



ROYAL
DE LUXE NANTES

Nantes
June 2014

**The grandmother's first speech
Tbilissi Bridge**

Ladies and gentlemen of Nantes,

It is with a huge chime of happiness that I crossed the 14 billion light years that separated us. During my trip through the magnitude of the cosmos, the stars tinkled like crystal. This resonating orchestra rocked my eardrums with millions of shivers whose sounds evaporated into the echo of the galaxies.

On a mysterious shortcut, my body was transported to its destination immediately whilst my soul took parallel paths and met up with me two days later.

The only luggage I brought with me was a memory chest full of souvenirs.

For this trip, I have decided to bring one of our youngest Giants who came to cradle your dreams about ten years ago.

And so we have crossed The Planck Wall to be by your side.

To welcome and reassure this Giant, I have constructed a wall of headlights, which some of you may have already seen but that he will think is a piece of galaxy.

I am convinced that these three days of national festivities will make you think of the elders of today who are swept away by the frantic rat race of your world; imprisoned in the jaws of an army of crocodiles perched at the summit of huge skyscrapers.

I am here simply as a comma of history, a small shiver, a soothing crystal vibration.

Ladies and gentlemen of Nantes, I am Nantes' Grandmother!

After this little trip I will leave again...

But let there be no doubt that if my stay has pleased you, I will return.

Ladies and gentlemen of Nantes, let us now walk the pavements and paving stones of the city; If we hear them radiate with far away sounds like the vibrations of a buried volcano, still alive.

Let the party begin!"

©Jean-Luc Courcoult, author, director, founder of the company Royal de Luxe