



## exhibition

### Geopoetic

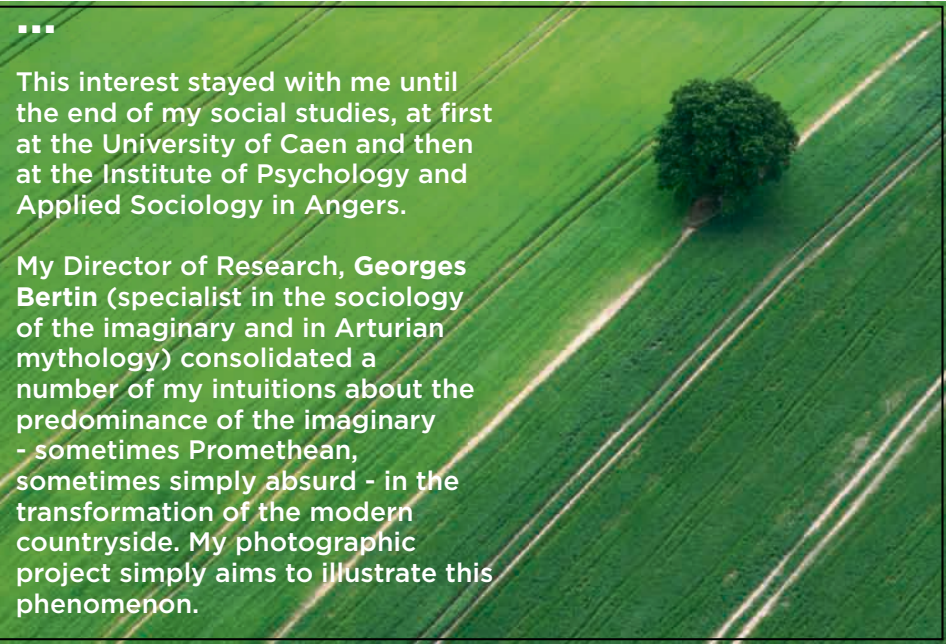
I am in my thirties. During the first half of my life, France lost 45,000 kilometres of hedgerows per year (that is, 5,000 kilometres more than the circumference of the Earth per year). Is this brutal transformation of the countryside the work of an unstoppable economic rationality? On the other hand, is this tabula rasa the unconscious projection of frustration or a Promethean desire? My photographic work does not seek to impose an answer but simply a question. For example, why has this tree in the middle of an open field survived? I finally composed the neologism "Geopoetic" to explain this improbable dialectic of reason and subjectivity.



### Roots...

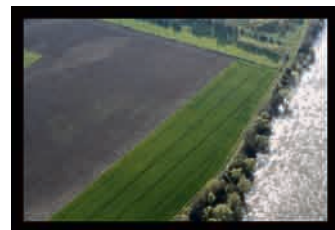
My professional development began in gardens. This was exciting because it was situated at the confluence of universes as diverse as drawing, agriculture and ecology.

In the course of professional experience at the C.A.U.E. (Council of Urban Architecture and the Environment at Orne), I met **Alain Richert**. He was then a landscape gardener and Professor at the **(E.N.S.P) - Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Paysage - of Versailles**. It was alongside this non-conformist landscape gardener (who initially trained as a doctor) that my interest in a green heritage was born.



... This interest stayed with me until the end of my social studies, at first at the University of Caen and then at the Institute of Psychology and Applied Sociology in Angers.

