

Artistic portfolio

"The Sun barely ever sleeps"



Once upon a time, there was the Sun. And during the summer solstice, it almost never sleeps...

Traditional Estonian, Romanian, Finnish, Sami, and Lithuanian tales, as well as stories from Scandinavian traditions to celebrate summer. Staged and interwoven with traditional songs and instrumentals from the countries and peoples of Europe's "Far North". By and featuring Christine Giraud.

Duration: approx. 75 minutes

From age 8 → adults

Contact: christinepoetechanteuse@gmail.com - 0033 (0)6 86 62 28 39

Website: <https://christinegiraud.wixsite.com/poetechanteuse>

I- Artistic Vision

This creation offers a storytelling and musical journey into the heart of Estonian, Romanian, Finnish, Sami, Lithuanian, and Scandinavian traditions, centered around the pivotal moment of the summer solstice. Through ancestral tales — Koit and Hāmarik, the Sānziene, the Midsummer troll, Odin and the giant Vafþrúðnir, Beaivi the Sun Mother, Saulē and the sun's path — the performance explores light as a vital, sacred, and cyclical force.

The spoken word blends with traditional Nordic songs and music, both instrumental and vocal, to create a sensitive space where myths dialogue with one another. Born in regions where light deeply structures human life, these stories remind us of the importance of cherishing and passing it on.

In a world often disconnected from natural cycles, this creation affirms light as a source of life, memory, and renewal, celebrating the perpetual return of summer.

II- Synopsis

As the summer solstice approaches, when the night becomes almost nonexistent, a voice tells the story of light. The audience is invited on a journey through the lands of Northern and Eastern Europe, where myths of the sun and fire have accompanied communities for centuries.

The tales follow and respond to one another: impossible loves between day and night, fairies dancing on Midsummer's Eve, creatures of the fringes, gods locked in a riddle contest, solar mothers, and paths of light across the sky. Traditional songs and music extend these narratives and sustain their rhythm, like an echo rising from the earth and the flames.

The night of the solstice then becomes a suspended moment, a celebration of the living, where people gather around the fire to remember that light always returns, and that it never completely disappears, as long as it is told and sung.

A solo performance blending storytelling, traditional songs — including Sami joik and Swedish kulning —, nyckelharpa, shruti box, shamanic drum... it invites you on a magical, poetic, and infinitely... solar journey!

III- Artistic and Technical Description

Format:

Storytelling, singing, and music.

Languages:

French [English possible, depending on the performance], Swedish and Norwegian (songs).

Artistic mediums:

Singing and spoken word, nyckelharpa, shruti box, shamanic drum.

On stage: Christine Giraud (voice, instruments, narration)

Set design: textile hanging, maypole, half-log wooden border

IV- Production and Booking Information

Performances:

This is a new 2026 creation: premiere scheduled at the "Festival des Contes et Légendes", Villeneuve-Loubet (06) on July 16, 2026.

Format: autonomous show (solo)

Minimum technical requirements: stage of at least 20m², lighting and sound if applicable.

Rates starting from: €550 — including €82.50 in payroll taxes — (+ potential travel/accommodation expenses extra)

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Christine Giraud

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V- Artist's Background

A storyteller, poet, and singer, Christine Giraud explores the intersection of spoken word and song, poetry and traditional music.

Her creations are inner journeys where languages, ancient sounds, and Northern light intertwine.

Drawn to tales, myths, and folk songs, she weaves a body of work where the voice becomes a landscape, and music, a memory.

VI- Artist's Biography

Passionate about traditional music and songs from Ireland, Scotland, and Scandinavia, Christine Giraud weaves links between cultures and emotions.

Her voice has taken her from her home in the South of France to Cyprus, via Copenhagen, performing alongside multi-instrumentalist David Faure-Brac, Cypriot storyteller Marina Katsari, Greek musician Vaggelis Gettos, and Irish violinist Kieran Fahy.

She enjoys performing in venues that foster exchange and proximity with the audience — community cafés, bookstores, mountain refuges, as well as festival stages dedicated to oral traditions and her art...

In 2024, she co-organized the Trad'Boréal festival in her hometown of Le Bar-sur-Loup, dedicated to traditional Swedish music and dance, where she presented her first solo creation: "Bergères de Suède et alpages chantants" (Swedish Shepherdesses and Singing Alpine Pastures).

The following year, a training course with the "Compagnie de la Hulotte" (Alpes-Maritimes) revealed a new path to Christine: storytelling.

Defining herself as a "story maker", she immediately joined the Arten Réel Spectacle cooperative, followed in 2026 by the Compagnie de la Hulotte, the company that trained her.

As a multifaceted artist, Christine now combines writing, singing, music, and storytelling, as well as painting — notably kamishibai boards.

Whether performing solo for her own creations or alongside artists such as Benoît Gunalons (tenor, actor) or Alexandre Lamia (guitarist, pianist), she pursues a single quest: to make the legends, tales, languages, and music of the Northern peoples resonate in the light of the South.



