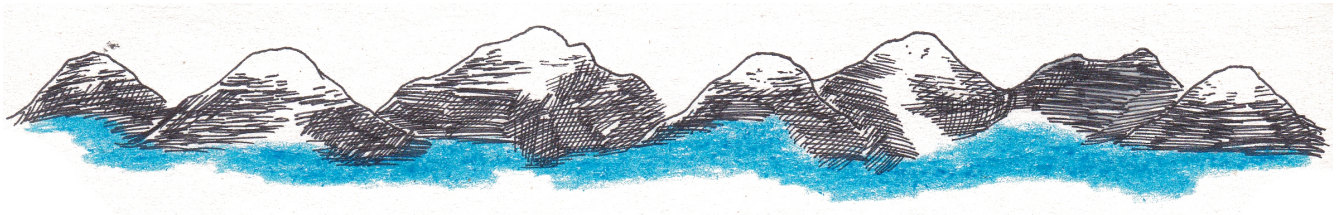


Exaltatio Animae

PRESS KIT

Table of contents:

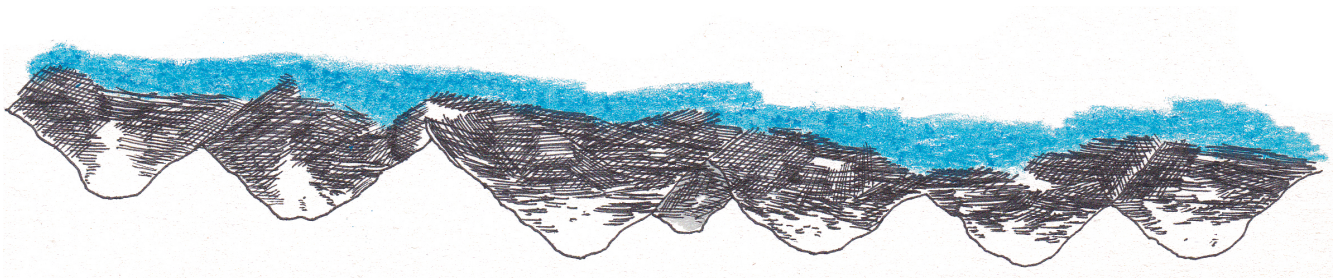
Portfolio of Part I - <i>DREAMING OF HEPHAESTUS</i>	3
Statement.....	4
Performance documentation.....	8
Sketches.....	10
 Artist bio.....	 11
External links	13
 Individual portfolio: Denise.....	 15
Individual portfolio: Sébastien.....	19



DREAMING OF HEPHAESTUS

An performance of live composed pictures, words and sounds.

Denise Padrón Benítez
&
Sébastien Durand



“A story told by the conscious mind has a beginning, a development, and an end, but the same is not true for a dream. Its dimension in time and space are quite different; to understand it you must examine it from every aspect-just as you may take an unknown object in your hands and turn it over and over until you are familiar with every details of its shape.”

Carl G. Jung : Man And His Symbols, Page 12

DREAMING OF HEPHAESTUS is the first chapter of a series of three (D.O.H, □□□□□ and a third untitled project). It is a practice in improvisation produced and performed live by Denise Padrón Benítez & Sébastien Durand.

The performance brings a dreamlike flow, in which the narrative introduction pace meets abstract cinema in its sub-sequential oceanic dimensions. With a duration of approx, 45 minutes, the work has the form of a multi-layered essay, which opens up for thoughts around the analogies found between volcanism and the human psychology as well as the fluidity of dreams and desires.

•

Through improvisation, it weaves into a meditative state, in which the story takes the viewer from the top of Mt. Olympus down to the undertow of the ocean.

