

2019 - *Interview with Anaïd Demir*, Felicità 19 catalog, Beaux-Arts de Paris Edition

PÉDAGOGIE

2025 - *Catalog*, 5th grade students, Collège A. Malraux de Delme (57) - with Louise Mervelet

2024 - *Workshop*, Starting Block programm, Palais de Tokyo (75) - with KimPetrasPaintings

2022 - *Workshop «Fan2»*, students from first to fifth years, ESACM (63) - with KimPetrasPaintings

2016 - *Ateliers en ITEP* in an ITEP (Therapeutic, educative and pedagogical institute) with Lou Chenivesse, Nantes, France

PARCOURS

2023 - *Programme SHIFT #3* par l'agence AMAC, dispositif d'accompagnement d'artistes franciliens

2019 - *DNSEP* avec les félicitations du jury, beaux-arts de Nantes

2017 - *DNAP* avec les félicitations du jury, beaux-arts de Nantes

2013 - *Classe préparatoire* des beaux-arts de Sète

RADIO - MAIN CHARACTER ENERGY

My show, Main Character Energy, which I write, record, and edit, airs every two months on TIKKA Radio. A sort of sketchbook, an extension of the questions I explore in my practice, each episode features a new guest and a new topic. The show is in french.

The listening link is available [here](#) (or by clicking on each episode below).

2024 - *Episode 1 : Summer Seum* (feat. Eugénie Zély)
Episode 2 (Part. 1) : Rumors and Nastiness (feat. Safia Bahmed Schwatz & Nelson Bourrec Carter)
Episode 2 (Part. 2) : Fake It Until You Make It (feat. Safia Bahmed Schwatz & Nelson Bourrec Carter)

2025 - *Episode 3 : Douter, Remixer, Shifter* (feat. Anne-Sarah Sanchez & Yves Bartlett)
Episode 4 : Lady Gaga - deep dive (feat. Jimmy Beauquesne)

BONUS TRACK (SÉLECTION DÉVÉNEMENTS ET AUTRES PROJETS..)

2024 - *DJ set for Aurore Le Duc's opening solo show*, Point Ephémère, Paris (75)
DJ Set RELEASE PARTY #53 LAPIN CANARD x PARIS, Paris
DJ set after a movie projection of Harmony Korine's Springbreakers, Le Luminor movie theater, Paris
Mix for «Cuddle Girl invite...» radio show, Tikka Radio



In a practice involving performance, video, music, installation and painting, Paul Garcin creates **storytellings** that conjure up **autobiography** and **autofiction**, appropriating and diverting the *modus operandi* established in and by **American pop culture**, whose marketing techniques and imagery have impregnated him since childhood. Questioning the **construction of the self through fascination and memories**, his pieces are conceived as narrative episodes in which his experiences are confronted with reflections on life's universal questions such as **love, queerness, grief, doubt, solitude and the complexity of human relationships**.

Thus, mediums and stories intersect and blend, as do the **archetypal characters** he embodies throughout his narratives, presenting **immersive works** that take the form of a TEDxTalk, a stand-up comedy show, or a pop star performance, at the intersection of the **white cube** and the **black box**.



FOREVER MENTONE

2023

PERFORMANCE, 1H

With the support of Point Ephémère, TU-Nantes and Artagon.
Picture : at TU-Nantes (credits : Sixtine de Bordad)

Forever Mentone is the story of a trip to Mentone, a Californian suburb of 8,600 inhabitants located an hour and a half north of Los Angeles. Alter ego of Menton, Paul Garcin's hometown in the south-east of France, Mentone is strongly inspired by it, creating its own mythology : streets are called Nice Avenue and Via Antibes, Mentone orange replaces the famous Menton lemon, and vintage postcards promise houses with a sea view, even though the town is surrounded by mountains.

After visiting the small american town in 2022, Paul Garcin came back with a lot of images and a lot of disappointment, as the town didn't live up to its advertising promises. Nonetheless, this observation turns out to be the starting point for a reflection on travel and transatlantic fantasies - one of the cities applying itself to being the (distorting) mirror of the other - but also on putting into perspective the difficulties encountered in the first years of leaving art school.

