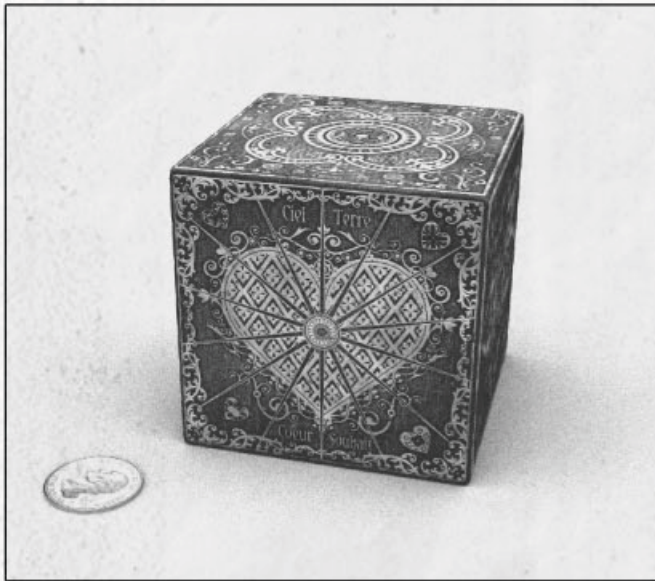


Research Document 851-3357 - The 'Lost' Configuration or Innocence Puzzle.
R.F / Rnd - 03/07/1986



Principal respondent : Dr Edward Maher - Internal, 44637709
Research Assistant: Dr Alain Stulak.

Contents.

Item Description

Acquisition Method.

Item History.

Test analysis and results.

Further comments and notes.

Sensitivity level

Cleared

Catalogue Number

Internal only
Principal office

No

Item 32/LM -CNFG

*TO BE DESTROYED
SEE T.R.F. FOR REASON*

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Item Description:

Oak puzzle box, 3 inches square.. Has sustained light age damage. Still functional

Brass, and silver inlay.

Circa 1760

Maker : Le Marchand.

The box has four different panels. (see photo)

According to unconfirmed notes from The diary of Bishop de Serulain (see item cat/185600), the Box has 2 active panels. The jouhetis and the Inceptis. The other 2 repeated panels contain the nesecarry trigger points for either of the main panels..

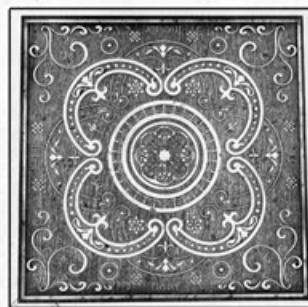
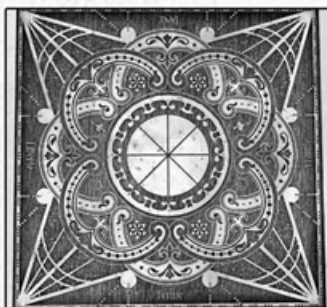
It is assumed by its design and wording (see photo key), that this box was made for children or women. It contains many motifs of the period, and detail in line with the popular Swiss fashion that was common of its time.

Hidden within the design is a series of arcane iconic symbols. We have decoded the symbology to ascertain the mechanism by which the puzzle can be solved.

Its interesting to note that this particular box has a 'folly' panel. The 'folly' (Jouhetis) panel only opens a small part of the puzzle and produces a delightful music box tune. After a short time , the box closes again and the second main panel (inceptis) must be solved within aproximatley 10 minuits. Faiiure to do so renders the sequence null. The whole process must be repeated until the Inceptis panel can be accesed. We can only assume that this is a failsaife. Fashioned into the overall design to prevent the box being discovered.