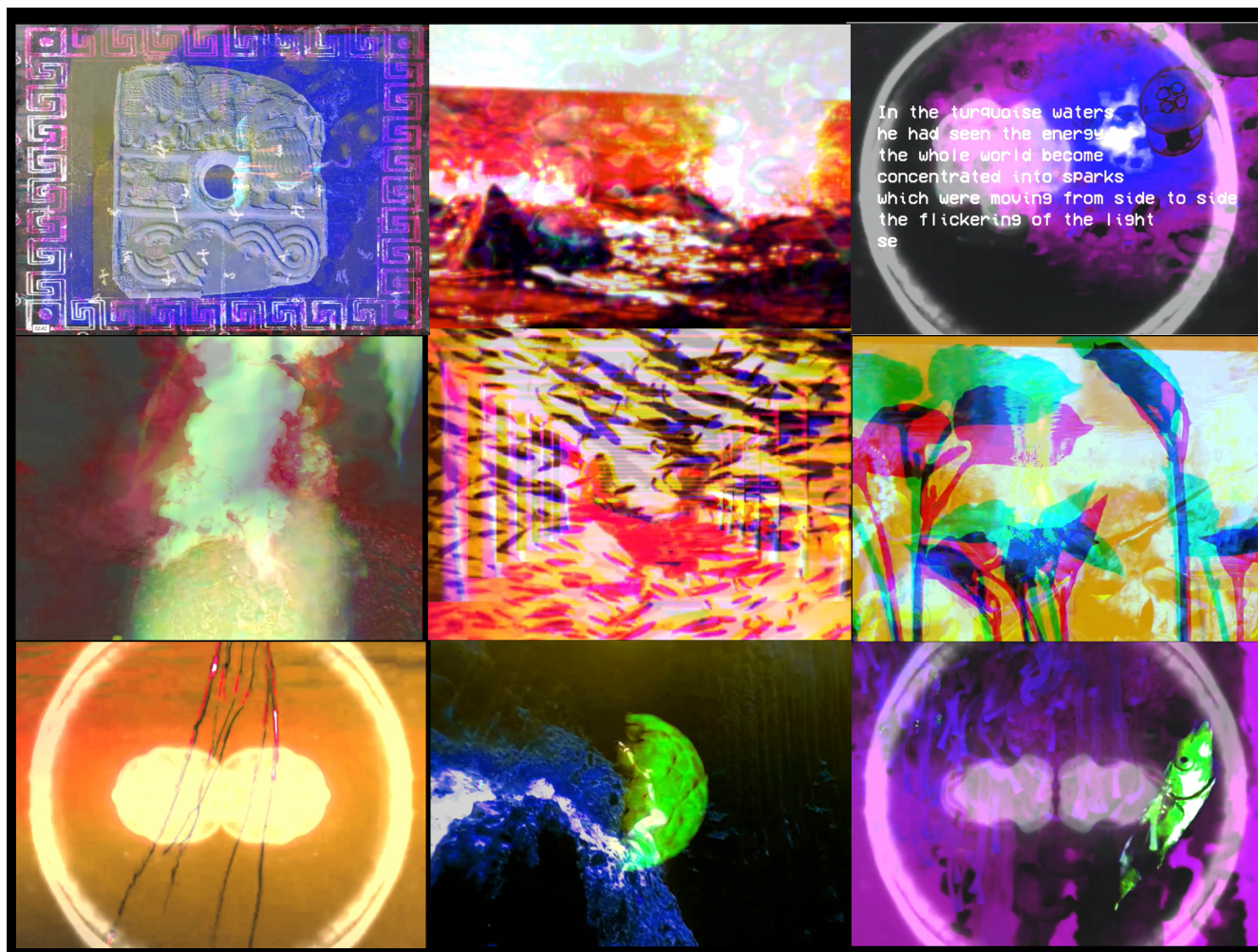


The performance borrows its frame from the myth of Hephaestus, which either said to have been thrown down from his home in disgust over his lame leg by his mother, or by his father after a family quarrel. Once he finds shelters underneath a mountain, he lays down to sleep and our performance forms itself around how we imagine his dreams...