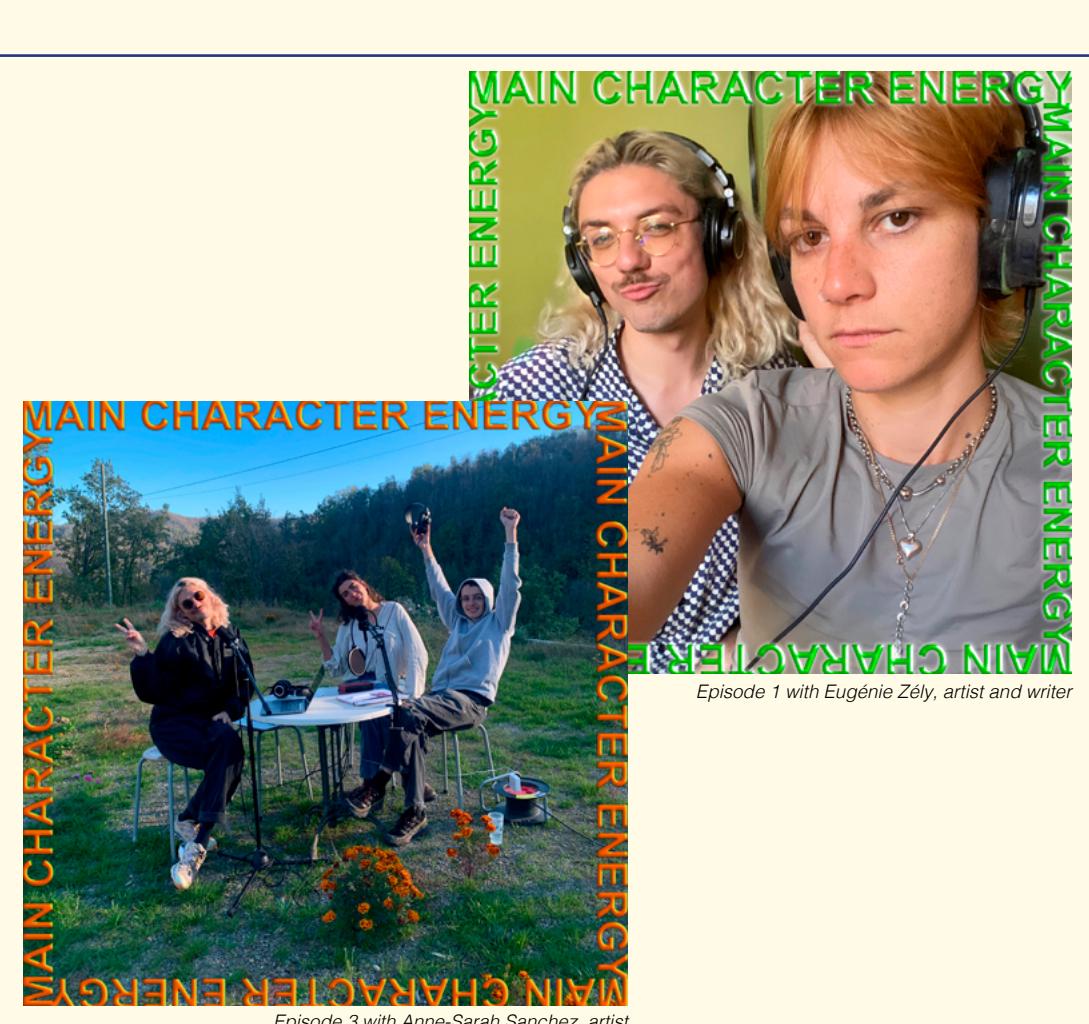
In *Forever Mentone*, a recital combining lecture, stand-up and concert format, Paul Garcin takes the audience on a fantastical and fantasized roadtrip, combining visual and sound footage of his journey, musical composition, and drifts, doubts and questions about his own biography.





Left: *As the sun slips over my shoulder*, 2023
Tufted rug for the performance, inspired by a road pannel in Mentone.

Right : *White Horse (This ain't Hollywood, this is a small town)*
A rug featuring the composition of orange labels and images taken in Mentone.



Episode 1 with Eugénie Zély, artist and writer

Episode 3 with Anne-Sarah Sanchez, artist
and Yves Bartlett, curator, performer

MAIN CHARACTER ENERGY

Since september 2024, I present, write and produce my own radio show named *Main Character Energy* on the Marseille webradio TIKKA. Conceived as a show aired every two months, I talk in it, analyse, dissect, deconstruct every subjects I love and i'm interested in : pop culture and pop music, storytelling... or life.