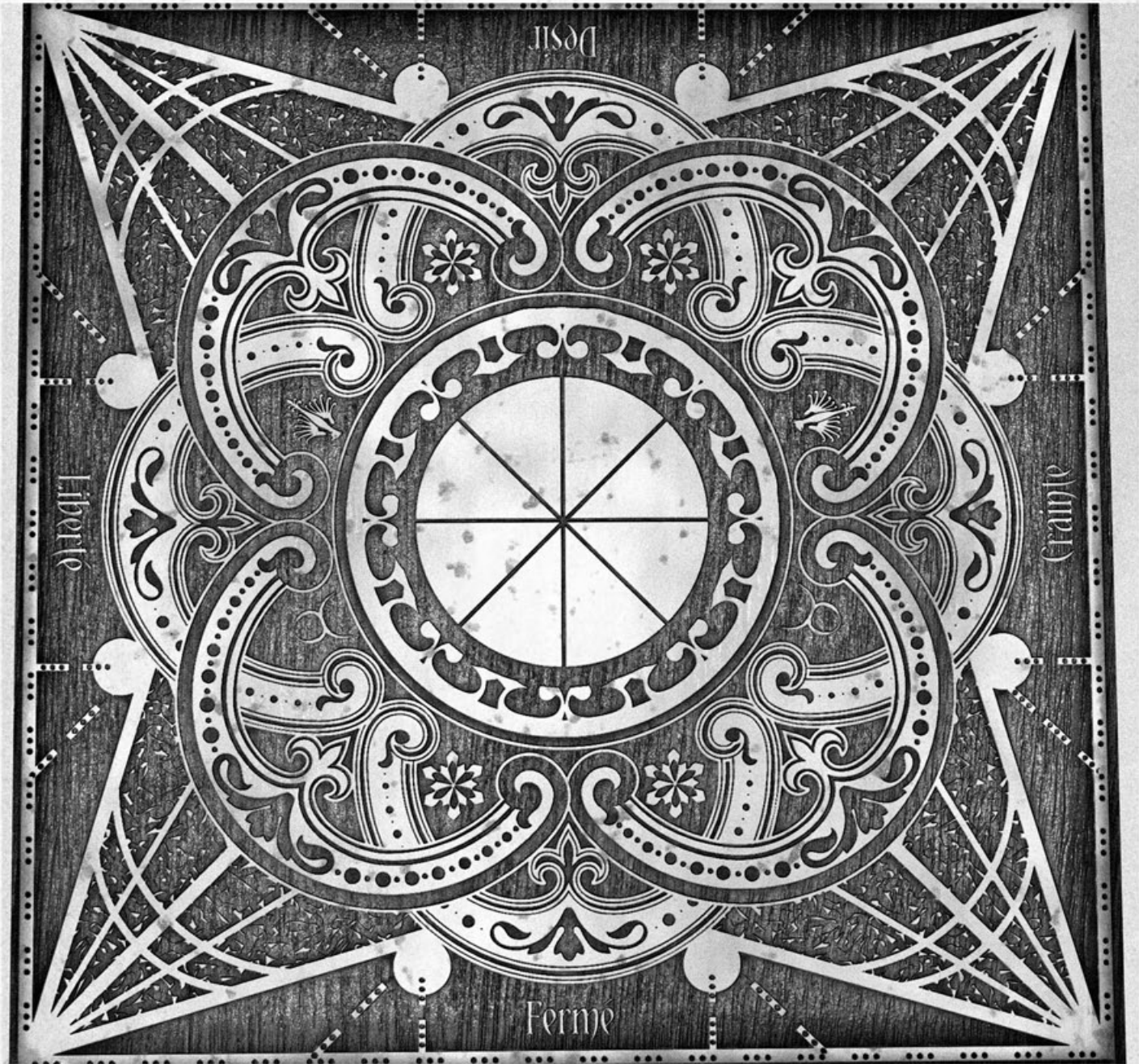
Also, the very different appearance of the box would alow it to go unrecognized as a Le Marchand Box. This we belive is the reason as to why it has been undiscovered for so long.

This box is highly misleading: It is not a toy. Please do not attempt to play with the box under any circumstances. If any independent activity is witnessed. It must be reported immediately.



Panel details - See separate pages for in depth analysis.

