

## Press Release:

Nicole Peyrafitte & Pierre Joris  
KARSTIC ACTIONS/WORKS

June 4th — July 15, 2021

*Opening with a Performance Action on Friday, June 4th at 6:00PM*

André Simoncini is pleased to present a second installment of Nicole Peyrafitte & Pierre Joris's Domopoetic creations. The couple, who has shared life for three decades, moves in with their most recent KARSTIC ACTIONS/WORKS —paintings, texts, videos — & occupies the three levels of the gallery:

On the ground floor, the **Karstic Refuge** where their domestic & political processes interconnect & transform. A “live action” will take place here on opening day.

In the basement, the **Sanctuary**, neither holy nor secret, but table/altar for their intimate domopoetic works.

On the second floor, the **Canopy**, where the diversity & resilience of multi-species relations can be experienced.

These environments reflect the complexity of their *karstic domopoetic* processes. *Domopoetics* is the name they give to this daily practice of transformation of & in their works, be it writing, painting, video, physical conditioning or their shared household & familial activities.

*Karstic*, in reference to the geological phenomena of dissolution & transformation at work in the formation of superficial or underground limestone topographies. By a similar principle of infiltration, language transforms into poem, breath into song and colored chalk become pastel into marks on paper or canvas.

Peyrafitte & Joris's KARSTIC ACTIONS/WORKS are “in/quest of” equilibrium through an ecological consciousness in the literal meaning of that term: greek οἶκος / oikos/ house, household, dwelling & λόγος / logos/ discourse, thus science of dwelling. Invented in 1866 by the Darwinian biologist Ernst Haeckel, the term defines “the science of the relations of organisms with the surrounding world, that is to say, in a broad sense, the science of the conditions of existence.”

These installations of paintings, texts & projections incarnate Joris & Peyrafitte's interactive dynamic which they like to compare to the resilience & persistence of the cormorants. This species, which has lasted some 35 million years, offers an animal and primeval rime for their KARSTIC ACTIONS/WORKS.

## Artists' Bios

**Nicole Peyrafitte** is a pluridisciplinary artist who weaves together visual arts, writing, film/vidéo, voice, cooking & performance. Originally from Bagnères-de-Luchon in the gascon Pyrenees, she has lived in the US since 1987. Most recent exhibition: *The 11 Women of Spirit* at Salon Zürcher, New York City 2020. Publications: *Bi-Valve: Vulvic Space/Vulvic Knowledge & Landsc0pes* (Plaine Page 2015, 2018), *Carnet #1 & 2* (Redfoxpress, Ireland 2014). Films: *Paul Celan by Pierre Joris: A Reading* (2020) *"Things Fall Where They Lie"* (2018). For more details go to: [www.nicolepeyrafitte.com](http://www.nicolepeyrafitte.com) & complete cv [here](#).

**Pierre Joris** left Luxembourg at 19 & has lived in England, France, Algeria & the U.S. He is the author of some 80 books (poems, essays, translations, anthologies, theatre) among which, in 2020, *Fox-trails, -tales & -trots* (Poems & proses, Black Fountain Press), the translations *Memory Rose into Threshold Speech*, *The Collected Earlier Poetry by Paul Celan* (FSG) & *Microliths, Posthumous Prose by Paul Celan* (CMP). In 2018 he published *Conversations dans les Pyrénées* with Adonis (CMP). He was awarded the [Prix Batty Weber](#) (the Luxembourg National Literary Award) in 2020 & the [PEN Ralph Manheim Award](#) for Translation in 2021. See also: [www.pierrejoris.com](http://www.pierrejoris.com)