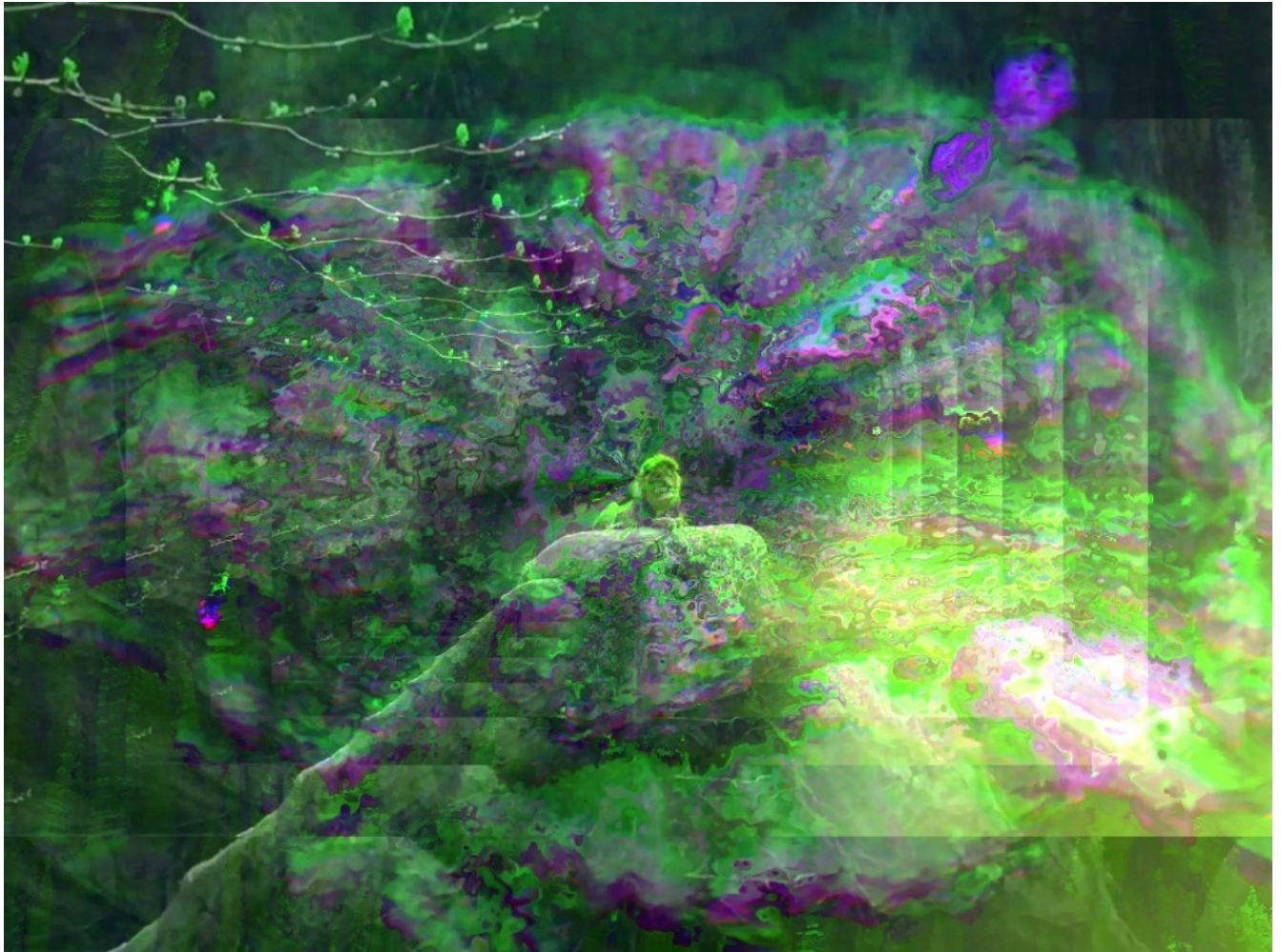


First public performance of DREAMING OF HEPHAESTUS
on Saturday October 7th 2023, Salle Zen,
Montpellier, France.
Event organised by [Laurent Rodriguez](#)

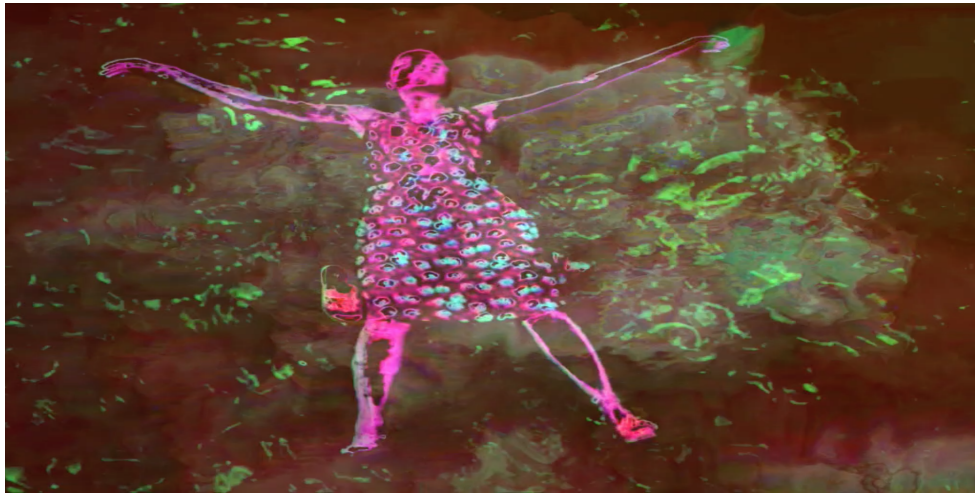
stills from Dreaming of Hephaestus, Oct. 7th 2023