The Inceptis panel



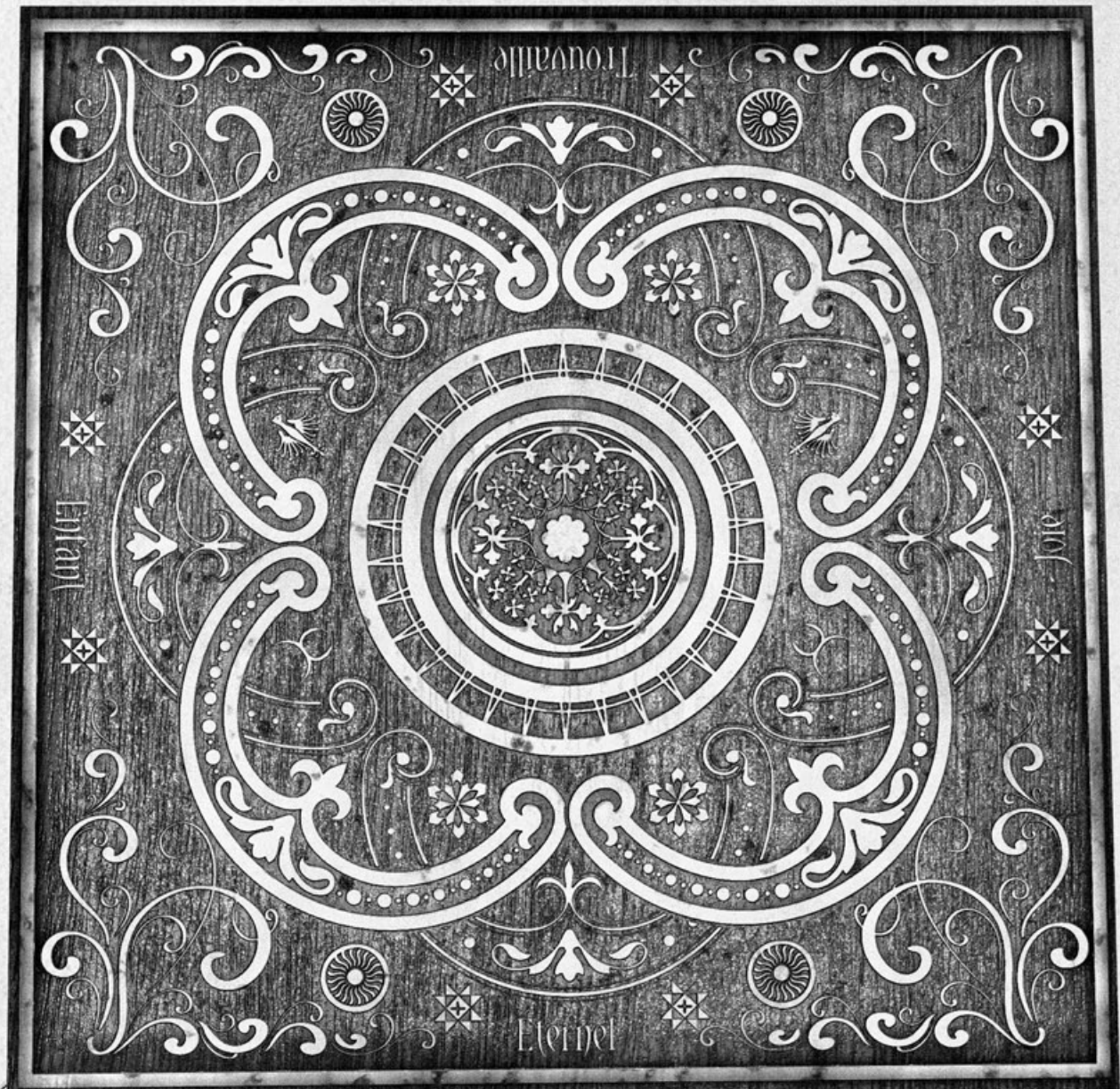
3 noted arcane symbols and French text - Not yet decoded. See Dr A.S



Language Key

liberte - ferme - crainte - desir in english reads, Freedom - Close - Pain - Desire. We do feel however that the order of the words is subject to opinion. When rearranged their meaning can be quite different. This may have an effect on the 'cypher' that unlocks the puzzle. Tests are yet to be planned.

The Jouhetis panel



The same 3 noted arcane symbols as the Inceptis panel and two extra.
- Not yet decoded. See Dr A.S



Language Key

Trouvaille - Joie - Eternel - Enfant in english reads, Find - Joy - Eternal - Child. As with the Inceptis panel the order of the words is Very much ion question. Again when rearranged their meaning can be quite different. Maybe Le Marchand intended the true meaning to be hidden. Tests are yet to be planned.

