

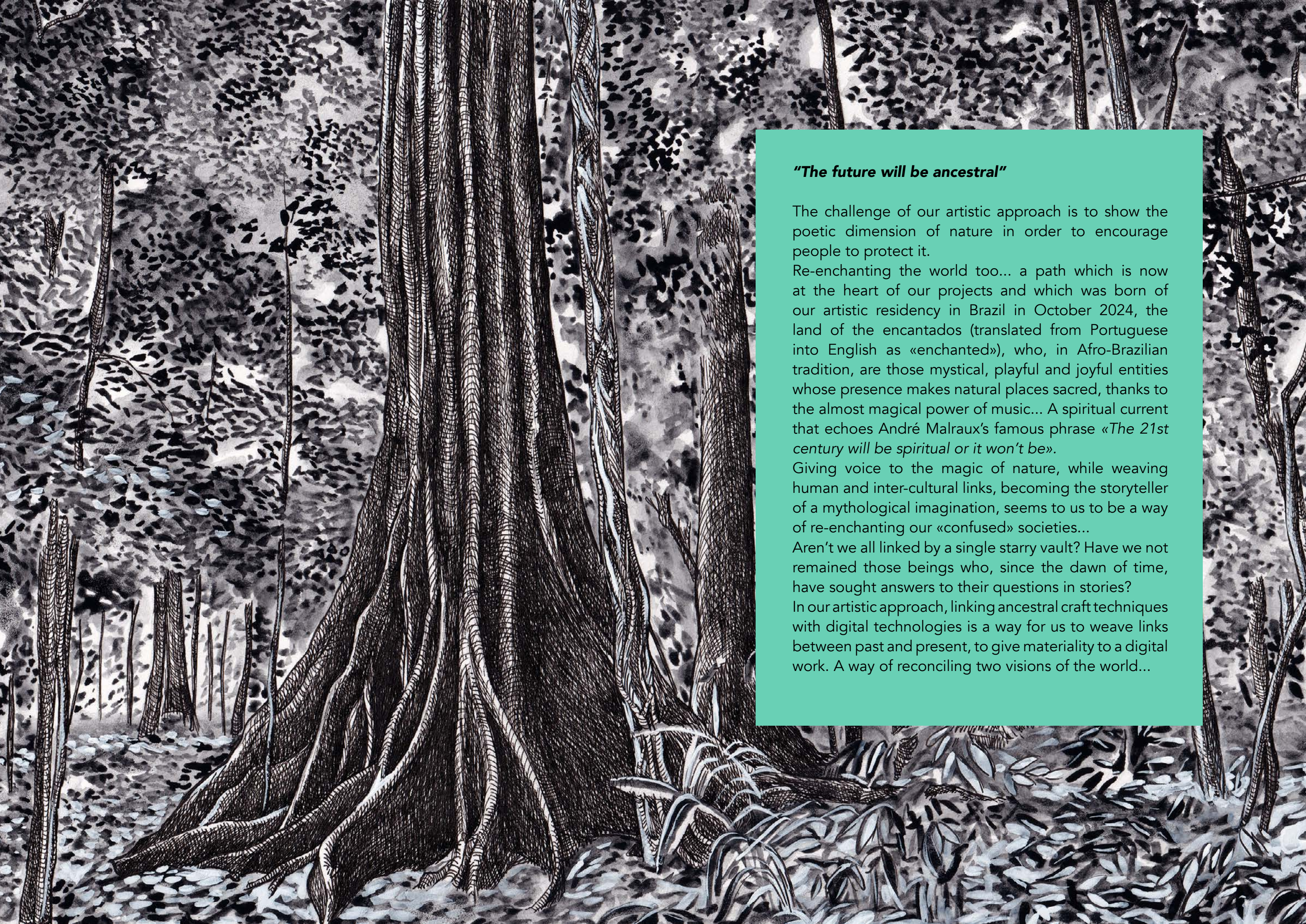
# PORTFOLIO

ELSA MROZIEWICZ  
Visual artist

CÉCILE PALUSINSKI  
Author







***“The future will be ancestral”***

The challenge of our artistic approach is to show the poetic dimension of nature in order to encourage people to protect it.

Re-enchanting the world too... a path which is now at the heart of our projects and which was born of our artistic residency in Brazil in October 2024, the land of the encantados (translated from Portuguese into English as «enchanted»), who, in Afro-Brazilian tradition, are those mystical, playful and joyful entities whose presence makes natural places sacred, thanks to the almost magical power of music... A spiritual current that echoes André Malraux's famous phrase *«The 21st century will be spiritual or it won't be»*.

Giving voice to the magic of nature, while weaving human and inter-cultural links, becoming the storyteller of a mythological imagination, seems to us to be a way of re-enchanting our «confused» societies...

Aren't we all linked by a single starry vault? Have we not remained those beings who, since the dawn of time, have sought answers to their questions in stories?

In our artistic approach, linking ancestral craft techniques with digital technologies is a way for us to weave links between past and present, to give materiality to a digital work. A way of reconciling two visions of the world...





## Cécile PALUSINSKI

### *Author*

As a writer, she has published several works since 2005. For the past 6 years, she has been involved in transmedia projects, NORD SUD, published in 2019, and ARBRES- MONDES produced in 2022. She was laureate of the Villa Formose writing residency in Taiwan in 2023 for the sound work in augmented reality *Villes flottantes*, and laureate of the Villa Albertine in the USA in 2025. President of the Socotra dragon blood tree association, she wrote a travelogue about Socotra, as part of a residency at the Jan Michalski Foundation in June 2023, and published a book of photographs and poems with Melrakki Editions in December 2023, in collaboration with Benoît Palusinski.

She is currently taking part in the «Les gardiens de l'océan» project with Elsa Mroziewicz and in a sound project based on colors.

She is also president of the association La Plume de Paon, which promotes the development of French-language audio books, and founder of the training and consultancy agency NUMERED Conseil, dedicated to cultural professionals faced with digital change. In this capacity, she regularly works for the Institut Français, in France and abroad.

[www.underthestarryvault.com](http://www.underthestarryvault.com)

[cpalusinski@yahoo.fr](mailto:cpalusinski@yahoo.fr)



## Elsa MROZIEWICZ

### *Multidisciplinary visual artist*

Elsa co-directed the transmedia project ARBRES- MONDES, shortlisted at the Bologna International Book Fair. Her giant pop-up book enhanced with Baobab was shortlisted for the MEGGENDORFER FOR ARTIST BOOKS 2023 prize (USA) and is exhibited at the Goodplanet Foundation in Paris.

As an illustrator, she has created numerous illustrated books and animated artist's books that have been exhibited in museums, fairs and media libraries, including in New York at Columbia University (Rare Book and Manuscript Library), in Prague at the B1 Centre for contemporary design, and in Italy at Milan Design Week. Elsa has published several children's books with Minedition to enthusiastic acclaim: *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *News & Observers*.

