

# THE VOLUNTEERS PIGMENTS - MEDICINES

## ANNE LE TROTTER

Exhibition from 17 February to 23 April 2022

Opening: Thursday 17 February, 4pm onwards.

Curator: Émilie Renard

## PRESS RELEASE

From Wednesday to Friday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Free Entrance

9 esplanade Pierre Vidal-Naquet 75013 Paris

M14 & RER C: Bibliothèque François Mitterrand

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CENTRE D'ART &  
DE RECHERCHE

With this exhibition, Anne Le Troter continues her exploration of the mechanisms of language and the power of speech through sound, writing and installation. Winner of the 2021 AGAGP grant for her work on the Marc Vaux collection preserved at the Bibliothèque Kandinsky, she looks at the thousands of photographs as if they were a huge sound archive inhabited by artists' voices. From 1920 to 1970, Marc Vaux documented Parisian artistic life photographing artists, works, exhibitions, salons, studios, models, galleries, cafés, balls, and celebrations as well as administrative documents. Among the artists represented, Anne Le Troter investigates caregiving artists and artists under care, probing their words in the interstices of silent images.

Inspired by the “mutual assistance home for artists and intellectuals” opened by Marc Vaux in Montparnasse in 1946, and by the medico-social radios that emerged in Paris in the 1980s, run by patients and doctors from psychiatric institutions, Anne Le Troter creates a sound theatre play where the artists speak about their health, their professional ailments, the risks their professions involve... Contemporary care giving artists or art therapists lend their voices to the composition of a transhistorical narrative of their social mobilizations. With a desire to awaken the words of these artists that are considered inaudible, Les Volontaires questions the representations of their bodies and the material conditions of their lives as artists or models. As their conversations evolve, together they develop the medical autobiography of a hybrid collective body.

At Bétonsalon, these words are physically inscribed in the floor of the art centre, where the flaws and asperities, filled in with pewter, become restorative electrical conductors, while the windows vibrate to the sound of body fluids. The art centre thus becomes a vast, noisy carnal casing for this polyphonic narrative. The different chapters of this sound play navigate between snippets of an art history and French health policies for artists; they note the latter's inclusion in the general social security regime and their simultaneous social insecurity (no maternity leave, no coverage for illness or professional accidents...). They follow the postures of these male and female art workers, skim over the arrival of the health booklet, listen to the blunders of the old age pension system and, above all, are guided by mutual assistance, pigments and medication.

The exhibition is supported by the ADAGP – Société française des auteurs des arts visuels.

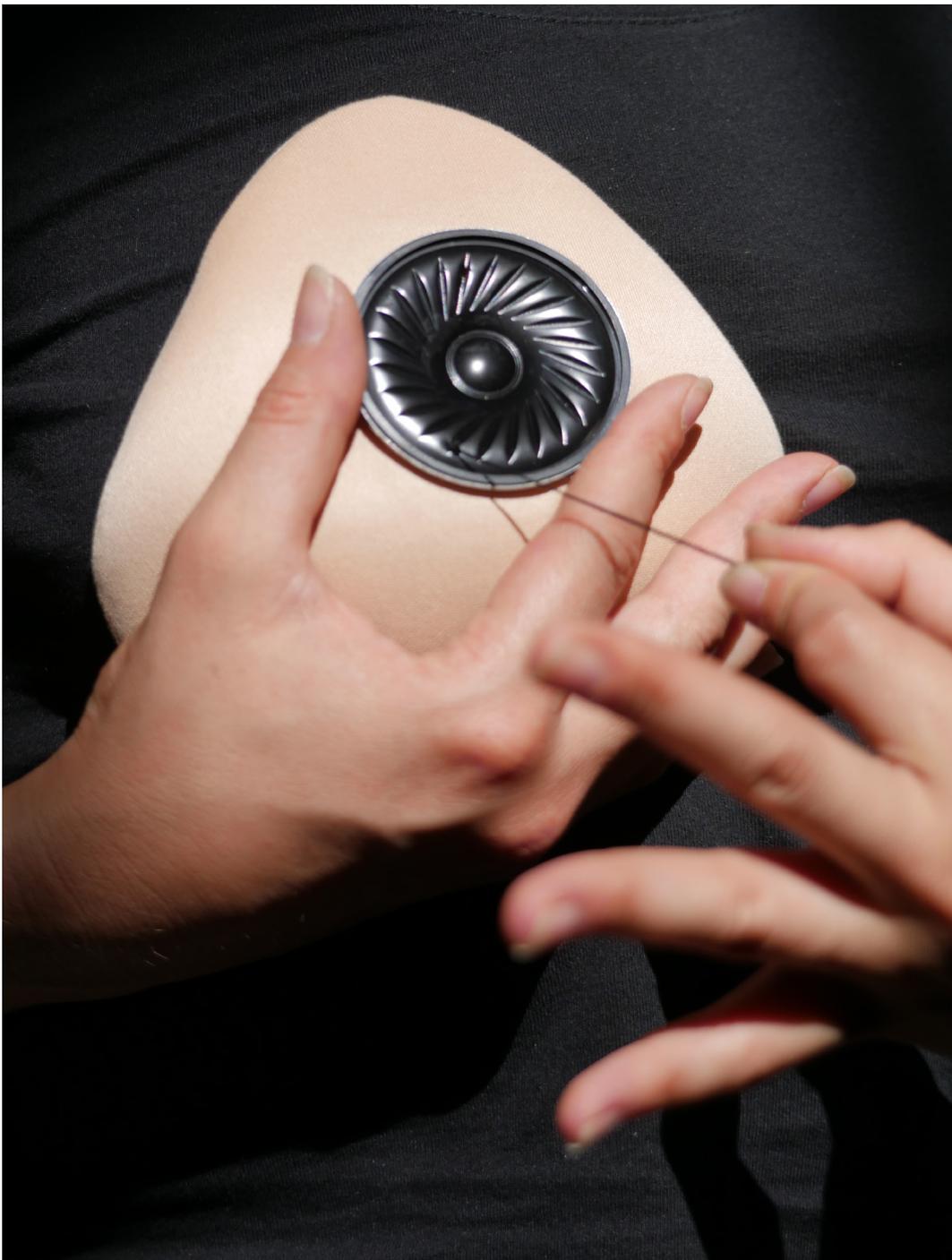
The Bibliothèque Kandinsky, MNAM-CCI, Centre-Pompidou is a grant partner to the ADAGP – Bétonsalon grant.

