LIBERTÉ, ÉGALITÉ, FRATERNITÉ OU LA MORT

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Project by Josef Ka – Paris 2025

Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité ou la Mort is a project inspired by the motto of the French Revolution. It began in **New York** during the *Immersive Live Art Tour NY* (2023), curated by Qing Cai, and continued in **Paris in 2025**, where I created a series of site-specific performances in different parts of the city with the participation of local artists.

The project examined the contemporary relevance of revolutionary ideas and the intersection of history and performance.

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Arrival and First Performances

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Premiere

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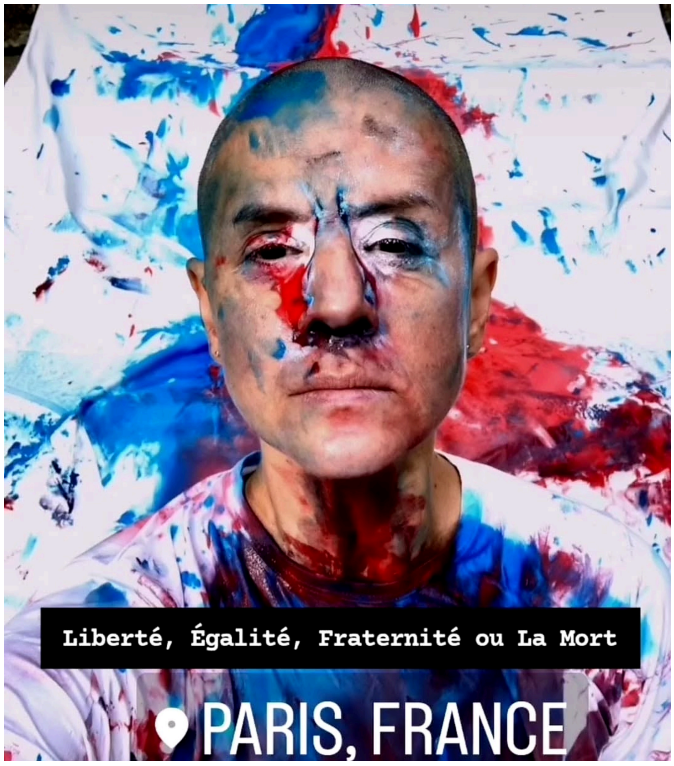
The Corner × LIBERTÉ, ÉGALITÉ, FRATERNITÉ OU LA MORT

09 01.11.2025
Final Piece



01

15 October 2025 —

Arrival and First Performances

I arrived in Paris on 15 October. That day, I performed at **Chair de Poule**, invited by François Mellan and RoroVomir Perrot as part of *Broken IMPRO*.

I presented **International Silence with Baguettes**, a work from *Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité ou la Mort*, together with musicians **François Galland** and **Paul Collins**.

Documentation: **Ilia Gribov**

Link to documentation →

02

17 October 2025 —

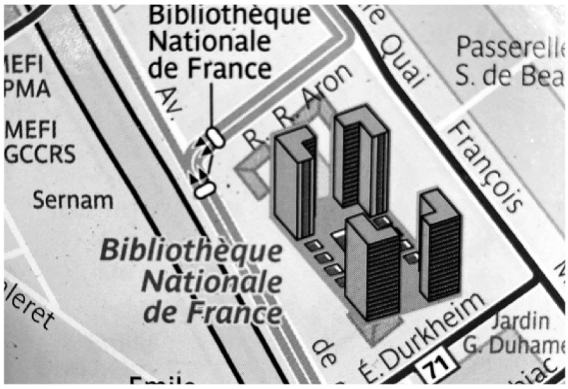
François Mitterrand Library

Together with musician **Yerik Nuñez**, with whom I have collaborated for more than ten years, we performed at the **François Mitterrand Library**.

We tested several spots before choosing a location overlooking the Parisian skyscrapers.

On the same day, we became part of a **film project**.

Link to documentation →



03

18 October 2025 —

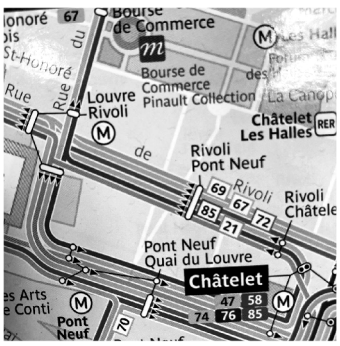
International Silence in the City

I continued the **International Silence** project using the same baguette from the performance on 15 October, walking from **Bercy to Châtelet**.

The action drew attention from many passersby. Near Châtelet, close to the place where I had watched a performance by **Kirill Serebrennikov** the night before, I recorded a video, moving with my baguette through the crowd waiting for a street event.

The walk ended next to the **Sphinx**, in front of the theatre.

