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*press release*

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**nathalie junod ponsard**     *figura serpentinata*



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, Nathalie Junod Ponsard, evocation of the future in situ installation Figura serpentinata at the baudoïn lebon gallery, january 2022

**/// opening**  
**Wednesday**  
**11 May 2022**  
**from 6 to 9pm**

exhibition  
Act I: May 12 - June 18  
Act II: July 7 to 30

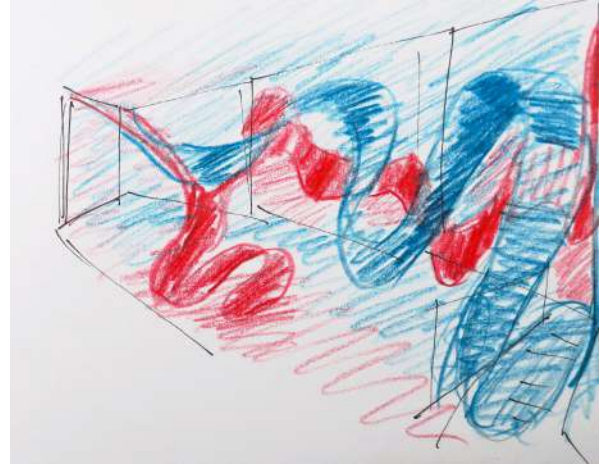
On the occasion of Nathalie Junod Ponsart's first monograph, baudoïn lebon gallery is pleased to invite the artist to create an in situ light installation *Figura Serpentinata*, from Thursday 12th May to Saturday 18th June 2022.

In a second time, from Wednesday 7th to 30th July, we will present a selection of glass artworks created in collaboration with the Centre européen de recherches et de formation aux arts verriers (CERFAV).

**Rendez-vous:** Signature of her first monograph during the 9th edition of Paris Gallery Weekend, Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd May from 2 to 6 pm.

## *Figura serpentinata, 2022*

The work unfolds, flows. The light unrealises the lines and the space that bend to create a suspended sculpture. The connections are just like a vital and invisible strength. Two forty meter-long bands of pure and saturated colours compose *Figura Serpentinata*. In its intense and chromatic density, the luminous and transparent bands are interlaced as they hang. The red and blue-green colours create a peculiar physiological sensation thanks to liquid-like and complementary wavelengths.



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, preparatory drawing, *Figura serpentinata*, december 2021

Under the light sources, the shape moves, creating chromatic changes thanks to superposition and transparency. The chromatic bands answer one another and, while spreading, turn the whiteness of the location into an immersive chromatic fluid. The energy flows in the gallery. The serpentine lines create a fluctuation of the shape; they go up and down, convolute when they meet. This vibrating installation crystallizes new links between the body and the space and determines new landmarks that immediately disappear. It feels like the light dissolves us



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, evocation of the future in situ installation *Figura serpentinata* at the baudoin lebon gallery, january 2022.

The aerial sculpture becomes the medium of appearances and disappearances; fundamental elements of our fluctuating perception of the world. The luminous immersion leads to a reflection on our environment and on the influence it has upon us.

« *Nathalie Junod Ponsard deliberately shuns the surface appearances, immersing us in an energy-charged background where recognition is superseded by a kind of "luminous rebirth". By giving away to non-visual perception, this "de-realization" of forms plunges the viewer into a paradoxical state where a familiar sense of wellbeing goes hand in hand with a strange feeling of having lost one's habitual bearings... But instead, this magma of forms, plunged into incandescent colour, becomes pure energy that eye eagerly and unreservedly absorbs.* »

Damien Schoëvaert-Brossault, Biochimiste de la lumière



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, preparatory drawing, 2021.



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, preparatory drawing, 2021.