## Biographie

Anne Le Troter (1985) is an artist based in Paris. It was after writing two books *L'encyclopédie de la matière* and *Claire, Anne, Laurence* that she began to work cyclically on the way specific groups began to express themselves, by cumulating exhibitions, (often sound plays) that went on to become written works. Anne Le Troter thus invites groups of people, like ASMR artists to work with her (*L'appétence*, sound play, 2016 Salon de Montrouge and Palais de Tokyo Prize). After working on a form of commercialisation of speech—in a cycle of sound installations focusing on the figure of the telephone surveyor, a cycle spread over two solo and one group exhibition (*Les mitoyennes* at La BF15 in Lyon in 2015, *Liste à puces* at the Palais de Tokyo in 2017 and *Les silences après une question* at the Institut d'Art Contemporain in Villeurbanne in 2017)—today Anne Le Troter's work tends more towards the anticipation genre. Exhibited at the Pernod Ricard Foundation, the Rennes Biennial, Le Grand Café contemporary art centre in Saint Nazaire, the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas and the Centre Pompidou, the artist has begun a new writing cycle around the idea of biography, fiction and utopia. In 2019, she was awarded the Villa Kujoyama Prize in Kyoto, in 2021 the Mondes Nouveaux grant as well as the ADAGP– Bétonsalon research grant in association with the Bibliothèque Kandinsky, Centre Pompidou. After the exhibition *Les Volontaires, pigments-médicaments* at Bétonsalon, in 2022 her work will be shown at the Institut d'art contemporain in Villeurbanne and at Ygrec in Aubervilliers.







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## About Bétonsalon

Bétonsalon develops activities in collaborative ways, with local, national and international organisations. Our program includes solo or collective exhibitions, with emerging, reemerging, confirmed or forgotten artists, multidisciplinary events with the best exchange quality, actions and research focused on mediation and experimental pedagogy, research and creation residencies, outdoor projects engaged with local visitors and structures, and other actions which are yet to be defined.

Bétonsalon is a nonprofit organisation established in 2003. Inserted within the Université de Paris campus, 13th arrondissement since 2007, Bétonsalon is the only Centre of art under convention to be located inside a French University.

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## Practical informations

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Access:  
Metro 14 & RER C:  
Bibliothèque François Mitterrand

Free entrance  
from Wednesday to Friday,  
from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.,  
Saturday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

All events are free of charge.  
The entire space is wheelchair-accessible. Group visits are free of charge with advanced booking.

Please check our program on social media. Twitter · Facebook · Instagram:  
[@betonsalon](https://www.instagram.com/betonsalon)

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## Press contact

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## With the support of

Bétonsalon – Centre for Art and Research is supported by the City of Paris, the Île-de-France Regional Board of Cultural Affairs – Ministry of Culture, the Île-de-France Region and the Université de Paris.

Bétonsalon – Centre for Art and Research is cultural institution of the City of Paris, certified institution of national interest by the Ministry of Culture.

The ADAGP – Société des Auteurs dans les Arts Graphiques et Plastiques develops partnerships with Bétonsalon for the ADAGP & Bétonsalon Grant.

Bétonsalon – Centre for Art and Research is member of d.c.a. / association for the development of art centers in France, Tram, réseau art contemporain Paris/ Île-de-France, Arts en résidence – Réseau national and BLA! – national association of mediation professionals in contemporary art.