



Marianne Villière

Megaphone, 2025

Blown glass

Technical support: François Briand

The breath remains trapped.
Our customary tools of protest
now feel transparent,
cumbersome, and fragile—
mirroring the precariousness
of our freedom of speech
and the rising tide of self-censorship.



Rencontre artistique «Créer en espace public», Fès, Maroc, 2017.

Approach

Discreet yet complicit, my interventions often propose to connect us. And when tipping points present themselves, it's to compose a new sensitive deal, surprise, and pose joyful alternatives. At first glance, the gesture seems funny, light, or even superficial, only to confront us immediately afterwards.

The contextual and ephemeral situations proposed, often participatory or contributory, are composed from what pre-exists. Their curation is particularly attentive to margins, existing forms of solidarity, and the massive decline of biodiversity.

In the common space, my practice invites us to consider and bring into play the ecology of our commitments as well as our ambivalences; to rethink our relationships with the environment.

Perspectives on my practice

The actions imagined by Marianne Villière rebrand identities and ecosystems to neutralize their authority. Perform space to liberate it from its usual functions. Perform the body to turn it into a marginal free zone. Make the imagination an instrument of constant heterotopia. Her behavioral poetics are a gentle manipulation that disarms the machineries of death and security and converts them into expressions of life.

Florian Gaité

What if exhibitions soon become obsolete? These mirage-like forms of our aesthetic and cultural experiences may fade. Art systems might feel exhausted by the perpetual production of artifacts struggling to fit our world. In this scenario, Marianne Villière will have anticipated the pitfall of art for art's sake. She has been part of a movement seeking to make artistic perception compatible with non-artistic zones. Her work is always on the edge, never grandiose. It's closer to the world's frugality. Villière practices art as one should practice humanity: by engaging with the world.

Mickaël Roy, September 2020.

Marianne Villière

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Education

2014
Research Master's Degree
Critical Theory CCC
HEAD Geneva, Switzerland
with honors

2012
Master's Degree DNSEP
ENSA Nancy, France
with honors

Awards

Edward Steichen, 2024.
Gianni Motti, 2014.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2024**
● TENDER BANNERS, Utopiana, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2023**
● VERSUS PlusVite Grand Est, France
● TO OUR PROMISES, Museum of Fine Arts, Nancy, France
- 2022**
● ABOUT-FACE Riglab, Migennes, France
● SWARMS Gue(ho)st House CAC, Delme, France; L'Octroi, Nancy, France; SuperF97, Lyon; Archipel Butor, Lucinges, France; Poteau d'Angle, Bourges, France
- 2021**
● URBAN MAIEUTICS, Syndicat Potentiel, Strasbourg, France
● POLLINATION Jura Platz, Bienne, Switzerland
- 2020**
● MIRAGE MIRAGE, Dominique Lang Art Center, Dudelange, Luxembourg
Video link
[Lien vidéo](#)

Publications

- Inventory of parasite actions & soft diversions, self-published, 2023.
- On site(s) AURAspitalités, Podcast - 6 chapters _ with Anthony Pecqueux CNRS CMW - Regional Natural Parks DRAC AURA
- 10 protocols for interventions in public space – IN VIVO & Les Escales Improbables de Montréal, 2021.
- Post-it n°8 - Marianne Villière Reims, France @postit.edition
- «Window hearth» Creating in a damaged world, Fructôse, Dunkirk
- Altitudes Network (online)

The essentials, Participatory pirate edition, 5000 copies distributed in public space Luxembourg, 2020

«Manifestation of indifference» Art performance, maneuver, visibility coefficients, Les presses du réel, 2019. Edited by Michel Collet and André Éric Létourneau

«Space(s) and conflict(s)» TELEM – Université Bordeaux Montaigne
Manifestation of indifference. Reflections on collective performance, October 2018

Twenty birds with one stone, on anti-sites in Strasbourg, Syndicat potentiel, 2018

«From screen gestures to street gestures. Citylights by Charlie Chaplin» – Multitudes 65. Winter 2016.