**Nathalie Junod Ponsard**

***La Lumière comme une seconde peau***  
aux Éditions Pyramyd

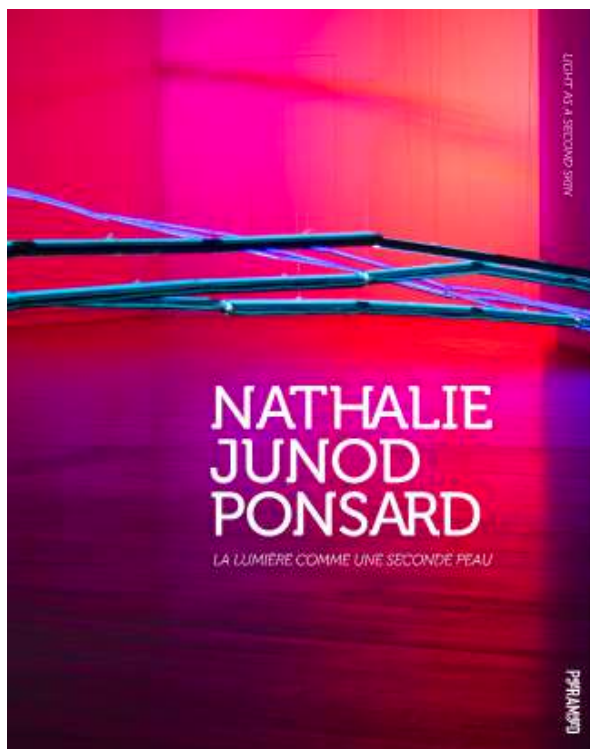
Nathalie Junod Ponsard is a major figure in the contemporary art world. She creates artworks and light installations that explore space and its effects on the living body, offering visitors unique aesthetic experiences that sometimes destabilise their perception. Places are modified and revisited by being immersed in light, space is made to feel denser, and the artist seeks to achieve symbiosis between the artwork and the viewer.

Her installations, which are often monumental, are placed in varied settings and sites including museums, galleries, iconic buildings, historic monuments and public and urban spaces. Her work features in the collections of numerous public and private institutions. One of her recent creations can be seen at the Élysée Palace in Paris.

Punctuated by critical texts, this book is printed in Hexachrome in order to do justice to the luminous intensity of the artworks and presents over fifty creations produced over the last thirty years.

Céline Rémechido,  
Éditions Pyramyd

**Rendez vous** : Signature of her first monograph during the 9th edition of Paris Gallery Weekend organised by The Professional Committee of Art Galleries, on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd May from 2 to 6pm.



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## biography

Nathalie Junod Ponsard creates artworks and luminous installations modifying the density of spaces and unsettling our usual landmarks. Her installations, as a result of several experimentations, fill lightful locations with pure and saturated wavelenghts troubling the senses and arousing, among other feelings, a physiological modification of our perceptual markers.

Her works had been the centre of many international exhibitions and she participated in biennial contemporary art shows. Among her most important exhibitions, we can name *Circular Wandering*, a work on the Hildesheim's law court during the Internationale Licht Kunst Biennale in Germany (2020), the Luxelakes A4 Art Museum with a major work for the inaugural exposition in 2015 (Chengdu, China), the Museum of Contemporary Art (MoCA) at Chengdu (China, 2014) – the Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome (MACRO), Rome, 2011 – a double exhibition at the Galerie Delacroix and at the Palais Moulay Hafid (Tanger, 2011) – the Modern Art Gallery or the Ouralski Guéologuitcheski Mouzeï [Ural's Geological Museum], Ekaterinburg, Russie, 2010 – the Palazzo Farnese (for the Franco-Italian contemporary art process Luce di Pietra 2007) – the Palazzo de Esposizioni, Rome 2007, - the Bauhaus Dessau, Germany, 2004 – the Guggenheim Gallery (Chapman University), Los Angeles, 2002 – the Singapour Art Museum (SAM, Biennial), Singapour, 2001, the Hong Kong People's Fringe Festival and the French May in Hong Kong. The artist was France's representative during the Western China International Art Biennale 2017 that took place at the Inner Mongolia Art Museum, Hohhot, China.



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *Circular Wandering*, in situ sur le Palais de Justice. Biennale internationale de la lumière à Hildesheim, Allemagne. EVI LICHTUNGEN. Du 23 au 26 janvier 2020 © Sara Foerster



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *Dédoublement*, 2019, glass, ink, Led projectors and programming, 260 x 150 x 40 cm. Commissioned by the Centre national des arts plastiques CNAP, France. © Guillaume Thomas



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *Glissement de la lumière*, 2014. Exposition personnelle au Musée d'art contemporain (MoCA) à Chengdu en Chine.

