Picture a sand garden in the spirit of the zen gardens of Japan. A digital system conducive to meditation, peace and serenity: where beauty and nature stroll hand in hand through the rhythm of human existence...

Jean-Pierre Hébert has created these acclaimed sand gardens blending modern technology and timeless spirituality. A quiet ball in slow motion creates beautiful, ephemeral traces on the sand, with an optional soft aural accompaniment. Each drawing erases the previous one, echoing the Buddhist awareness of impermanence (aniccata).

Ulysse was first presented at Siggraph’99. Now Ulysse’s new aural track proposes a synesthetic experience in visual music, exploring the space–sound continuum. This aural development in progress is programmed in Supercollider, OSC and Python with Iannis Zannos.

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Ulysse at siggraph 2005 art gallery

Collaborators:
David Bothman, engineering
Victor di Novi, mahogany plinth
Iannis Zannos, sound