



# asklipion

*Lighting installation & healing temple*

**DAY & NIGHT**

## **Creative team**

Artistic direction: Emilien Guesnard

Sound design: Cédric Béron

Biologist: Emeline Mouroucq

Illustrator & herbalist: Claire Lebeau

Production & distribution: Soenitz Productions - Caroline Bernard

Administration: Polette (AADN) - Amélie Fesquet-Saniel Lou Miléna-Fouquet

**Coproduction: Fête des Lumières and Saint-Gervais Mont-Blanc light festival**  
**Supported by the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region with the SCAN grant**

## Artistic intent

*asklipion* is an art installation project aimed at raising awareness about medicinal plants. It is a light, sound and plant installation, visible by **night and day**, that talks about alternative medicine and helps to tell which plant brings which benefit to the body.

In Greco-Roman antiquity, an *asklipion* is a sanctuary of healing, dedicated to Asklepios. In the Homeric epic Asklepios is the god of medicine. Son of Apollo, he is the mythical ancestor of the Asklepiades, a dynasty of physicians practicing in Cos and Knidos, of which Hippocrates is the most illustrious member.

**Halfway between the Greek temple from which the work takes its name, an apothecary's stall and an open-air exhibition wall**, *asklipion* consists of 120 lamps housing frozen plants magnified by light and music.

Concretely, *asklipion* **translates plants into light and sound**. The work offers the viewer a soothing, almost therapeutic experience. Its light and sound programming is constructed in harmony with the medicinal properties of each plant. Relaxing, it recalls the processes of light therapy and music therapy. Labels will allow the spectators to identify each plant and its properties.

The musical creation of Cédric Béron is thought to relax, inspired by the study of David Lewis-Hodgson, a neuropsychiatrist whose study has demonstrated the power of music to reduce anxiety. The colors, sources of energy combined with the soothing power of music and the virtues of plants, immerse the viewer in a harmonious and rejuvenating universe.

***asklipion* is an ode to nature, a haven of peace in the bustle of the city.**



### SYMBIOSIS WITH NATURE

With this artwork, Emilien suggests to listen and understand nature again. If human beings manage to be more connected and careful with the environment, the whole world would benefit. In a way, *asklipion* is a proposal for a better life, **in symbiosis with nature**.



## Approach

**Echoing the current ecological context which questions the link between man and plants**, the *asklipion* project was born in Emilien's head during a walk in the forest. He started from the observation that we do not really transmit the knowledge related to the plants that surround us. He thus had the idea of creating a work to recreate the conditions of this transmission. He solicited the **illustrator and herbalist** Claire Lebeau to make first tests of integration of plants in a luminous and sound device (see the photos opposite and below).

In a second step, he asked his friend and **biologist** Emeline Mouroucq to explore different techniques allowing to **retranscribe the frequency produced by plants died in their natural state through sound and light**.

Several plants will be tested. During these tests, the frequencies they will generate will allow to imagine light and music. In the end, *asklipion* is a mixture of aesthetics, **medicinal properties and sound frequencies**.

## An experience both diurne and nocturnal

### BY DAY

A soothing, educational experience. Daylight reveals the natural colors of each plant. The public can contemplate the whole and read a discreet label on each lamp to identify the plants. A pannel put next to the installation explains the benefits of each plant.

### BY NIGHT

The frequences produced by the plants are translated into a loop of light and sound, bringing the whole installation to life. Inspired by light therapy and music therapy, this visual and sound track offers a moment of relaxation. The labels can also be read at night, keeping the pedagogical dimension of the work.

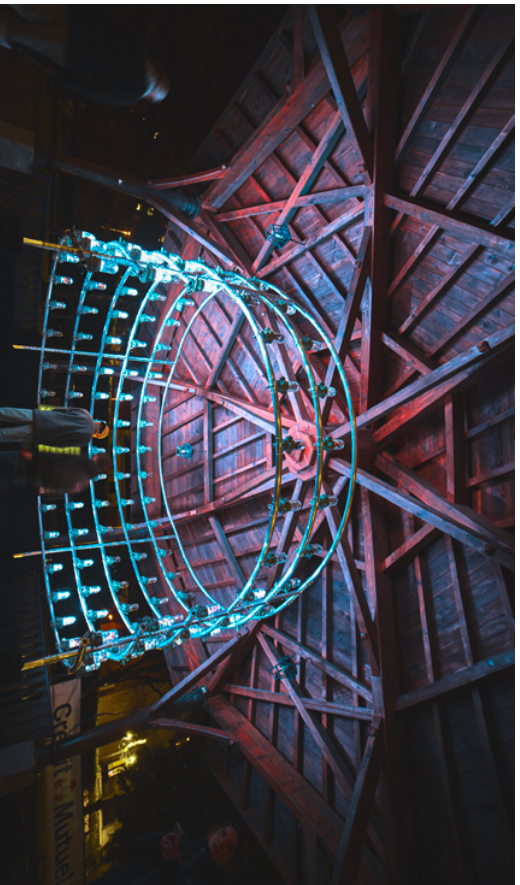


### Video

Video report Lyon Light Festival: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5cd1hnaFSj0>