In 2014, a retrospective exhibition was held simultaneously in the Museum Contemporary Art (MoCA) and in the Wuhan Greenland Centre in Chengdu, China. In 2010 and 2011, the Fonds National d'art contemporain (FNAC), the Mobilier National and in 2019 the Centre national des arts plastiques (CNAP) purchased some of her works.

# baudoin lebon



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *L'Épaisseur de la lumière*, 2013.  
Installation at the EDF Foundation, exhibition from 5 October to 10 November 2013.

In France, the luminous works created in their environment are exhibited at the Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature: *Twilight* (2018), *L'Épaisseur de la lumière* at the Espace Fondation EDF (2013) – *La lisière du visible* (2014), commissioned by the Centre des Monuments Nationaux for the Basilica of Saint-Denis, immersive installations for the La Science de l'art Biennial (Essonne) – *Relativité spatiale*, which immerse the Institut des Arts Visuels, Orléans (2009) – *Horizon persistant* (2008) on the Maison Hermès. Nathalie Junod Ponsard's work was exhibited in national museums, like the Centre Pompidou (2005), the Passerelle Centre d'Art Contemporain in Brest or in the Gaîté Lyrique, Paris (2004).



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *Odysée*, 2021.  
A carpet work for the Murat staircase at the Elysée Palace, 73m2.  
Commissioned by the Mobilier National © Guillaume Thomas

Her luminous artworks extend and spread on various inside or outside locations; *Deep Water* in the Pontoise pool for the first Nuit Blanche (2002), in a skating rink in Montréal (2011), at the Lake Geneva's pier, on the roof of a Singaporean skyscraper, at the Maison Neyrand in Lyon, at the Grande Galerie du Forum des Halles in Paris (2005 – 2007). Her work can also be seen on outstanding locations : the Jantar Mantar observatories of New Delhi (Festival of France in India, 1989), the Château d'Assas in Vignac, on the walls of the Buddhist temple of The Temple in Beijing (2004), the Maison Louis Carré (gallery owner and collectors) built by Alvar Aalto in Bazoches-sur-Yvelines)

Nathalie Junod Ponsard created permanent and monumental works that can be seen in the public space. In Paris, her principal public and private commissions are - the luminous and monumental *Le dépli de la lumière* (2017) integrated to the frontage of the Austerlitz building in Paris, - *Crépuscule persistant* (2010-2020) a public commission made by the state, the French Ministry of Culture and the CNAP for the Place Malraux – *L'invisibilité*, a permanent commission made by the ENSAV at Versailles to the Centre Pompidou – *Phénoménologie de la lumière et En flottement* (2005 – 2010) and, *Étendues latérales* (2011) a work for the frontage of the Galerie des Gobelins for the Mobilier National or for « Embellir Paris », *Précieuse brillance* (2019) on the Place de l'Europe – Simone Veil. In Rome, permanent works were created for the Palazzo delle Esposizioni and another monumental for the museo dell'arte contemporanea MACRO.

In September 2021, the artist created a carpet-work of art, *Odysée*, commissioned by the Mobilier National for the large staircase of the Palais de l'Élysée; the in-situ work seems to unfold under us as if we were stepping on a luminous sensation.

## SELECTED SOLO SHOW

2022  
Maison Louis Carré, Bazoches-sur-Guyonne, Yvelines, FR.

2019  
*Une errance verticale*, œuvre de lumière sur la Maison Louis Carré, Bazoches-sur-Guyonne, Yvelines, FR.

2018  
*Twilight, une errance latérale*, œuvre lumineuse - Cour de l'Hôtel Mongelas. Commande du musée de la Chasse et de la Nature, Paris, FR.

2015  
*The densified area*, installation lumineuse. Université de Jadavpur, Raja S.C. Mullick Road. Calcutta, IN.  
*L'espace s'écoule*, installation de lumière in situ. Musée Luxelakes A4 Chengdu, CH.