She is currently developing augmented sound works with author Cécile Palusinski:

«The Universal Forest» on endangered animals (supported by the Michalski Foundation), «Le sacre des oiseaux» on migratory birds (winner of the Villa Swagatam in India, organized by the French Institute of India and MAD Salon+Lab), and «Villes flottantes», on protecting the oceans and «Ocean guardians» (MR experience).

In 2025, Elsa was awarded the Villa Albertine in the USA for the *Floating Cities* project.

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# ARBRES-MONDES

## Digital arts

Invoking a variety of artistic forms (text, sound, music, drawing and animated image), Arbres Mondes (World Trees) takes us on a poetic journey to the heart of the world's forests, extending our reflection on man's relationship with nature through the universal archetype of the structuring tree linking the three components of the Universe: the celestial, terrestrial and subterranean worlds, a concept used by many peoples around the world.

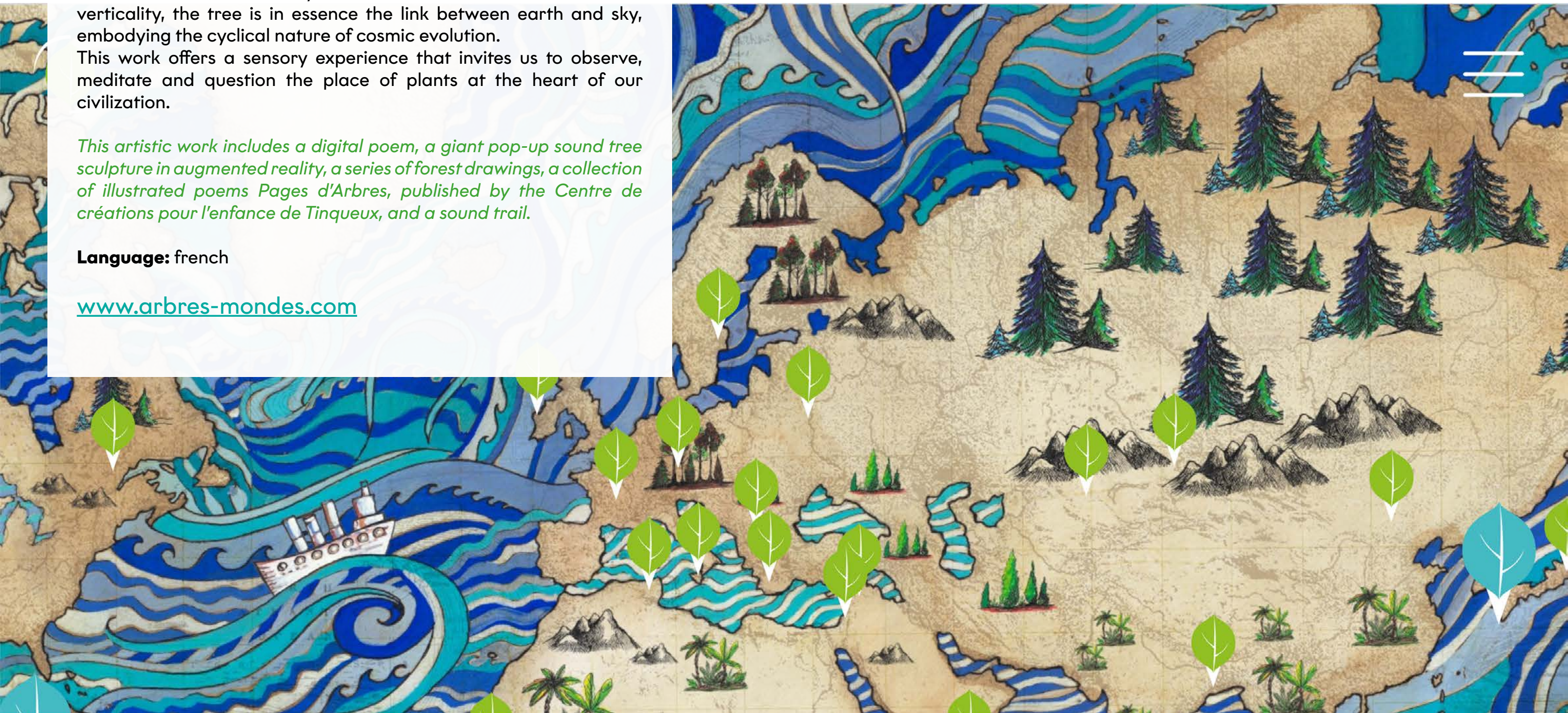
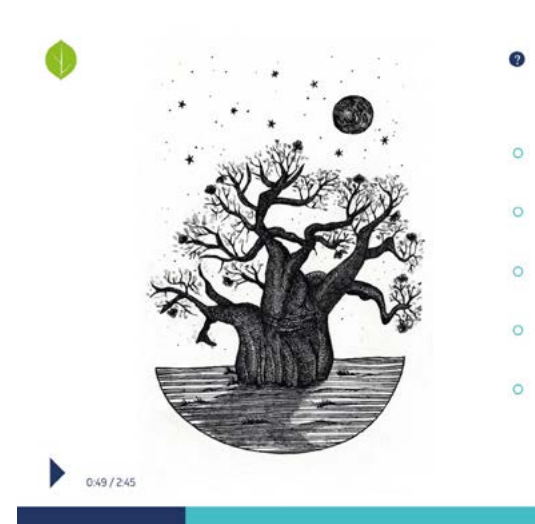
The forest is the boundary between Here and Elsewhere. In its verticality, the tree is in essence the link between earth and sky, embodying the cyclical nature of cosmic evolution.

This work offers a sensory experience that invites us to observe, meditate and question the place of plants at the heart of our civilization.