VII- Appendices

1) SACEM: List of performed works and rights status

The works in the show belong to the traditional Scandinavian repertoire and have entered the public domain. As such, they are not subject to SACEM copyright royalties as works.

NB: Furthermore, the artist's arrangement for each piece is original.

1. Vem kan segla förutan vind | Duration: 2'00

Origin: Sweden

Type: Traditional song

Author / Composer: Traditional (unknown)

SACEM Status: Public domain

Notes: Ancient Swedish folk song, orally transmitted.

2. Jänta å ja | Duration: 1'00

Origin: Scandinavia (Nordic tradition)

Type: Traditional song

Author / Composer: Traditional (unknown)

SACEM Status: Public domain

3. Kråkevisa | Duration: 2'15

Origin: Norway

Type: Traditional ballad

Author / Composer: Traditional (unknown)

SACEM Status: Public domain

Notes: Narrative ballad from Norwegian folklore

4. Trilo | Duration: 1'10

Origin: Scandinavia

Type: Traditional song / tune

Author / Composer: Traditional (unknown)

SACEM Status: Public domain

5. Byssan Lull | Duration: 2'30

Origin: Sweden

Type: Traditional lullaby

Author / Composer: Traditional (unknown)

SACEM Status: Public domain

Notes: Very ancient popular Swedish lullaby

6. Polska efter båtsman Däck | Duration: 2'00

Origin: Sweden

Type: Traditional dance (polska)

Author / Composer: Traditional

Source: Repertoire attributed to a traditional musician ("Båtsman Däck")

SACEM Status: Public domain

Notes: Tune collected from oral tradition

7. Vallocksvals fran Gunnarskog | Duration: 2'00

Origin: Sweden

Type: Traditional dance (waltz)

Author / Composer: Traditional (unknown)

SACEM Status: Public domain

Notes: Tune collected from oral tradition

8. Uti vår hage | Duration: 2'28

Origin: Sweden (Gotland Island)

Type: Traditional song

Author / Composer: Traditional (unknown)

SACEM Status: Public domain

Notes: Tune collected from oral tradition — prior to the 19th century

Total musical duration: approximately 18 minutes

Use: live songs and instrumentals performed in a live show.

2) SACD and Legal Framework of the Show's Texts

The show is based on tales from Estonian, Romanian, Finnish, Sami, Lithuanian, and Scandinavian oral traditions.

These narratives, part of intangible heritage and the public domain, do not involve the use of protected texts.

The stage script relies on a personal oral reappropriation of these tales, without resorting to protected contemporary adaptations or translations.

Consequently, no copyright royalties (SACD) apply to the texts of the show.

Tales:

Estonia — Koit ja Hämarik (Legend of Dawn and Dusk)

Romania — The Sânziene (Solar Solstice Fairies)

Finland — The Midsummer Troll (Myths and legends surrounding the solstice)

Lapland — Beaivi, the Sun Mother (Sami mythology)

Iceland — Odin's Riddle Contest and the Giant Vafþrúðnir (Poetic Edda)

Lithuania — Saulė, Goddess of the Sun (Baltic mythology)

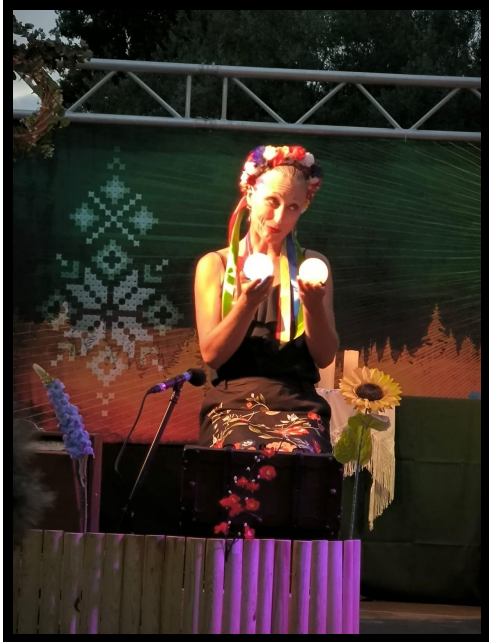


1) Photos and videos









YouTube links:

<https://youtu.be/S9kKq4rOQvQ>

<https://youtu.be/6njOXg1dISo>

https://youtu.be/Ri_ep-r3owg

<https://youtu.be/8wilvWj49ns>

<https://youtu.be/lflvvcQ9D08>

<https://youtu.be/iK43Y4WnlFE>

<https://youtu.be/pvXTyoOPwt0>

<https://youtu.be/F18kG7OkwWM>

<https://youtube.com/shorts/JSbbJhYK-Jw?feature=share>

<https://youtube.com/shorts/Pw9V36Wajd4?feature=share>

<https://youtube.com/shorts/-EcflK58hIE?feature=share>

