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# PORTFOLIO

## CHLOE DESPAX

2018

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# BIOGRAPHY

Chloé Despax is a sound artist and radio producer, animator, and programmer since 2004 for these radios: Radio Grenouille in Marseille (FR), Radio Panik and Campus in Brussels (BE), Tokyo Fm (JAP), Radio Espéranzah and 48Fm (BE), Le Mellotron in Paris (FR), Resonance FM in London (GB), Scanner FM in Barcelona (ESP), Saout Radio (FR/MA). Born in 1984 in Toulouse (France), she lives and works between Belgium, France and Spain.

As member of the Atelier de Création Sonore et Radiophonique in Brussels, she was trained and has written and produced radio documentaries, fictions and field recordings. Her interest in the semiotic and musicality of spoken language feeds her work as cultural mediator in the Fine Arts Museum of Belgium and her continuous engagement in the social field.

Her sound creations, presented as installations and public listenings, have been broadcasted at the Biennale of Marrakech, at the Festival du Cinéma de Douarnenez, at the Festival Longueurs d'Ondes in Brest, at Visa Pour l'Image in Perpignan, on the website Rue89 (3rd price at the Arte Radio Contest 2015) and broadcasted on a number of public and associative radios.

Chloé is part of Radio Moniek, an art collective for sonic experimentation, audio fiction, and radio cabaret broadcasting every month on Radio Campus Brussel, and performing live in radio creation festivals across Europe.

She also collaborates actively in the production, creation, and broadcasting web-platform Saout Radio, as communication officer and radio programmer.

Chloe also DJs under the name of Miss Sirocco, with her partner FrontChaud from the bimonthly radio show Drache Musicale. They light up dance-floors in Brussels, Paris, Nantes, Liège, Antwerp and Barcelona, with their exclusive mix of african, caribbean, oriental, and electronic music.

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# STATEMENT

Inspired by my education in sociology and my experience in cultural mediation, my sound art investigates the position of so-called « minorities » within our european societies: their need for an anchoring into unfamiliar social environments, their empirical understanding of the territory, their determination to undertake sincere intercultural dialog.

I initiate collective creative processes through interpersonal relationships spanning minutes, years, or lifetimes, at the starting point for every project. My work has a relational dimension, which benefits from spontaneous meetings and interviews in order to activate exchanges and visibility on specific social issues.

The sonic material collected through observation and dialog with the inhabitants, the musicians, the adults on literacy courses, the tourists and the workers, is composed of human voices, their accents and musicality, and the sonic blueprints of their common living spaces.

Each environment is explored and documented using a wide range of recording tools and techniques, to fit and reveal specific aesthetic approaches and individual sensibilities.

As a radio artist and producer, I investigate the different creative possibilities linked to radio creation: documentary, fiction, field-recording, sonic poetry, hörspiel, public performance, fixed or ephemeral installations, etc. My various solo or collaborative projects intend to expand the radiophonic language from the studio to the scene, the streets, the public spaces and the private headphones.

In my sound pieces, fiction and reality mingle (*Yoga Citoyen, Ardesia, Cinepolis, El Gat*), imagination takes over experience to reveal more discrete, humorous, unsettling, universal and unexpected aspects of each given subject. In my installations, I regularly collaborate with video artists, visual artists, illustrators, or photographs, for a visual counterpart.

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# SOUND PIECES

## Müzik in the making



30'

**Live musical documentary**

**2017**

The Alevis come from a heterodox minority from Turkey, whose religious ritual practice has become more of a cultural tradition, based on music and poetry. Since a long time, persecuted by the Turkish nationalist state, Alevis have exiled themselves and continue to develop forms of political and cultural resistance. Alevie music is a 'music in the making', in constant experimentation, using the baglama (also called saz, the national instrument in Turkey) over several generations, in its region of origin as well as in its diasporas.

This musical, sonic and poetic performance creates a polyglot (Turkish, French, German, English) and symbolic bridge between the Brussels and Berlin Alevis diaspora and offers an original and sensitive radio form of this emerging music via its instrument, voices and poetry.

