

STAGING & EVENTS

Libération, July 10, 2010

INTERVIEW (two full pages in *Libération*)

“As an actor, I work with oblivion”

Memory Stories: The actress **Dominique Frot** travels back in time along her memories and memory lapses.

by Anne Diatkine

Libération interviewed several people around the subject of memory. Its editorial committee unanimously decided that the interview with **Dominique Frot** should be the first to be published (in this series). The second interview was with Catherine Deneuve.

DU HÉRISSON

I– Limoges

II– Chicago

III– Bobigny

I– Théâtre de l’Union, Centre dramatique national du Limousin (Limoges), December 2004
[National Dramatic Centre]

Du hérisson

by Eric Chevillard

Direction, acting, piano: **Dominique Frot**

Violin: Tania Cochelin

Cello: Véronique Van Ginneken

Co-producers : MC93 Bobigny, Company A.D. **Frot** d’Hautes Choses

Pitch: A writer, set on writing an autobiographical tale, is confronted with everything that prevents him from writing. This failure becomes his central impulse to write and will materialise in the form of a hedgehog.

Eric Chevillard’s text, published by Editions de Minuit, will be performed by **Dominique Frot** whose incandescent presence has served the greatest directors.

Interview with **Dominique Frot**:

A powerful and inspired actress, who has worked with Claude Régy, Pascal Rambert and Luc Bondy, seen as well in many movies (by Alain Tasma, Cédric Klapish, Claude Chabrol...) Dominique Frot has adapted *Du hérisson*, a novel by Eric Chevillard. We asked her how she came across this text.

“I was more and more looking at texts by contemporary writers, to see what they were talking about, I was searching. Booksellers got to know me and suggested various books that they had enjoyed. And then, one day, I was sort of ‘nabbed’ in the street and asked to read 10 minutes from a text I knew nothing about, it was *Du hérisson*, by Eric Chevillard. The reading turned into a whole hour. I was introduced to Eric Chevillard and to Irène Lindon, head of Editions de Minuit, who had attended the reading, and she offered me her support, if I wanted to devise a show based on this text. A carte blanche followed at Théâtre Ouvert, where, once again, I did a reading of it. I adapted it, reading it aloud to friends, watching the moments when they laughed and those when they got bored, then I had

a few exchanges with the author. Eric was very happy with the work, and I had never got bored when I did it, so I just thought that I would try and perform it.

II– Chicago – Playing French festival – October 29 & 30, 2004

Devised, directed, and performed by **Dominique Frot**

Music: *Transfigured Night* by Arnold Schoenberg (trio adaptation)

Piano: Dominique Frot

Violin: Sherry Hong

Cello: Ashima Scripp

Dominique Frot movie and theatre actress ; for *Playing French*, creates this piece, which she will perform in January 2005 in Bobigny, with the support of the French Ministry of Culture.

An accomplished musician herself, she has chosen to combine this text with Arnold Schoenberg's music. This piano version of *Transfigured Night* will be played for the first time in public.

III– MC93 – Bobigny, 2005, from Jan. 25 to Febr. 19

Conception and direction: **Dominique Frot**

With **Dominique Frot**

and Tania Cochelin (violin), Anne-Catherine Fargeix (violin), Véronique Van Ginneken (cello)

Co-producers : MC93 Bobigny, Company A.D. Frot d'Hautes Choses

With the support of the Ministry of Culture (Aide à la création d'œuvres dramatiques), Spedidam

Du hérisson always brings you back to this haunting question: what remains of our past identity in the present moment?

Dominique Frot, actress and musician has decided to combine this text, characterized by a caustic and devastating humour, with the music of Arnold Schoenberg.

BOBIGNY – PRESS REVIEW

“This adaptation is a real success.”

Metro, Feb. 1, 2005

“A friend of mine, who wears very nice hats but who also has great critical intuitions, told me the most flattering things about *Du hérisson*, a play based on a text by Eric Chevillard and staged by **Dominique Frot**.”

cythere-critique, Feb. 2005

Going round in circles, this funny and poetical tale had to end up with music. That's precisely **Dominique Frot's** choice. While the show is already well under way, she sits down at the piano, joined by three other musicians, two violin players and one cellist, and proves that studying at the Academy of Music goes very nicely with studying at the Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Dominique Frot shows that she is an excellent actor. She embodies a writer, who gets engrossed in the production of a literary work and who considers his art as a cold vengeance.

aVoir-aLire, Feb. 2, 2005

Dominique Frot in a puzzling adaptation of the novel *Du hérisson*.

