Band

The long story:

Christmas 2008, I (Philippe) was on vacation at my parent's house and I recorded a first rough of the song "Just Remembering". A couple of months later (2009), I performed at a talent show in Sherbrooke, Quebec where I was attending University. Abraham Rodriguez, a friend I had just met, he loved the song and asked me if I wanted to record it at his home studio. We ended up recording a 5 song EP ([Two Colors](https://thebrightroad.bandcamp.com/album/two-colors-ep)) that was first released on an download card, then we printed on few CDs. Abraham played a show with me (it was a fundraiser for Haiti at Innovation Youth in Montreal) but he didn't want to become a band member, since he had his own projects.

Summer 2010, I finished my degree in translation and moved to Montreal to find a job. While I was searching for a job I got inspired to write new songs. At that same time I met Esther Garceau (not related to me) and she decided to join the project on keyboards and back vocals. We played a few shows for about a year and crafted some new songs that would later be recorded. My first roommate in Montreal (Sébastien Ménard) was in a band called [Semperfi](https://semperfimusic.bandcamp.com/album/paper-boat" \t "_blank) and I had always been impressed by the quality of their homemade recordings. I asked him if he was interested to work on my first full length release and he accepted. Meanwhile I had met 3 other musicians (J-P, Maxime and Julien) and they had started playing a few shows with me and Esther; we were becoming a band. They recorded the album with me. I spent about a year working on arrangements and mix with Sébastien, who also mastered it. A music video was also shot for the release.

[*Norway*](https://thebrightroad.bandcamp.com/album/norway) was released at Il Motore, Montreal on January 27, 2012. A couple of days later, the rest of band members, including Esther, decided to leave the project. They had thought it through before the release but wanted to wait until after the launch. I knew it was taking much of their time and they couldn't be as involved as I was, since it was my project in the first place. Since I had just released an album I still needed to support the album with dates, I hired musicians here and there for a couple of months; the album needed to be performed by 5 musicians, so it was not an easy period for me.

October 2012, I asked my former bassist, who had already played some gigs with me, if he knew musicians that would be interested to play for a gig at Indie Week in Toronto. He introduced me to his former classmates David, Keven and Gabriel. As we were performing the show I said to myself: "This is it!" The show was a competition, without expecting anything we made it to the finals. We were selected out of 300 bands, and we were all happy and excited about the outcome. On our way back I asked the guys if they were interested in joining the band and they all accepted. There was already a strong chemistry happening and we ended up playing over 40 shows in support of the album. We toured in March 2013 and played dates in places like Gaspé, Quebec and New York City. We played together for nearly 2 years and began the writing process of new material. Gab (keybords) and D-A (bass) left the band to pursue other projects; so The Bright Road became me, David and Keven.

We rented a cabin three times throughout the year to compose new songs. We would record roughs, work preproduction at home, and then try some of the tunes live. We did that for nearly 2 years. Early 2015 we started to work at legendary Montreal Studio Victor <http://studiovictor.ca/en/hystory/>, the recording of Ocean began. We had met two session bass players (Morgan the live bass player of The Barr Brothers, and Jean-Mic) along the way; they were perfect to complete the sound we had crafted on the album. Winner of a Felix at the ADISQ (Quebec’s equivalent to the Juno’s,/Grammy’s) awards, François-Charles Legault engineered and mixed the album. The main recordings were done on two weekends at Studio Victor; Ocean is the last album that was recorded there before it closed its doors. We finalised recording at Studio B and Studio Planet. Along the way came Léa Boudreau, she played trombone, back vocals and keyboards on the album. We continued to work with François-Charles on arrangements and mix for the following year.

October 2015, we met our manager, launched a Kickstarter campaign to help finish the album, we were approached by Gilligan (Fake Chapter Records). A couple of months later we signed cemented the deal. The release of *Ocean* is planned for April-May 2016 digitally through Fake Chapter Records, and physically with DSG/Outside in Canada. We have released the initial single We’ll Be Fine to Quebec radio.

Philippe

-I was born in Trois-Rivières and left at 17 to discover the world and learn new languages, I have traveled to Panama, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Germany, France, UK, Scotland, Switzerland and travelled across Canada and actually lived in Hamilton for a while. A couple of years later I started a bachelor degree in translation and graduated 4 years later.

