

Zar - Kziut - Viggain

Tajzer woulin, f-dappschis

Melapsee ola jaggua lo

Belgio lus Eggus "opos";

fafi fe la dappjo nas hi

Maxw Pöper, xwo hi

Ore zov, um

Καλή Χρονιά



December 21st

What's the address of your close friend poet, met at your daughter's?

Dear Elli,

I wish you and your family a
MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY
NEW YEAR!

I hope you are fine since your come
back in Cyprus. I've been very happy to
meet you in friendship and hope to
meet you again. Nano Frenis will receive
the photocopy of your book ^{in order} to work at
the french translation. I'll try to meet
Blayne (her address is in the phone book) when
I'll go to Duberon.

All my best wishes and friendly feelings for you and
yours. JEAN-C.

L'Harmattan

Édition-Diffusion

5-7, rue de L'École Polytechnique
75005 Paris

Tél. (1) 43 54 79 10 (commercial)

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Téléfax (1) 43 29 86 20 (manuscrits, fabrication)

Téléfax (1) 43 25 82 03 (commercial)

réf. : L.3056

Les poèmes de Elli Argyridou - Leonidou ont été retenus pour la publication. Nous envisageons une édition bilingue et souhaitons ainsi disposer de la version grecque, le tout sous forme de prêt-à-cliquer selon les consignes jointes. Il faudrait également nous fournir une quatrième de couverture (20 lignes de résumé de contenu et 3 à 5 lignes au l'auteur). Enfin, nous vous remercions gré de nous le retourner si possible à l'adresse ci-dessus.

Salutations distinguées.

Denis Puyes

Paris, le 28 mars 1995

à J.-L. Villain

Monsieur,

April 2nd

My dear Eli,

I just received your letter before mailing this one with the photographs. It answers most of my questions - I received also letters from friends who are sorry to have not met me at the Embassy. For time and money I could not afford a second stay in Paris so near by the other.

Thank you for the details that you gave me.

Let's hope a next meeting in Cyprus with Naro and George. We deserve to share time together. I am not sure that my letter for the French cultural attache will convince him. Perhaps you will do better. We cross our fingers!!

Enjoy your last week in Paris!

All my best to you and
Dana

Sean Clark

10.09.04

My dear friends,

Here are some pictures of your short but so warm stay in Toulon and at home (by this so rainy weather).

I am happy to read that James recovered and I accompany these words, of all my wishes again for a good health, of both of you, in the future.

My summer is busy: I decided to change of house. I sold this one that you knew and bought a new one at 2 kilometers from the sea. I do not inhabit the new one (only at the beginning of november). I hope to feel well there and to not have

regrets to leave the house where I lived
24 years, where the children have grown.

Now I am retired and I wanted to
turn a page and to give me a new basis
for a new life, that seemed me better
than repeat and turn around.

I wish that we would be able to
meet again.

I shall stay in Rhodes from October
11 to 17 for a meeting of Poetry. I shall
stay in Athens for 2 or 3 days before or after.
If by chance you are in Athens by this
moment, please tell me!

All the best to both of you,
with the love,

Jean Claude.

My phone is 00 33 (0)6-19.26-53 67 (mobile)
I shall give you the new number when I shall
arrive in the new house.



Danos et Elli Leonidou
14, Π. Parides Street
LIMASSOL
3091

CHYPRE

Jean Claude Villain

"L'olivraie de Sigou"

83390 Pierrefeux du Var





Jean-Claude
villain 8.12.1997

My dear Elli, My dear Janos,

I took this photograph during summer 1996 on Tian An Men Square in Beijing, as it was raining, and ^{as} I walked by my Chinese love! It seems so far now and nostalgia is rising! Anyway I find that this photograph is a good one and I send it you to wish you and your family a ~~Happy~~ Christmas and a very happy new year!

Your photograph, on 23.11. with your grand daughter Margarita is really marvelous. You both are so splendid! You seem, Elli, a so grateful grand mother. I can guess what your grand daughter and my grandm^{er} would say together in their basic language, that we don't really understand!

I am very happy to hear that your Hours will be translated in English and published in stats. It is an important step, for us here, to have our works turned in English. I wish that this book - that I specially love as you say - will obtain success here.

My travel in Greece was very warm - not about weather but by friendship. I met Victoria and the whole family. I went to Kavala too and I signed a contract for the publication of my essays in Greek in Athens. My closed thoughts of you and your family - and Happy New Year again, hoping to us anywhere.
Jean-Claude

Jean-Claude VILLAIN

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83390 PIERREFEU-du-VAR

TÉL: 94.48.25.01

(Membre de la Société des Gens de Lettres)

Pierrefeu, le

Paris le 22 Mars 1996

Monsieur le Conseiller Culturel
Ambassade de France
à Chypre

Monsieur le Conseiller,

Le Salon du Livre me permet de retrouver
Elli Péonidou et de lui remettre le livre
de ses poèmes Heurs que j'ai co-traduit pour
les Editions L'HARTATTAN. Vous découvrirez ce
travail de collaboration par l'exemplaire qu'elle
vous remettra à son retour à Limassol.

J'espère qu'une opportunité me permettra
de vous rencontrer et éventuellement de
mieux présenter ce travail de collaboration
entre un auteur chypriote, et des traducteurs
l'une grecque et l'autre français.

En toute sympathie,

Jean-Claude Villain

Le 27 Janvier 1996

My dear Elli,

I answer your phone call quickly
(I am in hurry with many things, especially
the wedding of my son on february 10th!).

Thank you for your call. It is so
pleasant to hear your voice!

I spoke Jolaine about your coming.
Unfortunately she is leaving Paris on
February 15th to Bangkok and Auckland
in New Zealand where she will have an
exhibition.

The publisher told me that the book will
be ready at the beginning of March. So we
can arrange a meeting at the Cultural Center
of Cyprus Embassy in Paris. I can stay

in Paris three days (22-23-24 March)
So, if you want, the meeting could take
place in these days. (I would prefer the 23th or
24th, because on the 22nd it is the day of the
inauguration of the Book fair, a very important
meeting where I hope to meet you and Santos.

I wrote the new French Attaché in Aricohé
for a long time. I don't understand why he
did not receive my letter. I shall give a new one
for him to you - Santos on March.

I tell you again that my house is
broad open to welcome you if you want
to jump on French Riviera.

I am very happy about this plans.
Share with Santos all my best thinking.

Fernando

I send this version to Nania in order
to receive her advices about the freedom
I probably took about the text.

When Naro and I will have finished
this work you will get the second version.

—
Thanks to Lamos for the informations
about the interview of J. P. Tixier in Lyon.
I gave them Jean Ray Tixier and he
thanks you too.

—
Victoria Theodorou wrote me again.
I plan to publish your poems (some
of them) with those from Victoria
and Lydwa Stephanou in the "Newspaper
of the poets", published in Brussels.

—
I wish you a nice stay in stats
and hope to hear from you.

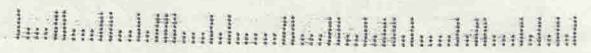
Yours friendly for you and Lamos,
Jean Claude



12 11 97 17h

Elli and Paves Leonidou.
127, 70th Street.
Brooklyn.
NEW YORK 11209

11209/1129





Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Olivaie de Sigou
83450 PIERREFEU DU VAR
FRANCE

Jean-Claude VILLAIN

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83390 PIERREFEU-du-VAR

Tél: 94.48.25.01

Pierrefeu, le 12.11.1992

My dear Elli

My dear Danos,

As I am not sure that will stay in Cyprus for the next days I prefer to send you this letter in N.Y. where it will welcome you!

I hope that your travel was ok.

My stay in Greece was very nice although the time was short and the weather, rather cold.

I met Victoria and spent an evening in her house with the whole family. of course we talked about you, too.

Elli, have you other poems translated
in English? I could translate some of
them in French for the Poets News paper?

I enclose the copy of the article of Heidi
Beraoui about your Horas. It is a
very good one as he is able to do!

Here is Autumn in my ground and
I begin olives gathering. Fortunately
I have, besides me, a young woman
who shares my life for a few months,
and who helps me because I have
no free time to such work!

I think that the international
Congress of the literary critics will
take place in Cyprus at Spring.
Do you know the exact dates?

I wish you a very nice stay
in N.Y. with your family
and hope to hear from you
soon.

Love.

Jean Clark

Lectures 1

Elli Argyridou-Péonidou : Heures

(24 poèmes traduits du grec par Maria Orphanidou-Féris et Jean-Claude Villain, Éditions L'Harmattan, Paris, 1996.)

Ce recueil bilingue d'Elli Péonidou, poétesse chypriote confirmée qui a publié plusieurs livres pour enfants en plus de huit livres de poésie, est le premier que nous ayons en français. D'entrée de jeu, disons que ces textes ne présentent aucune maladresse de traduction. Les poèmes courts coulent dans une limpidité et un naturel caractéristique du génie de la langue française. Poèmes structurés selon vingt-quatre heures débutant à « 6:00 » jusqu'à « 5:00 » en passant par « 24:00 ». Ces chiffres servent de titres à ces poèmes condensés qui ne retiennent que l'essentiel.

Elli Péonidou capte à merveille le passage du temps dans son infime précision tout en l'insérant dans son contexte atemporel serti de la mythologie grecque et sa tradition. Mais cette fluctuation du temps est traitée par une gestuelle concrète qui dramatise bien les frissons et les secrets de la vie quotidienne: *genou fléchi, l'aube s'apprête pour une danse des îles / sur l'Erection / les paupières du jour frissonnent / les voix secrètes plongent au fond de la mer / le jour soulève ses voiles lavés. Bonjour.* : J'ai tenu à citer ce premier poème en entier parce qu'il est caractéristique de tout le reste du recueil. Poésie dense et finement ciselée. Poésie des profondeurs qui saisit l'immensité du monde qui nous entoure à travers nos gestes habituels. Poésie qui rapproche de nous les horizons les plus lointains par d'étonnante combinaisons d'images et de symboles. Le talent du poète consiste à se méfier des « pompeuses paroles » qui risquent de gâter le paysage poétique. Ainsi, elle produit d'une manière discrète des vers qui nous surprennent: *Sur la joue d'Artémis une poudre irisée. Ou des sons percent l'édrédon du silence. Ma fille recueille les larmes du midi... Forte est l'évocation élégante du chèvrefeuille.* Les choses et les sentiments se font et se défont dans une virtuosité qui nous laisse ébahis par leur pouvoir de suggestion et de silence générateur de sens.