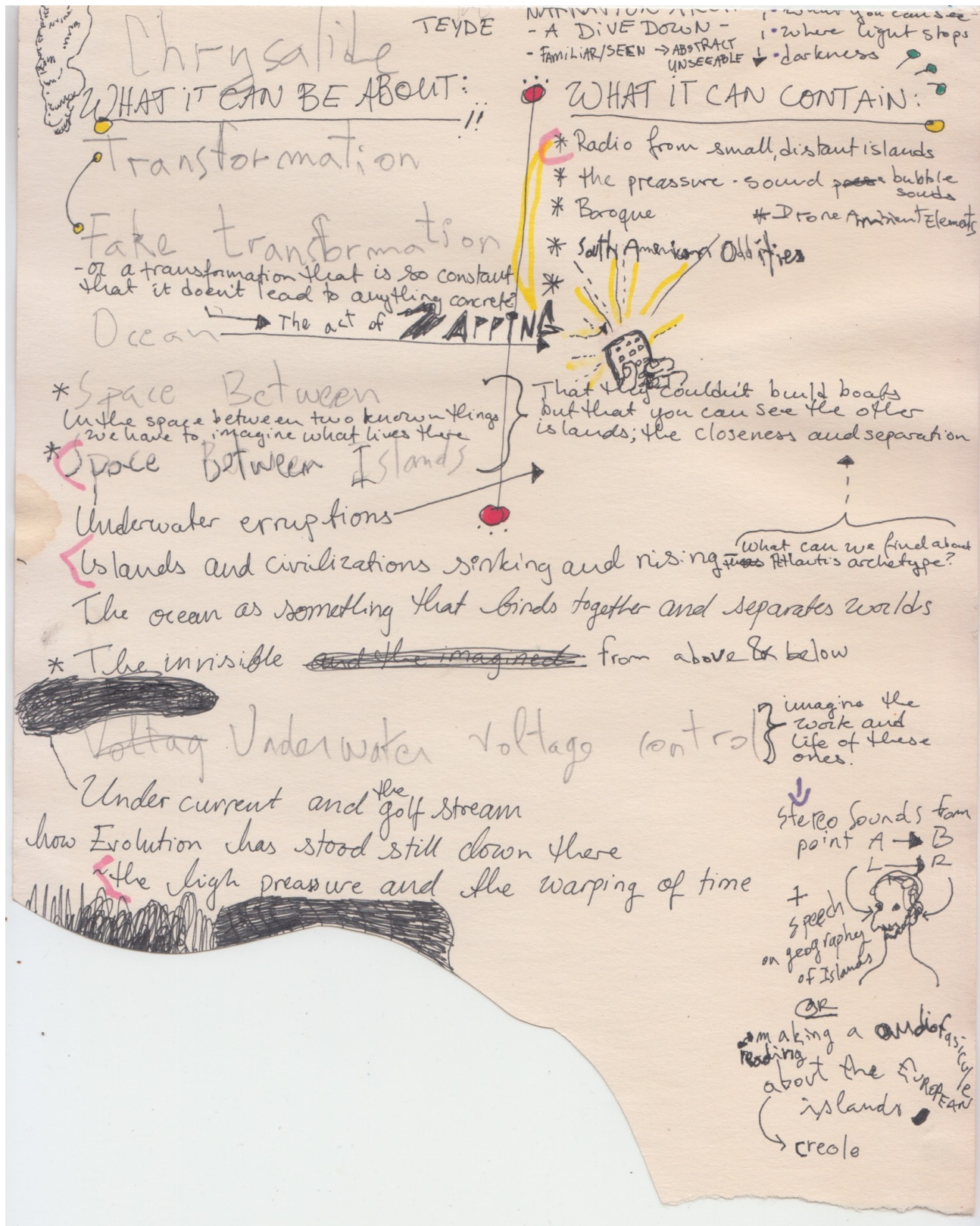
Improvisation on VDMX prepared project involving real-time GPU mix operations of several found and recorded footages, built-in effects, triggered through MIDI control