Main Character Energy is an extension of my artistic reflexions, a kind of sketchbook that I realise accompanied by artists, musicians, thinkers, or sometimes alone.

To listen to the radio shows (french) : <https://soundcloud.com/joyful-aries/sets/main-character-energy-sur>

THE PHASE OF DOUBTS PERFORMANCE

2024

PERFORMANCE, 30'

Written and performed especially for and at the Villa Savoye in Poissy as part of Nuit Blanche, I take on — for this performance — my former role as a tourist office advisor, just as I did in the summer of 2019.

In the form of an interactive guided tour, I lead the audience through the garden and around the exterior façades of the Villa Savoye. Throughout the tour, I make various stops to either tell stories or sing personal anecdotes about being an artist (dealing with a lack of inspiration, the difficulty of fulfilling commissions...), about Le Corbusier, and about his problematic obsession with Eileen Gray and the Villa E1027 (in Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, where I also worked at the Tourist Office).





Pictures taken during my performance at Villa Savoye, june 2024.
The sculpture I'm sitting on is by Louise Margot Decombas. (© LG)



I HEARD IT ALL BEFORE

2024

PERFORMANCE, 15'

An ex blocks me. An ex that matters. Now, he's dating a girl. As far as I know, I was his last relationship. What happened? Why block me from his life when our relationship ended three years ago and we are at a standstill in communication? This is an opportunity for me to re-examine this story through the lens of memory and the male figure in our society.

Using this event as a starting point, I highlight in *I Heard It All Before* the pop song as an emancipatory tool, a creative vector, and a remedy for grief. Blending personal anecdotes with universal questions, from Agnès Gayraud to Taylor Swift to Peter Szendy, I navigate from one subject to another like scrolling through Facebook. Memories blur and intertwine while a more and more recognizable melody, Madonna's hit *Sorry* is constructed in parallel, thanks to the sampling of my voice with my loop pedal.

Accompanying the performance is a tufted rug in the shape of a pink disc, a tribute to Madonna's album *Confessions on a Dance Floor* (which includes *Sorry*), and an ouroboros, evoking the repeat button on Spotify.

Lien vidéo : <https://youtu.be/kAy6lyVnUls>



Left : During the closing of *am i a nepo baby?* (curation :Théo Diers), 18 rue des Quatre Fils, march 2024.
Right : *I heard it all before* (rug), 2024, tufted rug.



Exhibition view : *am i a nepo baby?*, Quatre Fils Street (Paris) curation : Théo Diers.

As the sun slips over my shoulder, tufted rug, 2023.

Videos shown with my rug : *is this my bio?*, Harilay Rabenjamina



Broadcast setup for the exhibition *am i a nepo baby?* by Théo Diers
Vidéo : *Le pouvoir de l'amour, de la fascination et de Céline Dion*, 2023
Rug : *I Heard It All Before (rug)*, 2024



THE POWER OF LOVE, FASCINATION AND OF CÉLINE DION - VIDEO VERSION

2022

VIDEO, 22'

With the support of Freed From Desire, Point Ephémère et 59 Rivoli.
With the help of Nelson Bourrec Carter and Quentin Blomet.

Video adaptation of the performance of the same name, created and presented in Bletterans last September as part of Freed From Desire #3. I extend my tribute to the Québécois icon, appropriating the codes and aesthetics of vlogs and YouTube.

«Everyone has a memory with Céline Dion. For some, it's a song played on repeat after a tough breakup. For others, it's a wild duet during a slightly too drunken karaoke night. For me, the VHS tape of her live performance at the Stade de France in 1999 is my earliest childhood memory. In this performance, I pay homage to the icon, the diva that is Céline, who has accompanied me since my first steps.»

VIDEO LINK (WITH EN SUBTITLES) : <https://youtu.be/UO3rRs-RVKM>



Stills of *The Power of Love, fascination and of Céline Dion*, premiered at 59 Rivoli (Paris), exhibition «Want more and more...».



KIMPETRASPINTINGS

COLLECTIVE WORK - FOUNDER

KimPetrasPaintings is a variable-sized group, halfway between an artist collective and a fan club. It was founded in 2020 by Jimmy Beauquesne, Nelson Bourrec Carter, and Paul Garcin, and joined in 2021 by Aurore le Duc, Ugo Ballara, Camille Juthier, Louise Mervelet, and Youri Johnson. By dedicating each of its productions to its patron pop star, KPP allows its members to experiments all the things they might not dare pursue in their personal practice. A receptacle for desires, KimPetrasPaintings mirrors the German singer, being both sincere and cheap.