Le poète nous avertit que lorsque nous avons enroulé le temps en « douces pelotes », comme Adonis, nous ne pouvons jamais deviner le temps que nous pouvons tenir, et *Lorsque nous le saurons il sera trop tard.* Attente, observation des événements, silence « entre fatigue et angoisse » constituent les thèmes récurrents de ce recueil qui mérite plusieurs lectures. Tout le panthéon de la mythologie grecque y passe avec ses déboires, sa sérénité, ses naissances et ses métamorphoses. La partie la plus belle est octroyée aux rêves qui *s'entremêlent. Des araignées tissent le silence. / Les étoiles débordent du panier du Verseau / ... Les racines travaillent toujours dans l'obscurité / Elles aussi possèdent odorat et toucher.* Justement, c'est cette saisie de l'univers dans ce qu'il possède de plus évanescent et de plus fragile et concret qui séduit le lecteur. *Envie de revenir à l'âge de l'innocence.* Pour goûter les *Arômes de basilic et de menthe*, afin que nous puissions ré-ouvrir la porte de ces textes saisissants.

Hédi Bouraoui

Maurice Couquiaud: Chants de gravité

(L'Harmattan, 1996)

L'étonnement seul a pouvoir d'étonner. L'agenda d'un séjour à « l'Hôpital des clartés malades » restitue un « *cauchemar de vitrail menacé* », poème éminemment visuel au seuil de la cécité.

*Mon voisin de tribord, le pêcheur breton
ne peut remonter ses filets.
Ils sont accrochés dans un glaucome
par le bout de l'horizon défait.*

Cet « *enfant du labyrinthe* » qu'est l'étonnement sera qualifié de « *sauvage* » comme la marée dont « *l'errance bitumineuse* » stérilise le « *grand chahut de nuances* » du visible, pour lequel un phare bat dans la poitrine.

A ces extrêmes que sont la densité opaque et la transparence, Maurice Couquiaud oppose la réflexion des rayons lumineux. Il refuse à la fois l'hermétisme et la prose-verre à vitre.

*La jeune fille lumière se penche parfois sur l'atmosphère,
sur le cristal ou sur l'eau pour les traverser. Comme les
reflets de la profondeur qu'elle apprivoise, les poètes
doivent admettre et diffuser les échos de la transparence
qui les croise.*

Pour un poète affirmant que « *la science et le mythe sont aujourd'hui d'accord* », « l'optique, l'astrophysique, et autres disciplines, confondent leurs « lumières » avec celles de la foi, « *souvenir de l'éblouissement* » et marche dans un « *trouble illuminé* ». Les ondes émises par l'homme croisent les scintillements des « *mondes disparus* ». Les « *mémoires éteintes* » sont les nôtres, mais l'œil est « *témoin de son retard* » sur les étoiles. « *Le temps semble fourmiller parfois sans direction précise dans l'Unité du monde. Il adhère à un sentiment global de l'infini assez vif pour s'évader de la chair et des os. Il s'adapte à la relativité de l'esprit dense qui le courbe en rêvant* ».

La continuité matière-esprit vers l'Oméga peut faire songer à l'audacieux Teilhard. Maurice Couquiaud cherche à entrevoir les « *intentions de Dieu* ». la « *bonne volonté de l'Infini* ». La poésie ne peut, selon lui, « *ouvrir le jeu* » sur « un tapis vert sans calculs », ce qui reviendrait à affirmer que « *le néant fait des miracles en se prenant pour Dieu* », comme le prétendent sans doute les poètes dont « *l'enfer céleste* » nous bombarde de « *vers inexpiables* ». Le « *trou noir* » mène-t-il « *le conduit auditif de l'athéisme dans le pavillon tourmenté de l'intégrisme* »? L'essence précède-t-elle l'existence? Les paris sont ouverts, mais on ne peut qu'être bouleversé par la ferveur d'un regard qui éprouve dans les couleurs d'un retable ou le soupir d'ogives effondrées la palpitation « *d'un thème secret qu'une lueur a desserré* ».

François Huglo

le Journal des poètes

Septembre 1997
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A. HAULOT
Avenue des Ortolans 95
1170 BRUXELLES

P. JONES
Rue Roberts-Jones 66
1180 BRUXELLES

Parait huit fois l'an
Bureau de dépôt : Gerpinnes

Maison Internationale
de la Poésie
Chaussée de Wavre, 150
B-1050 BRUXELLES

*A la consigne des chairs et des âmes
(...)
où la mort
n'est même plus la mort de quelqu'un*

(Gaston Miron)



Guy de Bosschère (qui évoque, en page 14, la disparition de son ami québécois) avec Gaston Miron, en 1982, lors de la fondation de la FIDELF

Photo: C. Poutout.

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Jean-Claude Villain

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83990 Pierrerieu-du-Var

94 4825 01

Pierrerieu 17.02.1994

My dear Elly,

Thank you for your kind letter.

Last evening, I gave Julien (from the gallery) a letter for you. He told me that he was leaving on Saturday and has to stay in a hotel in Le Massey. So you probably met together. I don't know him very well but I am sure that he will be very open to all the interesting things you will offer him to share.

I have called Jolayne on phone in Paris and we had together an interesting talk. We shall probably meet together on April in Roussillon if

Jean-Claude Villain

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83990 Pierrefeuil-du-Var

94 4825 01

Pierrefeuil 17.02.1994

My dear Elly,

Thank you for your kind letter.
Last evening, I gave Julien (from
the gallery) a letter for you. He
told me that he was leaving on
Saturday and has to stay in a
hotel in Le Mans. So you probably
met together. I don't know him
very well but I am sure that he will
be very open to all the interesting
things you will offer him to share.

I have called Jolayne on phone
in Paris and we had together an
interesting talk. We shall probably
meet together on April in Roussillon if

I don't go to Laris before!

I enclose two photographs that I received from the nice Palestinian young woman: Jamala. You remember: you told me that she was in love of me, the first evening. Unfortunately you know that her brother was waiting for a surgical operation of kidney in Karala. I tried to find a solution in France, but they decided to leave Greece for India. That is a complete adventure and I am very afraid about Jaousat.

Nano Frénis sent me her first French version of your Houzas, leaving me completely free to arrange the text. It needed in fact another writing to be real poetry in French language. My work is not finished at all but here is the first version I did with the former work of Nania. Perhaps Anne Causel (does she speak Greek) could have a look on this text and tell you what she thinks. I go on with my work and today

Jean-Claude Villain

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83450 Pierre-feu-du-Var

94 482501

April 28th, 1995

My dear Elli,

There was a very long strike, in mail services, in this region (six weeks!). I have just received, to day, a letter of my editor that he sent a month ago.

I enclose the pages about you and your book. He says that he ^{is} agree to publish your greek text with the french translation.

He needs a proper state of the greek text, ready to be printed. Do you think that we can copy the greek text in the former issue of the book in Athens? Would your first editor agree with copying or would you prefer to present a new state of your greek text?

At the end of the contract, the editor asks you to buy the fifty first books, in order to help the publication. (that means an expense of around 1800 F.F.). If you don't agree, please write a letter to him in order to explain, but I'm afraid that he will stop the plan!

To day I inform Maria too of the decision of my editor.

I think that it is more simple if you send me back the contract with your signature, and the greek text if necessary. I shall add your presentation in french and send the whole to Paris.

If you agree completely with this purpose, I shall ask Jolayne a illustration for the cover.

I do hope that you and Lanas feel very well.

Winter is always boring here, but now, with Spring, I feel better, although several burdens of my life are too heavy by the moment. I feel rather lonesome too.

I hope to hear from you soon. Don't you come in France?

Friendly yours.

Jean Claude.

June 13th.

After having written this letter I received your last letter, sent before your journey. I kept it, hoping be able to join you in France by Latacía. After your phone call, yesterday, I send you this letter. Maria Frénis answered me as I told you. I think that she and I shall keep the version that we have introduced to the publisher, in spite of the critics from a poet as Maria said. Anyway there will be always somebody who will disagree with it!

I hope to hear from you soon.

All my best wishes for you and Lanas. Jean Claude

of course, keep a photocopy

P.S. - Your french friend Anne Carrel, is she still cultural attaché at french Embassy at Gyms? If so, what's the exact address to join her, please?

P.S. - Your french friend

S.E. L'Ambassadeur de la République de Chypre en France,

Mes chers Amis,

Mesdames, Messieurs,

En Décembre 1993, dans les marges d'un Symposium de Poésie Méditerranéenne en Grèce du Nord, je me trouvais assis aux côtés d'Elli Péonidou dans l'autocar qui, par une matinée froide et brumeuse, nous conduisait sur les ruines de Philippes. Tenant son petit livre paru à Athènes, Elli me parlait de ses 24 poèmes consacrés aux heures, me racontant comment l'inspiration lui vint en voyant tarvailler son amie peintre Jolaine Meyer sur l'île de Santorin. J'eus aussitôt envie de rendre ce texte disponible en France en travaillant à une version française pour la collection *Poètes des cinq continents* des Editions L'Harmattan. Quelques semaines plus tard, Maria Orphanidou-Frérès, de l'Université Aristote de Thessalonique, traductrice de poètes français contemporains, se joignit de façon indispensable à ce projet. Ainsi a pu naître ce livre, fruit d'une triple collaboration et orné en couverture d'un très beau dessin de Jolaine Meyer.

Evidemment j'aurais aimé être parmi vous ce soir pour vous présenter plus longuement ce texte, entourer mon amie Elli Péonidou, saluer mes amis, ses amis et tous les lecteurs. Malheureusement des contraintes matérielles m'en empêchent et ne me laissent plus que le moyen de ce message pour vous saluer. Mon regret est cependant atténué par la certitude que vous partagerez mon bonheur à la découverte de l'évocation par Elli Péonidou des 24 Heures du jour en Mer Egée.

Jean-Claude Villain

Soirée du 28 Janv 1996. Ambassade de Chypre

Jean-Claude VILLAIN

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83390 PIERREFEU-du-VAR

Tél: 94.48.25.01

Pierrefeu, le 27.2.1996.

Thank you, my dear Elli, for your letter that I have just found, back from South Morocco where I spent a week. The travel was rather bad because of the weather: clouds, rain, cold and snow behind Atlas mountains. I dreamt warm atmosphere in some oasis and I found deep winter! The society gets more and more medieval and I felt rather depressed.

I wrote the letter for Cyprus A - ambassador to say. I gave him the publisher's address and some names of friends in Paris to be invited at the reception about your book. The Book Exhibition in Paris begins on March 22nd for the public, but the inauguration is on March 21st, around 18-19 p.m. I would like to arrive in Paris on the 21st and to be at the inauguration (we could meet there!) but I am not exactly sure to be able to. If not, I'll arrive early in the morning of March 22nd.

The best date for me, for the reception, is in the evening of March 22nd. I suggested Mr. Andreas Pirishis this date. But I think that you and him have to manage as you want. If I can be there, I would be very happy. If not, the reception will be the same: I am not necessary!