2014  
*La lisière du visible*, œuvre lumineuse sur les gisants de Saint-Louis, Basilique Saint-Denis. Commande du Centre des Monuments Nationaux  
*Glissement de la lumière*, installation de lumière in situ. Musée d'art contemporain MoCA Chengdu, CH.  
*La nouvelle vague* et *Coulée lumineuse*, installations de lumière. Espace extérieur. Centre d'art The Temple hotel, Pékin. Festival Croisements, CH.  
*The Thickness of the Void*, installation. Omnibus Art Center Clapham, Londres, UK.

2013  
*Traverser la lumière*, Espace Fondation EDF, Paris, FR.

2012  
*Un océan d'air*, installations spécifiques pour les trois salles d'exposition du Château d'Assas. Le Vigan (Gard), FR.

2010  
*Paysage électrique*, installation de lumière dans la totalité des salles d'exposition du Musée de l'Oural – Modern Art Gallery, Ekaterinbourg. Oural, RU.  
*L'insistance des courants contraires*, installation lumineuse. Galerie Delacroix, Tanger, MA.  
*La lumière fait cercle*, œuvre de lumière dans le Palais des Institutions Italiennes, Palais Moulay Hafid, Tanger, MA.

2009  
*Relativité spatiale*, installation lumineuse Commande de l'Institut des Arts Visuels, avec le soutien du ministère de la Culture, FRAC Centre, Région Centre et Ville d'Orléans, FR.

2007  
*Hommage Mark Rothko (Omaggio a Mark Rothko)*, Laboratorio dell'arte. Museo Palazzo delle Esposizioni Rome, IT.

2005  
*Trans > Light > Air*, installation. Nuit des Musées, Centre Georges Pompidou. Paris

2004  
*Vertige en apesanteur*, installation lumière, produite par la Fondation Bauhaus, l'ambassade de France à Berlin, l'antenne de Saxe-Anhalt et le Bureau des Arts Plastiques à Berlin. Stiftung BAUHAUS, Dessau, DE.

2002  
*Deep water*, installation lumière dans la piscine Pontoise. 1ère Nuit Blanche. Mairie de Paris, FR.

2001/2002  
*To share the Landscape n°2*, Installation sur le musée d'art contemporain de Singapour, Biennale d'Art Contemporain, SG.

## SELECTED GROUP SHOW

2020  
*Garden Party URBEX, Un Océan d'air 2*, installation in situ, La Chapelle de Clairefontaine, Yvelines, FR.

2020  
*Circular Wandering*, 2020. Installation lumineuse sur le palais de justice. Evi-lichtungen Hildesheim. Biennale internationale d'art lumière à Hildesheim, DE.

2017-2018  
*In The Center Of Its Halo*, installation in situ. Représentation française dans la biennale. Western China International Art Biennale, CH.

2016  
*Le territoire à l'œuvre*, Exposition organisée par le ministère de la Culture, le CNAP, Galerie Fernand Léger, Ivry-sur-Seine, FR

2012  
*Neon la materia luminosa*, Museo d'art contemporaneo MACRO, Rome, IT.  
Nuit Blanche Montréal, *As a waiting area*, Installation lumière dans la patinoire. Tour 1000 de la Gauchetière Art Souterrain. Montréal, CA.

2011  
*Parallaxe éblouissante*, Installation de lumière Paris, Fondation Napoléon, Paris.  
Settimana delle Cultura, Musée d'art contemporain MACRO, Rome, It.  
Notte dei Musei, Musée d'art contemporain MACRO, Rome, It.  
*Diagramme(s)*, Exposition de dessins dans le cadre du SALON DU DESSIN CONTEMPORAIN 2012 Galerie Spéciale, École Spéciale d'Architecture Paris, Fr.

2007  
*Déferlante*, œuvre de lumière. Exposition *Luce di Pietra*, un parcours d'art contemporain franco-italien, Palais Farnèse à Rome, IT.

2005  
*Vertige en apesanteur*, vidéo, *E MOTION* "Art & cognition", Galerie Arsenal Torun, 5° Festival Art & Science, Torun, PL.

2004 – 2005  
*Immersion rotatoire*, Installation lumière. Jetée des Pâquis Lac Léman. Festival Arbre & Lumières, Genève Suisse

2003  
*Lumière Subjective, Capsule Hypnotique*, Artelab "15 Square de Vergennes", Paris, FR.

