

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **A symbolic march to give humanity priority over everything else**

#### **[The project *Sur les routes*]**

Sabine Venaruzzo, a poet, and Raphaël Zweifel, a cellist, open a large Europe-wide poetic project *Sur les routes* for two years in 2017 and 2018.

*Sur les routes* is a strong urge to poeticize the world, like in a state of emergency, and restore sensitivity in a Europe without borders, and mingle imagination with reality, giving it a sense we cannot grasp.

This project comes from various origins. Sabine Venaruzzo's family experienced migration (her father was born in Italy), European History (her mother's father was deported to Germany). Her unusual life course led her to move a lot around France and abroad, and speak several languages, and be an Erasmus student; meeting new people and cultures is part of her identity. It is therefore natural to start a project beyond borders.

#### **[The first track Ventimiglia-Nice]**

Their first track is not the least as it goes from Ventimiglia to Nice through Breil sur Roya. An area under strict watch where borders grow outside maps, citizens are judged as solidarity criminals, and thousands of migrants arrive, fleeing a war zone for the most part.

What does poeticize the world mean in such circumstances? What form and action can possibly match this underlying inhumanity? With our *liberté, égalité, fraternité*, are we free to put humanity first?

#### **[The action]**

##### **Step 1 : ongoing (started in July 2016)**

- Meet people, collect the words of supportive citizens and migrants met in a context of everyday life..
- 100 pebbles with their names on them
- Turn their words into poems

##### **Step 2 : on 18 and 19 January 2017**

- Start a march

On mountain paths

Along the seaside from Ventimiglia church to Menton

- Cross the border at Menton.
- Catch the train to Nice city-centre.
- Go to the Promenade de Nice where pebbles will be displayed in a Land Art

fashion on **19 January 2017 at 6pm.**

*Illustration : Installation by Andy Goldsworthy*

Reciting the poems all along the way, in the echoes of the mountains like in a wagon, It is giving priority to humanity over everything else.

Crossing the border with their words,

It is giving priority to humanity over everything else.

Leaving their pebbles in the environment as parts of a whole,

It is giving priority to humanity over everything else

#### **[A symbolic action for more awareness]**

It was complicated and almost irrelevant to set up a meeting for the public to walk this symbolic march. They can however come for the final step to a set-up meeting in

Nice. But it is necessary to spread the word via social networks (facebook live) and medias. Afterward, people should have the opportunity to react and act as they wish to. That is why a video by Rémy Masségli will be edited and used as a transmission tool, not just stored.

### **[Artistic Team]**

Sabine Venaruzzo, poet, actress and singer

Raphael Zweifel, cellist

With a special participation of Gwenn Masségli, flutist

Artistic advice, Jean Jacques Minazio

Rémy Masségli, video maker

Eric Clément Demange, photographer

Frédéric Loison, logistic coordination

### **[Attachments]**

- file *Sur les routes* : memo about the poetic project

- Two poems :

« L'humanité avant toute chose » to Roya citoyenne

« Et maintenant j'attends » to Khojali, a young Sudanese met in Ventimiglia in July 2016

- Visual

### **[Contact]**

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