In collaboration with the musicians Taner Akyol based in Berlin and Harun Ozdemir based in Brussels. Including sounds coming from Anaïs Carton's radio documentary 'The universes dances the semah'.



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# Ardesia

**2017**

**Interactive sound installation**

**2018**

**Sound piece - in progress, residency in GRM in April and June 2018**

Directed, recorded and edited by Chloé Despax

Development : Gabriel Lecup

Produced by Biennale des Jeunes Créateurs d'Europe et de la Méditerranée (BJCEM).

Realised during a residency in october and november 2016 in Sestri Levante (IT) and Ljubjana (SLO).

Ardesia provides a tactile and sensorial approach to the Mediterranean landscape through an interactive installation: visitors are invited to create a personal sonic narrative by touching a mineral slate, triggering soundscapes relative to the slate's central function in the daily life of residents of Liguria, Italy. The Genius Loci is thus captured and expanded through a process of sound pareidolia, the slate becomes a vehicle for social interrelation and imagination across the mediterranean area.



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# Gnawas day and night



48'

2017

**Music Documentary**

Directed, recorded and edited by Chloé Despax & Julien Crespin.

Mixed by Christophe Rault.

Produced by the Fonds d'Aide à la Création Sonore et Radiophonique with the support of the Atelier de Création Sonore et Radiophonique in Brussel.

Beyond the current cultural expansion with troubled social context in Brussels, a growing part of the Moroccan community is reconnecting with a captivating branch of its heritage: the Gnawa culture.

Today, its members resist in their own terms by locally transmitting and cultivating the bewitching universe of ancient gnawa music, transported by the throbbing sonorities of chants and traditional instruments (the guembri, the tbel, the krakeb), expanded through the physical, mystical, and ritual dimensions of a collective trance.

Mohamed-Saïd, Hicham, Souhaib, and Hélène live in Brussels. They act locally and discretely, though with conviction and ambition, for the transmission of their culture.



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# El Gat



9'

2016

Hörspiel / Sound Installation

Produced by Empreinte / Atelier de Création Sonore et Radiophonique and Galerie La Place

At the centre of Barcelona's Rambla del Raval proudly stands the monumental bronze sculpture by Botero « El Gato ».

Through a wide range of specific recording devices and participative approaches, Chloé Despax recreates the great cat's subjective hearing of its surroundings - the hidden soundscapes, the passersby, the tourists - to reveal some of its long-kept secrets. The public space is thoroughly and collectively explored, then reconstructed into a musical, playful, polyphonic and intimate sound-piece, with a visual support of the photograph Aylen Torres.

« El Gato » was produced during an artist residency in La Place Barcelona, from September 12th to September 24th, 2016.



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# Météore



10'

2016

Sound Poetry - Part 1 of a tryptic

Text by Ludovic Drouet

Directed by Nora Boulanger Hirsch & Chloé Despax

*« Someone's there. I open the door and I know someone's there. I've known it all along. For some time now. Since a few days ago. Since a few days I have been feeling his presence in every corner of the hall and the corridor, in every corner of my bedroom and in the closet, behind the closet's door and behind the shirts hanging on their hangers, behind the mirror in the bathroom, under the toilet seat, in the toilet, in the kitchen cupboard and in the dog's kennel. Someone's there. »*

Ludovic Drouet



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# Koímêsis



30'