2001  
*Turn on, a conversation with a space*, Installation de lumière dans Delocating Margins de Francis Ng Teck Yong. Site Shophouse, SG.

1999  
Biennale Singapore Art, "City/ Community: Singapore Art Today", National Arts Council, SG.

1986  
*Observatoire*, Installation (collaboration C.Jallais). Nuit Perpendiculaire. Les Frigos, Quai de la Gare, Paris, FR.

## SELECTED PERMANENT WORKS - PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

2021

*Odyssee*, a carpet-work for the Murat staircase of the Palais de l'Élysée, commissioned by the Mobilier national, Paris.

2019

*Dédoublement*, commissioned by the Centre national des arts plastiques, the CNAP collection, ministry of Culture, France.

*Précieuse brillante*, permanent work created for the public space for «Embellir Paris» on the place de l'Europe-Simone Veil in Paris.

2017

*Le dépli de la lumière*, permanent and monumental light work on two of the Austerlitz building's forefronts (designed by the architect Jean Mas agence Ateliers 2/3/4). Property of the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations. Avenue Pierre Mendès France, Paris.

2015

*Variations silencieuses*, permanent light installation both on the public and private space. Commissioned by the city of Vitry-sur-Seine // Les Nouveaux Constructeurs. France.

2011

*Étendues latérales*, permanent commission made by the Mobilier national, light installation on the forefront of the Galerie des Gobelins, Manufacture des Gobelins Paris.

*Horizon flottant*, permanent light work in the contemporary art museum. Museo d'arte contemporanea MACRO, Rome, Italie.

MOBILIER NATIONAL Acquired two works (cardboard) on the idea of luminous feelings for the creation of Savonnerie carpets. 'Mirage' completed in 2021. The 'Orientation spatiale paradoxale' carpet was left in the Salon Murat of the Palais de l'Élysée in 2018.

2007

*Pénétrer l'invisible*, œuvre de lumière permanente. Laboratorio dell'arte, Musée Palazzo delle Esposizioni. Rome, Italie

2005-2010

*Phénoménologie de la lumière*, permanent light installation. Espace Polyvalent. Commande du Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris.

*En flottement*, permanent light installation. Atelier Multimédia. Commande du Centre Georges Pompidou. Paris

2001

*To share the landscape*, permanent light installation. Atelier Multimédia. Commande du Centre Georges Pompidou. Paris

## available visuals



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, evocation of the future installation in situ at the baudoin lebon gallery, january 2022 © courtesy de l'artiste et baudoin lebon.



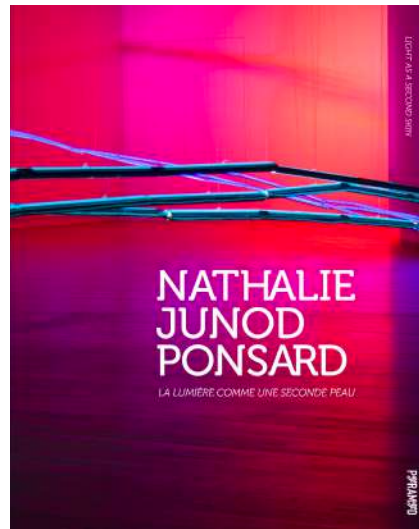
Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *L'Épaisseur de la lumière*, 2013. Installation at the EDF Foundation, exhibition from 5 October to 10 November 2013 © courtesy de l'artiste et baudoin lebon.



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *Odyssée*, 2021. A carpet work for the Murat staircase at the Elysée Palace, 73m2. Commissioned by the Mobilier National © Guillaume Thomas courtesy de l'artiste et baudoin lebon.



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *Circular Wandering*, in situ on the Courthouse. International Light Biennial in Hildesheim, Germany. EVI LICHTUNGEN. From 23 to 26 January 2020 © Sara Foerster courtesy de l'artiste et baudoin lebon.



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *La lumière comme une seconde peau*, éditions Pyramyd



Nathalie Junod Ponsard, *Odyssée*, 2021. A carpet work for the Murat staircase at the Elysée Palace, 73m2. Commissioned by the Mobilier National © Guillaume Thomas courtesy de l'artiste et baudoin lebon