Libération, Feb. 1, 2005

Du hérisson is “a toolbox, an *Ars Poetica*, where you can find anything, including weapons against mediocrity.” Between Eric Chevillard’s novel and Arnold Schoenberg’s music, the actress **Dominique Frot** (who has also devised and directed this show) shares the experience with three other actors/musicians.

Les Inrockuptibles, Feb. 2005

Letter from Eric Chevillard to Dominique Frot

Dear Dominique,

oh yes, I’m happy ! And more than that. I’m still so moved by what I saw.

I hope that you can do the show again in the future. But already, those three weeks, that must be quite exhausting! And ‘the naive and the globulous’ must become quite invasive/intrusive, in the long run!

If there is a recording of the show, I’d be happy to get it.

Thanks for everything, the obstinacy, the subtlety, the madness, the energy, the music...

Yours, Eric

Les Mendiants (The Beggars)

by René-Louis des Forêts

Directed by Dominique Frot

La Ménagerie de Verre, Paris

THE FLESH OF THE WORD

For her first production, **Dominique Frot**, who has carried Peter Handke and Botho Strauss to the most extreme exaltation, revives a text by René-Louis des Forêts, *The Beggars*. They are ten. The words then resonate with a cruel and tender truth.

Jean-Louis Pinte, *Le Figaroscope*, 1996

CHAMBORD

“Nuit insolite de Chambord” (“An unusual night in Chambord”)

June 11 and 12, 2011

Show number 3

L’Eloge (The Praise)

Creation

L’Eloge is a montage based on Erasmus’ *The Praise of Folly* (1509), devised by **Dominique Frot**.

Text and castle staged by **Dominique Frot**

With **Dominique Frot** (actor), assisted by... & Frédéric Denis (organ)

Lights: Christophe Forey, assisted by...

Sound: Média Diffusion

Producer: Domaine national de Chambord

Specifically devised for la *Nuit insolite de Chambord*, this show is a folly on more than one account: folly to choose the Renaissance architecture as a performing space, folly to reverse the small and the monumental, the microcosm and the macrocosm...” Yannick Mercoyrol

Spend an unusual night in the Castle of Chambord

Suspense in Chambord on Saturday and Sunday. We know the place. We know the time of the performance. But all the rest remains a total mystery. Welcome to the mystical world of Chambord.

The program will be handed out to the audience after the performance, once the night is over.

Yannick Mercoyrol, the artistic director, tells us slightly more about the cast: “there are a few important people among the actors”.

La Tribune d’Orléans

“How can we talk about a show which we know and will know nothing about? The spectators will themselves only get the program once the performance is over.

We just know that we will be far away from the usual rowdy and flashy “sounds and lights”.

I will add, but don’t tell anyone, that an actress who is hiding behind all those mysteries and will take part in the feast, called me the other day to tell me that she would indeed keep mum but that she will be there. What else can I say? That this actress, whose name I must keep secret, has a first name that can also be given to the other sex, and that the way she occupies the stage is one of the most enigmatic I know.”

Jean-Pierre Thibaudat (a very famous critic who has worked for a long time for *Libération*)

MONTÉVIDÉO & ACTORAL

Dominique Frot has established a long-term working relationship with Hubert Colas, playwright, director and founder of Montévidéo.

Montévidéo is a creative centre in Marseille dedicated to contemporary writing and improvised music. actOral is an international festival.

actOral.3

July 2, 2004

Carte blanche to **Dominique Frot**

Reading of Leslie Kaplan’s *Depuis maintenant (Since now) 1. Miss Nobody Knows* (POL, 1996), by Dominique Frot

actOral.4

October 7

Carte blanche to **Dominique Frot**

Reading of *Oreille rouge (Red Ear)* by Eric Chevillard

Staged by **Dominique Frot**

actOral.7

October 6

Tohu – after *Tohu* by Eric Vuillard

staged reading by **Dominique Frot**

with 12 actors

Tohu is an attempt towards another word

Than the word DESIRE for “what we miss / lack”

Dominique Frot

Montévidéo

April 13 and 14, 2007

P.R.

based on *Une petite randonnée (A small walking tour)* by Sonia Chiambretto

with **Dominique Frot** and an ensemble of about 20 actors

Montévidéo is subsidised by the Ministry of Culture, the General Council of Bouches du Rhône ; the Region Provence Alpes Côte d’Azur ; the Town of Marseille.