...

Txt

Residencies

- 2025**
● ICSP, New York, USA
● Tétrodon, Martigues, France
● Research creation «Rising Tide», Fructôse, Dunkirk, France
- 2024**
● Neïmenster, Luxembourg
● Alternative writings in research, Bergerie de Villarceaux, France
- 2023**
● Kulturfabrik, Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg

- Villa Numa, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland
● Emmaculture, Scherwiller, France
- 2022**
● «At the Crossroads», Regional Natural Parks of Auvergne-Rhône Alpes, DRAC, CNRS, France _ Anthony Pécqueux
● at Maquis, Zutique, Dijon, France
● Zumu Museum, Nahariya, Israel/Palestine
● Utopiana, Geneva, Switzerland
● In vitro, Thionville, France

- 2021**
● City of Guyancourt, France
● Geography of the sensible, Maison Vide, Crugny, France
- 2020**
● Be mobile create together IKS, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2019**
● Dominique Lang Dudelange, Luxembourg
● Tree Tree Tree Person Taroko, Taiwan

- 2018**
● Casa Giap «In (self)defense of Giraffes: Arts and Resistances from Chiapas», San Cristobal, Mexico
● Château Éphémère, Carrières Sous Poissy, France
- 2017**
● Research residency «Art and territory», Syndicat Potentiel Strasbourg, France

Performances

2025

- No justice no peace, Abbaye Neimenster, Luxembourg, Lu.
- Manifestation de bonnes volontés, CAN, Neuchaâtel, Ch.

2024

- To our promises, Musée des Beaux Arts de Nancy, Fr.

2023

- Lark, Gentle Lark MUZOO, Chaux de Fonds, Ch.
- Manifestation de bonnes volontés, Emmaüs Scherviller, Fr.
- Ritournelles Nuit Blanche de Nanterre, Fr.
- cabane, Maison d'en Face, Fr.
- I am a riot Festival Toutes nos voix, Xirocourt, Fr.

2022

- Under the stars, Sion, Fr.
- Lark, sweet lark Foodculture days, Vevey, Ch.
- Musée de la lunettes, Morez, Fr.
- Archipel Butor, Lucinges, Fr.
- Sunflowers, Ex Vitro, Zutique, Place Galilée, Dijon, Fr.

2021

- DJ Gentle Lark - C(re)Party, CRAC Montbéliard, Fr.
- Maïeutique urbaine Syndicat Potentiel, Strasbourg, Fr.
- Semeur time - Maison Vide, Crugny, Fr
- Administrophones Festival de la Cité, Lausanne, Ch
- Face to our Liberty, Art in odd places, Paris/New York, USA.
- Planet B, Utopiana, Genève, Ch.
- Without leaving feathers, Crépey, Fr.

2020

- Plan B•Hissage - le MÂT Neuchâtel, Ch.

- Volubilis, masque et germe, «I will never forget you» Maison vide, Crugny, Fr.
- Morpheus, masque de nuit, Crépey, Fr.
- The party is over; Killer Waltz - Plastic roses are speaking during the silent spring, performer: Catherine Elsen;
- «Rester de marbre», Centre d'art Dominique Lang, Dudelange, Lu.
- Lichens, Crépey, Fr.
- The spectator is present Nancy, Strasbourg, Arles, Fr.
- Infinity Party: Micro Carnival IKSU, Istanbul, Turquie.
- Security check of a bouquet, Sakip Sabanci Museum, Istanbul, Turquie.

2019

- «votre publicité me contacter» Beauvais, France - Barcelone, Espagne / Istanbul, Turquie.
- Statue - Parc des buttes Chaumont, Paris, Fr.
- Weaving a road Home The Cube space, Taipei, Twn.
- Lark, sweet lark OpenSpace, Nancy, Fr.
- Girls having fun with Deana Kolencikova-Taipei, Taiwan.