*This artistic work includes a digital poem, a giant pop-up sound tree sculpture in augmented reality, a series of forest drawings, a collection of illustrated poems Pages d'Arbres, published by the Centre de créations pour l'enfance de Tinquex, and a sound trail.*

**Language:** french

[www.arbres-mondes.com](http://www.arbres-mondes.com)





2022

BOLOGNA  
RAGAZZI  
CROSSMEDIA  
AWARD



SHORTLIST

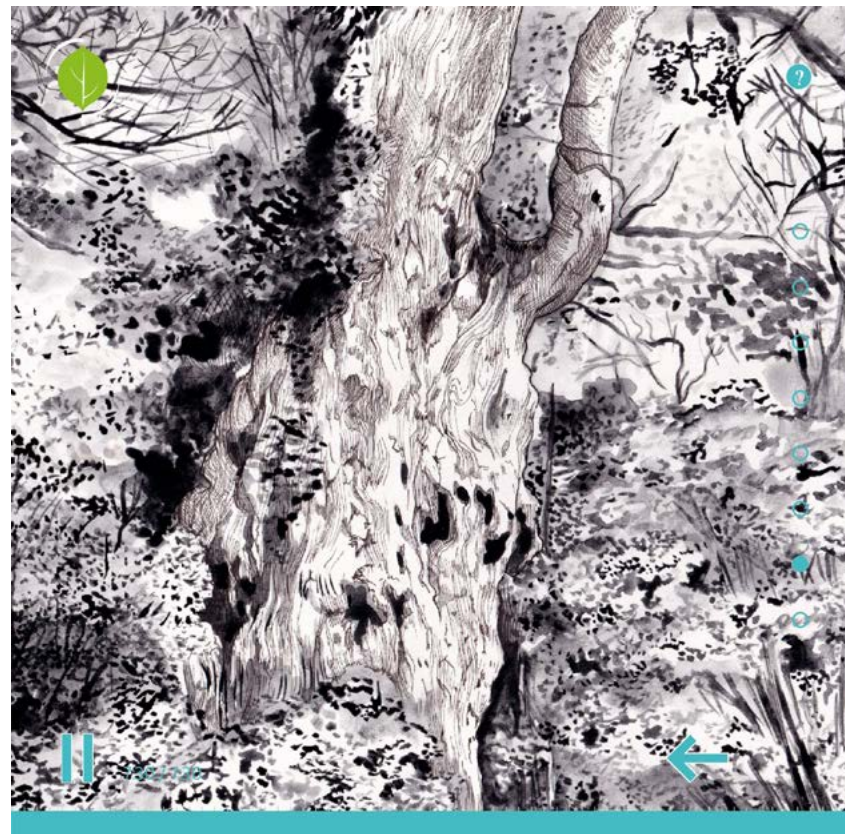
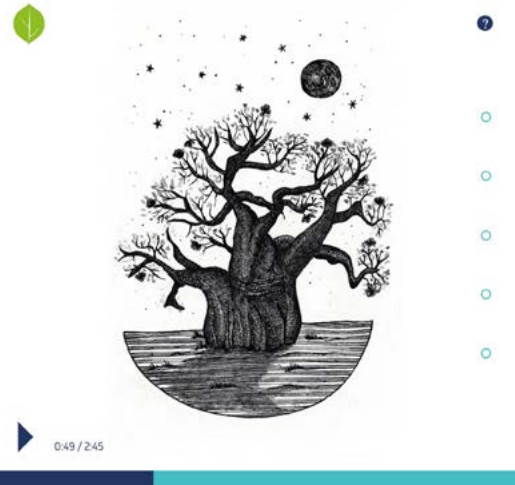
ARBRES  
MONDES

A collection of *Pages d'Arbres* illustrated poems, published by the Centre de créations pour l'enfance de Tineux.



*Pages d'Arbres*

Cécile Palusinski  
Illustré par Elsa Mroziewicz et Saba Niknam

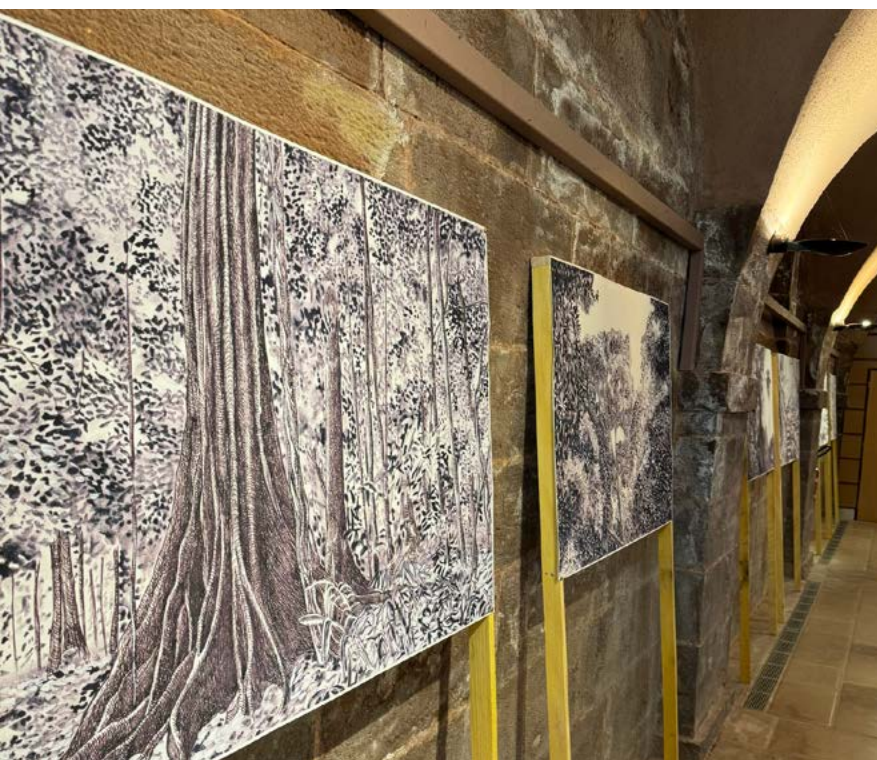
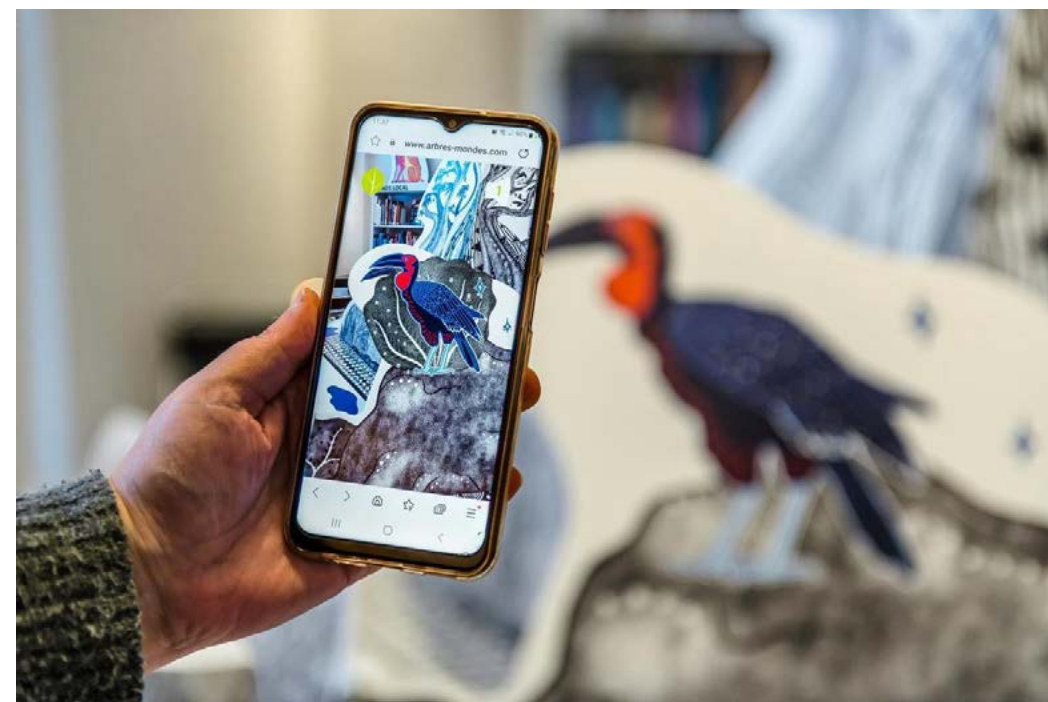