I phoned my publisher to day. He says that the book will definitely be issued on March 10th so we can be sure to have it for the reception and also for the Book exhibition. I remind you the address: Editions L'HARMATTAN, 5-7, rue de l'École Polytechnique 75005 PARIS. Tel: 44-07-26.05 (ASK MR. Denis Pagen OR "Patrice"). (I gave all these informations at the Cyprus Embassy.)

Let me know exactly your date when you will have your reservations. I shall probably stay in a small flat of my friends. Here is the phone number in Paris: 45 41 46 26.

I am very happy too, to meet you and Janos soon. I hope that everything will be OK with your stay, the book and the reception. I tell you again that my house is broad open for you if you want to spend some days in South of France.

Yours,

Jean Claude.

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Elli LEONIDOU
14, M. Parides Street.
LIMASSOL 3091
- CHYPRE -

Jean. Claude Villain

"L'Orvaie de Sigou"

83390 Sierefen au Var
France

Pierrefeu le 3.08.1998

My dear Elli,

Your letter reached me only on Saturday taking three weeks to come! It arrived as I was beginning a letter for you because I was anxious about my last letter (sent in May) because you had formerly planned to come in West Europe and in France.

I wanted also know if you would come at the literary critics' congress in Hyères (the town nearest from my village) at the end of September.

Now, after reading you, I am precisely informed about your summer. By this time you stay in Greece, where I would be too, because of the rain for those three days! Also because I would be able to meet you there.

I read that your summer is busy. Except your stay in Athens you pay hospitality to many friends: that is a great pleasure to meet so many people and to exchange with them.

I read with joy that you became grand parents for the second time! My congratulations for the parents and you for this small and charming child, called Elli as you! I wish her, and the whole family, the best things in any part of the life, and specially happiness!

As I cannot let you climb a new degree in the grand parent dignity, my son gave me the chance to reach you soon because, his wife and he expects a new baby for the end of February. Time runs so fast. I feel a real young man and I shall be twice grand father!

Summer began by works in the house. I made the wood maker, building a new library in order to enlarge the precedent, which was too small and ~~unuseful~~ ^{uneasy}. We welcome so friends. Among them: Yannis Yfantis, his wife and his daughter, from Thessaloniki. They stayed a week at home and we left together for a festival of the "Voices of the Mediterranean Sea" where we were both invited. It lasted a week near by Montpellier. For August we formally wanted to travel but by these days we prefer stay here and organize something further, either at the end of the summer, either during the next holidays in Autumn or Winter.

I am very happy to read that you are creative, Panos and you. I wish you to remain in such happy state. I hope you will go on with your idea of novel.

I composed a play during last May. The subject is Minotaurus. It is a new political reading. I would like you knew the argument and to discuss about with you. I sent the text to Nano Frenis. Perhaps she will translate it and after I could give it you to read.

A new poetry book will be published at the Autumn and I prepare a lecture about the poet Crede Edouard Glissant.

I wish you to live a very happy summer and to have marvellous days in September with Elli. All my best regards to Nehina and love and kisses for both of
Jean Clark.

Geun-Claude Villain

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83450 Piettefeu-du-Var

94 4825 01

22 Mai 1994

My dear Elli,

Thank you for your last letter that you sent me when you were back home, after your long trip in states and London. I am very happy to read that you spent a very nice time in every place. I can imagine how very happy you were at your son's wedding.

Excuse me to answer your last letter so late but I am very busy by this time of end of school year; also because my garden calls me to

I hope to meet Jolaine in few time. She is now in Roussillon and I talked with her last week. She stays there all the summer, so I shall probably get in Roussillon in July.

Please, share with Paris all my best regards. Faithfully. Jean Claude

art, water, clean and so on

Also because I finish an essay about a french poet, a friend of mine.

After July 10th I'll feel on holidays. Possibly I shall get in Greece for a couple of weeks because I have a friend there who invites me to stay. It could be a nice opportunity to visit Victoria and Irene.

I translated some of their poems and I hope to see them published in France before this end of the year.

About your poems I am waiting for the reply of Naro Frenis about my last version. After, I shall send you this text and try to publish all of the poems in France. But already it is now sure that Le Journal des Poetes will publish some of them in its next issue.

I completely agree with you to write thanks for Patricia at the beginning of the publication

Jean-Claude Villain

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83450 Pierrefeuil-du-Var

94 4825 01

April 11th '94

My dear Elli,

I am sure that your journey in states was wonderful. Probably the fight for the price was hard, but so exciting!

As I am ^{just} writing, you are with Panos in London for your son's wedding. You probably spent there, with all your family, some unforgettable moments.

Probably Panos told you that I called him on phone at Patricia's. The talking was very warm and although I never met him I felt him as a close friend.

We spoke about the work that you

did with Patricia before your leaving.

I also received by this time, the first observations of Nania about my version.

So I send you today a new version, rather different than the former one because you brought me many useful and precise informations about the sense of your verses.

In fact, some expressions, and some pictures, were sent for me before your help and Patricia's one.

I hope you will appreciate this new work. Tell me about. I would like that Mrs Carrel, the cultural attache, could read this new text to make the critics it ^{will} suggest her.

Mr Mauthier from the Journal des poètes told me that he could published some of your poems of Hours. But I wait for your answer before sending him the last version. I'll try to find an editor for a complete publication.

I am supposed to meet Tolayne in Roussillon in April.

I hope that my letter will welcome you at your return, on April 16th.

All my best regards for you and Pamela. Jean Claude

Αφελήθεσι + βράβη + Μάρω και Γιώργο.

Καλη χρονια! Σας ευχαριστω για τις ευχες σας. Θα μου δωσετε μεγαλη χαρα αν καταργησετε τον πληθυντικο. Δεν ειμαστε πια φιλοι;

Σας στέλλω το εργοβιογραφικό μου και πολυ θα χαρω να δω την παρουσιαση στο περιοδικό σας, που ομολογω πως δεν το γνωρίζω. Δεν ειμαστε δυστυχως γαλλοφωνοι, με ολο που λατρευουμε την Γαλλια και τα γαλλικά γραμματα και έχουμε πολλους φίλου εκει.

Στην κόρη μου έδωσα το τηλέφωνο σας. Συντομα θα έρθει στη θεσσαλονίκη και ελπίζω να πάρει το θάρρος να σας τηλεφωνήσει. Με ολο που είναι πολυ κοινωνικη είναι ντροπαλή όταν δεν γνωρίζει τους ανθρώπους.

Η Μορφωτική Ακόλουθος της Γαλλικής Πρεσβειας στην Κύπρο που είναι πολυ φίλη μας ενθουσιαστηκε όταν έμαθε για τα σχέδια του Jean Claude να παρουσιασει τις "Œuvres" μου μαζί με τα έργα της γαλλιδας ζωγραφου Joiaïin Meyer (απο τα οποια ειχα εμπνευσθει τα ποιήματα) στην Τουλόν. Αέει μάλιστα πως μετά θα μπορούσαμε να φέρουμε ολη την έκθεση στην κυπρο, και να αναλάβει το Γαλλικό Μορφωτικό Κέντρο την παρουσιαση στα ελληνικά και στα γαλλικά με ηθοποιους και μουσική. Έτσι θα μπορούσαμε ίσως να ανταμώσουμε όλοι μαζί εδω. Δεν θάταν πολυ ομορφα;

Ο αντρας μου κι εγω ειμαστε συνδεομενοι συναισθηματικά τοσο με την Τουλόν όσο και με την Προηγκία. Στην Τουλόν περασαμε ένα αξέχαστε δεκαπενθημερο το 1981 σαν φιλοξενοούμενοι του Luis Aragon στην πανσιον που συνηθιζε να πηγαινει τα καλοκαιρια. Μερικους μήνες αργότερα, τον δεκέβρη του ιδιου χρονου πεθανε. Δεν ξέρω αν το ξέρατε, ο Aragon ηταν μεγαλος φίλος της Κυπρου και μετα την εισβολή ειχε παρει μέρος στους αγώνες των Φιλων της Κυπρου στο Παρισι. Ειχε έρθει κι εδω σαν φιλοξενουμενος μας και μάλιστα στο τελευταιο ποιημα που ειχε γραψει, αναφέρεται σ "αυτο το νησι που είναι το τελευται ενθυμιο και κανεις δεν μπορεί να μου το πάρει", καπως έτσι. Δεν έχω πρόχειρο αυτή τη στιγμή το γαλλικό κειμενο, είναι καπου στα χαρτια μας. Ο δεσμός μας με την Νοτιο Γαλλια, εκτος απο την joiaïin που σας ανέφερα πιο πανω ειχε ξεκινήσει απο τη φιλία μας με την Anne Filippe γυναικα του Gerard Filippe του διασημου ηθοποιου. Με την Ανν, που πεθανε δυστυχως κι αυτή πριν απο τρία χρόνια, μας συνέδεε πολυχρονη φιλια, και επανειλημμένα την επισκεφθήκαμε στην Ramatuelle, το χωριουδάκι όπου τώρα αναπαυονται κι οι δυό.

Λοιπον καταλαβαινετε ότι για μένα έχει διπλή σημασία μια παρουσιαση του έργου μου σ αυτά τά μέρη. Γι αυτό και θά ήθελα να σας ευχαριστήσω ιδιαίτερα για τον κόπο που κανετε.

Με τις ευχες μου για καθε τι το καλό στον χρονο που έρχεται, σας αφήνω, καλοι μου φιλοι. Ο συζυγος μου σας χαιρετά.

Με αγάπη

Ελλη

Jean-Claude Villain

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83450 Pierrafeu-du-Var

94 4825 01

25.1.1994

7

Dear Elli,

Thank you for your nice letter in reply of my last that took so much time to travel to you.

I believe too, that we shall be good friends. I look forward to meet your husband, Pano. Jean. Luc Wauthier (you met him in Lyon last Spring) told me about you and your husband: he remembers that your husband has a large sense of humour.

I had already sent the photocopy of your book to the Freris. So that they have two!! I hope that Harou will soon get over with this nice and pleasant work, so that I shall be

2/
able to read all your book in French.

About planning an exhibition of Jolaine's paintings with a reading of your poems in Toulon, the chairwoman of the gallery agrees in the principle but, of course, she wants to know the paintings. So I suggested to drive her to Jolaine in Roussillon at Spring when Jolaine will probably get there. So that, we could arrange the exhibition with the dates. (When do you intend to come and visit Jolaine?)

I've been very happy to hear that this plan could have a very nice following by another exhibition at the French Embassy in Cyprus. You are right: our meeting was arranged by a fairy! If the French attache can invite me there with Jolaine, it's quite a tale! Let us keep our fingers crossed! (One man who is a responsible of the gallery in Toulon is to be in Cyprus at the end of February. I'll give him your phone number: he could have a talk with you in order to discuss the plan of your coming with Jolaine's paintings exhibition.

