

Joan in Wonderland

Video projection on the backside of Joan of Arc's birth house (2013)

Concept & Creation : Julie Meitz

Duration : 5 minutes : The show repeats every other 5 minutes and starts at 8 pm and ends at 12 am.

Synopsis :

The video images below represent Joan and her birthplace, medieval life, magic, and the spirit of the May Day, done in a playful way like, *Alice in Wonderland* [with music]:

Séquence 1

We start with the spirit of spring and the magic of the Middle Ages; the fairy and the mandrake are in love and disappear together in wonderland!

The rabbit and the butterfly reveal the details of the front facade of the birthplace (on the backside). But that is not correct! Ah... but everything is acceptable in Wonderland! It's an adventure with many possibilities!

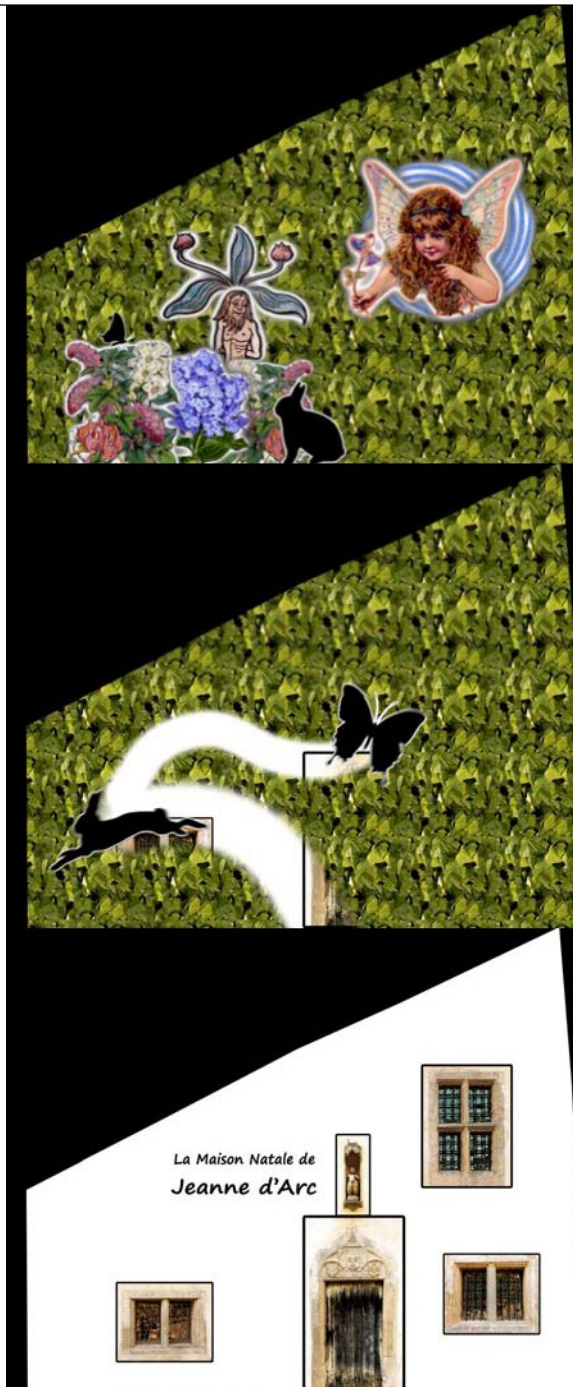
Images :

A middle ages mandrake and a classic / antique fairy.

Note : With reference to the Land of Wonders; The sizes of the pictures are not "normal", the fairy is a game of "The Cheshire Cat", and the pieces (front facade) of the house are really "photographs". With reference to the Middle Ages (and the Bible); the mandrake is magical and the love plant.

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[Concept : encourage visitors to visit the site and explore the surroundings and the interior of the birthplace with a flashlight]