- I love Quebec and believe that this province has enough reasons to become a country (culture, language, history, etc.) Contrarily to the previous generation that were looking to separate from Canada, I have a more inclusive way of seeing it, meaning that you don't have to be white French speaking to be a Québécois. And I don't have a problem with Canadians; I just see them as people with a different cultural background; with love and respect.

-I don't understand why I should obligatory sing in French because I'm a French speaker. When I lived in Norway it was fascinating to see how it was so common to sing in English and not a big deal; like it is for many here in Quebec. For me it's just a way to break borders and get more people to hear the music.

-I was raised in a Christian Protestant family, which is not so common in Quebec. My dad was a worship leader and I had the chance to start early exploration of various instruments at home and at church. I mainly played bass in the church. I have no academic training in music and I learned mostly everything by myself.

-I believe that women should have equal rights. You could say that I'm a feminist but I hate being tagged in any way.

-I like questioning things. I try to stay as open minded as possible.

My hobbies are:

-Traveling

-Scooter (the one w/o engine)

-Films. I'm a big fan of international film

-Languages and cultures

-Philosophy

-Swimming

-Snowboarding

Keven

I was born in suburban Quebec City. I started playing the drums at age 15. Two of my friends were playing guitar and another one played bass. A drummer was the only piece missing to form a band so I picked up the sticks, and never put them down.

I studied civil engineering in college and university, but I never felt I was truly in my place even though I was good at it. So I decided to go back to college and study music. I’ve been playing professionally since then, with various bands in the Montreal area.

For me, music is about emotions and interactions with other people. It has nothing to do with politics, religion, or anything like that. It’s just something we can all share as human beings.

Hobbies

-Camping and hiking

-Gardening

-Microbrewery beer

-Baseball and football

David

I was born in the city of Montreal. I moved a couple times to different cities with my family as a child, and eventually grew up in the suburbs of Montreal. I fell in love with the guitar at an early age and after seeing “Bill and Ted’s excellent adventure” I’ve always pictured myself playing this instrument. But, since I was mostly doing sports during my time off I only got a guitar at the age of 15. I mostly learned by myself for a year or so and then started private lessons and I quickly started to play in bands.

I have a background in science at college but the last semester before graduation I decided to start over again in a different college and in a different city in music. I’ve been playing professionally with various bands near Montreal since then.

For me music is the only universal language and is something bigger than ourselves. Music get us together rather than organized religions and politics that divide us.

-Movies

-Hockey

-Visual Arts

-Being outdoor / fishing...

**Album Overall:**

**#1** The album begins on a trip to start fresh and ends on the sea to start fresh again. It’s a journey of self-exploration. Overcoming fears, letting go, being disappointed, giving a second chance and questioning are the main subjects in *Ocean*. These are things that make all human beings feel alive and help them to build up. “Il y a beaucoup de choses à faire, beaucoup de villes à construire et je voudrais avoir mon mot à dire, dans la manière, dont la ville de demain se fera." [There’s still a lot to be done, many cities to build and I’d like to have my say in the way the city of tomorrow will be done.]

**#2** The album is a trip, a vessel to a fresh start like waves in an ocean in perpetual motion and its invitation to dreams.

It’s a view of the world through life, death and love and how small we are after all versus the giving and forgiving nature.

The album *Ocean* is a journey of self-exploration like : overcoming fears, letting go, being disappointed, giving a second chance and questioning.

These are things that makes all human beings feel alive and help to build up.

*“Il y a beaucoup de choses à faire, beaucoup de villes à construire et je voudrais avoir mon mot à dire, dans la manière, donc la ville de demain se fera."* Gilles Vigneault

[There’s still a lot to be done, many cities to build and I’d like to have my say in the way the city of tomorrow will be done.] Gilles Vigneault

**#3** The writing process for ocean was an inspiring journey that started with a bunch of ideas we collected over the last few years. Through these eclectic ideas, we managed to pick some key elements that would eventually become the eleven songs of the album.

Having sailed through many obstacles during the creation of this album, the ocean represents the perfect metaphor for the journey we’ve been through; sometimes clear and peaceful, sometimes troubled and powerful. The vibe of the ocean transcends through the sound of the album.