2018

- Manifestation d'indifférence "Espace(s) et conflit(s)" - Telem, Université Bordeaux Montaigne, Bordeaux, Fr.
- Good morning, Galerie du Granit, Belfort, Fr.
- Administrophone, Marseille, Fr.

2017

- Vue- Nuit des musées - Museums connect! Casino Forum d'art contemporain, Luxembourg, Lu.
- Administrophones, Montréal, Canada; Fès, Maroc; Nancy/Belfort/Strasbourg France; Luxembourg, Lu.
- Manifestation d'indifférence

- Brouhaha/ Et toujours ils tiennent le monde, Cycle d'expositions, Galerie du Granit, Belfort, Fr.
- Jet Lag/out of sync.

Triennale Jeune Création

Les Rotondes, Luxembourg, Lu.

2012

- Manifestation d'indifférence, espace public, Nancy, Fr.
- File d'attente sans sens, Nancy, Fr

Group Exhibitions

2025

- Libertés? (Freedoms?)

Abris de mémoire, Fr

2024

- Investir, Zones Franches, Luxembourg, Lu.
- Et si ça changeait? (What if things changed?), La Serre, Neugartheim, Fr.

- Ces jours terrestres (These Earthly Days), Utopiana, Galerie Commune, Genève, Ch.

2023

- Parcours, Reims, Fr.
- To our promises, Rencontres Urbaines de Nancy, Fr.

- des nuées, PNR Haut Languedoc, Fr.

2022

- Mascarades et Libertés, MAT, Ancenis, Fr.
- des nuées (Swarms), Annecy Paysage Le Mikado, Annecy, Fr.
- À l'orée du foyer, Guyancourt, Fr.
- Exposition-Forum "Nous y sommes" Faux Mouvement, Metz, Fr.

- Entre-Corps, Puzzle, Espace Jacques Brel, FRAC Lorraine, Thionville, Fr.

2021

- Le dos au sol, Luxembourg, Lu.
- Dormir à la belle étoile sur un lit de galets (Sleeping under the stars on a bed of pebbles), DOC, Paris, Fr.
- Bisou bisou, Maison Vide, Crugny, Fr.
- Party de campagne, CAC Synagogue Delme, Fr.

2019

- Science-Friction, MyMonkey, Nancy, Fr.
- Weaving a road Home, the Cube space, Taipei, Twn.
- Pieds dans l'eau (Feet in the water) Castel Coucou, Forbach, Fr.
- Alouette, gentille alouette, territoire#4 OpenSpace, Nancy, Fr.
- Cherry Pickers, Luxembourg, Lu.

2018

- Opere destitorum, ENSA Nancy, Fr.
- ## 2017
- Brouhaha/ Et toujours ils tiennent le monde Galerie du Granit, Belfort, Fr.

- Jet Lag/out of sync.

Triennale Jeune Création

Les Rotondes, Luxembourg, Lu.

2016

- Generosity, XPO Gallery, Paris, Fr.

2014

- Emergency Fonderie Kügler, Genève, Ch.

Workshops

2024

- Literary Mediation, University of Lorraine, Metz, Fr.
- Transforming Public Space, Mobilier National, La Terrasse,

Nanterre, Fr

- Génie des lieux, Nanterre, Fr
- Banners, La Serre Neugartheim, Fr.

2023

- Arpentages, Château Salins, Fr.
- des nuées (Swarms), Alpha - Angoulême, Saarbourg, Maison d'arrêt d'Épinal, Cité des paysages, Sion, Fr.
- MUZOO, Chaux de Fonds, Ch.

2022

- des nuées (Swarms), l'Octroi, Nancy; Le Mikado, Annecy; L'autre lieu de Anis Gras, Arcueil; Association Être Éco Lié, Xirocourt; Musée de la lunette, Morez, etc.

- jokers, le MAT - Ancenis, Fr.

2021

- Escape, visual artists at the high school (with 5 classes) Association Juste Ici, Besançon, Fr.

