

Jason Stoneking

writer / artist / performer

Bio

Jason Stoneking is a writer, artist, and performer originally from the United States, who has made his home in Paris, France. He has published several collections of poetry and essays, released an album of original songs, and written several screenplays. He has been performing his art and writing live for more than 30 years, at venues ranging from the main stage at Lollapalooza to the Pont Neuf in Paris and the rooftops of Cairo. In recent years, his practice has concentrated on the creation of handwritten and site-specific texts. For his Bespoke Books series, he writes an entire unique book by hand, in a single draft, for an individual reader, event, or residency. In his video series Found Stages, he improvises spontaneous poems in public spaces that feel suitable, if not intended, for performance. For his newest series, Portrait Sitzings, he invites subjects to sit for him as they would for a painter, while he composes their portrait in handwritten words, then presents them with the original manuscript he has drafted during the session.

Recent performances and exhibitions

2025

Jan, group show at Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre, Paris

Mar 15, curated group reading with Paris Heretics for Lit Balm (livestream)

Apr 26, panel discussion with Verse of April, Paris

June, group show at La Ferme Magique, Rocamadour, for L'Antidote du Lot art festival

June 28, featured performance at L'Antidote du Lot finissage

July 10, Sky Sketches, private vernissage and performance on Paris rooftop

2024

Jan 23, guest performance at Prose and Woes, Cork

Jan 28, curated group performance at Dublin's Finest, Dublin

Jan 29, featured performer at Circle Sessions, Dublin

Feb 17, guest reading for launch of The Future of Surfing at Ofr, Paris

Mar 13, guest reading for launch of The White Fin Project at Pral, Paris

Apr 20, guest reading at Love Love Magazine party, Paris

Apr 27, guest performance for Lala Drona: Virtual Reverence, at Elios Gallery, Paris

June, residency with Cie Hekau at The Melting Pot, France

June 13, curated radio performance for Lumpen Station, Switzerland

Sep 19, featured performer at Vocabularies, Lismore, Australia

Sep 27, curated group performance at Gaffa Gallery for Poetry Sydney, Australia

Sep 30, featured performer at Poetry at the Pub, Newcastle, Australia

Oct 1, featured performer at Passionate Tongues Poetry, Melbourne, Australia

Nov, residency and performance for Swerve Magazine, Skibbereen, Ireland

Dec 31, street performance outside Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre, Paris

2023

Jan 24, curated group performance at Castel, Paris
Feb 21, curated group performance at Ivy Writers, Paris
Mar 2, introductory act for the Bad Pelicans at Point Éphémère, Paris
Mar 18, group performance with Paris Heretics at Void Voices, Rotterdam
Mar 19, group performance with Paris Heretics at ACU, Utrecht
July, residency and performance with Cie Hekau at le Petit Théâtre du Bât de l'Âne, France
July 31, featured performer at Sidewalk, Beirut
Nov 27, featured performer at Spoken Word Paris
Dec 12, curated group reading of Checklist 33, Biel/Bienne (remote)
Dec 13, featured performer at The Ramshackle, Utrecht

2022

Mar 25, featured performer at Espace Canopy, Paris
May, group show at Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre, Paris
May 25, solo performance at Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre, Paris
Oct 12, curated group reading for Verse of April, Paris
Oct 14, guest performance with Merry Youth at Les Bains, Paris
Nov 15, curated group performance at Castel, Paris

2021

Jan-Dec, continuation of “Found Stages” series, multiple locations / online
July 9, premiere of short film by Cie Hekau based on my story The Butterfly and the Stone, at Shadows Across the Globe Puppetry Festival, San Diego (remote)
Oct 22, panel discussion at Marché de la Poésie, Paris

2020

June, group show Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre, Paris (remote)
Oct-Dec, beginning of my series “Found Stages,” solo online video poetry performances, conducted in empty public places during the pandemic restrictions, multiple locations / online

2019

June, acting appearance in the feature film *Anna* by Luc Besson
Oct 20, solo performance for Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre at Cite International des Arts, Paris
Oct 24, in discussion with Katy Martin at Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre

2018

Apr 13, curated group reading for Paris Lit Up
June 24, curated group reading for The Bioptic Review in Paris
Oct 1, featured performed at Spoken Word Paris
Oct 23, Bespoke Soiree, solo exhibit and group performance of Bespoke Books project in Paris

2017

Jan 26, featured performer at Paris Lit Up
Feb 16, in conversation with Melissa Unger at Seymour Space, Paris
Feb 20, curated group performance for Cabaret Futura, London
Feb 28, solo reading at Berkeley Books of Paris
Apr 5, featured performer at Open Secret, Paris
Oct 3, curated group performance for Ivy Writers, Paris

Dec 17, curated group performance for Poets Live, Paris

2016

May 2, featured performer at Spoken Word Paris

2014

Feb 28, solo performance in honor of Michel de Montaigne, on the Pont Neuf in Paris

Recent publications and recordings

2025

Mar, Heartache and Daydreams, song by Les Free Romantiques, spoken word feature

Apr, Verse of April, written portrait with video

Apr, The Fortnightly Review, handwritten "Dispatch from Paris"

July, La Dépêche, group show and performance review

2024

Jan, SubberCulture, podcast interview

Feb, Ofr/Perfect Designs, The Future of Surfing, prose

Mar, Pral/Perfect Designs, The White Fin Project, prose

June, Lumpen Station, curated group radio performance

July, World Radio Paris, This is Not a Poem, podcast interview

Aug, Swerve Magazine, open letter

Aug, Birdcage Radio, Under the Albatross, podcast interview

Oct, The Weekly Write/Alex Morris, blog interview

Nov, Grenzprobleme, album by Paul* Hermansen, spoken word feature

Dec, Gaffa Gallery/Poetry Sydney, Future Movement, show catalog

Dec, In Telescope Time, Poetry at the Pub Newcastle, anthology

2023

Jan, Love Love Magazine, written portrait

Feb, Tentacular Magazine, prose

June, Paris Underground Radio, City of Muses, podcast interview

June, Stained Glass Arrangements, album by Alison Grace Koehler, guest musician

2022

Dec, La Vie Creative, podcast interview

2021

Mar, Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre, Death and the Maiden by Robert Huot, catalog text

July, Yes the Void, poetry

2020

Feb, Checklist 33, poetry

April, Zeles Magazine, open letter

2019

Apr, Verse of April, poetry

Apr, Luna Speaks, podcast interview

May, Empty Mirror, blog interview

July, High Times Magazine, excerpted interview

July, CNN Arabic, feature article about the Cairo Dish-Painting Initiative

Sep, Galerie Arnaud Lefebvre, Red Classic / Red Figure by Robert Huot, catalog text

2018

Jan, Empty Mirror, prose

Jan 19, Afterart, in conversation with Richard Dailey and Chris Burke

Feb, The Opiate Magazine, prose

Apr, Those That This, poetry

Apr, Paris Lit Up, prose

May 5, Le Monde, interview excerpt

May 22, Psychedelic Frontier, prose

June, The Bioptic Review, prose

July, The Opiate Magazine, poetry

Oct, *Ascension*, film by Maysan Nasser, text by Jason Stoneking

2017

Mar, Runaway Poets Episode 9, web series, guest appearance

June, Paris Lit Up, prose

July, Post Road Magazine, prose

2016

June, Human Shaped Things, poetry