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How can the experience of wandering and singing be brought into resonance? How is our relationship to landscapes, beings, and objects changed in the process?

During an artistic residency in Lapland (Norway and Sweden), I followed the migratory routes of the reindeer. These paths were used by the Sami, the indigenous people of this region, who were once nomadic but are now largely settled. The project was informed by the various meetings that took place along this route.

Sara Ajnnak, reindeer breeder and *joik* singer (traditional Sami song) initiated me into this singular vocal practice. The joik is a brief melody, composed from a few words or vocals, sung repeatedly. More than just a song, it is a way of accessing other ways of life. The melody, the rhythm, the timbre all seek to capture a vibration: one doesn't sing about an individual, an animal, a plant, a phenomenon, one becomes it. The movement of a fox, the croaking of a crow, the variations in height of a mountain range, are all potential meanings expressed by these songs.

The project eventually evolved into a performance, a limited edition publication, as well as radio and video plays.

As a continuation of this work, Césaré is supporting and producing the creation of a new form, a performance-concert by the trio Animal K.

Violaine Lochu

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Born of the encounter between the protean voice of Violaine Lochu, Marie-Suzanne de Loye's viola da gamba, and the electric guitar of Serge Teyssot-Gay, Animal K strives tirelessly to enrich and reinvent its language, drawing with equal freedom from traditional repertoires, rock, and noise experiments...



Violaine Lochu is a sound artist, performer and singer. Her practice, which centres on the voice, takes different forms (sound pieces, videos, illustrated score-sheets etc.) Accomplished in the field of art (Performance Prize at the Salon de la jeune création 2017, Aware Prize 2018), Violaine Lochu builds her universe step by step on the crossroads between music and the visual arts. Educated at the Fine Arts School of Cergy, she has always been interested in traditional music; she has traveled throughout Central Europe and Southern Italy in particular to study specific vocal techniques. Acclaimed as a performer in France and abroad at various venues and art centres (Mac Val, Jeu de Paume, Palais de Tokyo, Galerie du Jour Agnès B., Justina M. Barnick Gallery, Toronto, North End Studio, Detroit...), she has increasingly been collaborating with musicians (Julien Desprez, Hélène Breschand, Mounir Troudi...), dancers (Maki Watanabe, Lotus Edde-Khoury), as well as the circus artists (Ludor Citrik, Hélène de Vallombreuse) of Bouffes du Nord, and Les Instants Chavirés...



Marie-Suzanne de Loye began playing music on the organ. Later, amazed by its sound and repertoire, switching to the viola da gamba which she studied with Nima Ben David at the CRR in Boulogne Billancourt. She is involved in a wide range of projects with various baroque music ensembles: Les Mouvements de l'Âme, Le Concert Étranger, Marguerite Louise, Tictactus, L'Achéron, Pêcheurs de perles... Driven by an eclectic curiosity, she collaborates on theatre, contemporary dance, short films and songs, with several recordings to her name: *Vous qui la terre habitez*, psalms de la Renaissance with le Concert des Planètes (Label Psalmus), *Cipriano de Rore and Ludi Musici* with the ensemble l'Achéron (Label Ricercar), *Motets pour une princesse* by the Marguerite Louise ensemble (label l'Encelade), an album of songs *Chanteur public* by Elie Guillou, and *L'audace ou la timidité* by Valentin Vander.



Serge Teyssot-Gay is a French guitarist and composer born in 1963. After studying classical guitar, he co-founded the rock group Noir Désir (which he ended in 2010), while at the same time developing a personal project of setting literary texts to music for audiobooks and musical readings: Georges Hyvernaud, Lydie Salvayre, Bernard Wallet, Attila Jozsef, Stig Dagerman, Maïakovski, Krzysztof Styczynski, Saul Williams, Michel Bulteau, Aimé Césaire... He now works mainly in duets, with many guests from oriental, jazz, rap or contemporary scenes: *Interzone*, with Syrian oudist Khaled Aljaramani, *Zone Libre*, with drummer Cyril Bilbeaud, *Trans*, with double bassist Joëlle Léandre, *Ligne de Front*, duo painting / guitar with painter Paul Bloas, *Nacarat Duo* with clarinetist Carol Robinson, a duo with Chinese guitarist Xie Yugang, *Kintsugi* trio with Kakushin Nishihara (biwa) and Gaspar Claus (cello). Since 2009, despairing of the practices of the record industry, he has been marketing his artistic projects through his independent label Intervalle Triton. Official website: www.sergeteysot-gay.fr



johtolat

Concert, video projection

Created: 2018

Duration: 50 minutes

Violaine Lochu: conception, video, voice

Marie-Suzanne de Loye: viola de gamba

Serge Teyssot-Gay: electric guitar

In the Sami language Johtolat means itinerary.

Animal K opens up new territory inspired by the visual and audio materials collected by Violaine Lochu during her wanderings through Lapland (Sweden and Norway). This work questions the sensitive relationships between human beings and their environment, in which our individual and collective fates are at stake.

How can one give voice to a rock, a patch of lichen, a bird, a lake? By way of a dialogue between the trio's music, in which improvisation plays an important role, and a montage of videos produced in situ, the performance explores the distinctive mental-states that occur during long treks: reverie, concentration, receptivity, fatigue, exaltation...

Mentions / crédits

Production delegate:
Césaré, Centre national de création musicale de Reims

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Photo credits:
All images © Violaine Lochu, portraits © Alain Amet

Graphic design:
Christophe Hamery

Hosting conditions

Price for one performance: 3,500 euros
Touring team: 3 artists + 1 front-end sound engineer

Detailed hosting conditions and technical data sheet available on request

Contact

Michel Meunier
Production manager
+33 3 88 65 74 (landline phone) // +33 6 74 14 80 32 (cell phone)
production @cesare.fr



Les Docks Rémois
27 rue Ferdinand Hamelin
51450 Bétheny
cesare-cncm.com

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