The collective also aims to rethink the notion of affect in light of the fan figure, proposing, through the experience of a group to redefine the points of connection between its members. By considering identity not as self-fulfillment but as the localized performance of a figure, KimPetrasPaintings attempts to redirect desire towards the chosen myth, building a community around it. Cultivating both a sentimental and critical approach, KPP draws from the singer's personal history, her identity and professional construction, and the ambiguities underlying this journey, which serve as entry points for reflections beyond mere biography.

After its creation at the Maison des Arts de Malakoff, KimPetrasPaintings had its first residency at Glassbox during the summer of 2021 as part of L'Estive, where it presented its first solo show. In 2022, the collective was invited to conduct a workshop at ESACM for students ranging from first-year undergraduates to final-year master's students.

In 2024, KPP will take over the Chambre des Echos at the Palais de Tokyo and conduct a week-long masterclass for young adults aspiring to join art schools.





In February 2024, KimPetrasPaintings is invited to take over the Chambre des Echos at the Palais de Tokyo for the first edition of the Starting Block program. The result is an immersive installation that sits halfway between a teenager's bedroom and a music video set.

The spectator is invited to sit on the seating that reinterprets the pop star's visual universe (album fonts featuring KPP, the heart from the Malibu album cover reproduced as seating...) to watch the video and listen to the text narrated by Kim Petras AI - an artificial intelligence reproducing Kim's voice - fantasizing about the young German's arrival in Hollywood in her quest for fame.

Photo : Quentin Chevrier



View of the *GO FAR, GO HARD* exhibition, Glassbox, 2021

AN AMERICAN TEENAGE DREAM

2021
PERFORMANCE

With the support of Glassbox, Paris.
View from the *Go Far, Go Hard* exhibition finishing at Glassbox, oct 21.

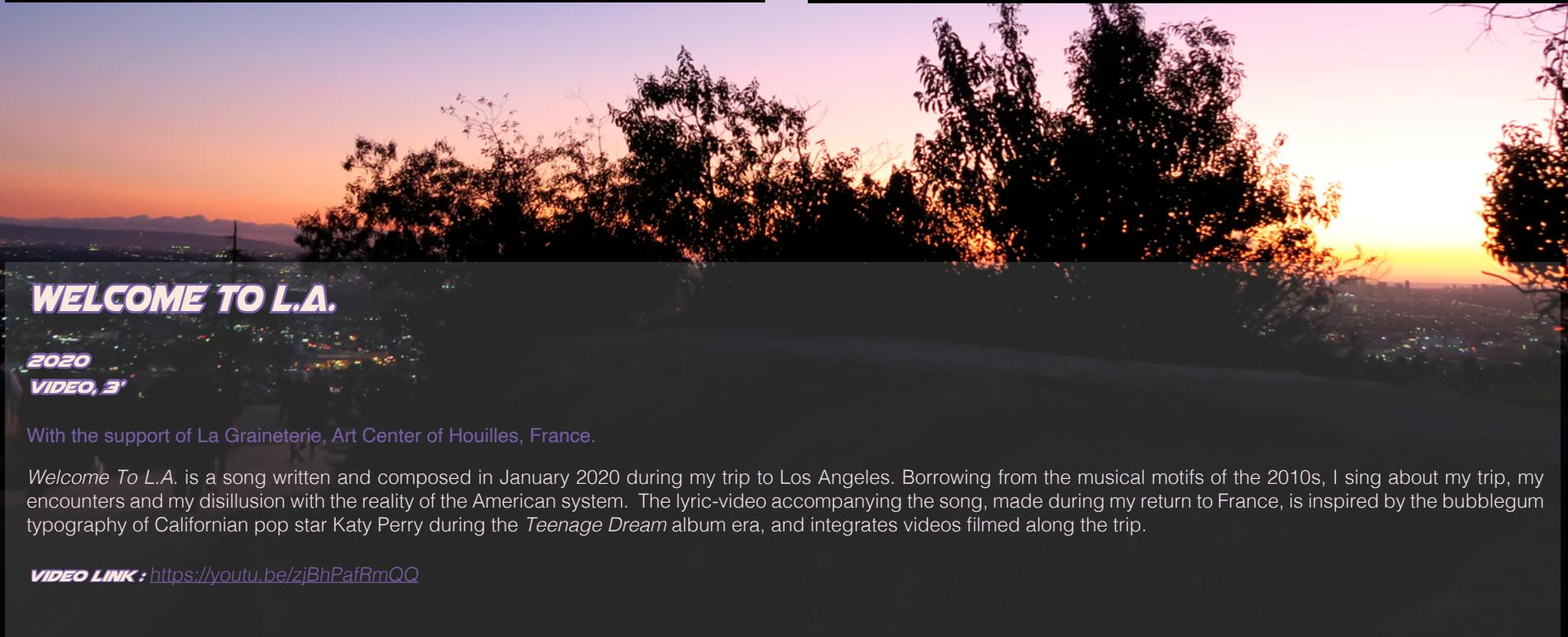
During *An American Teenage Dream*, the viewer comes with me in a roadtrip between Los Angeles, the internet, Paris and Droué, a small town of the Loire-Et-Cher french region. Deconstructing and analyzing my fascination for pop divas through the incarnations of Lady Gaga or by covering a Madonna song, I put into perspective two love stories lived with angelenos - one in L.A., the other on Tinder - questioning my relationship to images and idealization.