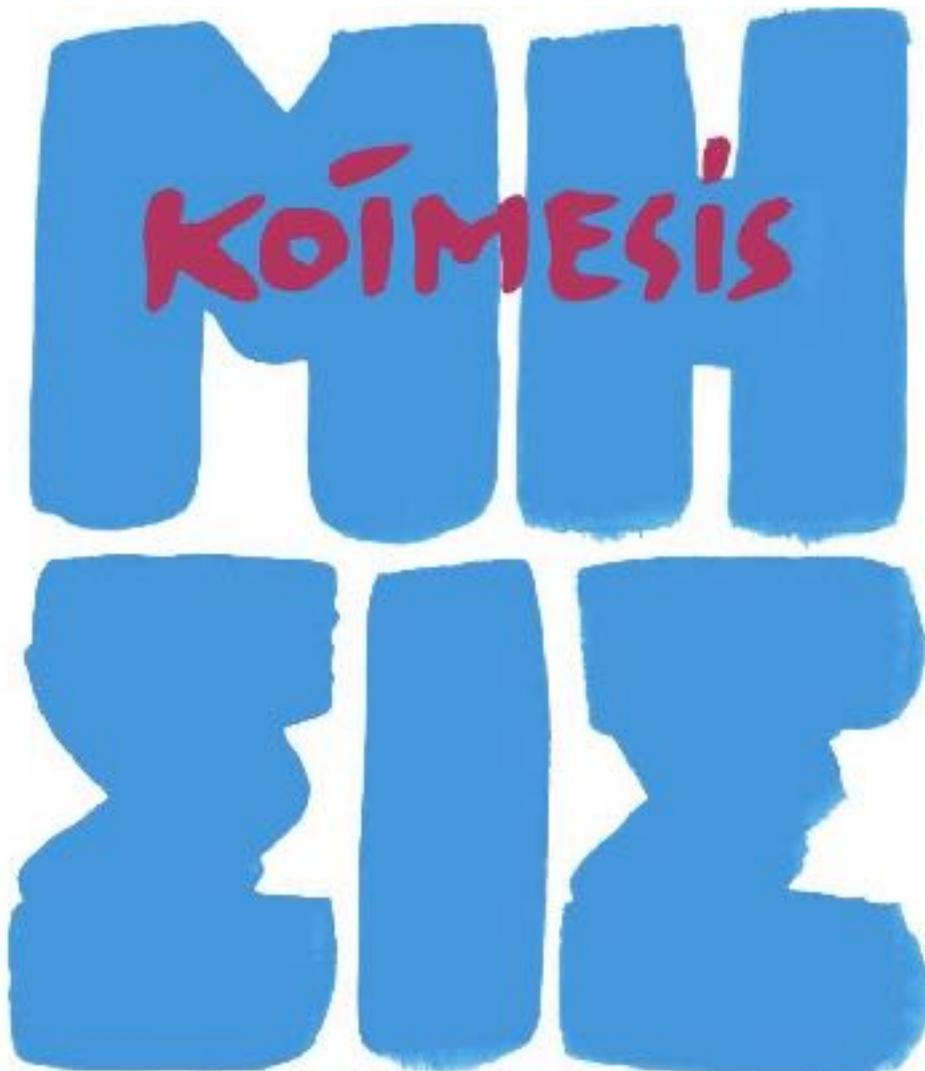
2016

Sound Poetry

Koímêsis is a live radio performance in French and Greek ; a political and poetic choir about Europe.

Koímêsis was performed by the radio collective Radio Moniek, commissioned by Saout Radio and recorded live on the May 9th 2016, at Radio Campus Bruxelles.

Voices by Luvan, Iota Gaganas, Carine Demange, Anne Lepère, Chloé Despax, Anna Raimondo and Deena Abdelwahed.



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# Reste plus qu'à



2'38

2015

Field recording

Directed by Chloé Despax et Sonia Subra

Summer's over, fun's over, time to pack up. No more festival in the mountains, no more camping at « Les Cascades », no more swimming pools, no more rocking chairs, no more siestas, no more beers under the trees. Time for the last goodbye, the last thing to do, the last interaction with our friendly neighbours ...



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3rd price of the Summer Contest 2015 by Arte Radio

# Guamoté



3'17

2014

Field recording

Broadcasted on Radio Aporee

At Guamote's market, one of the largest indigenous markets in Ecuador, the rumble of the merchants: fruits, chicken, cloths, shoes, tailors and hairdressers ...

In Spanish and Quechua.



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# Cinepolis



18'53 and 8'22

2014

Sound installation

Directed by Chloé Despax & Emanuel Lorrain

Curated by BNA-BBOT

Cinepolis has been financially supported by Nuit Blanche 2014 and warmly hosted by Cinema Nova on October 4, 2014.

