

# PETROLOGY

## Note of Intension

**Petrology** proposes a visual and sound theatrical observatory inspired by theories and practices forming a perception of the world, the universe and our place within it.

Taking impulse from a series of “tableau vivant”, the juxtaposed moving images together with the body of sound create the narrative.

Concepts of the light spectrum as a visible perceptible and masked imperceptible magnetism, the inaudible, the audible, the symbol of the invisible and the representation, all methods that are the physical motor of this piece that uses for medium photography, sound, film, representation, theatricality, painting, costume, Sculpture and body practices into a performance.

Petrology is actually declined into four parts or Tableau Vivant that are set to evolve through the practice of the experience.



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## **Synopsis**

Petrology is a play with no spoken dialogue with a story line that starts in the beginning of time to finish in the present era. Born from the conjunction of several philosophic ideas, current scientific theories, popular culture, old and newly invented metaphors, Petrology moves in this world like in any other like a rhizome in springtime pooping it's shoots in what might seem as a random choice, but is in fact a precise set up.



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## **Prelude**

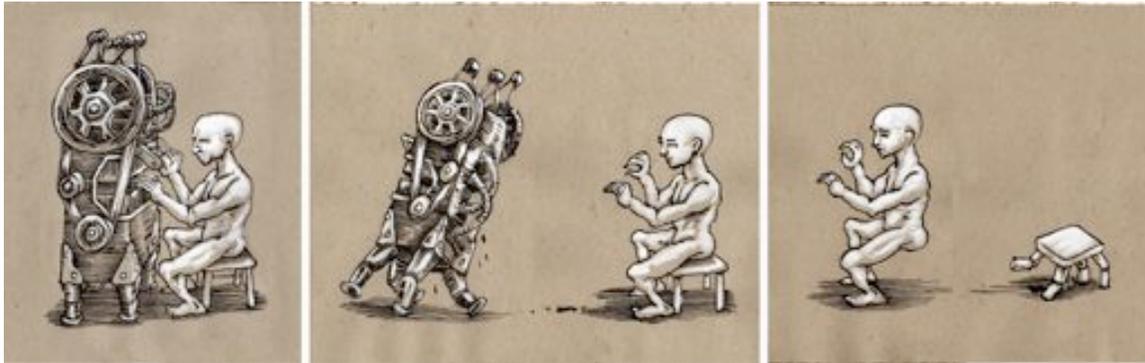
The first sound piece is audible before the public enters the space. filled with smoke.

The play starts at very beginning of our known universe (1).

The stage is filled with smoke; a bright light shines though, directly onto the observers i.e. the public.

Just discernible are two figures that move through the smoke like spectres –

A manifestation of other “forces” at work.