3
I enclose some books of poetry of mine for the Cultural Attache of the French Embassy. Thank you, Elli, to have open this new link.

Thank you too for the address of Victoria Theodorou. I have already received from her the French translation of some poems published in the French Review: Polyphonies. I shall ask her if she has other translations because I would like to present three greek women poets: Victoria, Lydia Stephanou and Constantina Karadimou for the "Poet's newspaper" (in Belgium).

How lucky you are to go to Oklahoma next March! I received a copy of the last issue of World Literature Today from your friend Djelal Kadir. I shall subscribe to receive this publication regularly because I found it very interesting as I could judge.

Here is what D. Kadir is writing about you: "I am happy to hear that our mutual friend Elli Leonidou is contagious in her enthusiasm toward our efforts. She is a delightful woman and a sensitive poet

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and I am happy that you have had the opportunity to meet her "

I am happy too, Elli!

Dear Elli, I wish you some nice creative moments with your poetry and a rich stay in Oklahoma. Please say hello for me to Djelal Kadir there!

Hoping to hear from you soon.

Yours friendly,

Jean Claude.

3. I intend to publish the first texts translated by Ania Fréris from your book in the "Poet's newspaper". I need a short bio-bibliography note about you.

1 - I exchanged some good letters with Klitos Ioannides who told me that, of course, he well knows you.

2 - It is really my own friend Jean Max Tixier who was asked by your husband in Lyon during the meeting at Sporing. Would you ask Panos to send me a photocopy of the publication in order to give it to Jean Max Tixier. (Actually I am writing an essay about his poetry). Thank you so much!

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Officiel de Signet
84250 PIERRETEU DU VAR
France

16

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PRIORITAIRE
PRIORITY
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ZAN KNON
Villain

ELLI PEONIDOU

P.O. Box 544

LIMASSOL

CYPRE.

Thomas Flappell

Melipalé la
belgio fa "o pes"
da Ferrara

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Olivaie de Sigou
83450 PIERREFEU DU VAR

France



PRIORITAIRE
PRIORITY

Elli Leonidas
14, M. Parides.
LIMASSOL 3091
CHYPRE.

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Olivaie de Sigou
83450 PIERREFEU DU VAR

Zou-Kzou-Bizou
(comp. x²)

Jean-Claude VILLAIN

"L'Olivaie de Sigou"

83390 PIERREFEU-du-VAR

Tel: 00.33.(0)4.94.48.25.01

Pierrefeu, le 11.02.1998.

My dear Eli and Samos,

Are you back in Cyprus from N.Y? Did you spend a very nice stay by your children, overseas? I can guess all the joy that you felt besides them.

I thank you for your invitation on the first Sunday of January for the presentation of your book. I would have liked to go there but unfortunately I began again at school the day after. However it would have been a nice opportunity.

How are the elections now in Cyprus?

Jean Nap Tixier told me that Robert André plans that the next meeting of the International Association of the

critics will take place in Hyères in September.
Hyères is the town where I teach on the
sea side, 15 kilometers far from my
house. So I hope that you will come and
I shall be able to welcome you.

Elli, there will be a large festival
in July in another town of South France:
Lodève. This festival is called: "The voices
of the Mediterranean sea". I asked them if
they have a poet from Cyprus. They said "No".
So I suggested to invite you. I hope that they
will hold their promise and that you will
receive an invitation. If so, please tell me
immediately. Of course I shall participate
myself at this festival. The dates are: 21-26
July.

I feel rather tired by this moment
because of too much work, and also
a too long winter.

I hope to hear from you soon.
All my faithful regards,

Jean. Clark.

May first. 1997

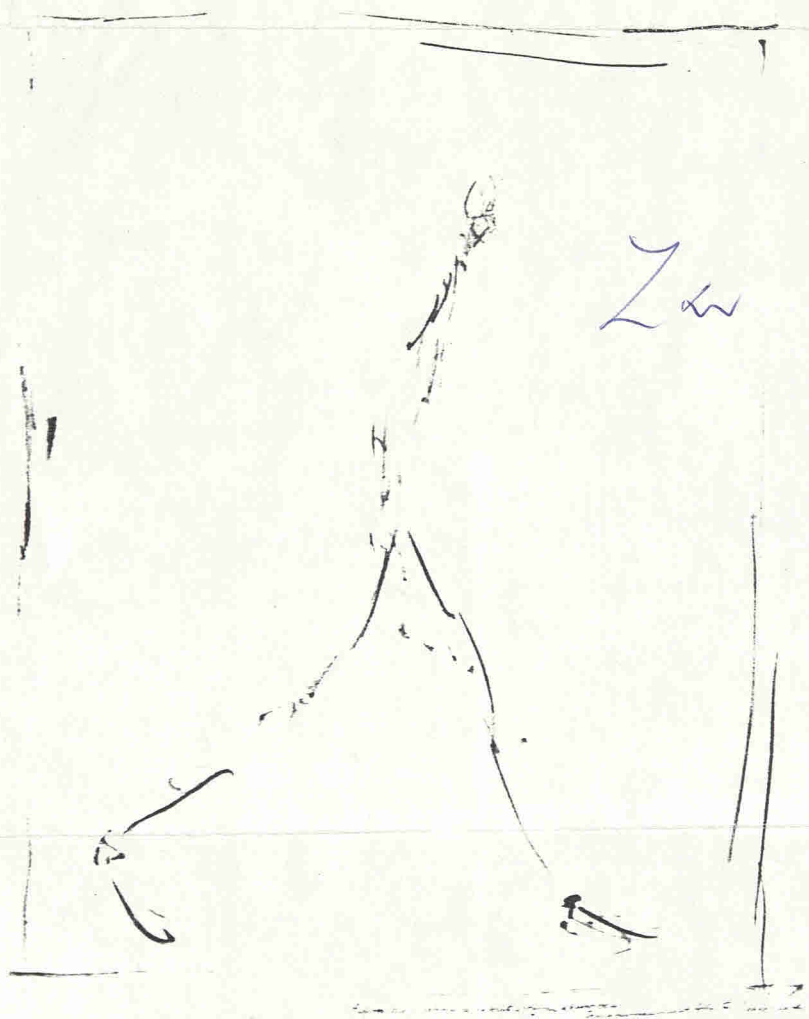
My dear Elli,

I was supposed to meet you and Danos at the end of the month in ROMA for the Congress of the International Critics Association, but unfortunately it just has been cancelled. So we shall probably meet there in September as Robert Anshe' said.

How do you do in this Spring? I am just fifty for two weeks and I go on for an second half-secular! In fact, I am very busy for three months because I have founded an Association to struggle against the attacks of the Nationalist Party (F.N.) which increases in France. The aim of our association is culture and we have already many tasks to do only with this only them!

About poetry, my next book "Thalassa front un retour" will be published next month with a drawing by Tolaine.

Will you come in France. If anyway I jump to Greece during summer, I shall call you on phone. All my best for you and Danos.
Jean. Claude.



Zu Kjuil Byain



Elhi Leonidou.
41, M. Parides Street
LIMASSOL 3091
CHYPRE

83390

LE DÉPARTEMENT
DES BÂTIMENTS
PRÉFECTURE DU VAR
France

Zoh Kzum Biffan

13. 04. 1998

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My dear Eli,
My dear Santos,

Unfortunately I took some time to answer your last letter that reached me at the beginning of March. I was very busy and disturbed during this last period. As you probably knew, the political situation became very critical in South France about the last elections with the extreme right. I fight against them, specially in Toulon, the town near by my village, with the Association that I created last year. As it is rather well known in France, I was invited in several towns, during the elections campaign, and I moved very often.

During the same period I found again my young girl friend who went studying in Grenoble. We decided to live together and we settle now our common life here.

I had also some troubles of health, especially terrible rheumatism in left shoulder and arm, and could not teach at the school for a week.

You can understand that my poetry suffers of such activities. I need to rest myself and concentrate my sensibility and my attention to go on with the book of poems that I write by this time: "Itihaques" - open by a verse of Karafy.

I often thought of you and felt guilty to not be able to write you before. I thought of your island and dreamt that I could spend a time there in your warm company and feeling all what the east part of the mediterranean sea can give me to restore my creative feeling.

Thank you very much, my dear Elli, for your last book: "Diadromes". As you know I know so few words in greek, but I guess that it means: "les chemins des jours" in french. I hope that it meets a good attention by the public of poetry and has a real success. I wish you it will help to widen your audience as modern greek poet.

Yes, Naro sent me the review "Metafrasis" where I could guess that she explains the impressive work to perform the translation of one poem of "Horus" with all the partners.

The next Congress of the Association of Critics will take place in Hyeres, the town where I teach, 15 kms from here. Yesterday I obtained from my friends who belong the house where Saint-

John Jense lived and died, to welcome the congress people by this occasion. What did you plan? To come at the end of September? (of course you would stay at home all the time of the congress and before, and after as you want). To come in July? During July I shall leave my house for two weeks, from July 17th because, as each year, it is let to Swiss people. If you plan to come in France by this time, I should be very happy to welcome you during the two first weeks.

About the Festival of the Mediterranean Voices, I am afraid that they did not confirm what they said. I suggested them to invite you, also Yannis Yfanti's. But Yannis told me, by phone, that he did not receive any invitation. I am afraid that is the same for you, although they told me that they will invite you. I regret to have trust them and to have let you hope with a false news! I was so enthusiastic to share with you, such moments!

Please, excuse me again for my late to answer your last letter. I hope that you both feel well by this time, enjoying the Spring.

Love to both of you.

Jean Claude



Elli Léonidou. ?
c/o Brigitte FROMENT.
58, Rue Lamarck.
75018 PARIS



Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Olivaie de Sigou
83450 PIERREFEU DU VAR

Pierrefeu le 26. XII. 1994

My dear Elli,

The last school term was so busy that I did not get time at all to write to my friends. Fortunately, I am on holidays for four days and now I can answer your letter.

Thank you very much for having given your recent news and for your best wishes, yours and Panos' ones. I hope ^{that} you spent a very nice Christmas. Where did you stay? In Limmassol or did you visit your children?

I stay at home during these holidays because I had to move just before and I shall have to move again after. Both in Paris; first in December to assist an Egyptian poet for a large operation of the Ministry of Culture which consisted in inviting ten Egyptian authors. Of course it was very interesting but

2/1
I had to work hard again at the school to
compense my late.

On January I go in Paris again for a week
in order to answer the students of University Paris III
about my poetry and to give a reading at the
House of the Poetry.

Sometimes it is difficult to assume my poetry
and to keep working at the school.

But everything is OK because I feel happy
with my life. I went in China on September
and I met there a very close friend of mine.
We ^{both} felt in love and although the difficulties to
build the future, we hope together that the
next years will join us again and allow our
common life.