Cinepolis invites you to hear an imaginary cinema recreated from testimonials about the heyday of the long-gone movie theatres in Brussels' city center. Sonic material collected by BNA-BBOT was used to compose a fictional collective interview about the diversity of cinemas animating the streets of Belgium's capital from the 1930s to the 1980s.

Comfortably seated in the dark projection room of Cinepolis, we begin with a news broadcast by Belgavox, then we bump into King Kong while Tarzan howls in the distance, an agitated polemic on Godard follows the sensual voice of Sylvia Kristel ... While the reels are changed, snogging and heckling are de rigueur.

[www.cinepolis.ovh](http://www.cinepolis.ovh)



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# La Procession Rouge



7'51

2014

Field recording

Broadcasted on Radio Aporee

Easter in the small village of Sant'Agnello near Sorrento, South Italy. Every year the Resurrection of Christ is commemorated with a series of processions, beginning with the most spectacular of all: the Red Procession. At midnight the villagers silently follow as men and women covered in long red tunics chant through the streets from church to church.



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# Voies



or an video extract



40'40

2014

Sound installation

Directed by Chloé Despax, Lucie Martin and Dragan Marković (video)

Mixing by Christophe Rault

Continuing a sociologic research and action initiative, the non-profit association Diogènes commissioned this documentary, which analyses the human interactions between the homeless, the workers of the STIB (public transports of Brussels), the shopkeepers and the street workers in Brussels' underground. The sound editing is visually supported by fixed video shots of the trains and stations.



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# Interstices



2'36

2012

Field recording

It's not the end of the world ... but close! When things don't go as planned, at home and on the radio frequencies.

Produced during the workshop « Sonic Self-portraits » by Anna Raimondo and Younes Baba Ali at BNA-BBOT, Brussels.



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# Merci pour le moment



9'40

2010

Field recording

A bus stop in the train station of Anvers, Belgium. Improvised interview with Andy:  
10 dense minutes about life, the city, women, alcohol.



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# Berlin extérieur nuit



7'52

2007

Field recording

We're inside the taxi, but it's the outside which strikes our senses. Through the cold and the dark on a bridge in Mitte, a lone guitar snuggles between the cars, warming, reassuring.



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# PERFORMANCE / RADIO

## Collectif Silence ça urge!



**Yoga Citoyen**

**8'30**

**Podcast performance**

Collective creation during the meetings Utopie Sonore 2017 (FR)

Although it is vital, the permanent state of alert of our country can be experienced as a brake on the search for your well-being. We live in a world where it is more and more difficult to escape anxiety and parasitic thoughts. To help you, the Ministry of Inner Health offers this daily program of citizen relaxation. Sit on your carpet and let yourself be guided to find your way ...

[http://audioblog.arteradio.com/post/3084755/yoga\\_citoyen/](http://audioblog.arteradio.com/post/3084755/yoga_citoyen/)



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# Radio Moniek



Since 2013

Radio Moniek is a multiform / multichannel crew of technicians, schedulers, presenters, musicians, creators, authors, poets, storytellers, geeks, and passionate radio creatives of all sorts.

Their wandering and adventurous navigation among the radio waves takes place once a month on Monday afternoons, on Radio Campus and on its podcast. Sometimes they invite you aboard for a live performance / broadcast.

Moniek is also a DIY and interactive radiophonic cabaret for sonic drawings, visual concerts, failed success, true fiction, fake facts, picked up poetry, leftover music and sheer sonic madness ...



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# Errances



30'

2015

Live music

By Flavien Gillié & Chloé Despax

Improvised mix of a selection of soundscapes, lived on Radio Panik as part of the transversal program « the need to wander », in June 2015. Flavien and Chloé are both regular contributors to the global audio map Aporee.



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# Drache Musicale



Since 2012

Presented by FrontChaud (Julien Crespin) and Miss Sirocco (Chloé Despax), this Radio-Weather-Report takes the cultural and musical temperature around the globe, twice a month on Mondays on Radio Panik.

The duo also DJs with the same name, many times a month, on dance floors across



Europe.