The suietis panel

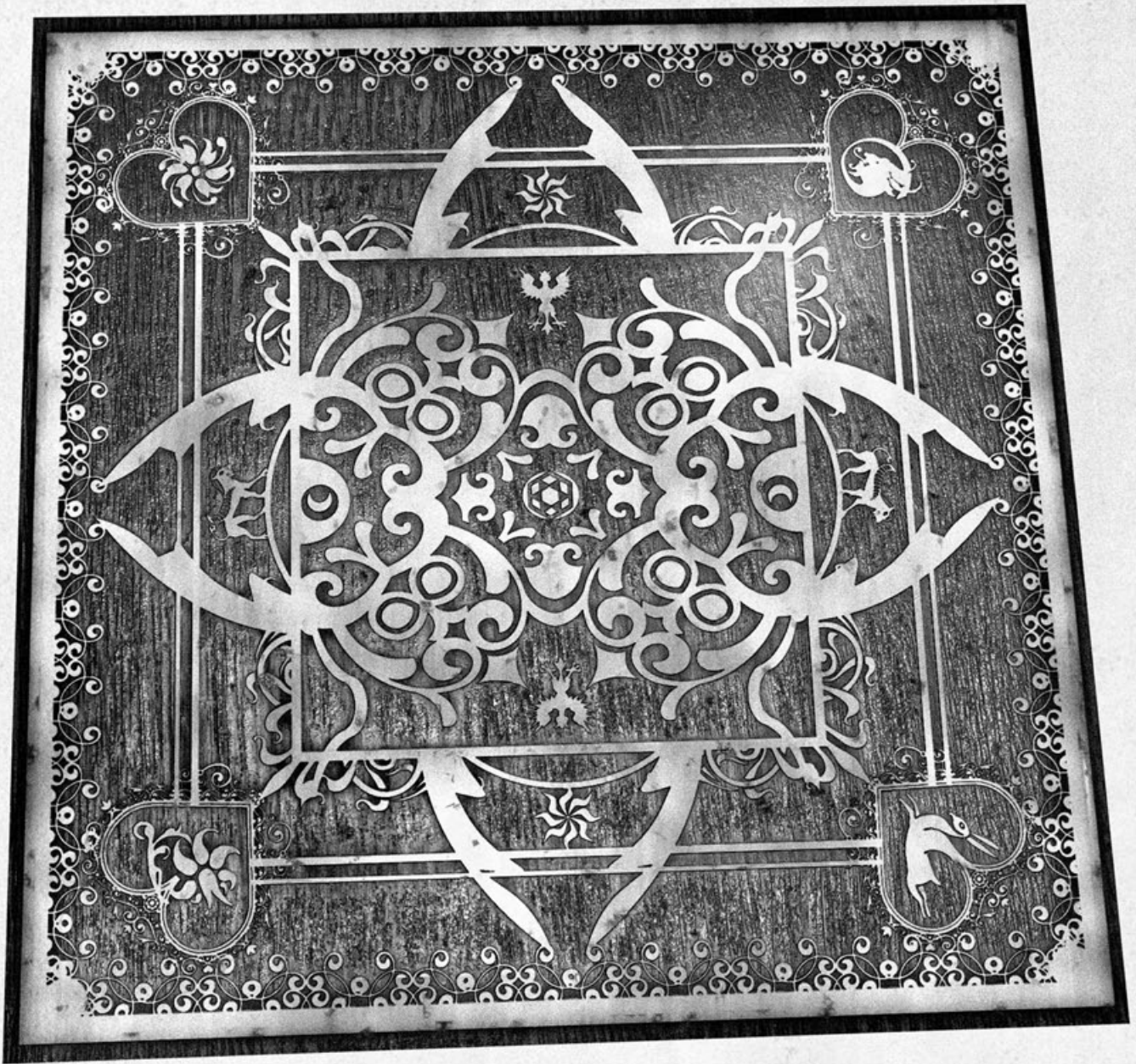


We are not sure where to start with this facet. We feel that this is the most misleading of all panels. The swiss pattern inlay is representative of the 'Love' gifts of the 1800's. The 'peircing' of the heart motif is very ominous and consistent with the 'Cenobital' method. This could be the key to its operation in terms of opening the box.

Language Key

Ciel - Terre - Coeur - Souhait in english reads, Heaven - Earth - Heart - Wish. The exact meaning of this in terms of the overall use of the box is not clear. It is assumed that this entire side of the configuration is intended to 'link' with the life energy of the participant.

The Cabratal panel



On full detailed decoding of the icons surrounding the 'insect' like center pattern, we will be able to offer a better explanation of their meaning. This panel has been observed to change its physical appearance on occasion. This has resulted in the icons changing position under their own accord, and ending up in different corners of the facet.

Detail Photos

These photos may not be currently accurate. Due to their ability to change, these photos are relative only to when they were taken. Our initial research indicates they are 'elemental' rather than arcane.



Acquisition record

This item was accured from The Chauvigny Museum of Local history. The Museum has been open in various forms since around 1928. It first appeared as a traveling exhibition on a horse drawn box. This was so that the surrounding local villages could see its contents. On these visits, the then owner would procure additional artifacts as gifts from local residents.

As the Museum grew it finaly became housed in the Chauvigny market square.



Chauvigny (Vienne) — La Place du Marché et l'Hôtel de Ville

Today it is incorporated into the Visitor center.

The artifact was hidden in a Zoetrope Machine (see example) until 1976. Used as a decorative centerpiece. No photos exist of this period as the Curator supposedly perished in a fire that swept part of the museum. No remains were ever found. It is interesting to note that just before the fire, he had dissassembled the zoetrope to perform restoration on its components. The only surviving piece of the machine was the box. This was then placed on display in a cabinet with the remaining items that survived.(see photo) The display was photographed by Dr Stulak on a holiday visit to the region.