stills from Dreaming of Hephaestus, April 26th 2024



FIRST IDEAS AND SKETCHES:



ARTIST BIOS

Denise Maria Padrón Benítez



Visual artist and writer originally from Sweden and now based in Tenerife, where she share family roots. She studied at *Goldsmiths University* in London and worked within “[The Loose Association of Cinema and Sound](#)” in Hackney (UK), and her work has been shown in London, Berlin, Athens and Tenerife.

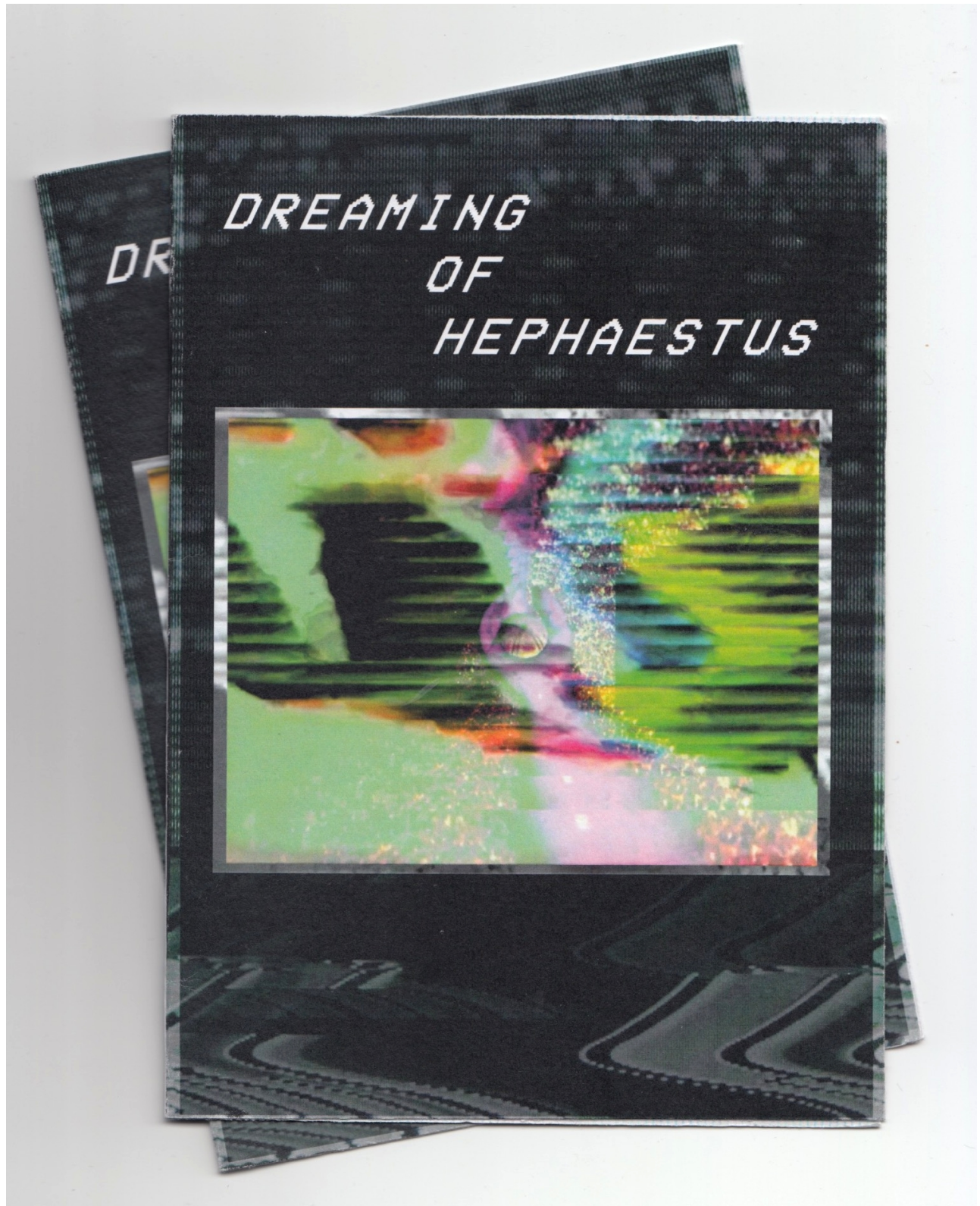
www.denisepadronbenitez.com

Sébastien Durand



Self-taught musician and multimedia artist that lived Tunisia, France, Belgium, now based in Canary Islands. His electronics and recording works have been published on different labels ([Constellation Tatsu](#), [Ikuisuus](#), [Aural Canyon](#), [Cudighi](#), [Stéréogramme](#), [Oreille Gardée](#), [Bermuda Cruise](#), [Seconds Records](#)...) via different groups and monikers, often evocating ancient archetypes, cosmos, technology, organic livings. He adorns sounds through revealing possible worlds of etherreal sonic tapestries

linktr.ee/xim.sonada



Related links:

Vimeo : <https://vimeo.com/dreaminghephaestus>

Past Events :

2024-04-26:

EQUIPO PARA, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain
<https://equipopara.org/2024-04-26-200000/dreaming-hephaestus>

2024-04-24:

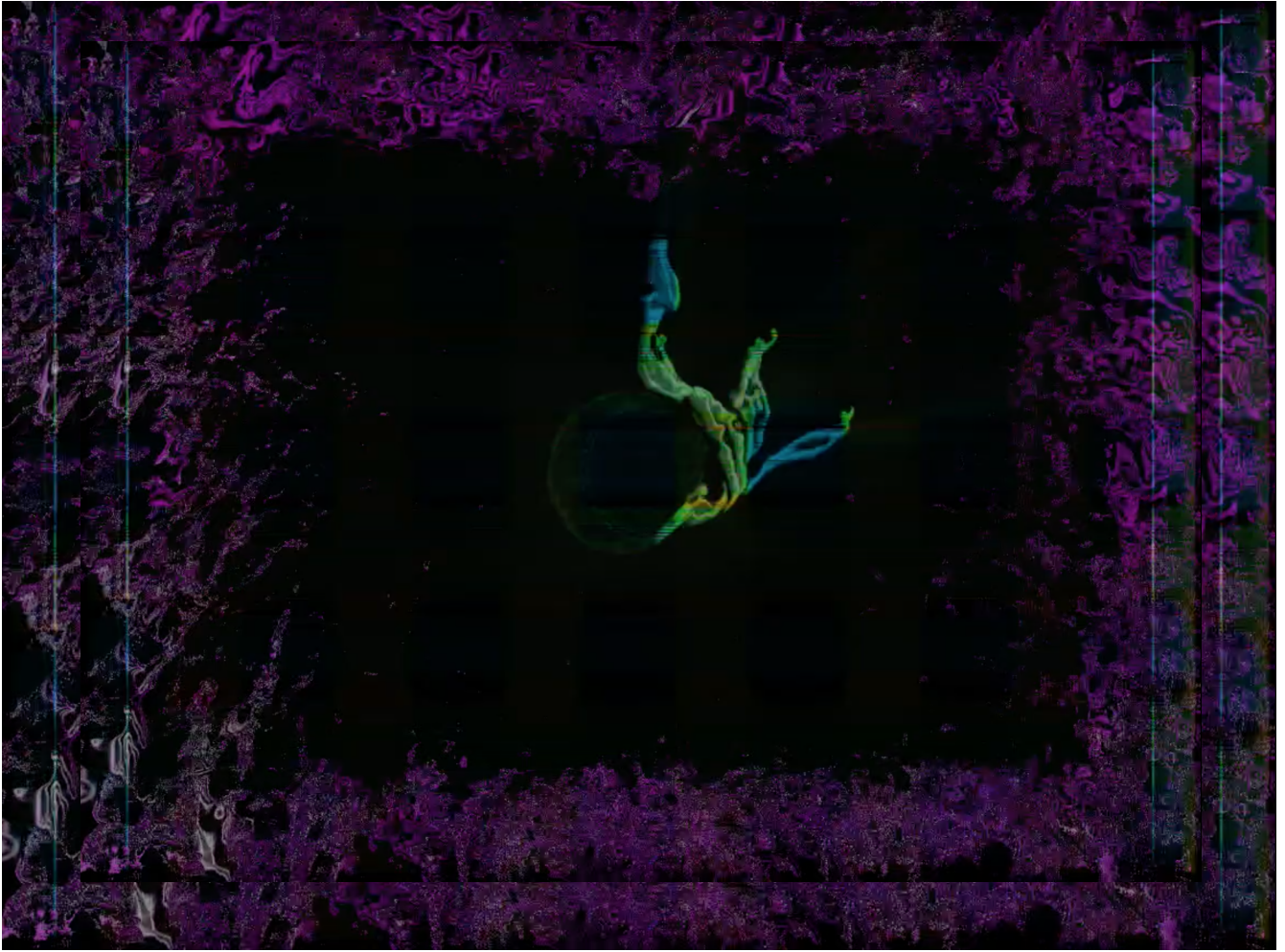
SANMIGUEL 18, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain

2023-07-10:

La SALLE ZEN, Montpellier, France

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1493295178147495>

https://www.instagram.com/p/CxqFfCBq_UE/



INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO: DENISE

the Loose Association of Cinema and Sound is an improvisation/live cinema/live score collective. A group of 7-9 members from six different countries, based in London. A collaborative project which began in 2018 and with whom I have experimented with sounds, visuals and story writing. We have occasionally had worked with dancers:



"Dreaming of Yamaya" together with dancer Mai Nguyen, London 2019.



"Take me to the river" together with dancer LAMA, London 2018.

ONE FROM THE SERIES OF DRAWINGS:

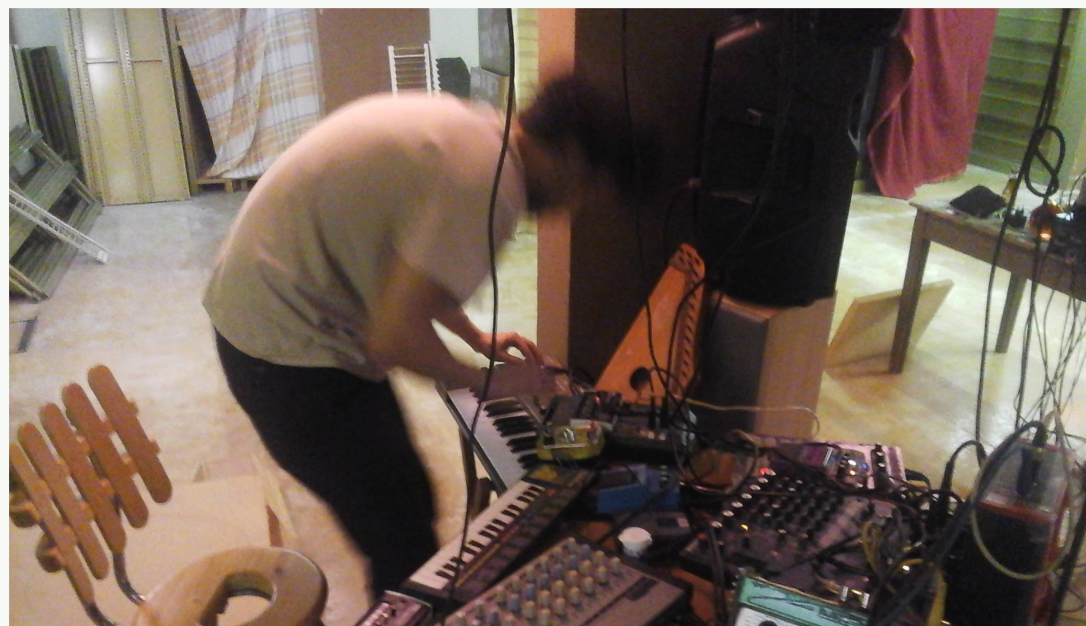
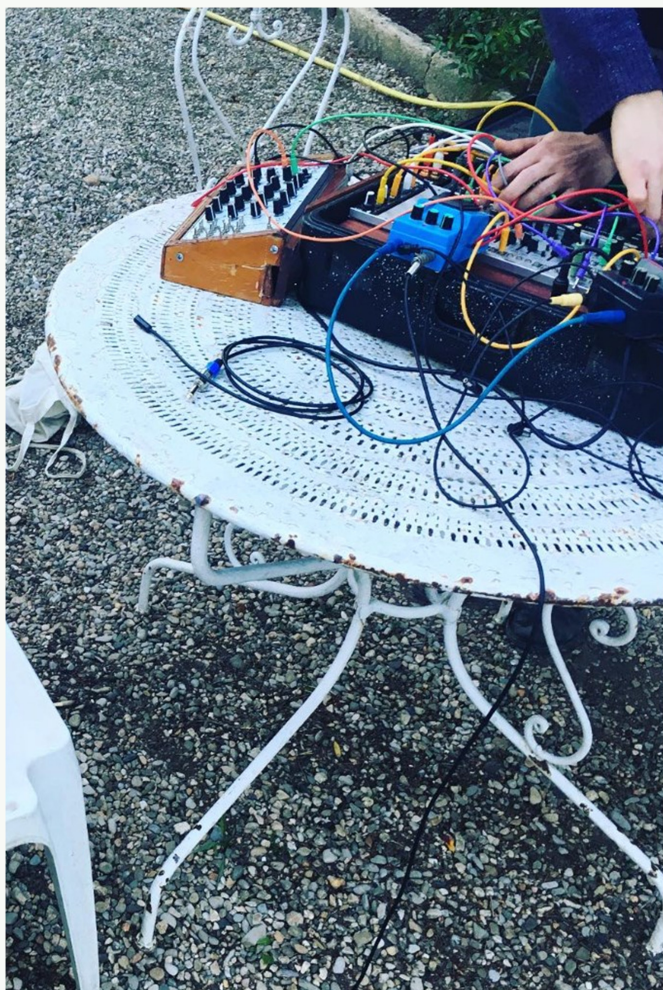
THERE IS A PLACE BEYOND GOOD AND BAD, I MEET YOU THERE