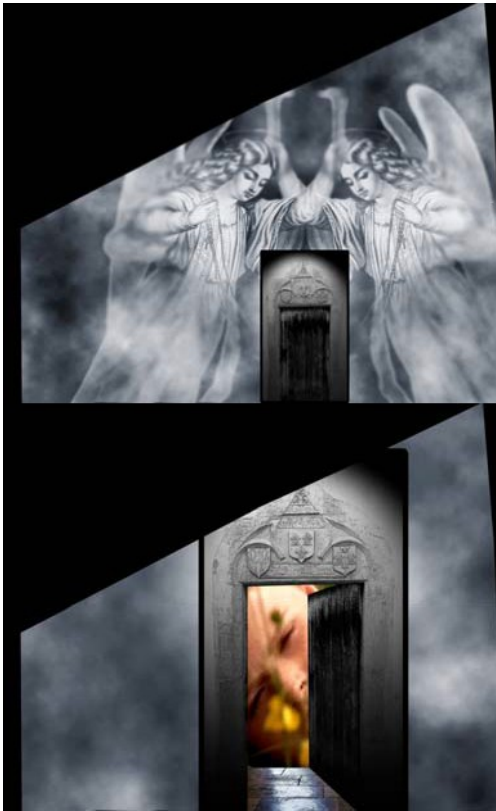
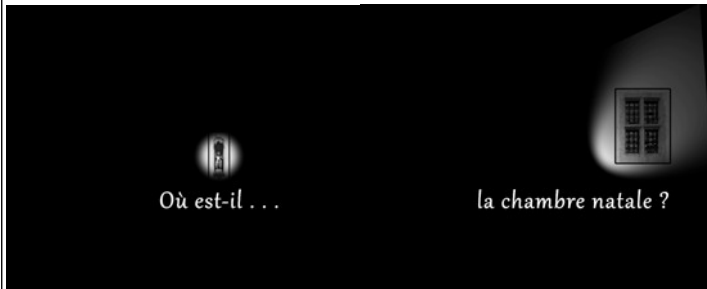


Séquence 2

The light is off and we can see the outside of the house with a flashlight. Questions are asked as we hear the familiar sounds that stimulate the imagination; in the night of the middle ages, what happens? Then two angels of prayer appear; are they Saint Catherine and Saint Margaret in disguise? he we have to wait! ... the door opens ... and we hear the call "Jeanne" ... and who's inside?! A little girl looking at us ... is it Jeanne ...?

Note : With reference to the Land of Wonders; Jeanne is bigger than the door (Alice eats the cake and then she is bigger...).

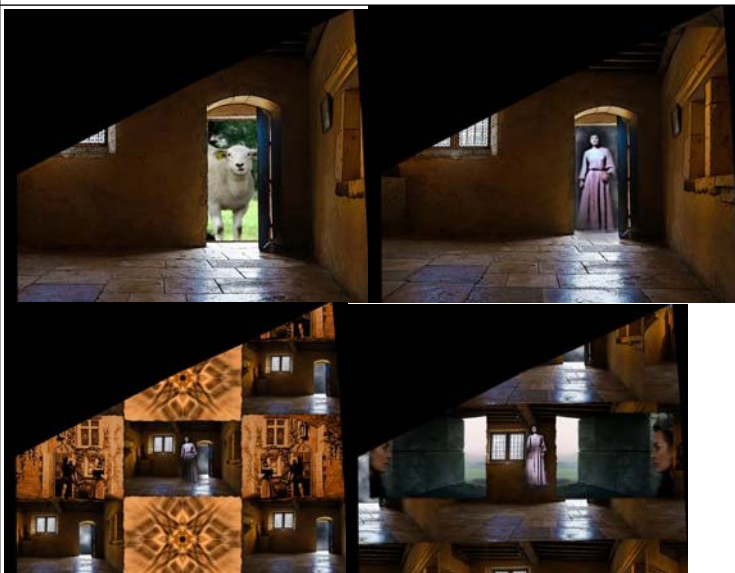
Film Clip : "The messenger: The story of Joan of Arc" Luc Besson 1999



Séquence 3

Now we are in the birthplace and a big sheep is watching us! And then we see a woman entering the house... Is it the older Jeanne who is coming back to visit her birthplace? Displayed as a checkerboard, we see some moments of Jeanne's life.

Then the checkerboard disappears and we see a countryside view through the eyes of a young Jeanne. The old Joan speaks of the month of May and her ascension to heaven ... the sun begins to appear ...



Film Clips : "Joan at the stake" Robert Rossellini 1954, "Joan of Arc" Georges Méliès 1900, "Joan of Arc - The Woman" Cecil B. DeMille 1916, "Jeanne la Pucelle I - The battles" Jacques Rivette 1994