©Rémi, Tambouret

## Tableau 1

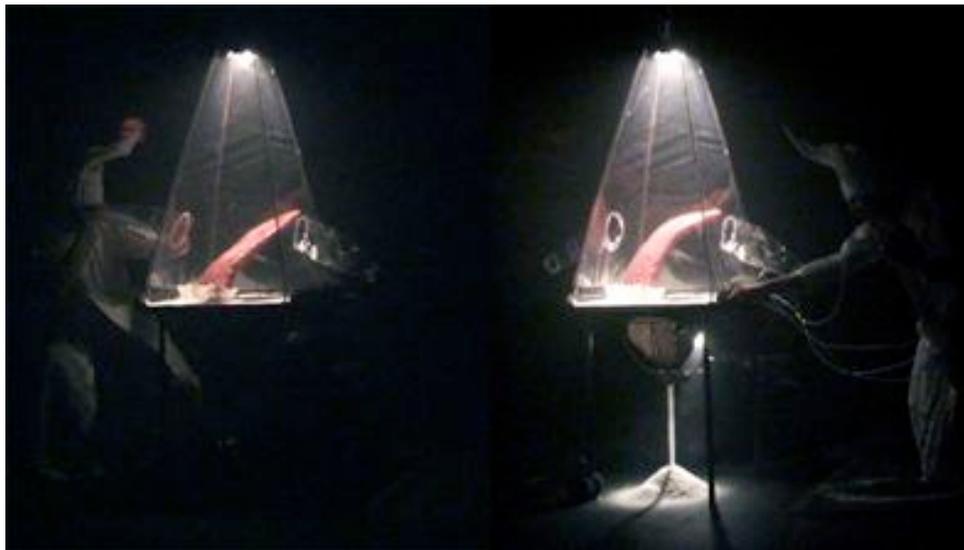
### The Machine of Desire

A “supermoon” (4) is projected in the background.

Standing, facing The Machine of Desire (2), observing and incapable of establishing physical contact, a figure dressed in white plugs it self to the machine though tubes that emit a blue light as they are branched. The sound changes as the tubes are connected and images are seen projected inside the incubator.

This action prompts the salt (3) to run from the bowls of the machine forming a pile on the floor below.

As the machine moves away the focus stays on the pile of salt from where a medusa is then born.



©Mafalda da Camara, La machine du désir



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## Tableau 2

### Entropy in Chaos

As we watch the birth of the medusa (5) we are transposed into the bottom of the ocean, where other creatures of the deep join the first born, to perform a dance in a language expressed by light. An octopus from the deep moves slowly across. A preplexing strange ritual evolves broken only by the sudden invasion of a flying alambique (6) transforming the deep sea into deep space.

This transformation implies the relations between the micros and the macro-cosmos, a movement of inhaling and exhaling.

The alambique poses it self on it's whobbly leg.

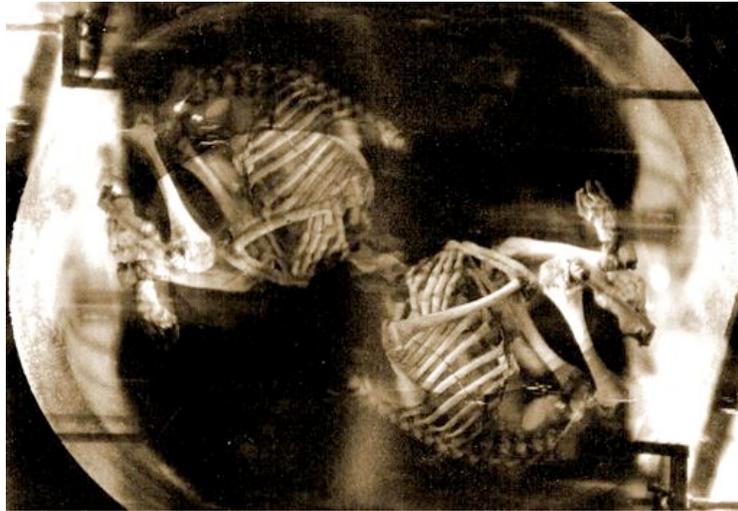
In the background, behind a black transparent screen a shadow figure unravels 11 silver strings. (7)

The summit of the alambique opens revealing a block of ice suspended in mid-air.

Two strong lamps acelerate the melting process. The belly of the alambique opens showing Phil-y-gras bathing in a tub filled with raw petrol – black and viscous. (8)

The scene progresses through an array of increasingly frenetic actions - concieved, tried, failed or successful performed by Phil-y-Gras trying to keep this flying alambique from exploding as the pressure increases.

A sudden space storm sends space junk crashing into the alambique.