At the end of the performance, I sing a song I wrote : *Welcome To L.A.*

VIDEO LINK  <https://youtu.be/B3EvrcIHBa>



DIR ACHETÉ UN TICKET POUR MON
SPECTACLE



Welcome To L.A. is a song written and composed in January 2020 during my trip to Los Angeles. Borrowing from the musical motifs of the 2010s, I sing about my trip, my encounters and my disillusion with the reality of the American system. The lyric-video accompanying the song, made during my return to France, is inspired by the bubblegum typography of Californian pop star Katy Perry during the *Teenage Dream* album era, and integrates videos filmed along the trip.

VIDEO LINK: <https://youtu.be/zjBhPafRmQQ>

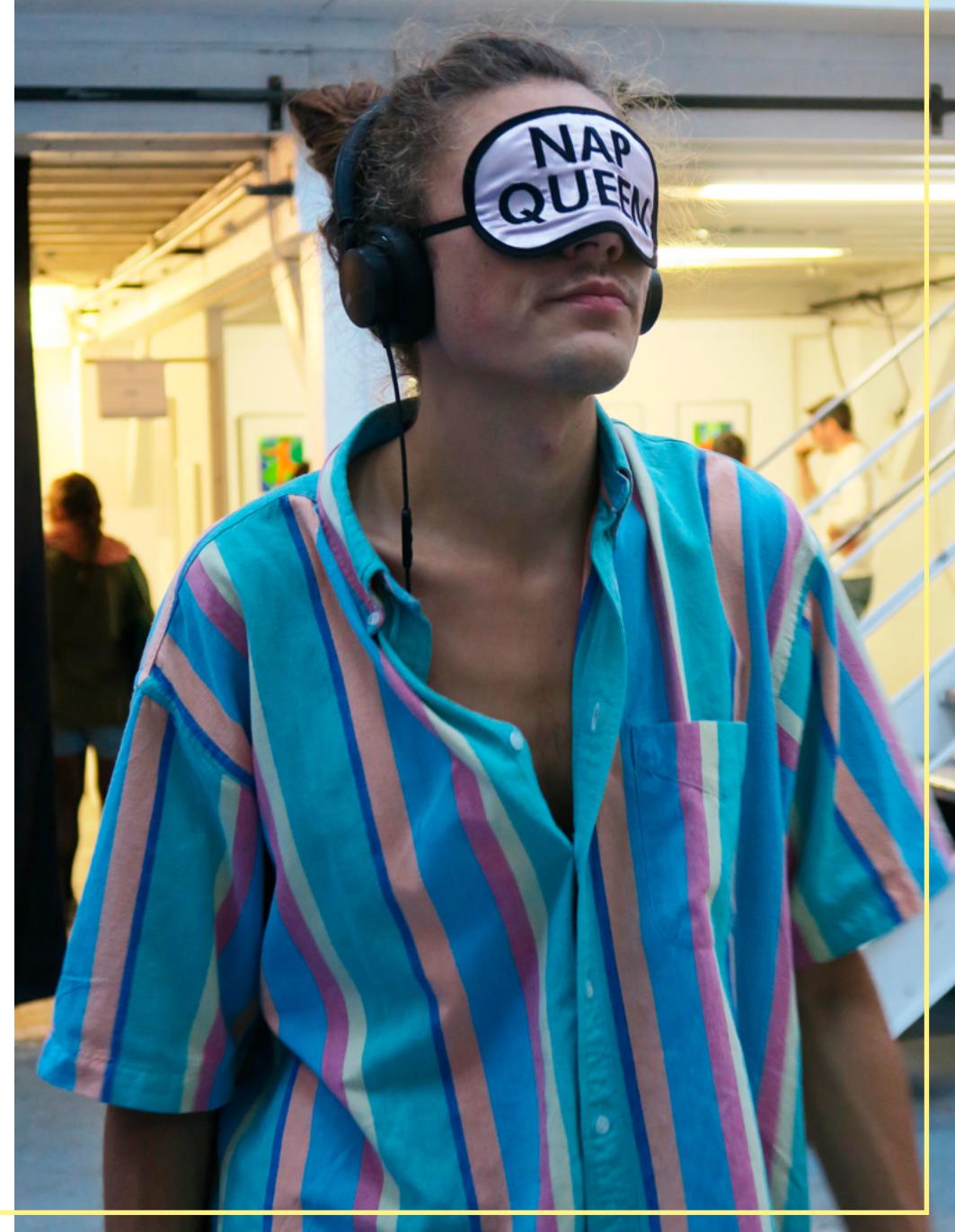
«Through autobiography and autofiction, Paul Garcin's work draws from pop culture the forms of a critical discourse of the values it conveys. His performances, installations and videos deconstruct the misogyny of the industry, the reign of competitiveness and cult of money by adopting the codes that allows advertising of it. Humorously addressing issues of gender, sexuality and self-representation, his works play with stereotypes to reveal their fictitious nature. Also, we can see him interpreting some of Beyoncé's most iconic postures, the archetype of the powerful and seductive woman, doing karaoke in the middle of the Texan desert or filming, between Miami and Menton, the video of a fictive duet with Queen B. This piece is integrated to a performed conference in which Paul Garcin switches from Beyoncé's Lemonade to Menton's Lemon Festival, from the Chicano culture to Princess Stephanie of Monaco, leveling informations to deconstruct their hierarchies.