## DRAWINGS

Corcovado - Costa Rica,  
Yakushima - Japan, Socotra

Technique: rotring and gouache / 20 x 30 cm





ARBRES MONDES  
(WORLD TREES  
at the GoodPlanet  
Foundation in  
Paris and the  
Bitche multimedia  
library



# Giant sound pop-up in augmented reality

The baobab, also known as the «palaver tree», has enormous cultural, social and symbolic value. It is the heart of rituals concerning birth and death. It's where people meet, where they listen to the griot... and where the griot, holder of the Word of Life, is buried, as only the trunk of the sacred baobab can channel his power.

In fact, the baobab-sepulchre was both a «common grave» and a «place of worship». In the words of African anthropologist Henri Gravrand, «tabernacle of the Logos».

The Giant Augmented Sound Pop-up is a monumental pop-up-sculpture that allows viewers equipped with a smartphone or tablet to use a web application to engage augmented-reality animated scenes and revisited tales from West Africa, set to voice and music, like an echo of the griots' voices...

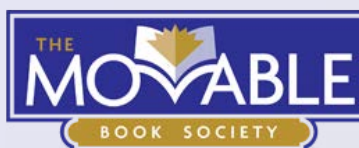
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## Le Baobab

### [Exhibition video](#)

*Format 1.75m x 1.75m x 1.5m Mixed media (wood, cardboard, metal, paper)*

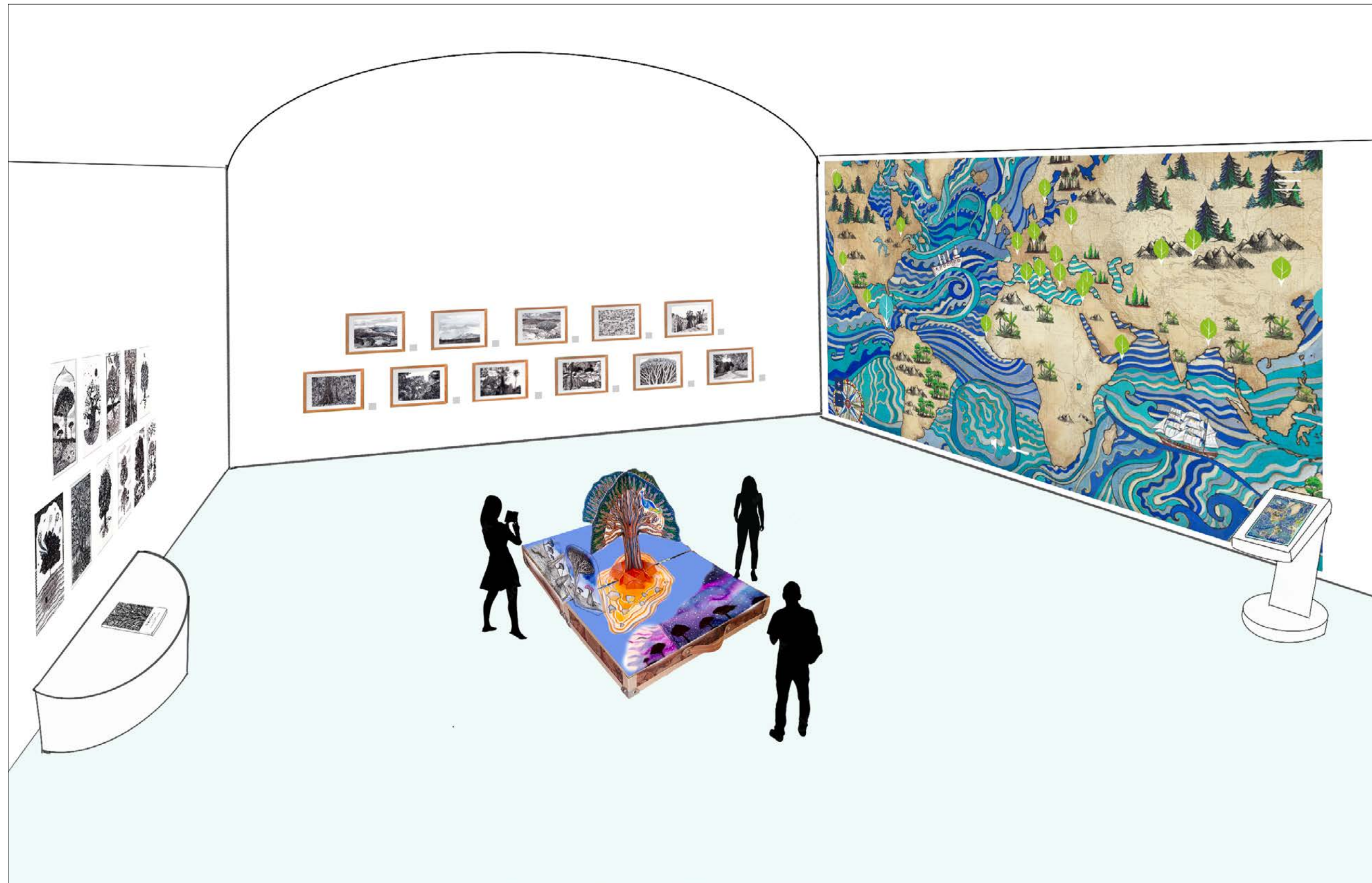


Among the **2023 finalists** for the Movable Book Society's Meggendorfer Prize for Artist Books (USA)



# ARBRES-MONDES (Modules and travelling exhibition)

The exhibition's scenography is up to you, and we'll work with you to stage the modules in your venue.





# La forêt universelle

## Digital arts

*Cute or majestic animals, threatened by human activity or climate change. This epinal image gives biodiversity issues a highly emotional connotation. We all feel empathy for these animals, in a world where deforestation has already caused the disappearance of 58% of vertebrate species in 40 years, and wipes out some 13 million hectares of woodland every year.*

The aim of «The Universal Forest» is to give a voice to these endangered species, and bring them back to life through an immersive, poetic experience.