- Making the City with Artists Les escales improbables de Montréal Art & urbanisme, la Sorbonne / in vivo Québec & France.

2019

- Anti-anti-sites week "Pre-Care" ENSAB Rennes, Fr.

2018

- A letter to oneself Cercle Cité, Luxembourg, Lu.
- Fresco, educational workshop, Granit, Belfort, Fr.

2017

- L'IDIOT, a critical and sensitive stance, ENSAD, Nancy, Fr.

Conferences & Discussions

2025

- On site, ISCP, New York, USA.
- Political ecology & artistic gestures, Remed seminar, Uni Marseille, Fr.

2024

- Echoes, Lille Tourcoing Art School, Fr.
– invited by Anne Émilie Philippe
- Words in public space, with the Urban Art Federation, Urban Encounters of Nancy, Museum of Fine Arts of Nancy, Fr.

- Demonstration, Discussion with Rodolphe Huguet – Raphaëlle Perigaud and Mamadou Diagana from CHAPSA Nanterre, La Terrasse, Nanterre, Fr.
- Digressions, masterclass, invited by Damien Beyrouthy for the Workshop of Shifts (éda, LESA)
– invited by Thierry Fournier
- Rhetoric of actions, ESDAC Lille, Fr.
- Face to face, Beaune Fine Arts, Fr.

2023

- Duo, birth of the collective, discussion with Marine Thevenet and Mickaël Phelippeau, La Terrasse, Nanterre, Fr.
- Inventory of parasitic gestures, Betâ, Angoulême, Fr.
- Swarms with LPO, Alpha with FRAC Poitou Charentes, Angoulême, Fr.

2022

- Study days on Investigation in research-creation – March 17–18, 2022, Le Rize, Villeurbanne (with Anthony Pécqueux) Fr.

2021

- Moderation of the «work» roundtable during the Plan d'Est professional day «Social forms of art»

- Skylark, gentle skylark, School of Nature and Landscape, Symposium on Soundscape, Blois, Fr.
- Making the city with artists, Improbable Stopovers of Montreal
- Exchange on digression, Zoom invitation by Clio Simon
- Pollination «The human/insect metamorphosis. A literary and artistic challenge from Antiquity to the present day» MSH Clermont-Ferrand, Fr.
- Presentation of my practice (zoom) ENSAD Nancy, Fr.
– invited by Jean Jacques Dumont

2018

- Critical, engaged and solidary artistic network LUFF_Festival, Lausanne, Ch.
- Dissensus «Space(s) and conflict(s)» – Telem, Bordeaux Montaigne University, Bordeaux, Fr.

2017

- Papot'pitch 6, Court-circuit, Paris, Fr.
- Administrophone, Cinémathèque de Grenoble, Fr.

2016

- Marrakech Biennale OFF, The Observatory Workshop La Serre, Marrakech, Morocco.

Grants

Creation aid Grand Est Region, 2022
Creation aid Grand Est Region, 2020
Luxembourg Foundation, 2020
House of Creation, 2016



Inventory of parasite actions & soft diversions, edition of protocols – detachable sheets, participatory object, French and English, 700 copies, 132 pages, black and white offset, 8 x 12 cm _ 2023.

Original text by: Florian Gaité

Translator: Margaret Besser

Typographers: Jérôme Knebusch and Philippe Tytgat

Graphic designer: Morgan Fortems.

SWARMS / DES NUÉES

Ephemeral, Contributive, and Multi-site Murals

2022 – 2025

40 PVC stencils

Blanc de Meudon (Meudon white)

Collaboration: Ligue de Protection des Oiseaux Grand Est (Greater Eastern Region League for the Protection of Birds).

Production: Région Grand Est (Greater Eastern Region).

A shower of birds takes flight across various glass surfaces, transforming the usual anti-collision silhouettes. These swarms represent endangered bird species from mainland France. The accumulation of these discreet silhouettes on the windows, as well as their cast shadows, testifies to a massive absence.