National TV report shot during the creative residency:  
<https://www.instagram.com/p/COJNjMh1SORt/>





## Creative team

### Emilien Guesnard

#### Artistic direction

Emilien Guesnard is a visual artist and lighting designer based in the Monts du Lyonnais next to Lyon in France. He creates light and sound installations for public spaces that question the world and its changes. He blends light in all its forms with haunting sounds that project our imaginations into other worlds. In addition to making it his profession, light has been a veritable means of expression for him since childhood. Between exhibitions, concerts and his wanderings around festivals, the artist experiments with this intangible material that he tames and shapes, no longer as a showcase, but as the main actor in his creations.



#### Past projects:

- 2024 : Order200 - Mons Light Festival, BE
- 2023 : Asklïpion - Saint-Gervais Mont-Blanc Light Festiva, FR
- 2023 : Asklïpion - Lyon Light Festival, FR
- 2022 : Pulse - Lyon Light Festival, FR
- 2022 : Beacon of Hope - Collaborative installation in co-creation with Craig Morrisson - Glow Eindhoven, NL & Lyon Light Festival, FR
- 2022 : Octo - Geneva Lux, CH
- 2021 : Octo - Saint-Gervais Mont-Blanc Light Festival, FR
- 2021 : Octo - Lyon Light Festival, Lyon FR
- 2021 : Order200 - Umbra Light Festival, Vittoria-Gasteiz, ES
- 2021 : Octo - Vilnius Light Festival, LT
- 2020 : Order200 - Saint-Gervais Mont-Blanc Light Festival, FR
- 2020 : Order200 - Vilnius Light Festival, LT
- 2019 : Order200 - Lyon Light Festival, Lyon, FR
- 2019 : Particules - Photo exhibition, La Tannerie, Bourg en Bresse, FR
- 2018 : Particules - Photo exhibition, Acqueduc, Dardilly, FR
- 2017 : Particules - Photo exhibition, Kolle-Bolle, Lyon, FR
- 2016 : P36 - Fort en ballade exhibition, Feyzin, FR
- 2016 : Particules - Photo exhibition, Epicerie Moderne, Feyzin, FR
- 2016 : Particules - Exposition photo, Epicerie Moderne, Feyzin, FR

### Cédric Béron

#### Sound design

Disque Noir aka Cédric Béron did a little music as a child. But music theory is not for him. As a teenager, he tried his hand at rock'n'roll. And he quickly understood: what interests him is recording, understanding how the sound material goes from the instrument to the magnetic tape... That's how he has been earning his living for the last thirty years thanks to the sound production of records, recording techniques, concert sound systems... He has worked for Radio France, the Epicenter Modeme, Pazzner, and has done sound systems for the theater, the cinema, music festivals, and booms. This «sound plunderer» as he defines himself does not really have a guideline, but a strong need to express what he feels. Small scores appear in his head, or a tone, an image, which then takes shape through his many collaborations. For 4 years, his sound creations have accompanied the light choreographies of Emilien's installations. The latter creates the luminous score, Cédric draws the sounds that it evokes, bringing the hypnotizing depth characteristic of their projects.

### Scenitz Productions

#### Production

For the past six years, Caroline Bernard has been accompanying independent artists in the digital arts sector as a production and distribution manager. She helps them in the deployment of their monumental projects, in particular in the public space. She also coordinates a training program for emerging artists in the Lyon region, financed by Lyon Metropole in order to support local creativity. In 2024, she builds her company Scenitz Productions to be able to provide a 360° support to artistic projects.

### Claire Lebeau

#### Visual artist & herbalist

Claire Lebeau is an artist from Lyon who presents plant and dreamlike works through floating sculptures under a globe and pencil drawings that seem to come straight out of a cabinet of curiosities. Her work is strongly influenced by her love of scientific illustration, flora and fauna and the notion of beauty.

Her intuitive creations, like small jewel cases crystallized in time, metaphorically link the animal and plant world to human nature. They highlight the paradox between a beautiful, fragile, imperfect, sublime nature and at the same time dangerous and brutal. <https://www.instagram.com/thebotanistdesign/>

### Pôlette - service de l'AADN

#### Administration

Within the AADN ecosystem, Pôlette is an administration and production service. It was designed to support artists and small structures at the crossroads of the arts, sciences and technologies. By making available its skills, its national network and its fifteen years of experience, AADN gathers around Pôlette a community of professional experts in hybrid arts and digital cultures.

It has been supporting Emilien Guesnard's projects administratively for 4 years.

