

CONTRE-RÉCITS DE L'EAU (COUNTER-NARRATIVES OF WATER)

A narrative video by Disnovation.org

Produced with the participation of the San-Claudian Spéléo-Club association as part of the New Patrons programme (mediation-production: À demeure association) and the Europe Creative programme involving Belgium, Spain and France with the support of the Daniel and Nina Carasso Foundation.

The water cycle in karstic zones of the Haut-Jura Regional Nature Park commissioned from artists' collective DISNOVATION.ORG by a group of stakeholders: Philippe Perrin, elected representative of La Rixouse and member of the Haut-Jura Regional Nature Park's trade union committee; three speleologists – François Jacquier, president of the San-Claudian Spéléo-Club, Anne Corriol, a teacher at Montmorot agricultural college and Wim Cuyvers, architect and forester.

Friday 29th November at 6pm

Screening at La Fraternelle cinema followed by a discussion with the artists.
12 rue de la Poyat, 39200 Saint-Claude

Saturday 30th November: karstic trail with François Jacquier and Jean-Robert Bondier, mayor of Villards-d'Héria

Meet in front of Villards-d'Héria town hall
9am: archaeological site, perte du Lac d'Antre
3pm: Lac de l'Abbaye, weather permitting
Registration required: a_demeure@orange.fr;
06 33 56 50 26
Possibility of a picnic in the salle communale.

This prospective artistic approach looks at a phenomenon with many grey areas: the circulation of water in karstic environments, how it is understood and how it is represented. This is a major environmental issue today, but one that is little known and often misunderstood by the public.

Karst topography is a component of the Jura's great fractured limestone massifs in which water circulates at great depths. Geographers, hydrogeologists and speleologists are studying this phenomenon, which has led to the launch of a number of initiatives to ensure the future of water resources in the region. While the water present in the karst supplies a third of the population, a heightened alternation of drought and intense rainfall makes it even more vulnerable.

The commission to artists aims to raise awareness of the climate changes taking place and help us better anticipate their consequences for the management, sharing and use of what we collectively consider a 'common good'. How can we contribute to a better understanding of such a specific geology: a network that is difficult to understand let alone represent?

THE RESPONSE FROM DISNOVATION.ORG COLLECTIVE IN COLLABORATION WITH CLÉMENCE SEURAT

The proposed production takes the form of a narrative video. This visual investigation follows the course of water that seeps into the rock, disappears and resurfaces elsewhere; it traces the deep geological past, recounting anecdotes and collective stories. Karst landscapes exist as sentinel zones in the fields of agriculture, ecology and health, where we can observe a series of tensions linked to water in the present and the future. The collective is combining the resulting study with local and global stories and testimonies in order to open up debate and envisage the common ownership of water, now and in the future.



DISNOVATION.ORG is a research collective founded in Paris in 2012 comprising core members Maria Roszkowska (pl/fr), Nicolas Maigret (fr) and Baruch Gottlieb (ca/de) (fr) that fuses contemporary art, research and hacking to critically translate complex eco-social debates into operational and provocative exhibitions. It creates radical works of art staged as large-scale laboratory experiments focusing on energy, ecology and the economy that function as catalysts for creating futures that diverge from the dominant narratives. The collective's exhibitions, books and videos permeate global cultural landscapes, fostering critical dialogue at the intersection of artistic, political and scientific enquiry.

Clémence Seurat is a publisher, arts programmer and associate researcher at the Sciences Po médialab. She explores the fields of political ecology and techno-criticism, teaches at Sciences Po and lectures at art schools giving regular conferences. clemenceseurat.com

The **Art Living Lab for Sustainability** project, developed as part of Europe Créative (CREA EU), supports alliances between stakeholders in European territories with the aim of developing artistic responses to questions of eco-responsibility and complex environmental challenges for three types of natural common resources: clay in Flanders, earth in Galicia and water in the Jura. Three organisations approved by the New Patrons programme are supporting this approach: De Nieuwe Opdrachtgevers in Belgium, Concomitentes in Spain and New Patrons Society in collaboration with association À demeure in France. artlivinglab.eu

Haut-Jura Regional Nature Park supports this programme, providing expertise and skills in water quality, the sharing of water resources, knowledge of local stakeholders, artists and experts. It also facilitates research and meetings. www.parc-haut-jura.fr

New Patrons programme enables citizens who are confronted with social or regional development issues to involve contemporary artists in their concerns through commissioned works. Its originality is based on a partnership



between three key players: the artist, the commissioning citizen and the cultural mediator approved by the New Patrons Society, together with public and private partners involved in the project.

Since 2020, the New Patrons Society association has federated a network of mediators and spearheaded the development of this initiative with the support of the Ministry of Culture and Fondation de France.

www.lasocietedesnouveauxcommanditaires.org

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Days organised by the circle of sponsors in partnership with La Fraternelle, Villards d'Héria Town Hall, Saint Claude Abbey Museum and Haut-Jura Regional Nature Park.

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