"Swarms" have nested in numerous urban and rural cultural sites, in Nancy, Laxou, Delme, Épinal, Blois, Bourges, Xirocourt, Arcueil, Paris, Lucinges, Capelle and Massmolène, Morteaux, Besançon, les Fins, Marne-la-Vallée, Blainville-sur-Orne, Messein, Guyancourt, Annecy, Niort, Angoulême, Marseille,...

Photo: Sarah Viollon.



LARK, SWEET LARK

Collective performance (1h)
Video documentation, 2019.
Production: OpenSpace.

A brass band broadcasts the songs of birds that have disappeared from mainland France, as well as those of endangered species such as the lark, throughout the city.

Reactivated during the FoodCulture Day in Vevey, Switzerland (2022), then at the opening anniversary of the Muzoo in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland (2023).

Photo: Brigoud.



DJ GENTLE LARK

Performance,
Sound installation, 2021.
Production:
CRAC19, Montbéliard, France.

The same bird songs are broadcast via a wall of sound. The powerful sound installation of a rave is harnessed to serve fragility and ecological tragedy. The audience, standing at the foot of the wall, is left unsure how to respond.

Photo : CRAC19.



PLANET B

Printed fabric
Intervention in public spaces, 2020.

Plan B Flag hoisted at Mât espace d'art,
Neuchâtel, Ch.

Party de campagne flags hoisted
at the Hotel de Ville in Delm, Fr.

The alternative space is here.

Photo : OH Dancy.



DEMONSTRATION OF GOOD WILL

Performance collective, 2023.

Collective performance, 2023.
During an extended residency at Emmaüs Scherwiller, by invitation from Mickaël Roy, I supported the companions' initiative: to demonstrate their good will, in their own words. After a period of working on-site, numerous encounters, workshops, shared meals, and discussions, we compiled a collection of slogans and a series of banners together with the entire secular and apolitical Emmaüs association. The aim was to speak about the motivations of the people who live and work there, the values they uphold, and to communicate meaningful information about how the site operates.

Many companions are awaiting regularization, hoping to be able to work and to envision a fully integrated life within society. Together, we wish to express our good will and show that French society benefits from including our vibrant and enthusiastic contributions!



Volunteers, employees, employees in job integration programs, companions, artists—we stand united and express these desires alongside the public! During the “Compagnons d’encre” festival, the first emergence of this “demonstration of good will” took place. It aims to continue its benevolent momentum, defending the rights of foreigners in France and supporting solidarity and humanist values within our society.

Photo : Lilia Zanetti.

ONE HERO ONLY THE PEOPLE

Ephemeral participatory mural
«passe-tête,» 2022.
Poplar panels
2.50 x 3.60 m
Blanc de Meudon.

This painting was created during a residency at Espace In Vitro, rue du Vieux Collège, Thionville (January 8–22, 2022), and was composed from encounters on-site. The public posed in scenes of protest and were then invited to write slogans on the mural. The aim was to represent a "social tension" embodied, then to reveal the tenderness it could contain. I invited about ten artists to reflect on the word "tendre" (tension / tenderness) through a podcast titled "Entendre des gestes" ("Hearing Gestures").

Group Exhibition:
Entre-Corps, Thionville, France
(2022)
Co-curators: Puzzle, Centre
Jacques Brel, and 49 Nord 6 Est –
Frac Lorraine.

Photo: Pascal Kwiatkowski.



LOVE ROOM

Installation, 2024.

3 x 2,90 x 1m

**Douglas, flour paint,
rosewood pigments**

**Production : Kulturfabrik,
Esch sur Alzette, Lu.**

**Two hunting lookouts are painted pink
and come together to form a soft cabin.
Love room is a romantic observatory,
the platform is designed for meeting.**

Photo : Marianne Villière



RITOURNELLES

Series of interventions
in public spaces, 2023.