In this work, the viewer, equipped with a smartphone or tablet, can use a web application to trigger augmented-reality animated scenes and poetic sound creations.

**Monumental format:** 2.5m \* 7.5m  
or 3 paintings

**Languages:** French and English

This project was one of the 4 finalists for the new XR VR residency at the Villa Medici and the Taiwan XR Residency in conjunction with the French office in Taiwan at the New Images Festival in Paris in 2022.

With the support of :

 **FONDATION  
JAN MICHALSKI  
POUR  
L'ECRITURE  
ET LA  
LITTERATURE**



Scanning animals in the Starry Vault application



Mockup of the monumental work in augmented reality





Mockup of the monumental work in augmented reality



For each animal identified, the viewer must **scan the animals in the work via the app to animate them and access the corresponding sound content.**





Presentation of an extract from the work at the Biennale de la créativité at the Shadok in Strasbourg - ACCRO



# Villes flottantes

## Digital arts

*An ever-growing world population, rising sea levels and threats to ecosystems: cities need to find new alternatives.*

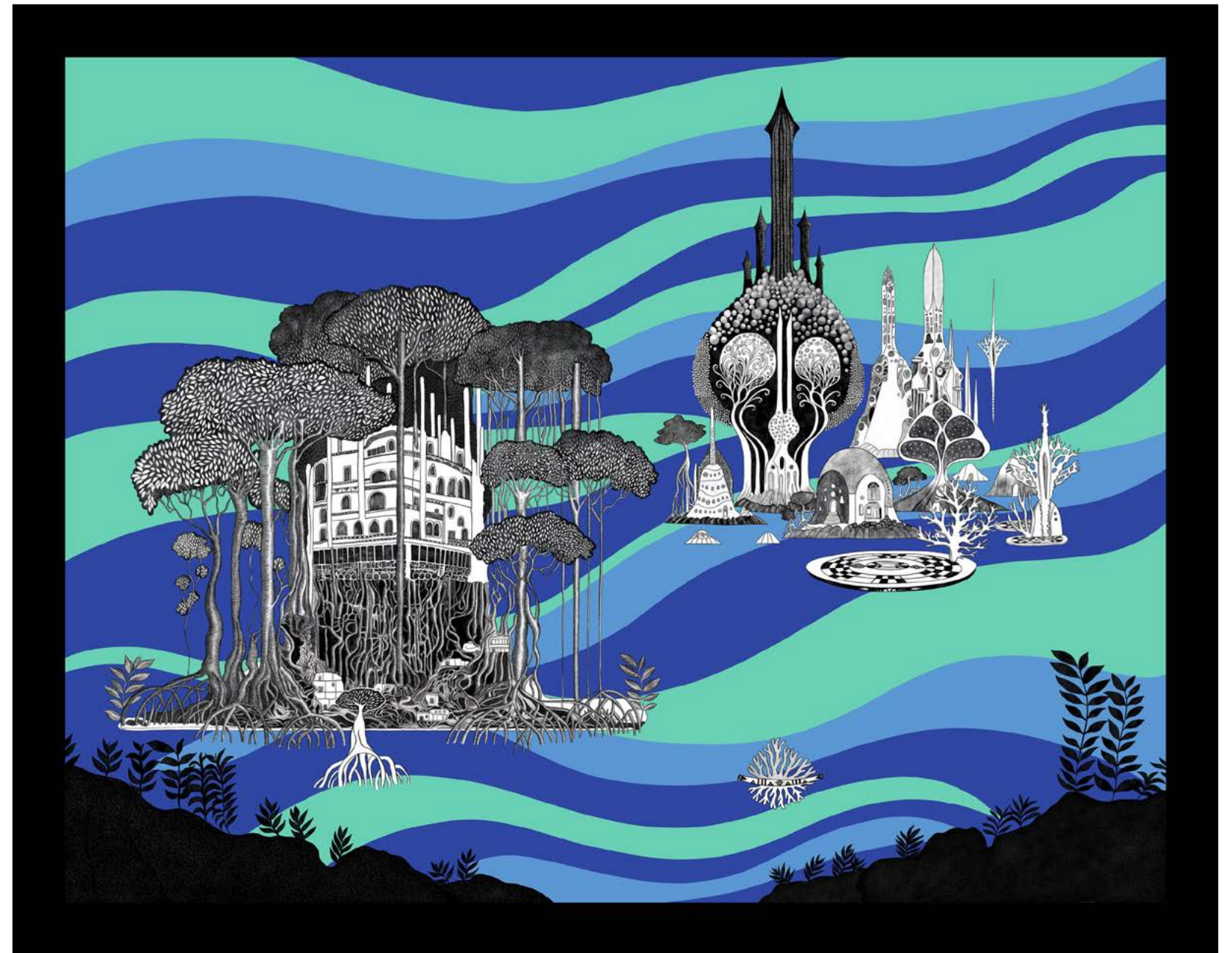
*Against a backdrop of climate migrations, creating new spaces on the oceans to live in permanent floating cities is an idea that has gained ground, moving from «utopian status» to «the study and implementation of concrete projects».*

*Thinking about floating cities means thinking about new social projects. These new spaces are blank pages, virgin territories for the imagination and renewal of philosophical, architectural and ecological projects... While 72% of the earth is covered by water, the ocean is an ideal place to project these ideas of new worlds.*

With our artistic sound work in augmented reality, we offer the general public a poetic and literary vision of these floating cities, while at the same time providing an opportunity to discover solutions to current ecological challenges (scientific, technological, social, political solutions, etc.)

Villes flottantes proposes a new narrative and a new imaginary around the Ocean, allowing us to discover the singularity of the visions of the countries I've crossed, in my travels or successive residencies in Taiwan (Villa Formose), India (Villa Swagatam), Tunisia (with the Alliance française de Bizerte on the occasion of the Forum de la mer), Brazil (at the Centro Cultural Vale Maranhão, with the support of the Institut français and the Consulate General of Recife), the United States (Villa Albertine) and France.