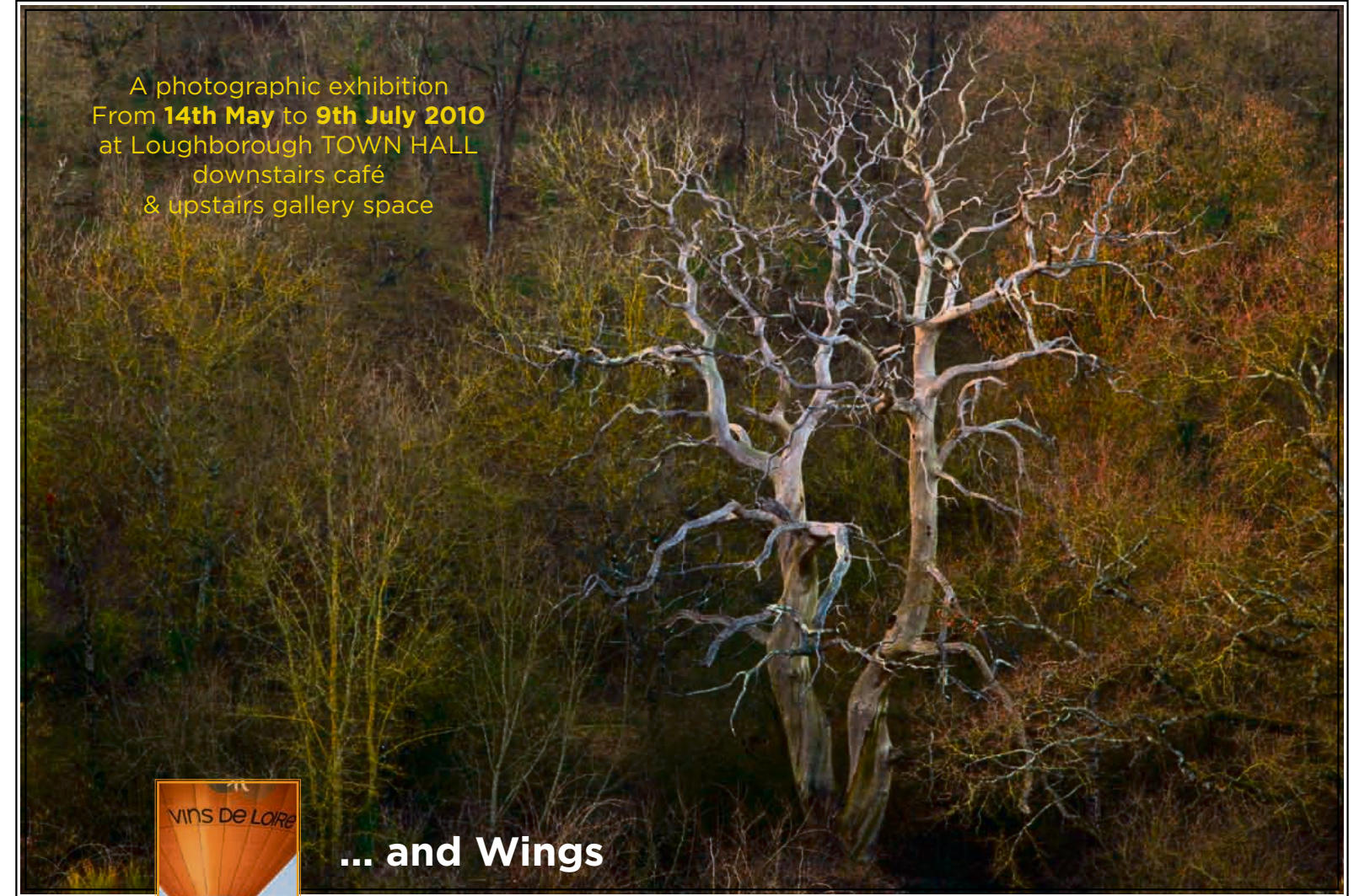
My Director of Research, **Georges Bertin** (specialist in the sociology of the imaginary and in Arturian mythology) consolidated a number of my intuitions about the predominance of the imaginary - sometimes Promethean, sometimes simply absurd - in the transformation of the modern countryside. My photographic project simply aims to illustrate this phenomenon.



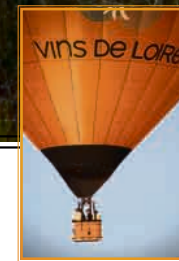
**B**arrow's "Giant Kipper" is unfortunately not edible, being the fossil of a Plesiosaur found in 1851. It has been the village emblem ever since.

# 'Geopoetic' Stéphane Daupley

A photographic exhibition  
From **14th May to 9th July 2010**  
at Loughborough TOWN HALL  
downstairs café  
& upstairs gallery space



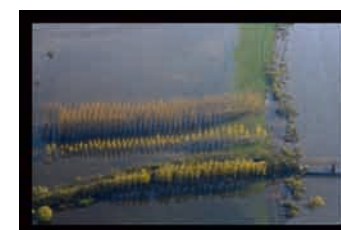
### ... and Wings



To take photographs of the sky is a relatively old project of mine. Experience in the air is interesting but places certain limitations. Very quickly, the need to fly lower and more slowly than is possible in a plane became clear. I discovered the possibilities of the paramotor - powered paragliding - (the smallest and the most ecological of aircraft) thanks to the work in Normandy of the photographer **Francis Cormon** (Francis takes photographs for the agency **Altitude** which was created by **Yann Arthus BERTRAND**). Personal reasons led me to take the plunge in June 2008. With my pilot's wings in my pocket, I made my first flights in Anjou and Normandy. Taking aerial views is a discipline for which there is no school. Luckily, I can count on the friendly advice of Francis Cormon who always gives me pertinent answers to my peculiar questions.

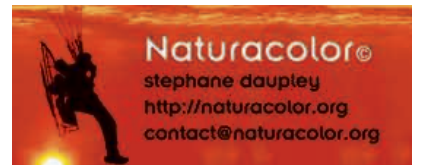


Gradually, my photo site dedicated to the environment <http://naturacolor.org> will be built around aerial photos. This new professional work will supplement my work as a teacher. My project for the future is to expand my photo library to consider publications and to enter a contract with an agency.



I would like to warmly thank **Natalie Chabaud**, curator of the gallery and **Kevin Ryan**, Director of Charnwood Arts for inviting me for this debut exposition. Special thanks to **Terry Allen** for this English translation.

Some References:  
- Photographic Contributor to Village Magazine  
- Shooting the Championnat d'Europe de Montgolfières (Brissac '09)



**C**harnwood's climate was certainly a lot different in the past as witnessed by the discovery in Quorn in 1938 of the remains of a Woolly Rhinoceros, dating from approximately 37,000 years ago.