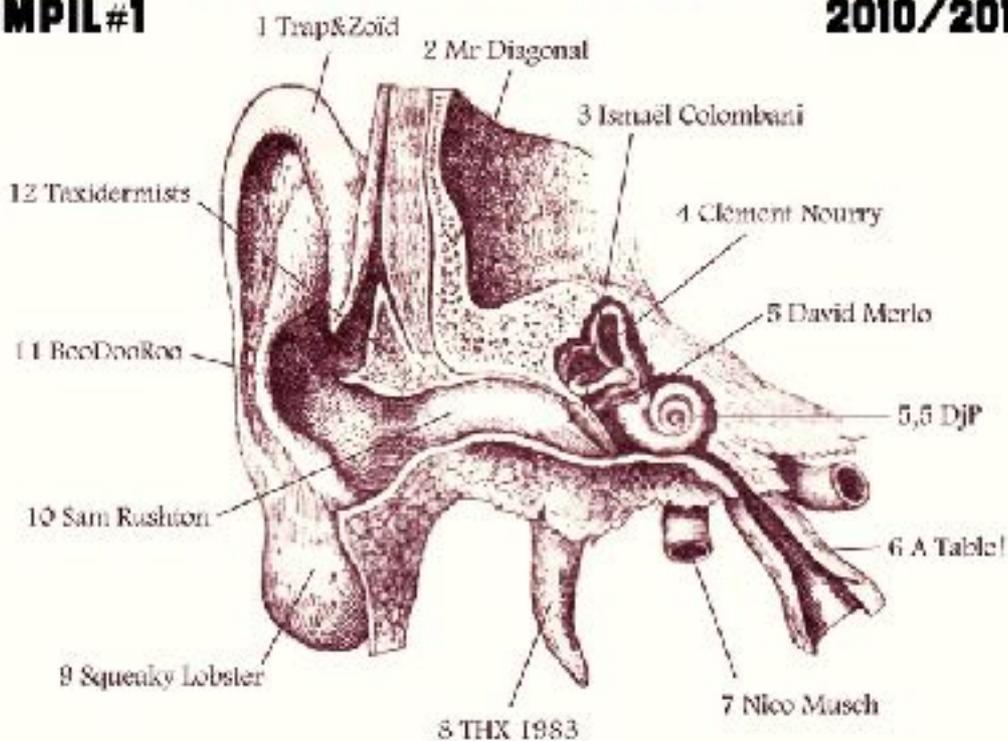
# Ouïra bien qui ouïra le dernier



2010/2012

Ouïra Bien was a radio show dedicated to hosting live concerts and audio performances along with musical interviews, by Chloé Despax and DJP, a Sunday night a month on Radio Panik.

## OUIRA BIEN QUI OUIRA LE DERNIER COMPIL#1 2010/2011



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# PARTICIPATIVE PROJECTS (SELECTION)

## Philosophy workshop



2010/2016

To question, to doubt, to hear others' doubts and questions, to hear their answers, their stutters, their dead-ends, to search together, to challenge stereotypes, to lend an ear, to look twice, to make some sense, to (re)discover the power in thoughts, the surprise in thoughts, the joy in thoughts... Since 2010 a small team from different backgrounds and different ages come together to rethink their passion for thought.

Every other month Chloé Despax produces short sound pieces sprouting from the philosophy workshops organized by and with the patients of the psychiatric institutions.



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# pOST



2010

Participative project lead by the artist collective Oiseaux Sans Tête (O.S.T.) in collaboration with Les Brigittines Art center, Brussels.

Recordings of a tale, a declaration, an audio message by anybody, to be sent to anybody through the world.



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# LogBook



2010

Developed by Studio Public and OST Collective, le Logbook is an open interface for sharing visual and literal data, a tool to explore, observe, and genuinely and collectively « see ». Armed with cameras, the participants witness, capture, and document their intimate reality in these photo-diaries.

Audio editing for the soundtrack of the photographs taken by the gipsy communities of Perpignan, with Studio Public.



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# Radio Workshops

2011/2017

Conducted in partnership with community radio stations (Radio Alma, Radio Panik, ...), these workshops aim to develop awareness about the radio media, directed to children within social institutions.