**Languages:** French, English, Portuguese, and forthcoming Arabic



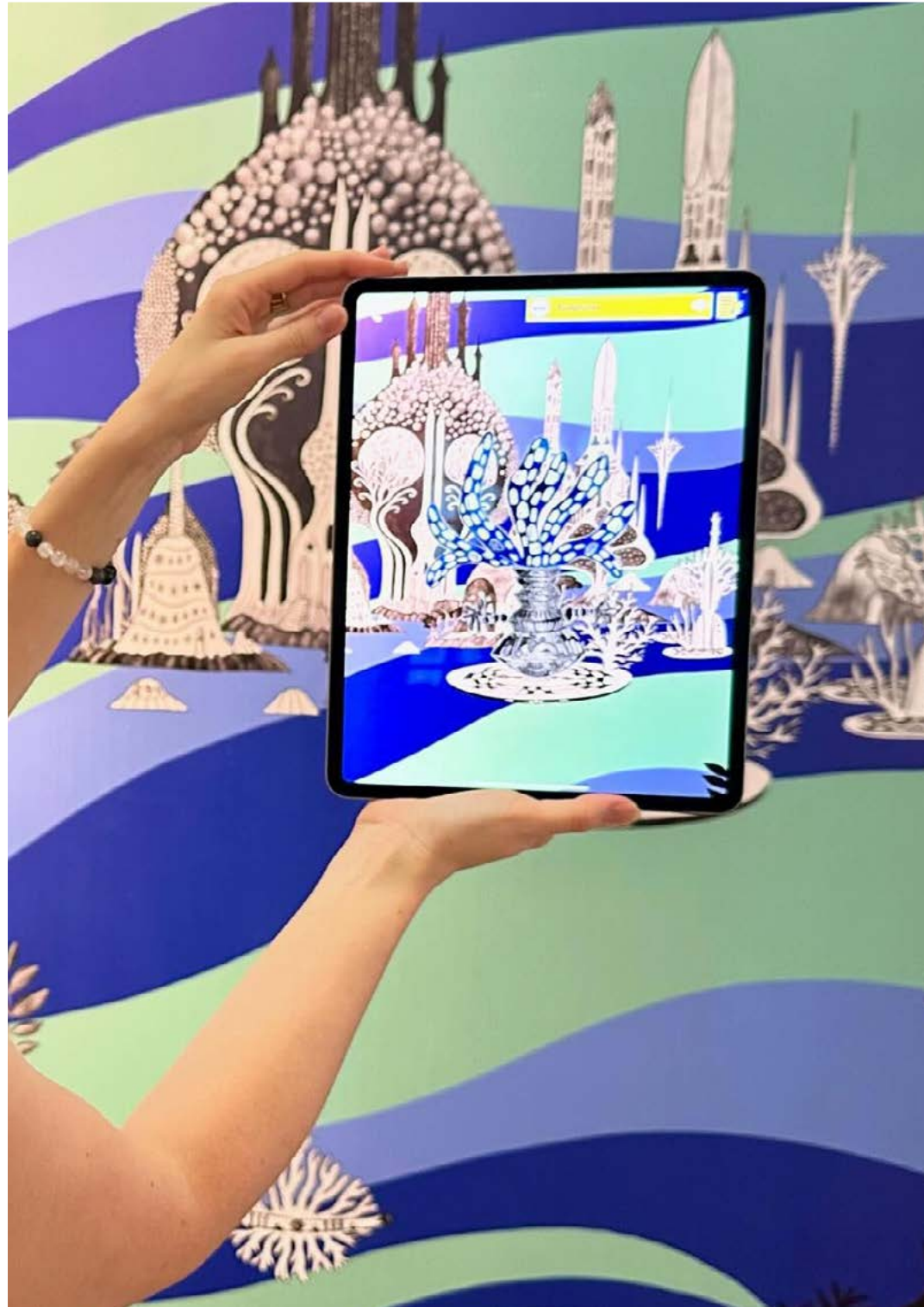
### Monumental format:

6 paintings 2mx2.5m or 6 paintings 2.70mx3m50

Embroidered version of some paintings to come in 2025.







*Exhibition in Fortaleza and Recife as part of the artistic residency at Centro Cutlural Vale Maranhão in São Luís ( November 2024)*



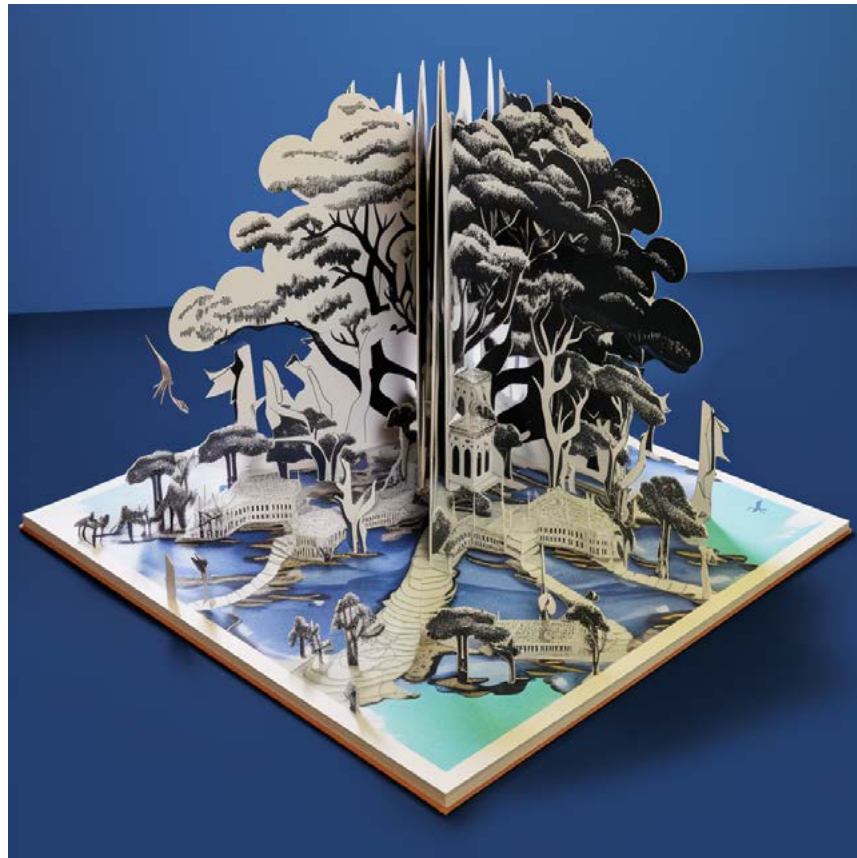
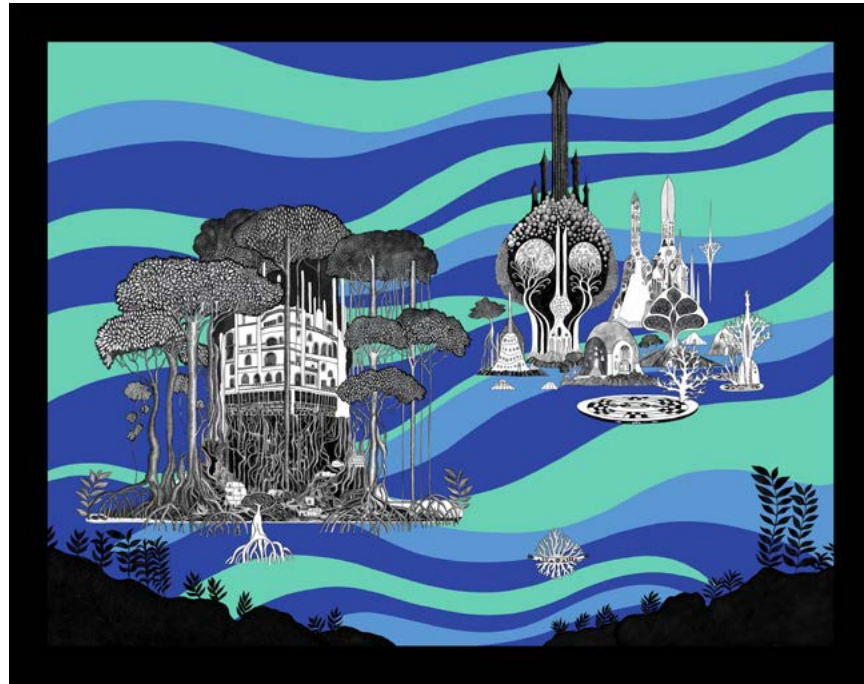


