

## The crust of the world

The film relates a sensitive and sensible character's progress which allows the audience to enter the universe of a great clay artist, Jacqueline Lerat. This character devotes a passion for this woman artist through her most important sculptures and her multiples sketchbooks and books of thoughts. He leads a kind of investigation on the essence of her work and her singular life. Two voices can be heard in the film: the character's and Jacqueline's through excerpts of her books. The filmmaker follows step by step this man's thoughts who strolls through the different places of the artist universe: the workshop, the house and the garden. Indeed, these three different places are interlaced into a necessary game of life that the exterior keeps influencing to "tinge the desire and be in the movement of things, in the approach of a going towards." The world, nature, are a source of inspiration, of reflection, for the artist and guide the movement of her hands that give birth and transform the material into an anthropomorphic form or plant that make the link between the sky and the earth. The garden has a central place in Jacqueline Lerat's work. In the closeness of plants, flowers and trees, there is, among other things, that peace she experiences and keeps the mystery, something dazzlingly beautiful, a joy, an extravagance. The artist expresses it in her numerous sketchbooks by some words or sentences written near the drawing of some of her pieces. Thus, above a high form that ends up by an abundance that reminds us the sensuality, the luxurious perfume and the deep pink of a peony, she scribbled: "There is, this day, this moment, such a beauty, such a light in the garden that my body loses its limits, a swimming in big water. The exclamation!" The unfolding of the seasons and the passage of time impregnate Jacqueline Lerat's work which can be grasped in her pieces, transformations, transmutations done by time on nature without never parting them from other sources of knowledge and inspiration. The film brings to the fore the strength of the living, the power of the plant which give her work a fragility, a disequilibrium. These two notions are going to be explored by choreographers whose movements melt in the landscape.