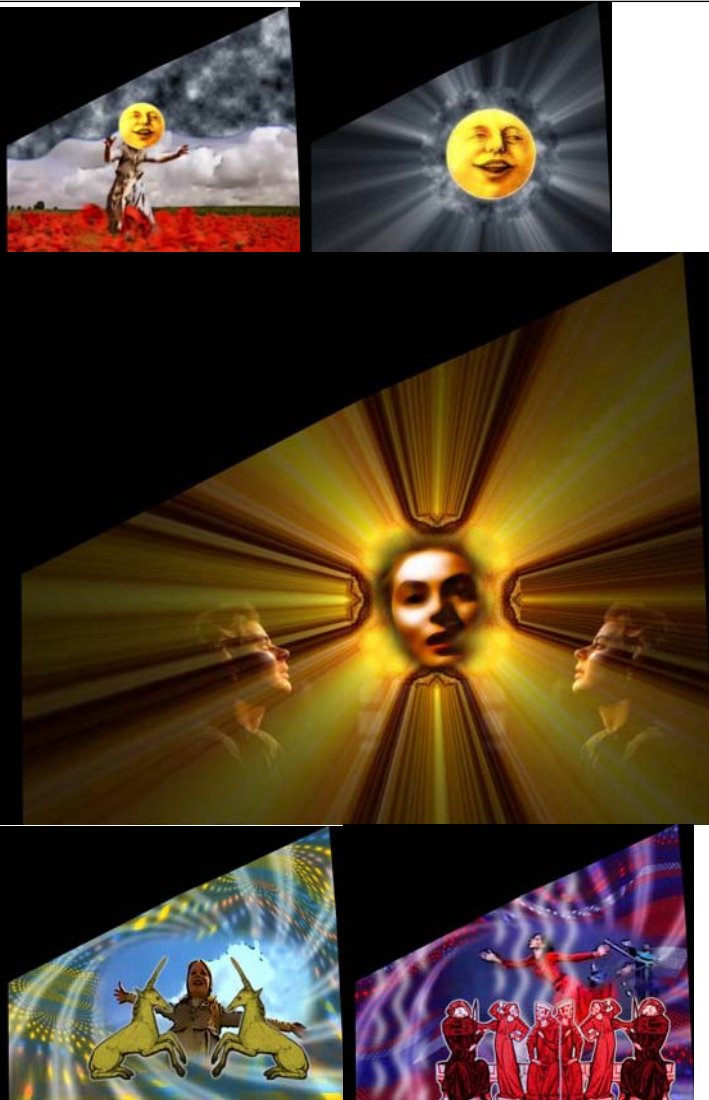
Séq 4

And then the sun comes out and gets bigger and bigger. He catches the young Jeanne who is playing in the countryside (afterwards it's Wonderland!). Then, at a moment of reflection, we see the sun shining and changing color and then dissolving into an older image of Joan; now is the time to accept her decision before the stake as she holds to her convictions [... and in relation to "... his ascent to sky..." , seq 3]

Note : She is duplicate and looks at herself; a game of the father, the son and the Holy Spirit, and of Saint Catherine, Saint Margaret and Saint Michael.

Then again we return to the world of the Middle Ages, the life of the mystic (the unicorn), love (the poet and his lady), nature and wild animals (the badger), and music and dance (the troubadours)... precious moments in a dark time, after all, it's May!

Finally, the image of the "Apotheosis of Joan of Arc" arrives, rich in colors and effects. It dissolves into a galaxy of stars and into



the image of young Jeanne in a blue dress (the sky, the soldier, the woman and her convictions). She is seen kissing the sky and being carried into the galaxy of stars.

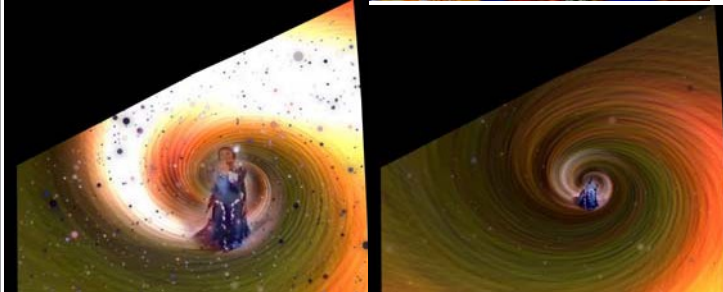
[... In relation to "... his ascent to heaven..." , seq 3]

[Image info: From the stake in Rouen, the heroine in her robe of holiness rises in the direction of from the sky where the Trinity is enthroned. She is welcomed by the Virgin and by her advisers: Saint Michael, Saint Catherine and Saint Marguerite, as well as by many other saints of France, at the head of which are Saint Louis and Charlemagne.]

Images :

- 3 images from the large gallery of "Faces of Jehanne" Interpretation Center, Domremy.
- 1 image from the book Joan of Arc, The Metamorphoses of a Heroine, "The Apotheosis of Joan of Arc" (mosaic ... Atelier Lorin, after Henri Pinta, 1934) - Philippe Martin

Films Clips : "The Messenger: The Story of Joan of Arc" Luc Besson 1999, "Joan of Arc" Victor Flemming 1948, "Seraphic Dialogue" (Dance) - Martha Graham, 1969



Séquence 5 – The End

At the end we come to this galaxy of stars that turns green and turns again into green ivy on the house [we hear the sound of frogs and after splashing water], then the title and the performance of the show are shown as well as a sign indicating the next show,



“Next show in 5 minutes” (with the mandrake at the start).

Finally, the image of Jeanne in drawing with a flashlight appears with a countdown to the next show (mute, except for a few small sounds at the end of the indicators that the show will start).

And then the video goes back to the beginning and plays.