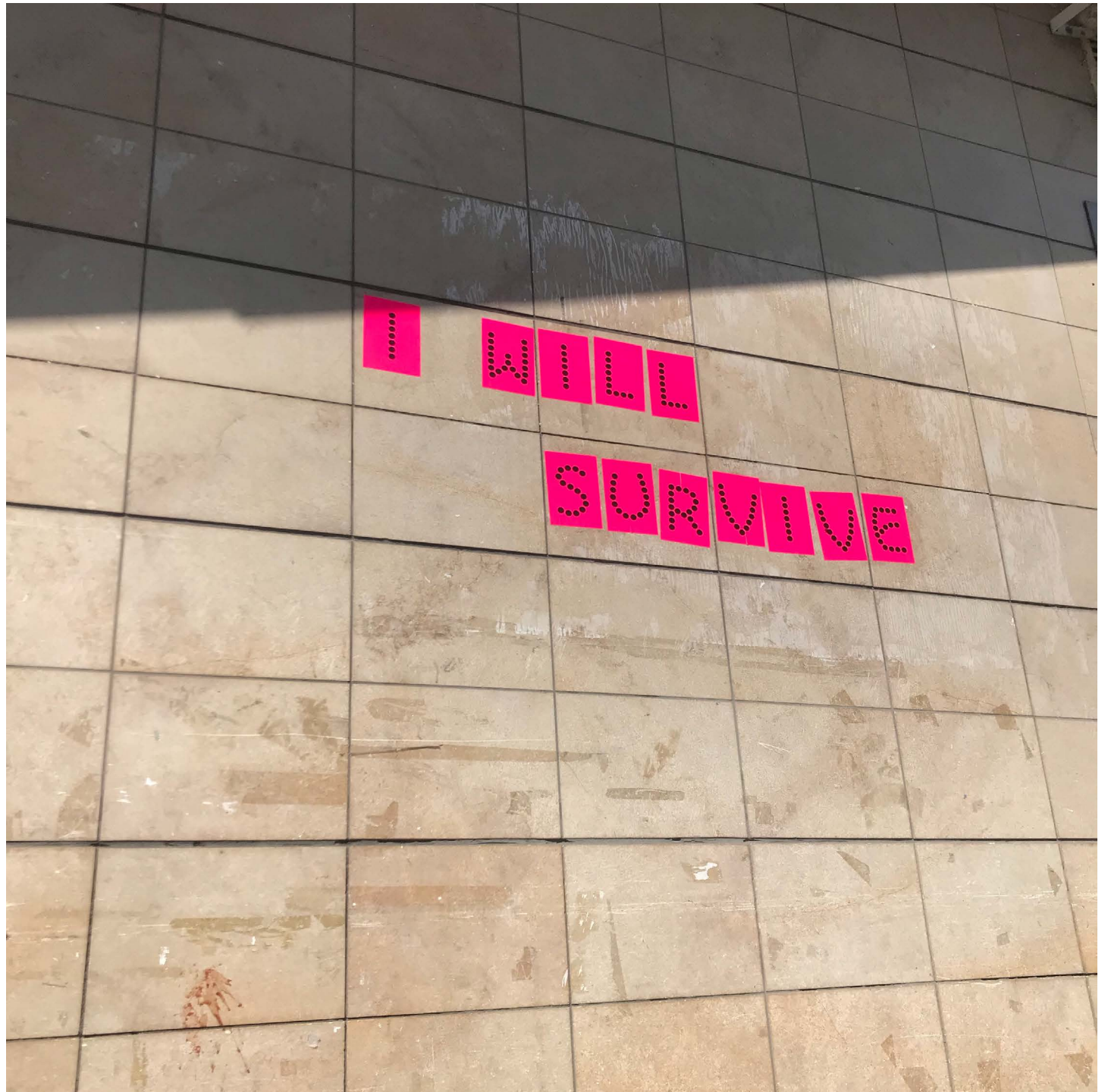
Posters, Flags

Production:

Nuit Blanche, Nanterre, France.

Echoing feminist collage practices,
these song lyric fragments catch our
attention and provoke reflection.

Photo: Marianne Villière.