As soon as I received your letter about
the financial support given by the European Union,
I wrote to ask informations. I have not already
received answer but it will probably come soon.
Of course I shall inform you as soon as I shall
receive something.

My plan is still to obtain the publishing of
your book in French and to organize the
exhibition of the paintings of Tolayne. Did you
receive my letter, last summer, after my
meeting with Tolayne? I'll try to meet her again
in Paris around January 15th.

I have no news from J. Luc Wauthier.
I suggest him a publication of egyptian
poets for the magazine, but I did not hear
from him.

I should have join you in Lisbon. Also because
I have some good friends there, but it was just
after the new school year and it was difficult for
my to leave the pupils. The next congress will
hold in Bratislava, I think.

I keep the hope to meet you and Panos
in next year; if you come in France, please
tell me!

I met your delightful friend Victoria
Theodorou and her husband, also her
daughter Irène in Athens last summer. I
thank you again for having allowed our
meeting. The woman and the poet are as
marvellous as you are yourself. I can understand
why you are close-friends!

Please, Eli, excuse my terrible english!
I don't practice enough. Also, I'm learning
Chinese for three monthes and my mind is in
another world!!

All my best wishes and my friendly feelings.
for you and Panos.

Jean Claude.

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Olivaie de Sigou
83390 PIERREFEU-du-VAR
Tél: 94.48.25.01

Pierrefeu, le 26 Mars 1996

—

My dear Elli,

I am so busy with my work since I returned.
Anyway I dropped some few lines as a message
for the evening of next Thursday.

I hope that your stay in Paris is going
well. You are lucky to have such a long
time here.

I am ^{looking} forward about your stay here
and I wait your phone call.

I put in the envelope the invitation
for the recital of Angélique Ioannatos:
Spent a nice evening with her and tell
me after!

Please could you send your book
to a greek friend that has translated
several of my poems and essays: Konstantina
Karachimou Averof 16, 67100 Xanthi, Greece.

Did you meet Patricia Richard? What does
she say about the book after her last reading?

Please say hello to Brigitte and Nikos
for me.

Have a nice evening on Thursday.

See you soon

All the best to you and Sany

Sean Clarke

P.S.

- 1) for the spectacle of A. Ionatos
you have to take reservations
by calling 30 86 7777 to tell
if you come on Friday 29 or Saturday 30

- 2) Don't forget to ask Armelle at the Publisher's (the small desk where we
met on Friday) to give you around 12 books for the "Press Service" (or ask them

to do such a service.

March, 3rd.

Dear Elli,

I hope, you and Samos, feel well.

I have been very busy with my job for the two last months. I also went twice in Paris for my poetry. It goes rather well, having each month a public presentation to give.

A new book will be issued very soon. It is not exactly poetry but letters - seven - to women to whom I speak about life, poetry, love and empty.

I received, at least, an answer to my letter at the Brussels' Commission. They say the conditions of the - rare - helps are not full by our translation. So I have

to find out elsewhere! My Editor
has your text in the French version
but he already said nothing. I shall
ask him again in April if I don't
get answers before.

—
Victoria Théodorou writes me rather
often. I keep a marvelous souvenir of
the evening spent among them in July.
I would like that we could be
together as in Athens on December 93.

What are your plans? Will you
travel with Laros? in France?

Please, share with him all
my best feelings of friendship.

Tear clamb

Jean-Claude VILLAIN

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83390 PIERREFEU-du-VAR

Tél: 94.48.25.01

Nâcon
Pierréfeu, le 17.X.1995.

My dear Eli,

I just received your last letter before leaving
Pierréfeu for Nâcon, far from five hundred's kilometers,
where my father still lives. (You know, it is my
birth place.)

My father is cured at the hospital for his
eyes and I stay besides him. for a few days.

You probably received my last letter. I answer
immediately yours because you told me
excellent news. The french. Ambassador, as well
as Mr Capdevielle seem to be very interested in
organizing something to present your book.

As I told you we can hope that the book
could be published at the beginning of the next
year. It would be very nice if we could
all be together: you, Jolay, Nâno + George, and
I, with Lanoz to celebrate in Cyprus the
issue of the book. By the moment we can

dream such lucky circumstance and cross
fingers!

I write down a letter to M. Capdevielle.

I hope that your cruise in Greek islands
was marvelous. How was the weather? Not too windy?

All the best to you and Panos.

Jean Claude.

Friday March 15th

My dear Elli,

Here is the invitation (for two people) for the inauguration of the exhibition.

I shall be in Paris on next Thursday at 15. p.m. Unfortunately I shall not be arrived to welcome you at the airport.

I suggest that we could meet together at around 7.30 p.m. on the stand of our common publisher: L'Harmonium, stand L. 62.

The last call of the publisher tells me that the reception at Gyms Buv Barry would be on March 28th. Unfortunately I will have left Paris before.

I look forward to meet you and Janos.

All the best.

Jean-Claude

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Oliveiraie de Sigou
83390 PIERREFEU-du-VAR
TÉL: 94.48.25.01

Pierrefeu, 1^e April 1st '96

My dear Elli,

How was the visit of Nikos' Castle? Are the plans about the festival going on?

It is a real pity that you cannot come to my "oliveiraie". I am sorry. We would have spent nice days discovering the area!

I'm very happy that you could meet A. Ionatos. When are the next representations? Where? You told me that she had said you something about and gave you new invitations.

of course, on Thursday 28 I was thinking of you at the Embassy and would have been by you and all my friends that came. Unfortunately I cannot know who came because

I gave the Embassy a list of fifty people.
Can you tell me their name if they told
you? Venus is a very good writer, poet and
novelist. She has a radio program and knows
many people in our writer's world. Here is
her address: Venus Khovey - Ghat 16, Avenue
Raphaël 75016 Paris. Why not call her on phone?
Tel: 4504 06 37.

I leave you the list of critics for the publisher,
in order him to send the Press Service.

Did you meet Patricia Richard? What
did she say about the book?

Eli, do not forget that Jolaine is back
from New Zealand on April 5th. I hope you
will meet her before leaving and let her
discover the book.

What are the dates of your next stay in
Paris in June? It's possible that I'll go
there for the Great Poetry Market on St Sulpice Square
at the end of June. We could meet there. L'Harmattan
has a stand on this Market. Either in June, you could
also come to the South and visit me and Jolaine in
Kensington. Anyway you will meet ^{in Paris} my french Jean-Ray
Tixier that Panos has once met.

Have a nice stay for these last days in Paris! Hope to
meet you soon! All my best for you and Panos. Jean Claude

P.S.: Could you send me "Heures" to my close friends, a very good and famous Tunisian
poet: Moncef Ghattatem 17, Rue M. L. Kabadi 2026 Sidi Bou Said Tunisie?

Elli Dowdow: Service de Presse.

- Poésie: Jean Max Tixier 409, Impasse de la Forêt 83400 Hyères
- Le Journal des Poètes: Jean Luc Wauthier Rue des chasseurs 35,
B 6200 châtelet (Belgique)
- SUD: André Ughetto. 9, rue Sylrabelle 13006 Marseille.
- Poésie 96: Charles Dubrunquez. 228, Boulevard Raspail 75014 Paris.
- Vénus Khoury-Shata 16, Avenue Raphaël 75016 PARIS
Tel. 45040637
- Chantal Danjou 23, Rue de la Ly 75020 PARIS
- Philippe Delarbre. 6-1 4, Rue de l'Alboni 75016 PARIS
- André Velter 11, Rue Rameau 75002 Paris.
- Lorand Gaspar 54, Rue Vanneau 75007 Paris.
- Serge Martin 3, Rue de la Chanterelle. 95800 CERGY.

Could you go at the
publisher's and sign
the cards to each critic

Pierrefeu le 11 octobre 1995

My dear Elli,

You will receive this letter as you will be back home from greek islands. How lucky you are, Panos and you! This month is so sunny here! Probably still better in Egean Sea! I would like to travel too in such period (with April, it is the best in the year) but unfortunately I have to stay at my work. Anyway my country house is very charming now and the light on the grass, under the olives trees, is delightful.

I was very sad to read that you feel anxious, Panos and you, about your daughter in Athens. I am father too. My children are not married but sometimes I hear them about difficulties with these friends and I spend time too, to help them as well as I can, and I am always troubled by their problems. I wish your daughter be able to cross this difficult period with courage and wisdom. Have they children or not?

very busy: they publish one book a day now! (mainly in other collections, specially human sciences)
I thank you again for your welcome in your country house. I hope to visit you next year. I would
welcome you at home too. Don't you intend to come in France?
All the best to you and Panos. Faithfully yours. Jean Clauz.

I am glad to feel you very creative in writing.
I would like to read your texts (children novel,
poems) but unfortunately I don't read greek. Per-
haps, if we meet ^{the} next year, you will explain me
your poems as you did in the bus when I sat by
you during the short journey to Philippos ruins.

I don't remember if I told you that I spent
August in Tunisia. I enjoyed the house of a friend
in the marvellous village near by Tunis: Lisi Bou Said.
It was a fertile period: I wrote a lot: papers
for reviews and, mainly, a new book of poetry. The
title contains a greek word: "Thalassa for a return"
I used a new style with very short sentences: a new
rhythm and new pictures. I am rather happy with this
new book because I have been silent in poetry for
a rather long time.

Thank you for the page of the greek newspaper about
Naro and George. They are a real marvelous pair! They
make me dream such happiness. I remain alone,
quite nine years after my divorce. I was so responsible
of my three children and so busy with my job
and my writing work that I neglected my love life
—except short relations. But now I want to live
another way and to meet the woman of my second road.
I thought have found her in a very charming chinese
woman but I was ^{deeply} deceived last summer about her.

About your book I called L'HARTIATION on phone.
They will begin to print it at the end of November. I
hope to read the first "épreuves" at the beginning of
December. We cannot hope the real publishing before
January. It's rather long but they are

Sidi Bou Said, 5.8.1995

My dear Elli,

Thank you for your last letter that you sent me before leaving for Athens. I hope you are back home now and you enjoyed your stay in Greece at your daughter's.

I met Jocaine Meyer in Roussillon on July 7th. We chose together the drawing for the cover of your book. The visit was friendly warm. I intend to visit her again at the end of September in order to see longer her paintings that I appreciate very much.

Thank you for the photograph. What a pity that we cannot see your eyes! I shall join it to the drawing of Jocaine for the cover.

I have well read your new small biography. I shall change some sentences in order to be more precise as you want.

The translation that we kept is this one that

Patricia helped. I have already written a mention of her help as you asked me before.

The diet of the gallery of my friends ruins the plan of the exhibition of ~~Jolani's~~ paintings in this gallery. However I shall try to find another opportunity - The departure of Anne Cowell is a pity, but I hope that the new attaché will agree with such plan, specially when he will see the book published in France.