Floating city  
Strasbourg



# Les gardiens de l'océan

*Digital arts*



Les gardiens de l'océan (Ocean Guardians) is an immersive project featuring pop-up boards of imaginary floating cities inspired by Brazil and Taiwan (approx. 1.20 m \* 1.20 m), set on a bust-height base), with an augmented reality experience (Quest 3-type headset) enabling users to discover the relationship between these inhabitants and the sea, notably through mythological/spiritual entities linked to the ocean.

This project was the subject of a residency at Villa Formose (Winner of Villa Formose XR, in partnership with CNC, TAICCA, Kaohsiung Film Archive, Bureau Français de Taipei and Institut Français). The project is currently being written and will be the subject of a Franco-Taiwanese co-production.

*Pop-up search boards*

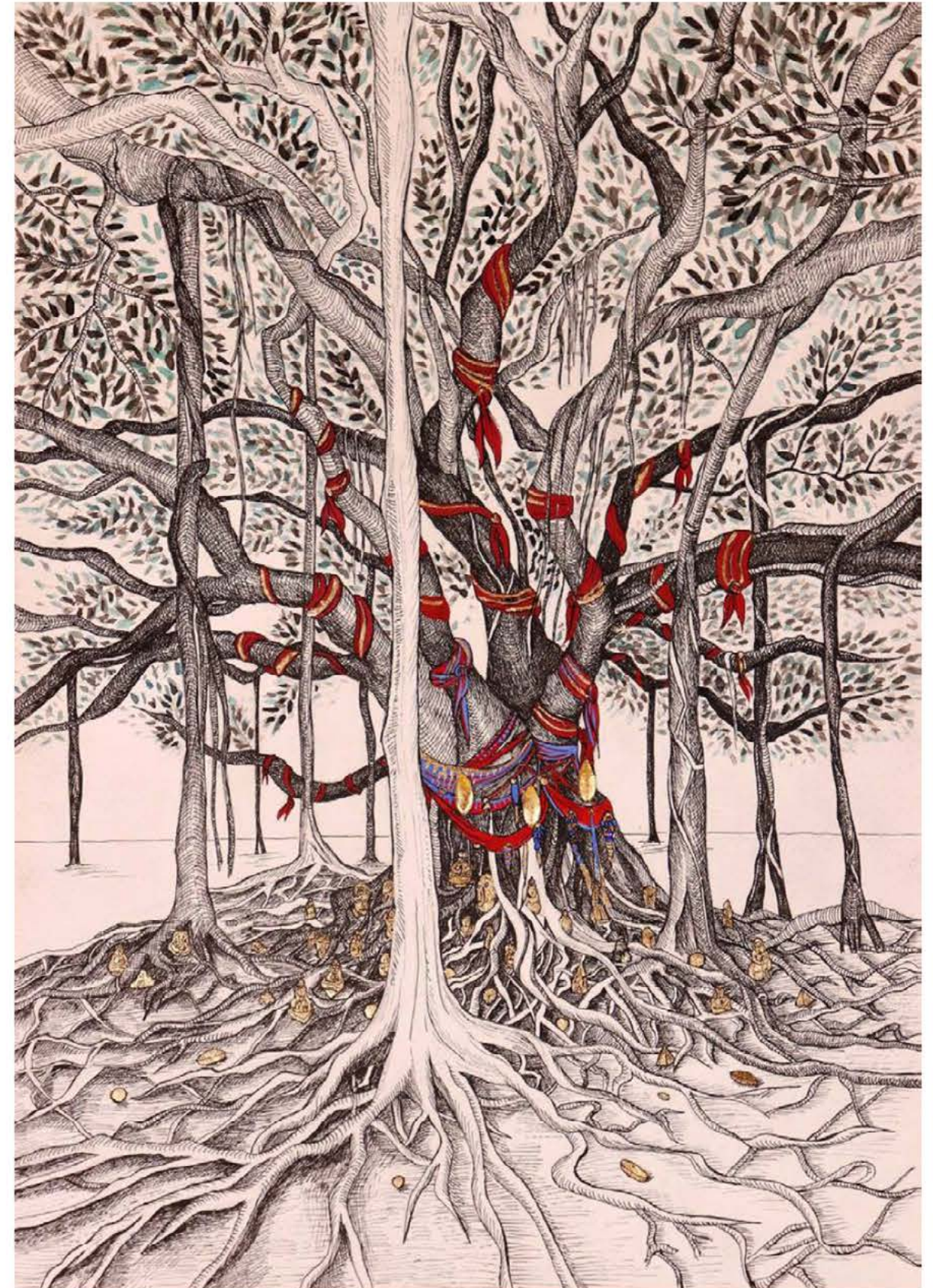


# Sacred tree series

*Drawings*



*Sacred banyan Tree, 2021, mixed media: Rotring 0.2m, gold leaf, seeds, gouache.*



*Format: 30 x 30 cm / 22 x 30 cm*



# Artists' books



## **Cannes 08.09.**

*Cross stories and portraits of real people met on the same street during a month in Cannes on the Croisette. Cannes 08. 09. 2010, silkscreen, handmade print Pop-up book, kraft paper, box 150 x 200 mm, unfolded 1500 x 1200 mm, 10 copies*

Cannes 08.09 is a book sculpture recreating an urban scenographic space, that of the Croisette in Cannes, and presenting portraits of real people met during a month on the spot. The Croisette paper sculpture unfurls along the sea, with a gallery of portraits. The «unfolding» stories tell pieces of life.

**BEST INTERACTIV BOOK prize awarded by Editions LIDU, Prague, 2013**

### **Copies held at :**

New York at Columbia University, Rare Book and Manuscript Library / Cannes 08.09. US Centre de l'illustration de Strasbourg, médiathèque André Malraux / Cannes 08.09. Médiathèque de Mirecourt / Cannes 08.09., FR Private collections / Cannes 08.09.