A particular theme is chosen by the featured institution's animator, to initiate a collective exploration of the possibilities of radiophonic expression: specific hearings, open debates, recording sessions, interviews of shopkeepers and passersby, sound editing techniques, collective storytelling, collective songwriting, music scheduling, live radio presentations ... there's a space for everyone « on air ».



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# CV CHLOE DESPAX

## Creations (selection)

### 2018

Ardesia, sound piece

Produced during a Phonurgia Nova residency at Groupe de Recherches Musicales of INA (FR)

Meute, radio fiction

Produced by Fonds Gulliver / RTBF (BE)

### 2017

Müzik in the making, live music documentary

Curated by Saout Radio and produced by SCAM Belgique (BE)

Ardesia, interactive sound installation

Produced by Biennale des Jeunes Créateurs d'Europe et de la Méditerranée (BJCEM)

Gnawas day and night, music documentary

Produced by Fonds d'Aide à la Création Radiophonique Wallonie Bruxelles (BE)

### 2016

El Gat, hörspiel

Produced by Empreintes - ACSR (BE) / Galerie La Place, Barcelona (ESP)

On oublie tout, radio performance by Radio Moniek Collective for the 20st anniversary of the Atelier de Création Sonore et Radiophonique at Ateliers Claus, Brussel (BE)

L'Adieu aux larmes, performances by Radio Moniek Collective during 'la Nuit de la radio' Festival Variason at Théâtre Varia in Brussels (BE)

Météore, first part of a poetry and sound triptych, co-created with Nora Boulanger-Hirsh, based on a text by Ludovic Drouet

Koímêsis, radio performance of Radio Moniek collective, curated by Saout as a state of mind #2 and performed at Radio Campus Bruxelles (BE)

Crabe, radio performances by Radio Moniek Collective in the category 'l'Autre radio' at

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the Festival Longueurs d'ondes, Brest (FR)

### **2015**

Reste plus qu'à, sound piece  
Arte Radio (FR) / Rue 89 (FR)

Errances, live mix of field recordings with Flavien Gillié at Radio Panik (BE)

### **2014**

Cinapolis, radio docu-fiction and sound installation, Produced by BNA-BBOT / Nuit Blanche, Brussels (BE)

Voies, documentary and sound installation Produced by Asbl Diogènes (BE)

La procession rouge, field recording (IT)

## **Radio shows**

### **2016**

Saout as a state of mind #2, Curator for Saout Radio, a platform and a web-radio dealing with sound and radio art, Brussels (BE)

### **2014**

Panik Sessions, programming and promotion of live music sessions at Radio Panik, Brussels (BE)

### **2012/2016**

Drache Musicale, production and co-animation of a radio show dedicated to Brussels-based and international music artists at Radio Panik, Brussels (BE)

### **2011/2012**

Ouïra bien qui ouïra le dernier, production and animation of a live music radio show at Radio Panik, Brussels (BE)

### **2011**

Santé mentale, programming of a program about mental health at Radio Panik, Brussels (BE)

TokyoFM (JAP), production of radio programmes dedicated to the Belgium music scene

### **2006-2007**

Music reviews on Radio Grenouille, Marseille (FR)

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# Exhibitions

## 2018

Ardesia, interactive sound installation at Festival Longueurs d'ondes, Brest (FR)

## 2017

Ardesia, interactive sound installation at 'Mediterranea 18 Young Artists Biennale' de la BJCEM, Tirana (ALB)

El Gat, interactive installation at Instituto Cervantès, Bruxelles (BE)

## 2016

El Gat, residency and exhibition at Galerie La Place, Barcelone (ESP)

## 2015

Cinapolis, sound installation as part of the exhibition 'Si tu veux voir le monde ferme tes yeux I' at ARGOS, Center for art and media, Brussels (BE)

## 2014

Cinapolis, sound installation at Cinéma Nova during 'la Nuit Blanche' in Brussels  
Produced by BNA-BBOT / Nuit Blanche Bruxelles (BE)

Voies, sound installation as part of the exhibition Home Street Home  
at TAG Gallery, Brussels (BE)