water colour, chinese ink, markers, crayons. 50X70 cm.



INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO: SEBASTIEN

Modular synthesis, DIY Hand-made Electronic Instruments & Live gigs



2013-2019

TAPES/CDs RELEASED 2018 to 2023 containing the artist's music.

VA – Interactive Pictures Vol. 2
Label : Stéréogramme
Artwork : Structure Baton



Thyme Lines – Astral Series Vol. 1
Label : Aural Canyon



Thyme Lines – Galactic Templates
/ Palm RubberLand
Label : Cudighi Rec.
Artwork : Faunorage



Shrine Fuchsia – Garden/Basement
Label : Oreille Gardée
Artwork : Nuno Pinto Da Cruz



Les Echos Primitifs – st
Label : Bermuda Cruise



Thyme Lines – Visions Imagination
Label : Ikuisuus



Les Echos Primitifs – YERI



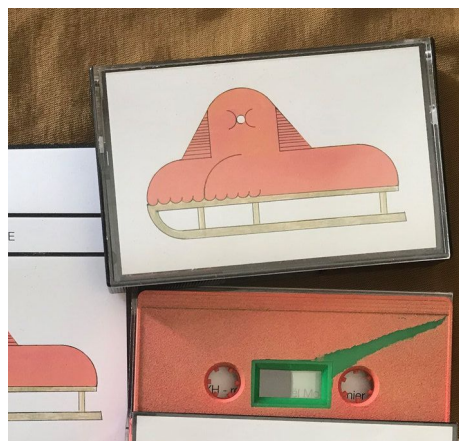
Shrine Fuchsia - Translucent
Label : Seconds Records



Thyme Lines – Geodesists
Label : Constellation Tatsu



Xim Sonada – Canicule Remix
Artwork : Frederique Rusch



Litophones electro-acoustic rig - Island of El Hierro, 2023



Thyme Lines - Online video installation performance - 2019, France



Shrine Fuchsia sound performance in region of Gard France - 2018



Solo Lightshow & Electronic music - 2017



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Deleuze, Gilles - *Cinema II*, 1985

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