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### Tableau 3

#### The Fissures of the Doublement

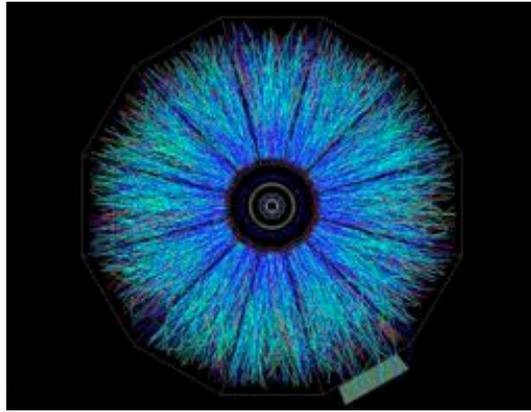
A dust storm is raging. Nothing on stage is discernible. The storm abates. A fossilized orange tree (9) stands at the back; it's mummified fruit dangling in the breeze. Resting on the tree, legs dangling and an orange in the hand a mummy sunbathes. A monolith appears from nowhere, materialization from thin air, it's potency standing proud on the vast desert. The stone monolith emanates a sound, evoking apparitions that fill the desert.

A reference to other dimensions populated by beings that were till then invisible and that the sound from the monolith makes visible.

A figure in primitive shamanistic costume arrives from afar, carrying a square of fresh grass rolled under the arm. Poses it in front of the monolith. Water springs from the stone and the shaman collects it in his cupped hands carrying it to water the green grass.

Unicellular organism (10) springs from the grass, growing to a considerable size before it explodes projecting little unicellular organisms that transform the desert into a luxuriant humid and green landscape.





First gold collision

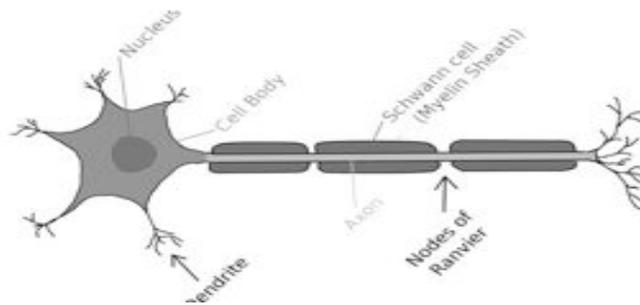
### Tableau 4 Quantification

It seems to be held as universally true that the foundation of quantification is measurement. Quantification (11) assembles a number of social conventions that in close proximity to the concept of “crystal quantization”, creating a new way of thinking, of expression and action in the world.

This fourth tableau is left open to the experience of the three previous ones. The images showed are an indication of the possibilities for this fourth tableau.



Primitivism



Neuron

## NOTES

1 - Big Bang theory

2 - Technological Singularity is a hypothetical event occurring when technological progress becomes so rapid and the growth of super-human intelligence is so great that the future after the singularity becomes qualitatively different and harder to predict. This concept is incorporated in the first tableau through the Machine of Desire.

3 - Salt has been used and revered since ancient times as emetic and a precious mineral in the equilibrium of the human body.

4 - Supermoon: Reference to the astronomic event observed the 19 mars 2011, and it's relation to an increase in planetary intensity of earthquakes, tsumamis, vulcanic eruptions and tornados. Although the perigee-syzygy of the Earth-Moon-Sun (supermoon) system is accepted by scientists it's link to the increase of natural phenomena is not proven or accepted by all.

5 - The medusas like other creatures of the deep sea are to us humans like aliens. We know very little about them, a whole new field of exploration is opening up permitted by technological advances.

6 - The alambique is a metaphore for the planet earth. A compression and destilation machine, a flying object, a space ship, somehow stiered and manipulated by a couple of puppet characters.

7 - The String Theory

8 - While the situation of the planet becomes more complex, humainly and ecologicly the feeling of impotence grows. A perfect set up for the politique of fear, that could propel the planetary panic enabling for the complete control by a few of all basic human resources.

9 - The orange tree, Orange the colour of the creativity charka live giving and joy. In the 1500's in France offering an orange was a code symbol of sexual desire.

10 – unicellular organism, refers to the beginning of oxigen in the atmosphere 2,5 billion years ago.

11 - Quantification: all forms of quantification reconfigure and transform the primary information, being scientific, politic or journalistic. Once the information is quantified coded and normalized they have a tendency to become “the reality” a process difficult to reverse, as there is a loss of the original information. It then becomes “naturalized”.