Please excuse this bad writing, probably with mistakes in my English. It's noon time and the temperature is hot. However I enjoy my stay in Tunisia. The people, the landscape are so rich of poetry. That's why I write poems each morning. A real gift of the light!

I would like to meet you and Janos in order to speak and enjoy friendship - when? where? I keep hope.

Best wishes to both of you.

Tean Clarke

P.S. What is the name of the new cultural attaché and the address of the French Embassy?

le Journal des poètes

Juin 1994
Numéro 4 • 64^e année

Editeurs responsables :

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1170 BRUXELLES

P. JONES
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1180 BRUXELLES

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de la Poésie**

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ma langue touche
la perle dessous ta langue,
nous allons briser le coffret du silence

Arto Melleri

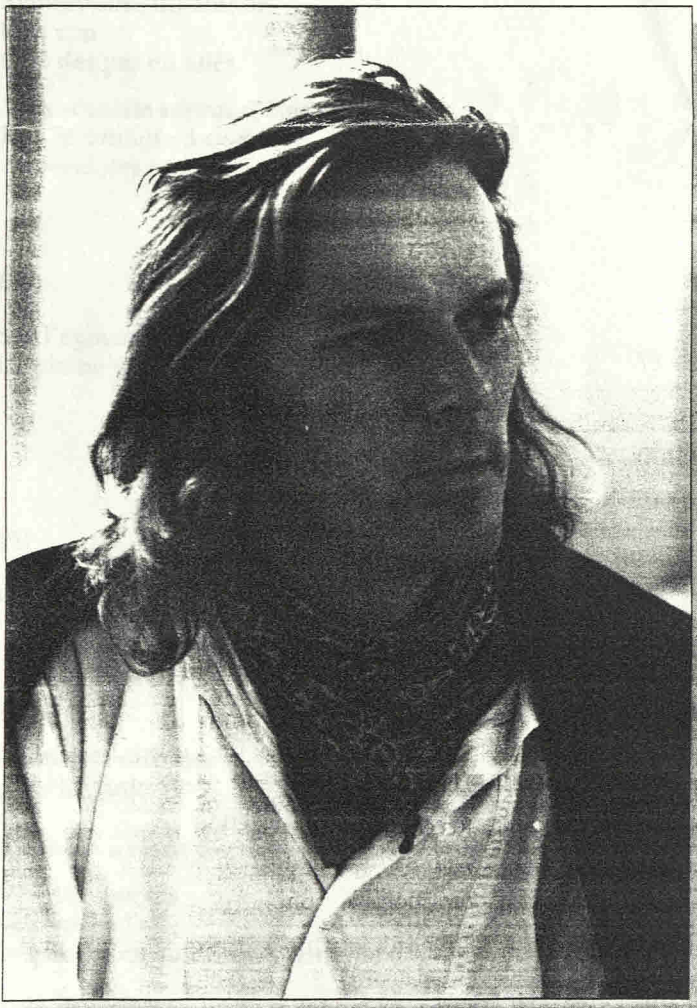


Photo communiquée par Otavan Kuva-Arkisto, Helsinki-Finlande

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Né en 1925 à Paris. Autodidacte qui, d'ouvrier ajusteur en 1943 se perfectionnera jusqu'à devenir enseignant en même temps qu'il se forgera une culture générale. Auteur d'une vingtaine de recueils dont *La Mort est un Jardin* publié en 1982 aux éditions «Le Cormier» par Fernand Verhesen.

Collaboration à de nombreuses publications en France et à l'Étranger, à différents collectifs, anthologies, expositions spectacles, émissions radio-phoniques, etc...

Dire

à Béatrix Balteg

I

Le caillou flotte
A l'avancée des fêtes imprévues

Salive du feu quelle enfance
Tel un lierre assoupi
Monte à la gorge du présent

Sous la hache
Les mots enfin
Les mots d'avant
Se fendent comme bûches

Anxieuses

Alors s'imprime le refus

Toute rose franchit la rose du dégel
Toute vie se dilate
Et chiffonne un amour
Plus vrai
Que des pas en allés

Rien n'existe un vin d'épis mûrs
Boit sa lumière assise
Au fond des eaux

II

Sur l'épaule d'un nom quand il a plu
La plaine étrange (d'une autre âme)
(de notre âme)
Saigne

VII

Dans le jaune octobre	Un oiseau
Un appel et	Déjà
Le regret	Lancinant
De l'homme	Inoffensif
Et du cerf	Intouchable

Brumeuse offrande	En nous
Quoi les unit	Par le sang
Qui n'est plus le sang	
Et qui les a rêvés par le regret d'eux-mêmes	

Près des fourrés	Rien
Ne s'entend que	
Le galop sournois d'une brindille	

Dans le jaune octobre	Un oiseau
-----------------------	-----------

XI

Pour n'avoir bu que le mot pain
En croyant donner nourriture
Frelons du jour
Ne m'arrachez pas le visage

Les heures Vous savez
Les heures ne guérissent que longtemps
Longtemps après la strangulation du sommeil

Il n'y eut que pluie douce
Aux confins des toits ivres morts
Un escalier qu'on pousse et le couloir ouvrant
Sur un bruit de fête lointaine

N'arrachez ni l'eau ni le masque

Il n'y eut que pays
Dont se farde encore un bateau
Venu lécher
Le sucre des étoiles

Elli Péonidou

Née à Chypre en 1940, vit et écrit dans son île, à Limassol. Elle a composé une dizaine de livres de poèmes parus à Chypre et en Grèce, ainsi que de nombreux livres pour enfants. Elle a dirigé une anthologie de la poésie chypriote. Nous livrons ici cinq des vingt-quatre poèmes de ses Heures, parues à Athènes en 1983, dont Maria Orphanidou et Jean-Claude Villain ont établi la version française.

Heures

Mer Egée
toi qui de partout débordes.
Comment enfermer ton sourire
provocant, audacieux.
Tu as mouillé ma robe blanche.
J'ai subi ta chaude étreinte.
Impossible de t'échapper, même par pure volonté.

*

Sur la fleur d'acacia
Phoebus a accroché sa lyre d'or.
Cordes d'une soie de cocon frais.
Des sons percent l'édrédon du silence.
Sur l'aire ancienne les meules retiennent leur souffle.
Elles attendent l'heure fatale.
L'heure du billot.

*

Le puits est saupoudré d'or,
et l'eau devenue lave.
L'oreille perçoit-elle une source lointaine
ou est-ce un mirage d'oasis
dans la complainte lancinante de la cigale ?

*

Le char de Phaeton perce le ciel.
Feu aux naseaux des chevaux.
Droit vers la mort.
Les héliotropes inclinent la tête
et murmurent des prières de soumission.
Maîtres et serviteurs d'une passion, tous nous le sommes.
Malheur à ceux dont le but
est n'avoir aucun but.

*

Vapeurs brûlantes de moût à son courroux.
Satyres et ménades se baisent en de chaudes étreintes.
Un rayon de miel guette sans rien oser.
Il est trop tôt encore.

Jean-Claude Villain

L'Olivaie de Sigou

83450 Pierrefeu-du-Var

94 482501

Pierrefeu, July 14th '94

My dear Elli,

I met your delightful friend
Tolayne last week, and although
I had not enough time to stay,
it was a real and deep meeting!

She told me how, after having
seen her "doors", you went out
under the tree and, lonely, wrote
your "Hours". She told me also that
a French poet, Jean Lescurie, wrote
some texts about her paintings -

I discovered here paintings, the 24 "doors"
and I found them, very interesting. I sugges-
ted her to exhibit these paintings by a moving
process, like a kaleidoscope, in order to
perceive, by another way, the marvellous tones of
colours -

She probably will come in Penlon in order
to visit the gallery where we could show this
work (and perhaps hear your texts!) I'll
inform you of the progress of this plan.

Le Journal des Poètes has published some of
your texts in my translation. I enclose the
photocopy but I ask J. P. Wauthier to send you
an issue of the review from Belgium.

I leave Lierrefen to stay in Greece (Athens
and the nearest islands) for ten days - May be
I'll call your daughter to say "hello!". It would
be nice if you were in Athens at the same
dates. Here is the phone number of Marianne,
my friend's daughter, where you could leave a
message (in Athens: 86-71.828). I'll also try
to meet Victoria Theodorou and Irène!

Have a very nice summer with the wedding of your son!
All my best feelings for you and Panos
Jean Claude



May 24th.

My dear Elli and Penos

Klitos stayed in Marseille last week and came at home before leaving for Moscow. We spent together very nice moments and visited Saint John Perse's tomb not far from here.

Of course we talked about you, my friends, especially to regret you were not with us. and as Klitos spoke about your country I desired more and more to visit it, at least!!

I don't know what to do next summer, but I intend to fly to Athens. - Perhaps I could jump to you. Will you stay in Cyprus all the summer or will you escape to visit your grand children?

Everything is ok here. Elaine prepares a large exhibition for July 5th where I shall go. It seems to be important. I work a lot at the school and feel rather tired, especially because now I have enough with teaching and would like to be free. But I have to wait for some years!

I hope to hear from you soon. Have a nice Spring and a happy summer!

All my best regards.

Jean Claude.