KERGUEHENNEC, *le lieu du combat (the place of fight)*

Domaine de Kerguéhennec
Contemporary Arts Center (Brittany, France)
Artistic director: Denys Zacharopoulos

Kerguéhennec, the place of fight
(*what the place name means, in Breton*)

experimental encounters between visual arts and live performing arts
from July 7 to September 8, 1994

The experimental encounters are based on training and research workshops held at Domaine de Kerguéhennec by [...] **Dominique Frot** and an ensemble of visual artists, musicians, actors, film-directors, dancers, in residence.

Schedule:

- Meetings, workshops, residences, rehearsals, debates, actions, events, improvisations, performances, readings, everyday.
- Concerts, (Michael Levinas...) shows, projections on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Great Concert (on August 10)
for the Contemporary Arts Center's 10th anniversary
with the Brittany Orchestra, conducted by Didier Benetti

Most of the works displayed in the exhibition have been produced/created at the Domaine de Kerguéhennec, during residences and in collaboration with the *programme of training and multidisciplinary research*, together with the Artistic Teaching Inspectorate, through a network of Art Schools in France and abroad.

THE VISUAL ARTS

Louise Bourgeois, Jean-Marc Bustamante, Mario Merz and Franz West

THE DRAMATIC ARTS

Dominique Frot actor, musician

Training and research workshops around René-Louis des Forêts' *The Beggars* and J-S Bach's *The art of fugue* at Domaine de Kerguéhennec in collaboration with the Dramatic Centre of Brittany.

With ten actors.

THE MUSIC

Michaël Levinas...

Brittany Orchestra

Didier Benetti, conductor

THE CHOREOGRAPHIC ARTS

THE CINEMA

THE VERB / THE WRITTEN TEXTS

Literature, poetry and theatre play a crucial part in the Kerguéhennec encounters.

Pier Paolo Calzolari, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Mario Merz, as well as **Dominique Frot**, Geneviève Schwoebel and Danièle Cohen-Lévinas, enable those encounters to crisscross and give an overall directing line to the various discussions and projects that will happen all over the summer.

FESTIVAL EFFRACTION

Art and protest today

October 6 to October 9, 2011

at Galerie de Nesle [at the Nesle Gallery]

8, rue de Nesle

75006 Paris

A 4-day cross-disciplinary festival

EFFRACTION #1 is a trans-disciplinary event, crossing arts and literature, devised by the collective Cid Errant Prod, and gathering together for 4 days, in the heart of the Saint-Germain-des-Prés

- important writers
- thinkers
- actors such as **Dominique Frot**
- literary critics
- stage directors
- publishers
- booksellers
- musicians

TWO MAJOR EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE FESTIVAL

Saturday October the 8th – 7.30 pm

1- An exceptional encounter

2- An exceptional reading

The actress **Dominique Frot**, accompanied on the piano by Frédéric Denis, will read extracts from *Congo*, Eric Vuillard's last book, as a prelude to its upcoming publication by Actes Sud.

The First Image

The artistic director of the Museum of Thessalonica was invited with 26 Greek visual artists, and Dominique Frot, to present an exhibition at the Contemporary Art Center of Languedoc-Roussillon. Further to this event, he published the present book, which includes a portrait of Dominique Frot who, during the exhibition, performed a text entitled *The First Image* – the exhibition and the book were both named after it.

Contemporary Art Regional Center of Languedoc-Roussillon, Sète
Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessalonica, Greece.
Publishing house : Analogues

Denys Zacharopoulos, Catherine David and Dominique Frot

To coincide with the publication of two other books by Denys Zacharopoulos, ITHINK organises an encounter with the former director of the Domaine de Kerguéhennec, currently director of the Museum of Thessalonica, and Catherine David, chief curator at the Direction des Musées de France (French Museum Board) and former director of Documenta 10 in Kassel (1994-97).

Preceded by a reading of Costas Taxis' *The First Image* (in *La Petite Monnaie*, Gallimard, 1988) by the actress Dominique Frot, the debate between the two speakers, Dominique Frot, and the audience will deal with identity issues

Venue: Poggi/Bertoux Arts Gallery

Date: February 6, 2010

Théâtre-Studio – Alfortville

a committed and experimental theatre located in the Paris suburbs

Christian Benedetti, head of Théâtre-Studio, invites **Dominique Frot** to read texts by Hannah Arendt once a month, from January to June like a regular meeting with the audience, who attended the experience in increasing numbers.

Art & Politics

Debates around an exhibition of Contemporary Art

May 19, 1997

11 am: reading by Dominique Frot

What's the use of art?

A debate around a travelling exhibition of Contemporary Art

April 9, 1999

12 am: theatre performance by Dominique Frot