## **6 tigras en Thaïlande (6 tigers in Thailand)**

*Large-format pop-up book, 2014*

Six tigers are hidden in the picture...

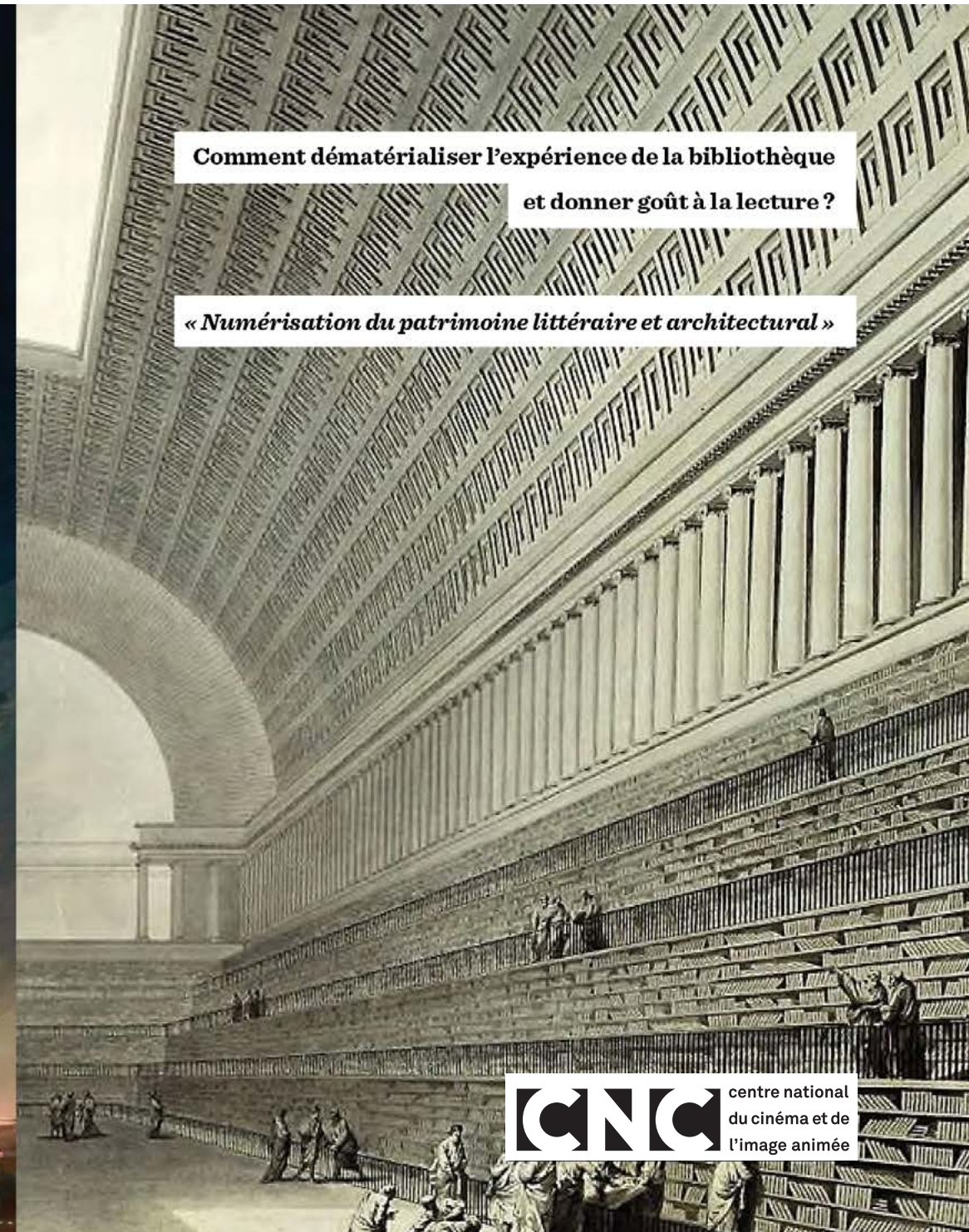
The Buddhist temples and landscapes are strongly inspired by the city of Chiang Rai in northern Thailand and the tiger temple in Kanchanaburi.

**Cover:** 4-color screen printing, UV ink

**Interior:** 4-color screen printing. Hand-cut and hand-mounted







BIBLIOTHÈQUES VIVANTES (Living libraries) combines virtual reality and literature in a new way, in the form of an immersive experience in a virtual reality library.

The public is invited to wander through a mysterious citadel made up of imaginary libraries, some of which are inspired by writers' worlds, or destroyed libraries. In this temple of the book, they can listen to excerpts of texts performed by professional readers, until they reach the end of their journey, in what turns out to be the Tower of Babel...

**In writing**, by Cécile Palusinski, Elsa Mroziejcz and Pierre Friquet, supported by CNC



## Latest exhibitions

### 2024 :

- April-December: GoodPlanet Foundation, Arbres Mondes exhibition as part of the group show «À la rencontre du vivant» Paris FR
- October: Musée national de la marine de Rochefort- Solo exhibition Villes flottantes FR
- November: La Casa Barao de Camocim in Fortaleza ,Floating cities, Solo exhibition, Brazil
- Alliances française de Bizerte, Gabès et Djerba, Floating cities, Tunisia
- UNLOCK, French Institute of Turkey, Latvia and the Dominican Republic, The universal forest

### 2023

- Institut français du luxembourg, Floating cities, Luxembourg
- The #EU4Ocean Coalition Brussels, Floating cities, Belgium
- Alliance française de Pune, Floating cities, India

## Festivals

### 2024

- PIXII - La rochelle, Floating cities FR
- November, REC C Play in Recife, Villes flottantes BR
- December, Open Factory at Centquatre, Villes flottantes, Paris FR

### 2023

- March, Festival Rêveries - Arts numériques de Beauvais, Arbres Mondes, FR
- September, The biennial of creativity in Strasbourg, The universal forest, FR
- September, Researchers' night , Floating cities

## Latest residences

### 2024

- **Villa Formose, Taiwan 2023**, with Newsimages and the CNC
- **Villa Swagatam, India 2023** with the French Institute of India and the MAD Salon+lab
- **Residency at Centro Cultural Vale Maranhao, Brazil 2024** with the Consulate General of France in Recife and the Institut Français
- **coming soon:** Villa Albertine - Miami 2025



### eco-responsibility

As part of this project, we make every effort to use eco-responsible materials (fabrics, natural pigments for our artwork).

In addition, as part of the distribution of all our artistic projects, we donate a % of revenues to associations working in the field to protect nature, including the [Socotra Dragon Blood tree association](#) for the preservation of Socotra's natural heritage, of which we are co-founders.

Depending on the distance, some works can be printed on site by the host structures (HD file supplied).