**Pierre Joris & Nicole Peyrafitte** live in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, N.Y. & collaborate on many pluridisciplinary actions, books & films. Their *Domopoetics-Karstic Actions* present performances, conferences & installations that link their works; a [first installment](#) was presented at Galerie Simoncini, Luxembourg, in 2017. Their collaborations started shortly after they met in 1990 with NP designing covers & illustrations for a number of books by PJ — numbering over 20 by now. Further collaborative work includes the teaching of seminars on “domopoetics” (Naropa University, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Art Limoges), & translations of their own writings as well as of poetry from Occitan into English (Bernat Manciet, Marcella Delpastre) & from English into French (Allen Ginsberg, Anne Waldman). NP has authored a number of videos, among these 2 (“Anhalter Bahnhof” & “You Lie”) based on poems by Paul Celan translated by PJ, 6 “Flash-Interviews” ( 3” videos) with PJ as well as creating the media support for PJ’s Paul Celan presentations (Harvard, Bard College, Princeton, Rice, & others, plus the films for the presentations/readings of the 2 Collected Celan volumes (2014, [2020](#)) at NYU. In 2017 the pair collaborated on the poetry collection [The Book of U/ Le livre des cormorans](#) (Editions Simoncini) & in 2020 they created the video-event [“Robert Kelly, A Celebration for his 85th birthday”](#) for the Saint Marks Poetry Project. During the recent Covid-confinement (from March 24 to April 24, 2020) they broadcast *Voilà Lunchtime!* on Instagram & Facebook; this daily show shared their lunch preparations as a process-showing of their domopoetic practices. Their most recent KARSTIC ACTIONS/WORKS will occupy the three levels of galerie Simoncini from June 4 - July 15 2021.

6, rue Notre Dame  
L-2240 Luxembourg  
Tel: +352 47 55 15  
Mardi - Vendredi 12 - 18h  
Samedi 10 - 12h / 14 - 17h



Actions/Travaux Karstiques domopoétiques de Nicole Peyrafitte & Pierre Joris sur les 3 niveaux :

Rez-de-chaussée : **L'Abri karstique** lie & transforme les processus domestiques & politiques.

Sous-sol : **Le Sanctuaire** ni secret, ni sacré, table/autel des travaux domopoétiques intimes.

1<sup>er</sup> étage : **La Canopée** appréhende la diversité, la résilience des relations multi-espèces.

Performance/Action live le vendredi 4 juin à 18h.



galerie simoncini

6, rue Notre Dame – L-2240 Luxembourg – Tél./Fax: +352 47 55 15 – [www.galeriesimoncini.lu](http://www.galeriesimoncini.lu)

Mardi-vendredi 12 à 18h – Samedi 10 à 12h – 14 à 17h et sur rendez-vous. Fermé le lundi.



galerie simoncini

NICOLE PEYRAFITTE  
PIERRE JORIS



André Simoncini

vous prie de bien  
vouloir honorer  
de votre présence

le vernissage  
de l'exposition  
Nicole Peyrafitte  
& Pierre Joris

*Actions/Travaux Karstiques*

Le vendredi  
4 juin 2021

à 18 heures  
en présence  
des artistes

Exposition du  
4 juin au  
15 juillet 2021



community

Zigzag - suitable

decorous - decorum  
prophecy  
L. 5. to go. freudress, becomingress

society / club /  
L. 5. to go. freudress, becomingress

fr: dévot 'b'  
wohl, zusammenfügen  
-vo-st. wise  
timbr built  
building  
house  
rooms  
rebaue' → to build  
to use be a room

land of the house  
lady of the house

dem-, dema-,  
dēm, dēm, dēm-,  
root five  
dormo-, } 'house'  
dormu-, }

to be tamed, OR dormein: to bind fast  
to tame / subdue

put up with  
permit / allow

radie  
"to tame" young boy  
young cow, girl,  
clowad  
end "dorm"

package iz

fr: dévot 'b'

building  
house  
rooms

rebaue' → to build  
to use be a room

NICOLE PEYRAFITTE

ACTIONS

PEINTURES

VIDEOS

TEXTES

PIERRE JORIS



NICOLE PEYRAFITTE & PIERRE JORIS  
ACTIONS/TRAVAUX KARSTIQUES



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