

Remembering Through Images and Texts: Other Artistic Contributions

By **Various Contributors**

Memory is expressed through complementary artistic forms: a book created by the loved ones of Florian Vasseur, gathering personal texts and reflections, and the Monument of Indifference by the Czech Platform for Social Housing, a sculptural work placed in public space. Together, they offer two ways of remembering—one intimate and written, the other collective and material.

Florian Vasseur Remembered by his Loved Ones

Published in April 2025 by Mémoirédition, “*Florian Vasseur: vagabond extraordinaire (extraordinary wanderer) 1998–2025*” is a tribute book dedicated to the life and memory of Florian Vasseur, who died in 2025 at the age of 27.

Compiled by Philippe Vasseur and Zoé Choupeaux, with contributions from Alex Aubry, Rachel Lhermite, Cyrille Fradot and Junior, the book brings together excerpts from Florian’s writings and poems alongside memories shared by those who knew him best.

The volume opens with a foreword by Florian’s mother, Nathalie Vasseur:

“Today, and throughout my life, I would like to say thank you. Thank you for the sharp, sometimes cynical view you had of our society.”

Through the contributions of family, friends and loved ones, the book preserves Florian’s words and memories, offering a collective tribute to his life on the margins and his legacy.

Florian Vasseur created and published numerous works during his life, and we would like to present a poem from his collection “*Mâchoires Sombres*”, and a drawing entitled “*Vénus Noire*”.

**Je ressens
I feel**

Je sens maintenant ce sang qui coule dans mes veines
I now feel this blood flowing through my veins

Que ma vie commence enfin !
Let my life finally begin!

J’ai pleuré sur des tombes oxydées par le temps
I have wept over graves corroded by time

Que ma vie commence s’il vous plaît !
Please, let my life begin!

Je sens la vie, et aussi la mort
I feel life, and also death

Je ressens mes sens
I feel my senses

Je m’éveille seul
I awaken alone

Au seuil du suicide
On the threshold of suicide

Je crois tout régler avec des textes
I believe I can resolve everything with words

Tout ce monde est mauvais
This whole world is cruel

Noir c'est noir
Black is black

Noir sur du noir
Black upon black

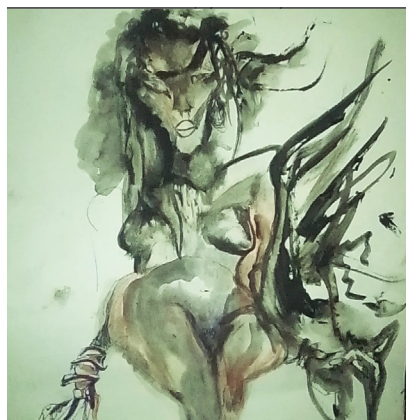
Noir tard le soir
Black late at night

Que ma vie commence
Let my life begin

Je ferai tout pour la chérir
I will do everything to cherish it

Offrez-la-moi s'il vous plaît
Please, grant it to me

Attendez-moi !
Wait for me!



Vénus noire (Black Venus) by Florian Vasseur is inspired by a graphic novel about Charles Baudelaire (an adaptation of the novel Crénom, Baudelaire! by Jean Teulé). The painting depicts Jeanne, the poet's lover and muse.

The Monument of Indifference by the Czech Platform for Social Housing

According to [a new analysis](#) of deaths among people experiencing homelessness in the Czech Republic, published by the Czech Platform for Social Housing, people with experience of homelessness die on average 16 years earlier than the general population.

In response, the organisation has chosen to draw attention to this issue, and more broadly to the need for a systemic response, through the creation of the *Monument of Indifference* (*Pomník lhostejnosti*). The monument serves as a permanent reminder that many people experiencing homelessness die in undignified conditions, in part because of systemic neglect.

The monument was created by academic sculptor Jakub Janovský. It takes the form of a subtle concrete sculpture of a pillow, shaped as though someone had been lying on it moments before their death. Through this work, the intention is to leave a lasting trace in public space and to commemorate those whom society has forgotten.



It is deliberately located near Prague's Main Railway Station, an area where many people experiencing homelessness reside. At the same time, its position in the city centre highlights the stark contrast between the wealth and historical grandeur of central Prague and the ongoing reality of poverty and social exclusion that continues to contribute to premature deaths among vulnerable populations. The exact location of the monument is 50°04'53.3"N 14°26'01.5"E.

The *Monument of Indifference* was unveiled on 16 June. The Platform for Social Housing intends to organise an annual gathering at the site on World Homeless Day, 10 October, to present key measures aimed at ending homelessness in the Czech Republic.