POLLINATION

Video, 7 min 30 sec, 2020.
Sound creation collaboration:
Vardan Harutyunyan
With technical support from Collectif
Chôse.

Collection FRAC Centre.

« A collective life-size experience where volunteers, happily imitating bees, immerse their noses into the heart of flowers out in the field. Their noses become colored like those of clowns. Except the story doesn't say where this pollen will then be carried or spread—to the great dismay of the bees, no doubt! »

Commentary by Marie-Anne Lorge,
The Party is Over, 2020.

Solo exhibitions:
MIRAGE MIRAGE, Centre Dominique
Lang, Dudelange, Luxembourg (2020).
Jura Platz, Biel/Bienne, Switzerland
(2021).



SEMEUR TIME

Participatory event, 2021.
Winter voile garments, seeds, and more...

At the shared garden of «Maison Vide» and with the residents of Crugny, in collaboration with Florian Rivière, we designed seed-sowing devices. The idea is to scatter seeds while dancing at a ball and playing (football, swinging, hoops, golf with seed bombs...) — all as playful, repurposed elements.

The event "Semeur Time" offers an opportunity to collectively explore the layouts, objects, and accessories on site with the goal of letting a field of flowers grow. Human activities are explicitly linked to the regeneration of life. In this action-research project, each creation aims to be part of a cycle of use, reusable in the garden across the seasons.

All generations join in the fun: children fill their "super sower" capes with seeds, the mayor wears a sash—not in national colors but filled with seeds... with seeds also woven into hairdos, styled by Priscilla Hallier.

This village celebration generates tangible poetics and invites the residents to engage in transformative gestures in support of biodiversity.

Photo : Marianne Thibault.