Zan - Kziw - Viggair

Taxos woulin, f. claussehis

Meliproc clai jayruai lo

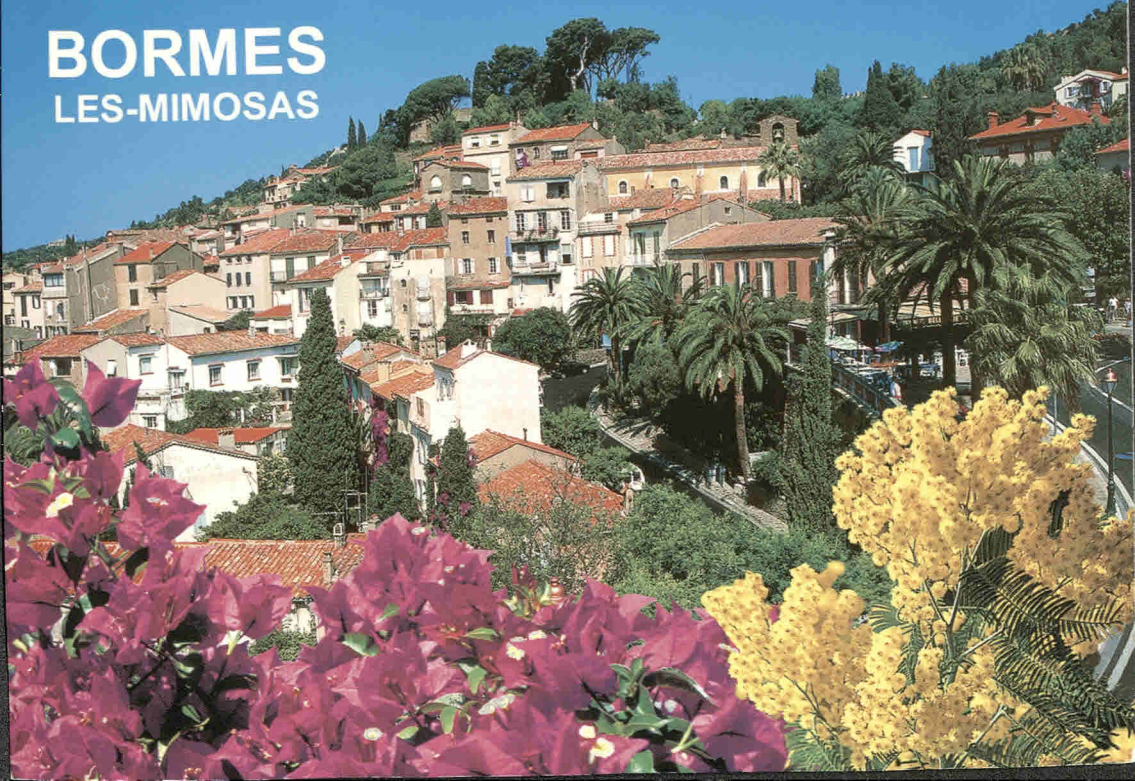
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f. fi f. e la d. iupjo uas hi

Maxw P. P. P., xwo hi

O. c. z. f. o. v. u. u.

BORMES LES-MIMOSAS



March 5th, 201783230
41

My dearest Elli and Lajos,
 Here is the village where I now live for
 12 years. You knew my former house in another
 village ... It was on another century! How
 far it seems me!

But I keep in my deep heart my love to
 both of you, remembering I first met Elli
 in Kavala on ... 1993

Here is the copy of the film about our dearest
 Victoria. It is a so deep joy to re-find her so
 graceful, clever, sweet.
 I wish you the best in all parts and a sweet
 spring. Love from your Jean-Luc

45 de Cœur - 1340 September - Les Vallées
 45 de Cœur - Photo PFC - Ph. C. G. - Imprimé en U.E.

Jean-Claude VILLAIN

My dear Elli and Samos,

I am very happy to send you,
through Lagoudera Editions, this
Greek version of my essays.

I hope that you will take interest
in reading them, and may be,
help them to find new readers.

Love.

1238, chemin du Patelin
83230 BORMES-LES-MIMOSAS
Tél. 04 94 41 53 03

e-mail : jeanclaudevillain@yahoo.fr

Site : <http://perso.wanadoo.fr/jean-claude.villain>

Jean-Claude.

21.06.2002

My dear Elli and James,

What so marvellous memories!
Thank you again.

I hope that you are well and
Elli has recovered completely
with her eye.

Faithfully in my thoughts and my heart
Love.
Jean Claude



be possible to go to Paris
at the end of December.
If there is an opportunity, of
course I shall tell you either
before your departure, ~~or~~ there
in Paris.

I hope so!

Thank you again
With love from
Jean-Claude

*L'illustration de cette carte est l'œuvre de Claire R, 9 ans.
Elle a été réalisée en signe de solidarité avec les victimes des mines.*

Tel 00.33(0)4.94.41.53.03

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PAPIER RECYCLABLE
SANS CHLORE

Refuge B

The background is a painting of a landscape. The upper portion of the image is dominated by a vibrant, textured red sky. Below the sky, a dark, shadowed area, possibly a forest or a body of water, stretches across the middle ground. The lower portion of the image shows a lighter, more textured area, possibly a field or a body of water, with some faint, illegible markings. The overall style is expressive and somewhat abstract, with visible brushstrokes and a rich color palette.

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PRÉSENTE

Refuge B

Mise en scène : Georges Perpes et Françoise Trompette

Une salle de spectacle devenue refuge, abri provisoire, accueil des hommes et des femmes de passage, en quête d'une halte apaisante au cœur de l'obscurité du monde : "Seuls ensemble, dans le noir, les yeux ouverts... / C'est la nuit et c'est là, invisible, ailleurs et là... / Une veille dans la nuit, les yeux ouverts dans le noir..."

Textes : adaptation de "Yeux ouverts dans le noir"

de Jean-Claude Villain

et "Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant"

de Jean de Brunhoff - musique de Francis Poulenc

Musique : Érik Satie, Francis Poulenc

Scénographie : Jean-Louis Masson et Daniel Chaland

Conception lumières : Fritz Reinhart

avec Ludovic Amadeus Selmi (piano), Henriette Palazzi,

Georges Perpes, Yannick Lemesle

les 1.2.8.9.15.16 octobre - CUERS

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Pierrefan 2.11.99

My dear Elli, my dear Laros,
Excuse me for a so long silence.
I hope that everything is going
well for you.

I was very busy these last
months. I wrote the half-
part of a spectacle and this first
expérience with theatre was
very interesting. My last
book (essays of mythological
understanding) is just issued
in Paris.

For the other parts of life:
travels: not at all. love:
quite quiet. Family: every-
thing ok with children and
grand-children. I hope to
hear from you soon.
Love. Jean Claude.

162.
Jean-Claude
Villain
Peggy Wambus



162.
Eli & Panos LEONIDOU
14, N. L. Parnos Street
LIPASSOL 3091
CYPRE
(Cyprus)

Air Mail



Dear Eli

Dear Danos,

POST CARD

EGYPT

I discover Cairo and the Pyramids.
I meet friends all poets of course -
and work for some translations -

All my best thoughts of you.

Love

Tean. Clark

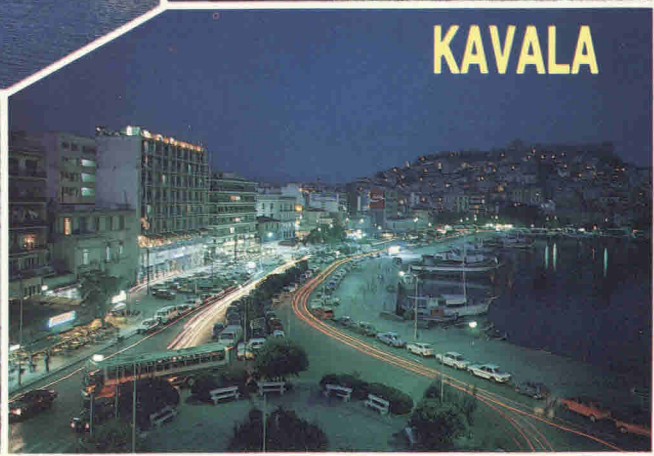
خطق الصورة والخط محفوظه في المتحف
Orient Art Publishers Lennert & Landrock
Kurt & Edward Lamberlet Cairo
مخروطه الجيزه والاندروك

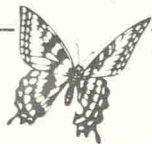
Egyptian Museum in Cairo
Tut Ankh Amen Collection
Two golden Shawabtys





KAVALA





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ΦΩΤΟ: Θ. ΘΕΟΔΩΡΙΔΗΣ



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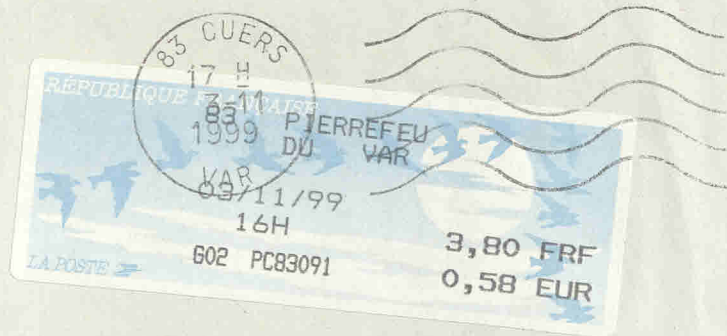
My dear Elli,
 I received your letter just before leaving for Greece. In Kavala, of course I thought of you. What a great joy it was to share this symposium with Victoria and some others poets, all so good! Now the symposium finishes but I feel filled up! I shall write down a letter from home. All the best to you and

Elli ΠΕΟΝΙΔΟΥ
 14, Π. Παριδες Street
 ΛΙΜΑΣΣΟΛ
 3091.
 CYPRUS

1090647
 Janos - Greek Summer
 Jean Claude

P.S. I had time to send the fax before leaving from ce.

PRIORITAIRE
PRIORITY
PRIORITAIRE
PRIORITY



Ελι Λεονιδου
14, N. Parides Street
LIMASSOL 3091

CYPRUS.

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Olivais de Sigou
83390 PIERREFEU DU VAR

France
✓

u

99 6521 75



Elli & Panos PEONIDOU
14, 7. Parides Street

LITASSOL 3091

||| CHYPRE |||

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Olivaie de Sigou
93460 PIERREFEU DU VAR
France

Jean-Claude Villain

"L'Olivier de Sigou"

F 83390 Pierrefeu-du-Var

Tél : 00-33-(0)4-94-48-25-01

E-mail : ~~jean-claude_villain@caramail.com~~

jeanclaudevillain@yahoo.fr.

Pierrefeu, le 19 Août 2002

My dear Elli and Lajos,

I tried to send you a message by e-mail, but several times it was returned to me : "undelivered".

Did you change your e-mail address?

I do hope that you spend a nice summer - may be in Vassa, close to the mountains because the temperature, in Lomassol, may be high! Probably you enjoy the company of your children and grand-children.

I did not move during this down - the house is quiet, children and friends come, and I swim in the sea as often as possible in the morning.

I write too and it is a rather creative period for me.

For your stay in Basel, would you like that I find out again for a cheap ticket for Nice? If yes, for how many days?

I shall probably have to go to Paris the last weekend of September, or at the beginning of October.

I hope hear from you soon.
With my faithful thoughts. Love.

Jean Claude.



Elli Léonidou
14, M. Parides Street
LIMASSOL 3091
CHYPRE

Jean. Claude Villain

"L'olivraie de Sigou"

83390 Pierrefeu sur Var

FRANCE

21.01.1997

My dear Elli,

Thank you for your last letter. I hope that you spent a nice winter in Cyprus after your return. As you probably now the weather in Europe is bad. Cold in North, and here, in South, very rainy. I saw on TV that Greece received so lots of rain!

The paper that Hedi Bouraoui wrote about Hennes is very good as he uses to write. I met him and know his talents as poet and professor. I sent the paper to the "Poet's Newspaper" in Brussels, the issue that has already published some poems of "Hennes" before the publishing by Littarmattan. I wrote to Hedi to inform him. He knows the team of this review.

About Venus Khoury. Shata I don't remember if I ask Littarmattan to send her your book but I remember that I gave them a list of names as Press Service and maybe her name was on the list. I shall ask Venus when I shall go in Paris, but perhaps you could send her a message. Here is her address:

Venus Khoury Ghata 16, Avenue Raphaël 75016 Paris.

