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CLIT 007 and its Ances-Sisters

**An exhibition by Val Bovey and Julie / Julot Wuhrmann
for the Mets tes palmes collective**

Opening

Thursday 28 May 2026, 17:00

Opening hours

29.05–11.07.26, Tue–Sat 14:00–18:00

Guided tour with Rina Nissim

Saturday 6 June 2026, 15:00

Fanzines workshop for the feminist strike

Saturday 13 June 2026, 10:00–13:00

Guided tour with Mets tes palmes

Saturday 6 July 2026, 15:00

The queer-feminist collective **Mets tes palmes**, publisher of the eponymous French-language magazine, is quenching its thirst for genealogy. Following an invitation from CIRCUIT Centre d'art contemporain, Lausanne, **Mets tes palmes** is revisiting the sources of activist periodicals of Geneva from the 1970s to the 1990s. Immersing themselves in the Archives contestataires in Geneva, **Val Bovey and Julie / Julot Wuhrmann** are exploring “**CLIT 007 and its Ances-Sisters**”, a network of self-published magazines that proliferated in Geneva during the second wave of feminism, a period of intense activity within feminist and lesbian collectives.

First came *L'Insoumise* (1976–1978), a periodical published by a feminist group associated with the Geneva Women's Liberation Movement (M.L.F.). Focusing on issues such as domestic labour, workers' struggles, and anti-prison activism, it remained heterocentric. In 1979, several lesbians broke away from this group to found the lesbian collective Vanille-Fraise, which launched its own magazine: *CLIT 007 Concentré lesbien irrésistiblement toxique* (“Irresistibly Toxic Lesbian Concentrate”). *CLIT 007* was published from July 1981 until December 1986, first as a magazine and then as the Bulletin de l'ILIS (International Lesbian Information Service, an internationalist lesbian organisation). At the same time, the Dispensaire des femmes, a community health centre founded in Geneva in 1978, published *Bon Sang !* (1980–1985), a bulletin of medical counter-information. In 1987, the editorial reins of ILIS were handed over, giving the Vanille-Fraise team the opportunity to venture out and launch *Courant d'elles* (1990–1991), a succes-sister publication to *CLIT 007*. Founded in 2020, the magazine *Mets tes palmes* is also a succes-sister to various fanzines and bulletins from the French-speaking Switzerland. Following a residency in 2024, the **Mets tes palmes** collective has been presenting its first archive exhibition at espace eeeeh ! in Nyon.

Collaged thoughts, layers of leaflets collected at protests, advertisements, scattered testimonials, love letters, reports, appropriated photos; collage is a tool that challenges linear, mainstream narratives and emphasises that information isn't single-minded nor stemming from one perspective only. Articles were often signed collectively, or with a first name only, because the contributors to these magazines didn't buy into private ownership and starification. Paper is a network of fibers uniting lesbians across nations, many of whom were isolated and far from being just a few clicks away from answers to their questions... In the current climate of backlash against the rights of women and sexual minorities, the predecessors of **Mets tes palmes** are a reminder of the ground covered, helping to sketch out a roadmap for the struggles to come.

This project has been made possible thanks to a generous loan from the Association Archives contestataires in Geneva and is part of the Mois d'actions et de visibilité LGBTIQ+ Lausanne.

Support

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