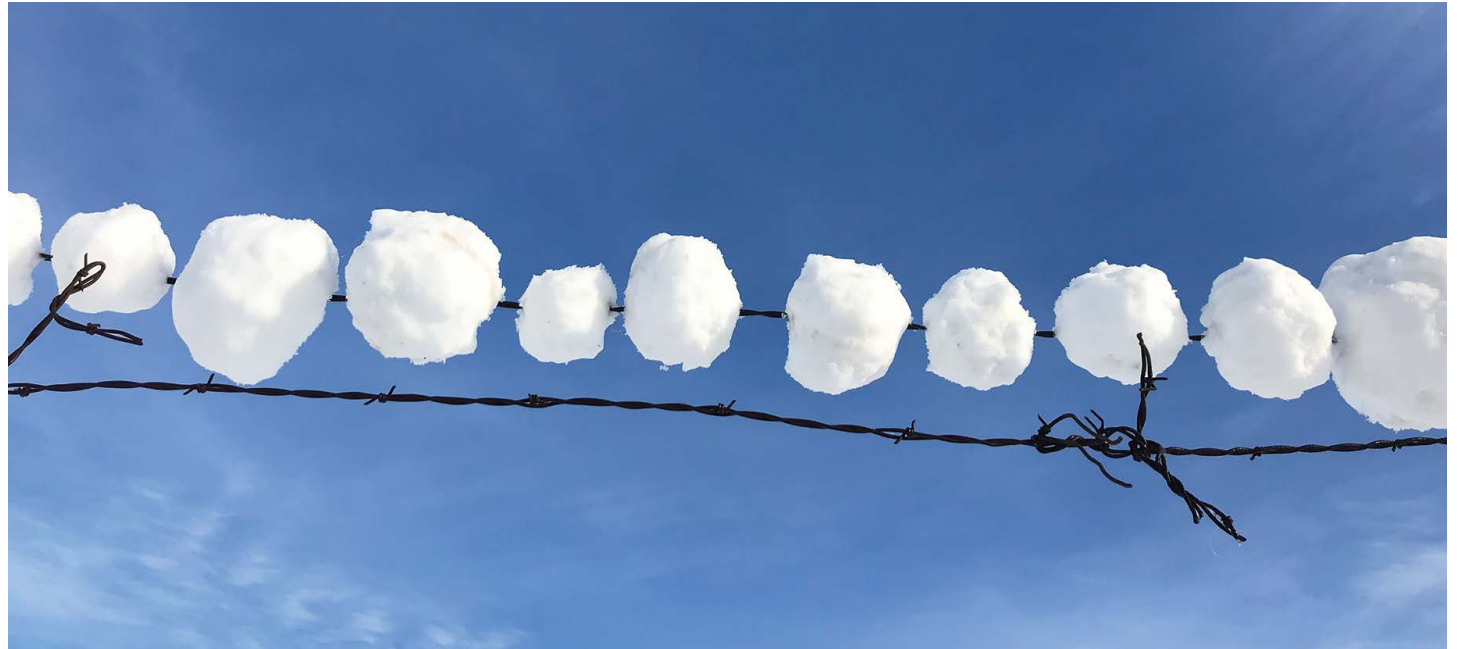
SOFT PARADE

Gesture, 2018.

During the residency at « Syndicat Potentiel » called "Art and Territory" in Strasbourg, parades and anti-sites were imagined. These highlight and play with the violence inherent in these sites of situational prevention.

Photo : Marianne Villière.





PEARLS OF THE FIELDS

Gesture, 2022.

Snowballs are shaped around barbed wires, a way to soften the landscape by adorning it. Much like a shell generates mother-of-pearl pearls, this gentle gesture proposes a form of sensitive resistance.

Photo : Marianne Villière.

GALLERY SHELTER

Reflective insulation.

"Cohabitation #2"

Galerie NaMima, ENSA Nancy, France.

Accessible to the public, this kind of igloo represents an element made of its environment, as symbolic material. The white cube is considered a cold space, a place of isolation and reflection from which one can take shelter. The warmth at the heart of the installation consequently became a space for encounter and intimacy.

Photo : Thierry Fournier.



SEARCHING FOR A SPRIG

Installation, 2020.
Metal needles, straw stalk,
30 x 80 x 50 cm

Produced with the support of BOHIN
France and the Grand Est Region.

The inversion of the saying (or the
usual order of things) is a way to
characterize the precarious situation
of the "small piece of nature" still to
be found amidst the accumulation of
our tools and artifacts.

Solo exhibition: MIRAGE
MIRAGE, Centre Dominique Lang,
Dudelange, Luxembourg.

Group exhibitions:
Le dos au sol, Borderline Agency,
Casino – Forum d'art contemporain –
Luxembourg, Luxembourg.
Kulturfabrik, Esch-sur-Alzette, 2023.

Photo : Alborz Teymoorzadeh.



WHICH ANIMAL ARE YOU?

Series of 7 – painted wood 14 x 8 cm,
laser-cut on mirrors,
acrylic paint
Production: 23.03

With the support of the City of Reims.
The fake mobile phones are thrown into
the water and float, inviting viewers to
seek their reflection by adopting
the posture of Narcissus. It is about
looking through false filters, like small
paintings, and becoming a chimera.

The human being appears
as a narcissistic animal.

Group exhibition: "Parcours," Jardin
d'horticulture Pierre Schneider, Reims,
France, 2022.

Solo exhibitions: Volte-Face, Rig-Lab,
Migennes, 2022; VERSUS, PlusVite
Grand Est, 2023–2024.

Photo : Ivan Polliart.



FACE TO OUR LIBERTY

Performance in Paris, Fr / Parallel action by Christalena Huygmaric in New York, USA.

The Statue of Liberty takes off to the streets!

Disguised as Statue of Liberty, Christalena and Marianne engage in a discussion to find out how the concept of liberty is expressed in our lives, with a mirror mask.

Located in New York, the monument faces Europe and has always welcomed migrants. This performance casts an outdated eye on the ideal of the American dream to the individuals who make this country beautiful, as a gesture of solidarity, at a time when the systemic failure of government has never been more visible to the public.

Photo : Hyejeong Lee

