

**Elise Guillaume**

**Émotions Terranaissantes**

**6.10.23 – 10.12.23**

**Espace Croisé – Centre d'Art Contemporain**



Elise Guillaume uses a hydrophone to record the sound of icebergs melting in the Arctic. Photo by Tamara Šušca.

## Press release

Espace Croisé, Contemporary Art Centre presents *Émotions Terranaissantes*, a solo exhibition by Belgian artist Elise Guillaume. Running from 6 October to 10 December 2023, the exhibition offers a sensory experience in which emotions, bodies and landscapes intertwine.

Through a series of audiovisual and photographic works, Elise Guillaume traces links between psychological states and environmental change. She delves into the fluidity between self and other, inside and outside, the intimate and the collective. The exhibition is the result of research conducted between the North Sea and the Arctic and is presented as an immersive installation. At the centre of the room is an 8 metre long lightbox table displaying a series of analogue photographs depicting visceral textures of ice and water. These black and white photographs, developed by the artist using Arctic seaweed based developer, are carefully placed between seaweed floating in a viscous liquid and the photo negatives. Halfway between the artist's studio and a laboratory, the installation transports visitors into a landscape that questions traditional photographic development.

Behind the table, Elise Guillaume's latest film, *Eventual Horizon*, is projected on a large screen. Shot in the Arctic, *Eventual Horizon* weaves together the artist's experiences of insomnia, grief and hope - as the ice melts, the body dissolves, the night lingers and the sun burns. On a screen in a more intimate space, *Where I Learn to Breathe* extends this moment of (re)connection with our senses. The fluidity of water and the body intertwine as the artist takes us on a journey towards healing through a symbiosis with nature. The soundscapes of these two films were created using a variety of field recordings, some using hydrophones.

The title of the exhibition, borrowed from the concept of the philosopher Glenn Albrecht (Terranascient Emotions), brings together the words Terra and rana-scient to evoke the emotions we feel when confronted with environmental change. *Émotions Terranaissantes* reveals the transformative power of these emotional states, vectors of a renewed relationship with nature.

Curation : Marie de Ganay

## Artist Biography

Elise Guillaume (1996) is a Belgian artist and filmmaker whose work explores our complex relationship with nature. Interested in the connections within our (eco)systems, she uses audio-visual mediums to create contrasting narratives to question what it means to be human in a time of crisis and extinction. The body is a key element in her work: it becomes a vessel for interpreting living beings that form our natural world. With this in mind, the body becomes a meeting point between viewer and subject matter to encourage discourse regarding multi-species kinship.

Elise's work has been nominated for awards including the Aesthetica Art Prize (shortlisted 2022), Arte Laguna Art Prize (finalist 2022 & Art Nova Prize Winner) and La Scam: Prix de l'Œuvre expérimentale (shortlisted in 2022). Her work has been presented internationally, notably at Gasworks (2023, UK), KIKK Festival (2021, BE), CICA Museum (2021, KR), Ars Electronica (2021), VIDEOFORMES (2020-21, FR), Instants Vidéo Numériques et Poétiques (2022, FR), Imagine Science Film Festival (2022, USA), Cloud Seven (2022, BE), Alchemy Film & Arts (2020, GB) and Centre Wallonie Bruxelles / Paris (2022-23, FR). She has participated in residencies in remote areas such as the Atacama Desert (La Wayaka Current, 2018) and the Arctic (Arctic Circle, 2023). The artist graduated from the Royal College of Art (MA Contemporary Art Practice) and was awarded a Developing Your Creative Practice grant from the Arts Council England in 2022.

## **Espace Croisé**

Espace Croisé is a contemporary art centre dedicated to the production and circulation of works by emerging and established French and international artists. It promotes new educational projects and is committed to access and rights to culture for all.

Since mid-2020, Espace Croisé has occupied part of the former Clarisses convent in Roubaix as part of a low environmental impact heritage reactivation project (Projet Saisons Zéro, led by the association Zerm in partnership with Yes We Camp and the City of Roubaix). The arts centre has a number of spaces in which to develop its activities in support of creation, research, dissemination, residency and mediation. As part of its mission to promote artistic and cultural education, Espace Croisé is committed to promoting access and rights to culture for all. It supports a wide range of creative projects by artists working with the general public, particularly in the priority neighbourhoods of Roubaix.

Since 1994, the Centre has been a structuring element in the cultural and artistic landscape of the region. With the support of its partners: the Ministry of Culture, the Hauts-de-France Region, the City of Roubaix and the Département du Nord, it contributes to the policy of promoting artistic creation and artistic and cultural education for as many people as possible in the field of the visual arts.

## **Practical information**

Opening: 6 October 2023, 6pm

Exhibition dates: 7 October to 10 December 2023

Free entrance from Wednesday to Sunday from 2pm to 6pm.

Address: Espace Croisé, Contemporary Art Centre, Roubaix

Saisons Zéro / Monastère des Clarisses, 2 rue de Wasquehal, Roubaix.

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This exhibition is produced by Espace Croisé, Centre d'Art Contemporain  
In collaboration with LMNO Gallery (Brussels).

Curation : Marie de Ganay

In resonance with the Art & Industry Triennial, Dunkerque - Hauts-de-France  
2023.

*Research and development in the Arctic has been facilitated by The Arctic Circle - Artists & Scientist Residency and supported by public funding from Arts Council England.*

*With the support of Sustainable Art, a contribution has been made to the Urban Forest project which will go towards the planting of a Miyawaki forest at a school in Grez-Doiceau, Belgium.*

## **Press contact**

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