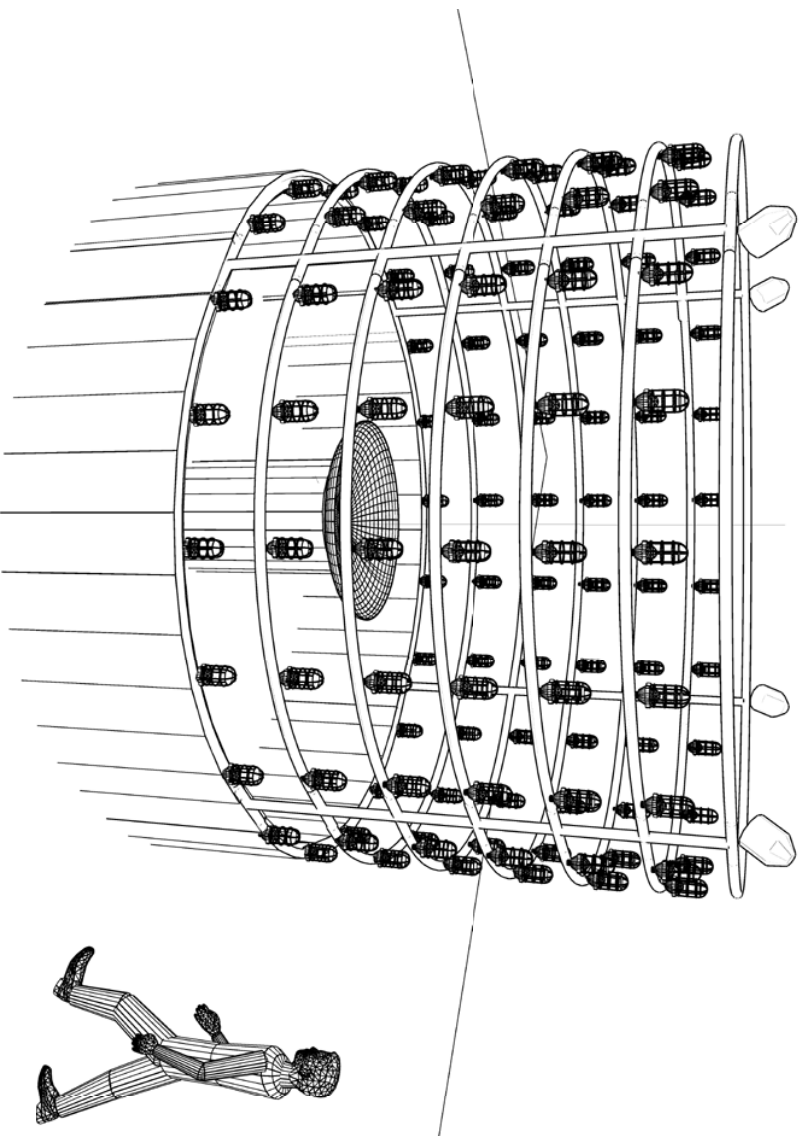
### Emeline Mourcoq

#### Biologist

Emeline Mourcoq is a biologist specialized in evolutionary biology. Trained as a laboratory technician and then as a researcher, she is now a freelance biostatistician. She is passionate about nature in general and the well-being it can bring to living beings. She uses the benefits of plants and other natural products in the cosmetics she makes in her spare time for herself and her family.



## Tech info



**Structure:** 4,5 m x 4,5 m / height : 4 m

**Two structure options :**

- closed structure with water fountain on a closed loop at the heart of the installation.
- open structure: the public can go inside (no fountain)

**Surface required:** 8m diameter

**Light:** 120 marine lamps adapted with RGB LED lights

**Sound system:** on top of the structure and one sub inside

**Transparency:** the view crosses the artwork

**Visibility:** by day and by night

**Environment:** outdoor or indoor

**Power:** 1 x PC16

**Weight:** 330 kg

**Mediation:** plant identification labels on lamps and explanatory panel (aluminum dibond) positioned next to the installation





## Tech info

### Travelling team:

- Emilien Guesnard - artist
- Cédric Baron - sound designer

### Building & dismantling schedule:

- D-2: structure building + lighting & sound system installation (3 people)
- D-1 : tests / final rehearsal (3 people)
- Event: switching on and off, minor maintenance (1 people)
- D+1 : dismantling (3 people)
- + 1 security agent from building to dismantling

### To be provided by the organizer:

- 1 technician to help building & dismantling
- 1 on-call technician during event for small maintenance if necessary
- power
- security



## Sustainability

Thought to last over time and to be shown at other events, asklipion is environmentally cautious:

- reuse of existing material
- its structure is manufactured in France
- its plants come from local harvesting
- low electricity consumption (LED system)
- its assembly & disassembly times are very short and do not require construction machinery

## Contacts

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