He presents several pieces inspired by his recent trip to Los Angeles, the epicenter of the American dream, which in his eyes has become the place of all disillusionments. He films a young dancer he met on the walk of fame, unfortunate candidate for the success, facing the reality of his desires. His choreography echoes Paul Garcin's performance *Dancing on my own*, in which he projects the capture. He adopts the same posture (mask and earphones on his ears) while dancing as if no one was looking at him. With *Rizon Printz*, the teenage bubble takes on a more dramatic sense of isolation, with the public no longer seeing the dancer's art as anything more than an intimate refuge. Paul Garcin extends this bittersweet testimony with a video made *in situ* (...).

In *Welcome to L.A.*, the lyrics of a song are projected on the artist's body while he sings them in playback. This lyrics-video, conceived on the model of karaoke clips, returns to the gap between his fantasies as a young man, crossing the Atlantic with glitter in his eyes, and the violence of the American social reality he finds himself confronted with. Ode to doubt and disappointment, ironically sung to a pop tune, the piece thus dilutes his dream of a success story in an incredulous and disenchanted statement.»

Florian Gaité

Excerpt taken from the *13th Young Creation Biennale of Houilles* catalog, 2020





DANCING ON MY OWN

2018
PERFORMANCE, 2H

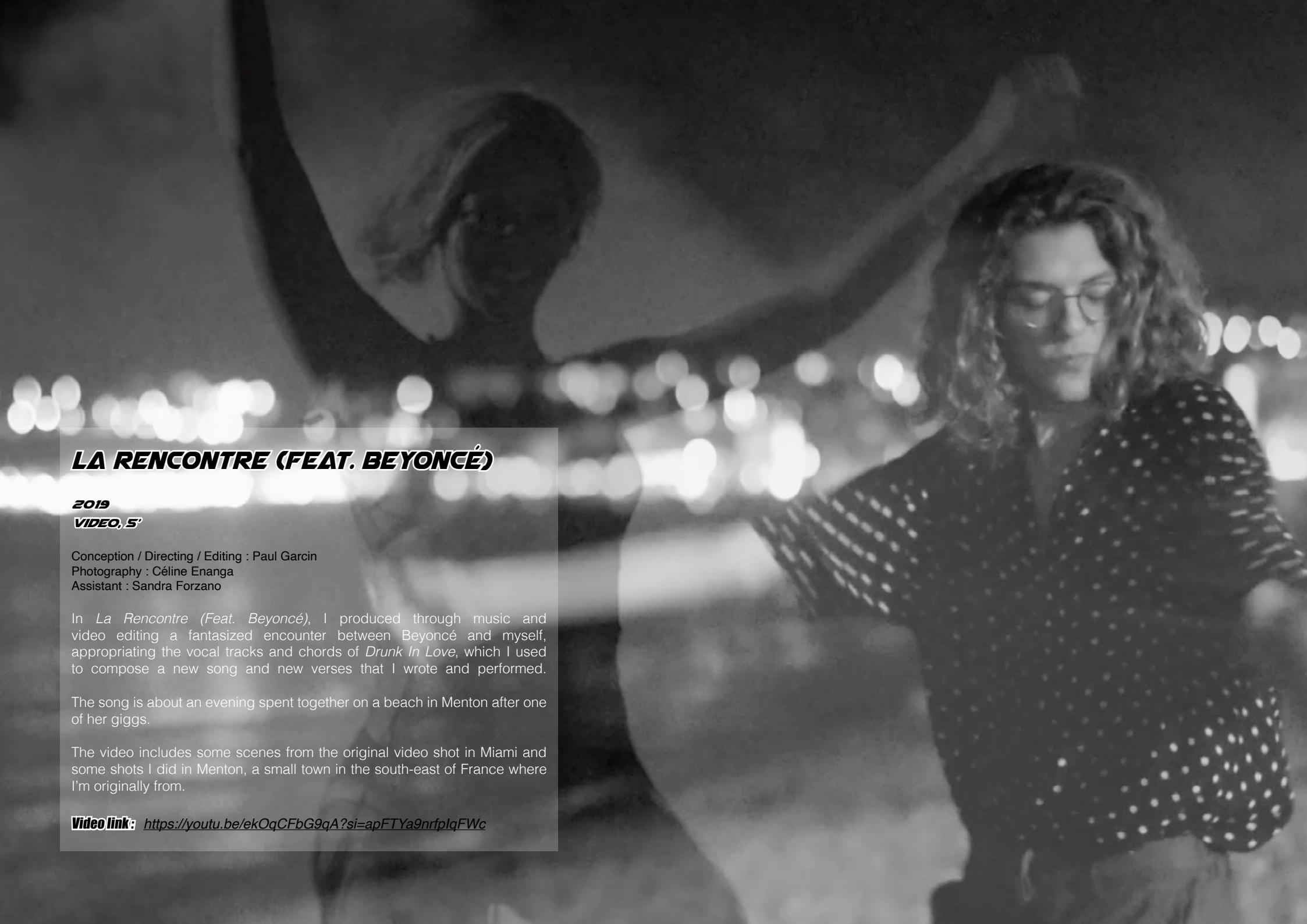