I have just joined the Association of Literary Critics. So, we shall have new opportunities of meeting in the future.

I ~~was~~ very happy for the price that you received for "Ten Orphan Fairy Tales." All my congratulations for this new distinction.

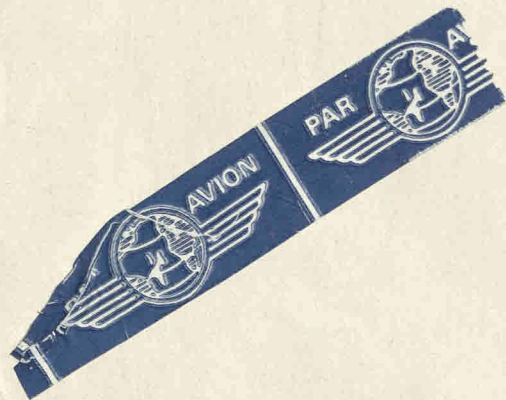
Everything is going well here. I finished a book: "Eyes open in the dark". I want to publish it in a new editor.

As I shall be fifty in Spring I prepare a new atmosphere of the house by whitening it. So I work hard each week-end.

My dear Elli, share with Lajos all my best thoughts

Love

—
Jean. Clark.



Eli & Panos Leonidou
127, 70th Str.

Brooklyn
New York 112 09

U.S.A.



New phone number.

from France 04 94 48 25 01

From foreign countries: 4 94 48 25 01

Jean-Claude VILLAIN

L'Clivio de Sigou

83450 PIERREFEU DIJ VAP

FRANCE

papier



recyclé

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Olivaie de Sigou
83390 PIERREFEU-du-VAR
Tél: (00.33).94.48.25.01

Pierrefeu, le 14.10.1996

My dear Elli and Panos,

Your post card reached me few days ago and I answer you quickly to congratulate the parents and the grand parents of Margarita.

I feel you all so happy through your lines! The birth of a so small being is a so great emotion! I hope that Margarita is growing well and that she lets you sleeping by the nights. I hope that Ulrike feels completely fine now and that Nicolas is the happiest father.

So that we became grand parents on the same year! In the future we shall make Margarita and Florian meet together!

Autumn in this part of states is nice. I suppose you can also enjoy the town and the region even if your grand daughter requests all your care!

I intended to get to Greece for the beginning of November but I have too much work here and cannot travel now. I have written the new phone number of Relina in my address book and if I go through Athens, I call you or her, anyway.

I congratulate you all again and send you my best wishes for the best for Margarita.

Love from your french friend,
Jean. Claude.

Sar Anis



ELLI PEONIDOU

P.O. Box 544

LIMASSOL 360-

CYPRÉ

Jean Claude Villain

L'Orvaie de Sigou

83390 Pierrefeu sur Var

France

Le 22 Avril 1996

My dear Elli,

I hope that you finished your travel very well, after spending time with Helena in Athens and probably with Victoria

Have you first echos about your book?
Of course I sent the publisher the addresses (you asked me) of french critics.

I am impatient to stay again in Greece in the second week of May. I hope to visit Victoria in Athens -

I thought that the organisers of the Symposium of Kavala where we

met together deserve to know our
further collaboration by realizing your
book in Paris. If you have enough
could you send one to Lina Haralambidou
Alkineos
65403 Kavala Greece

I wish you a marvelous Spring in Cyprus.
All my best for you and Panos

—
Jean-Claude



7.10
planes

Ellie Konidou
14, N. Larides Street
KITASSOL 3094
CHYPRE



XPHZIMONOTEITE
TON TAXYΔPOMIKO
KOAIIKA
REMEMBER TO USE
THE POSTCODE

Jean-Claude VILLAIN
L'Orlais de Sigou
39 03 PIERREFEU DU VAIN

France

12 + June/let 2000

My dear Elli,

Thank you for your letter and your e-mail. Celine, my daughter, sent my e-mail from the Elysée Palace, the President's place in Paris because she works by the moment at the press service.

Unfortunately I have no e-mail at home: I become very archaic!

I hope that everything is better now for you after the turmoil of the events of the family life last months. Is Aelina completely well, now?

I am very happy to read that you publish new books for children, and Paris too. You remain very creative, more than me!

I hoped to come in Cyprus as I often said! I just come in Athens and I'll go to Thessaloniki and Agrinion

to visit friends and to work for translations.

I stay there from July 25th to August 6th.

I will have no time to jump from Athens to Cyprus as I wanted.

But I want to thank you again for your offer of hospitality. I am sure that I shall enjoy it a day, but not by this summer time.

~~As~~, by chance, you would be in Athens by this period you can leave a message to a greek friend at this number 01.9248835.

I wish you a very happy summer.

Many regards to you and James.

Love.

Jean Clark.

Jean-Claude Villain

"L'Olive de Sigou"

83390 Pierrefeu-du-Var

France

Tél: 00-33-(0)4-94-48-25-01

Pierrefeu, le 19 juillet 2001

My dear friends,

I hope that everything is OK for you and your family.

I am rather well myself, working hard, because so many things surround me!

Last February my father died and the following months were rather difficult. Now I have to go very often to my birthplace (1000 km return way) to take care of the house of my father and share the many things he had with my sister before selling the house.

By the same time several books of me were issued, and

You know, there are many tasks to do about them!

I want to tell you that I shall stay in Greece from July 28th to August 14th. If, by chance, you stay on the continent during this period, it would be a very nice opportunity to meet us. (It is a so long time we said not!)

Anyway I shall meet again Victoria whom poems will be issued at L'Harmattan in Autumn, because I did a French version of them with Constance Dima. It was a hard work too.

I leave you two phones where you could leave a message (also to Victoria)

Constance Dima in Athens: 924 8839

Yannis Yfantis in Agnino: 641-22952

But the best would be that you tell me before I leave my house (28th July)

Anyway I hope to hear from you.

All my best regards and love.

Yvan Claude

P.O. BOX 544
LIMASSOL 3607
CYPRUS

TEL. (357) 5 354142

26-6-95

My dear Jean -Claude,

I just received your letter, exactly three months after the Publisher's letter. First of all I would like to thank you for all the effort you have been through. It is a wonderful thing for me to have one of my books in french.

I hope L' Harmattan is still interested in publishing the book. I can understand their wish to get some money in advance, because it is well known all over the world that poetry does not sell. If they are still interested please let me know. We left some money at the Bank Credit Lyonnais in Paris. I can write them to send 1.800 francs to the Publisher as soon as I receive the 50 copies. I think this is quite reasonable.

I am enclosing my book in greek for the publisher. Would you be kind enough to send it to him? Yes, they can use the text as it is, but not the illustrations. For those I have to ask the permission of the Publisher, the painter etc, and it will take a long time. It is a good idea for you to ask Jolaine to make the cover. By the way, I would like to put the following few lines as a preface, explaining how the poems were inspired by Jolaines' paintings. Could you please translate it in french?

"During the Summer of 1980 we visited our friend the painter Jolaine Mayer at her country house in Provence, near Roussillon. Jolaine had just returned from a visit to Santorini, and had created 24 paintings that she had called " The Hours in Santorini". I was enchanted by the variations of the colours and the images that they were hiding, in spite of the fact that the paintings were totally abstract. The landscape in Provence, the vineyards, the stone walls, the dry hot noons and the evenings with the big stars were so familiar to me. The poems started to push from inside me. They had to come out. I remember myself during the siesta, under the shadow of a pine tree, writing without stop. The Hours were becoming the circle of life and death. So close to each other, like the variations of the colours between the hours."

22322

Box 514
LIMASSOL 3807
CYPRUS

TEL (1857) 5 924142

20-6-92

My dear Jean-Claude
I just received your letter, exactly three months after the
Publisher's letter. First of all I would like to thank you for
all the effort you have put through it is a wonderful thing
for me to have one of my books to reach

I hope L'Harmattan is still interested in publishing the
book. I can understand that it is not to get some money in
advance, because it is well known all over the world that
poetry does not sell. If they are still interested please let
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Paris. I can wire them to send 1,500 francs to the Publisher
as soon as I receive the 50 copies. I think this is quite
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I am enclosing my book in disk for the copier. Would you
be kind enough to send it to them? Yes, they can use the text
as is, but not the illustrations. For those I have to ask
the permission of the Publisher, the painter etc. and it will
take a long time. It is a good idea for you to ask them to
make the cover. By the way, I would like to put the following
text as a foreword explaining how the poems were inspired
by "L'Esprit" paintings. Could you please translate it in
French?

During the summer of 1980 we visited our friend the
painter Jean-Marie Muret in his country house in Provence.
Near Boussillon, Jean-Marie had just returned from a visit
to Santorini, and he created 24 paintings that she had
called "The Hours in Santorini". I was enchanted by the
variations of the colours and the images that they were
hiding in spite of the fact that the paintings were
totally abstract. The landscape in Provence, the
vineyards, the stone walls, the dry hot woods and the
evenings with the cicadas were so familiar to me. The
poems started to pour from inside me. They had to come
out. I remember myself during the sleep under the
shadow of a pine tree, writing without stop. The Hours
were becoming the circle of life and death. So close to
each other, like the variations of the colours between
the hours.

22322
\$18.45

Pendant l'été 1980 je rendis visite à mon amie peintre, Jolayne Meyer, dans sa maison du Lubéron, à proximité de Roussillon. Elle venait de rentrer d'un séjour sur l'île de Santorin où elle avait peint vingt-quatre tableaux qu'elle avait titrés "**Les Heures de Santorin**". J'étais émerveillée par les variations de couleurs et les images que suggéraient ces peintures, quoique qu'elles fussent totalement abstraites. Le paysage de Provence, les vignes, les murs de pierres, la chaleur sèche de midi, et les soirées sous les grandes étoiles me furent si familières! Des poèmes commencèrent à monter en moi auxquels il fallait donner vie. Je me revoie pendant la sieste à l'ombre d'un pin, écrivant sans discontinuer. Ainsi les "**Heures**", comme la variation des couleurs d'heure en heure, devinrent le cercle de la vie et de la mort, si intime à chacun.

Elli Péonidou

Elli Argyridou-Péonidou est née à Chypre en 1940. Elle vit et écrit dans son île à Limassol. Depuis 1954 elle a composé une dizaine de livres de poèmes parus à Chypre, en Grèce et en Bulgarie, ainsi que de nombreux livres pour enfants. Elle a dirigé une anthologie de la poésie chypriote contemporaine. Etablie par Maria Orphanidou-Frérès et Jean-Claude Villain, cette traduction d'**Heures**, d'abord paru à Athènes en 1983, est la première publication d'Elli Péonidou en français.