

Stéphanie Henry-Seguin

presents



One night only
Nuit Blanche Paris

Saturday, October 1st 2022

8pm - 2am

Église Saint-Gervais
1 place Saint-Gervais, 75004 Paris
Ⓜ Hôtel de Ville/Saint-Paul

www.stephaniehenryseguin.com
[@stephaniehenryseguin](https://twitter.com/stephaniehenryseguin)



Nuit
Blanche

**ENFANT
TERRIBLE
EXHIBITIONS**



"Ô" is a French interjection often used to refer to a greater power, or to express a feeling of surprise and delight. The sound of the word "Ô" is the same as the French word for "water," hence the reason why it was chosen as the title of a new video installation by multidisciplinary artist Stéphanie Henry-Seguin. Both poetic and political, "Ô" is a rich visual and auditory experience that invites viewers to reflect on climate change and the repercussions of this ecological disaster.

Projected within the walls of the Saint-Gervais-Saint-Protais Church in the fourth arrondissement in Paris, this installation presents itself as a three minute video played on loop, during which viewers are invited to observe a glass hand from which silver drops of water fall. This hand, both delicate and fragile, represents Life. The drops that fall from its dainty little fingers are a gift from Mother Nature, to quench the thirst of the parched and to offer relief to the drought of the Earth. They also serve as reminders that glaciers and sea ice are melting - an event which impacts weather patterns, wildlife, and human life.

Set to an original score recorded by the artist, the video can seem relaxing and meditative at first. The sound of the water drip-dropping from the hand is soft and soothing. The clarity of the drops evokes a feeling of purity, as well as physical and spiritual wellbeing. As the video progresses, however, the cadence accelerates up until the point where a cataclysmic sound is heard. This intense precipitation reminds us that what Mother Nature can give, she can take back as well.

In the second half of the video, the drops of water no longer fall from the fingers of the glass hand. Instead, they return to the sky, as though they were being taken back. This unexpected event allows the installation to take on new meaning - a cry for help, imploring viewers to realize the urgency of climate change and to take action now before it is too late.

Stéphanie Henry-Seguin's practice puts glass in conversation with a number of other materials, such as textile and wood, but also technology. She acquired her glassmaking skills with glass masters in France - in fact, she spun the transparent glass hand in "Ô" herself. She has since been exhibited in Venice, London, and Paris. Her projects focus on our relationship to the environment and the vulnerability of our existence.

"Ô" is an artwork presented by Stéphanie Henry-Seguin within the context of the Nuit Blanche 2022, and was curated by Enfant Terrible Exhibitions (@enfantterribleexhibitions). Thank you to the Mairie de la Ville de Paris and the Saint-Gervais-Saint-Protais Church for supporting this project. For more information about the artist, please visit www.stephaniehenryseguin.com or @stephaniehenryseguin.