Views of *Dancing On My Own* #2 (Nap Queen) at Pol'N (Nantes, France) during Pride'N'Art festival.

Dancing On My Own is performed during openings or exhibition closings.

With my eyes hidden by a sleep mask, I dance for two hours to a playlist created especially for the occasion. Each time the performance is reactivated, I create a new playlist and the sleep mask changes, displaying a new message.

With this process - borrowed from Felix Gonzalez-Torres - I choose to isolate myself completely from the spectator, rediscovering for two hours the state of freedom of the teenager dancing alone in his room. The space becomes in my head a video set, creating a gap with the spectator that I voluntarily exclude from my «party» and who sees me dancing in silence.

VIDEO LINK : <https://vimeo.com/292273661>



LA RENCONTRE (FEAT. BEYONCÉ)

2019

VIDEO, 5'

Conception / Directing / Editing : Paul Garcin

Photography : Céline Enanga

Assistant : Sandra Forzano

In *La Rencontre (Feat. Beyoncé)*, I produced through music and video editing a fantasized encounter between Beyoncé and myself, appropriating the vocal tracks and chords of *Drunk In Love*, which I used to compose a new song and new verses that I wrote and performed.

The song is about an evening spent together on a beach in Menton after one of her gigs.

The video includes some scenes from the original video shot in Miami and some shots I did in Menton, a small town in the south-east of France where I'm originally from.

Video link: <https://youtu.be/ekOqCFbG9qA?si=apFTYa9nrfplqFWc>