Link to documentation →



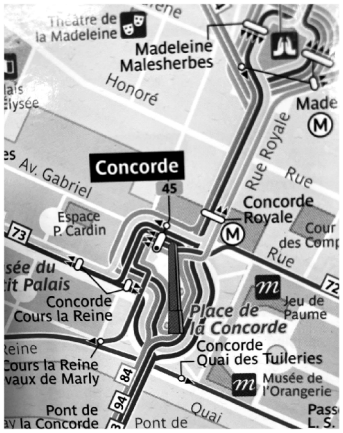
04

22 October 2025 —

Three Performances

Together with **Ilia Gribov** and **Georgia Panagou**, we created three fully documented performances:

1. **Place de la Concorde** — A tribute to **Günter Brus**, part of the *I AM GÜNTER BRUS* cycle.

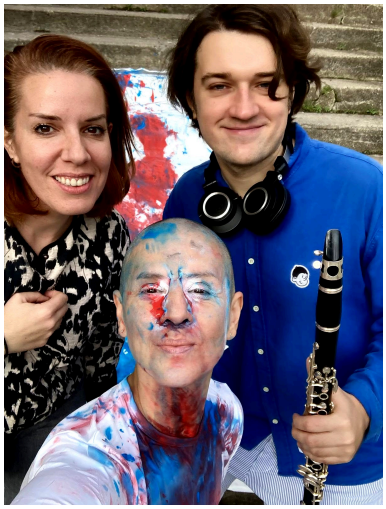


2. **Near Palais de Tokyo (stairs)** — Dedicated to *Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité ou la Mort*, including the creation of a flag.

3. **Palais-Royal** — Dedicated to the **seven prisoners of the Bastille**. On 14 July 1789, the Bastille held seven people: four counterfeiters, two people with mental illnesses, and one murderer.

Project: Josef Ka
Music: Ilia Gribov
Filming / Editing: Georgia Panagou (1–2)
Filming: Ilia Gribov (3)

Link to documentation →



05

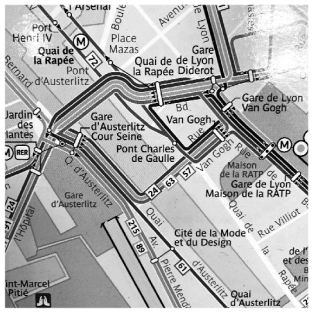
25 October 2025 –

Performance with Jonathan Powell

At **Gare d'Austerlitz**, I presented *Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité ou la Mort* together with a flag I had previously created.

Pianist: Jonathan Powell performed *Midsummer Morn* by Michael Finnissy.

Link to documentation →



06

26 October 2025 —

La Jam du Fondeur, Lapin Vert

At **La Jam du Fondeur au Lapin Vert**, I presented *Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité ou la Mort* together with **International Silence**.

Participants: Alexis Collin, Patrice Cazelles, Jean-Michel Susini, François Mellan

Link to documentation →

07

29 October 2025 —

Premiere

With the support of **RoroVomir Perrot**, the **premiere of the video–live painting of the revolutionary flag** took place at Chair de Poule.

Musicians: Ilia Gribov, Lazare Lubek, Pascal Vaucel

Link to documentation →

08

30 October 2025 —

The Corner × LIBERTÉ, ÉGALITÉ, FRATERNITÉ OU LA MORT

Two long-term projects intersected in Paris:

The Corner (since 2019) — Questions the mechanisms deciding which art is considered worthy of exhibition. In this work, I stand facing the wall in galleries where my works have never been shown.

On this day, The Corner met another ongoing project — *LIBERTÉ, ÉGALITÉ, FRATERNITÉ OU LA MORT*, a series of site-specific actions inspired by the revolutionary motto of 1789.

The project began in **New York (2023)** and continued in **Paris (2025)**, marking 236 years since the beginning of the French Revolution.

Photo: Anonymous

Link to documentation →

09

1 November 2025 —

Final Piece

The final work of the Paris edition — **Égalité et Fraternité II** — was completed at **Père Lachaise Cemetery**.

The action was created together with:

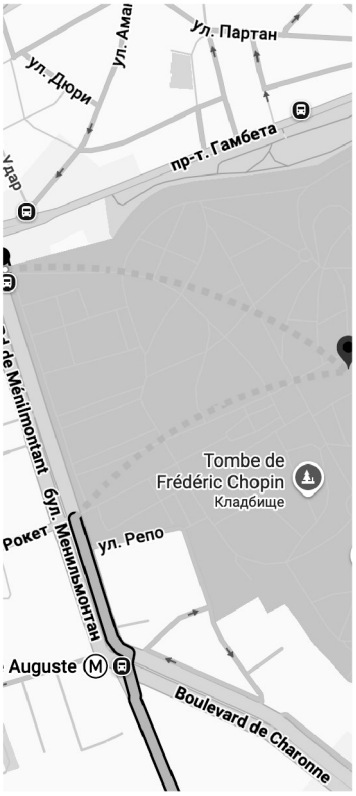
Dominique Cagnard — poet

Ilia Gribov — musician

Anastasia Shirokova — visual artist

This group closed the Paris chapter of *LIBERTÉ, ÉGALITÉ, FRATERNITÉ OU LA MORT*.

Link to documentation →



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