## 2013

Interstices, sound piece presented as part of the collective exhibition 'Autoportraits sonores'  
at Centrale for Contemporary art, Brussels (BE)

# Festivals

## 2017

Müzik in the making, performance

june - Curated by Saout Radio for dOCUMENTA 14 at Savvy Galerie, Berlin (DE)

october - Adaptation for a radio live during Radio Ara's birthday (LUX)

El Gat, installation at Festival Longueurs d'Ondes at Brest (FR)

## 2016

Cinapolis, docu-fiction at the 14<sup>th</sup> Festival Longueurs d'Ondes in Brest (FR)

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## 2015

Marché aux animaux de Guamoté, field recording at Festival de cinéma de Douarnenez (FR)

## 2014

Berlin Extérieur Nuit, field recording broadcasted in Marrakech taxis, curated by Saout Radio at the 5<sup>th</sup> Marrakech Biennale (MA)

L'étonnement at the 12<sup>th</sup> Festival Longueurs d'Ondes in Brest (FR)

## 2012

LogBook du Vernet, audio and visual report produced by Picturetank and Studio Public, Paris at Visa pour l'Image, Perpignan (FR)

# Collectives

I'm an associated artist in the following collectives

## 2017

### Collectif & (FR)

Sound création and DJing for bal/lab, a participative performance with the inhabitants of la Courneuve at Théâtre Houdremont, La Courneuve (FR)

## Since 2015

### Saout Radio (BE, MA, FR)

Radio and music programming and promotion for the art & sound web platform Saout Radio

## Since 2013

### Radio Moniek (BE)

Performer and sound creator as part of a cabaret and collective radio creation in Brussels

## 2012

### Oiseaux Sans Tête Collective (BE)

Director of sound design project pOST

# Awards

## 2018

**Ardesia**, Price 'fieldrecording residency' at Phonurgia Nova Contest (FR)

**Yoga Citoyen**, selected for the Price SACD humor fiction. Festival Longueurs d'ondes at

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Brest (FR)

**2016**

**Cinepolis**, selected for the Price of documentary radiophonic creation, 'Petites ondes' category

Festival Longueurs d'Ondes, Brest (FR)

**2015**

**Reste plus qu'à**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize, Arte Radio Summer Contest 2015, Paris (FR)

## Workshops

**2018**

Production of a radiophonic fiction in the framework 'Art to school' in Wallonia with children 9/10 years old

**Ékla (BE)**

Awareness program to the listening and sound environnement with women in literacy

**Voix de Femmes / La Bobine, Liège (BE)**

Awareness program to the listening and sound environnement with pupils in professional Kitchen High School at Lycée Perdiguier, Arles

**Sextant et plus, Marseille (FR)**

**2017**

Speech and support about sound creation during two days for students in visual arts

**Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Art et de Design de Dijon (FR)**

Sound creation workshops for the program 'Art at School' in Wallonia, with children of 6/7 years old

**Centre Dramatique de Wallonie pour l'Enfance et la Jeunesse (BE)**

**2016**

Radiophonic workshops about 'Nature in the city' with children between 6/12 years old

**Maison des cultures de St Gilles (BE) / Radio Alma (BE)**

**2011/2016**

Short radio pieces made with psychiatric patients during philosophy workshops

**Asbl Entr'âges (BE) / Radio Panik (BE)**

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# Education (Selection)

## **2016**

Field recording workshops with Félix Blume at the ACSR (BE)

## **2010**

Samplitude Pro software workshop about with Christophe Rault at the ACSR (BE)

## **2009**

'Experimenting with the musicality of spoken language' workshop with Alessandro Bosetti at the ACSR (BE)

Workshop about gray literature radio fictions with Pierre de Jaeger at the ACSR (BE)

## **2005/2007**

MA - Master Médiation culturelle de l'Art, Theory and Practice of Arts, music and contemporary dance specialities – University of Aix-Marseille I (FR)

## **2004/2005**

Bachelor degree - Culture and communication – University of Avignon (FR)

## **2002/2004**

Undergraduate study years - Art History – University of Toulouse Le Mirail (FR)

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