Note the location of the box in the picture below. (taken by Dr Stulak)



Innocence Configuration Historical record.

Any additional information may be submitted to Dr Stulak

Tree of lineage

Originated France - date unknown - Circa 1760

Le Marchand

No exact date can be obtained due to lack of records. It is speculated that this may have been one of his last Configurations.

Recorded as owned by Paul Arnauld 1821

A Merchant and landowner in St Germain

Noted as a gift from a catholic tutor to his child son Benoit. Returned to the church on the death of Mr Arnaulds wife Maryse and son Benoit. Mr Arnauld dissapeared and was never found. Police records from the time are scant.

Found in the abandoned possessions of former catholic priest

Gilles Simard - St Savin 1837

No record of Mr simard receiving the box. It was found in his abandoned house in St Savin. See expanded notes for many more details.

**Owned by Henri Gagnone Landlord and Deputy Marie
to St Savin until 1874**

Reposessed by Mr Gagnone from his rented property. The property was formely occupied by the Missing ex priest Mr Simard. Similarly Mr Gagnone disapeared. His child son Alphonse was Found dead in the family home. Police recorded that his body was "Flayed" (All skin removed).

**Purchased by the Bernier Brothers (Christophe and Didier)
at Chauvigny market around 1901**

The Bernier Brothers made a small living making toys from their Grenier workshop in Chauvigny. They incorporated the box into a zoetrope machine as a decoration. The brothers were killed in WW1. No bodies found.

**Bequethed to Bertrand Poulin by the Bernier family 1963
Placed in Chauvigny Museum of Local History. Hidden
in a zoetrope moving picture viewer.**

Mr Poulin died in a fire at the small museum whilst cleaning the artifact. No corpse found

**Purchased by the Foundation from Chauvigny Museum
1982. Item discovered by Dr Alain Stulak**

**Currently housed at the S.R.F
(secure research facility)**

Innocence Configuration Historical record.

Any additional information may be submitted to Dr Stulak

1st recorded entry

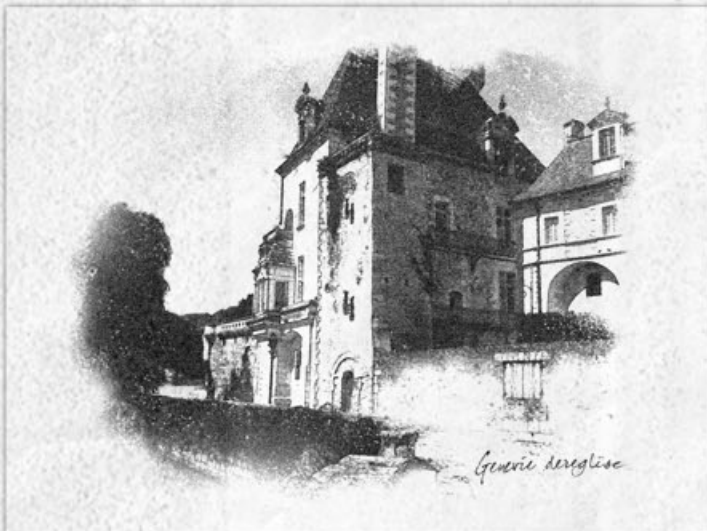
Paul Arnauld - 1821. Landowner and Merchant

Mr Arnauld is recorded as being a merchant for porcelain ware that was manufactured in nearby Limoges. He owned both farmland and worker housing in and around St Germain (Vienne region). He had one son Benoit and a wife Maryse (formerly Maryse Cordoen - of the local family Cordoen Farmers).

It is believed that the configuration was a gift from a prominent Catholic Cleric, possibly of some power and influence. For some time Mr Arnauld and the church were trading land between them. The box may have been some kind of gratuity.

There are very little police records of that era. Unfortunately the local gendemerie was destroyed in WW1. It is local knowledge however that his wife and son were found dead in the grounds of the Arnauld home. Tales are told of the bodies being disfigured in some way, but cannot be confirmed as fact.

Some 3 months after his family deaths, Mr Arnauld was reported missing. No trace was found of him and his estate was sold. Arnaulds brother from the town of Poitiers took any proceeds from the sale and was reported to return the box to the church.



Paul Arnauld (no date)



The Arnauld Estate

Picture by G. Deseglise 1816



Taken in the 1960's

Maryse Arnauld



Benoit Arnauld



Innocence Configuration Historical record.

Any additional information may be submitted to Dr Stulak

2nd recorded entry

Gilles Simard - 1837. Catholic priest (defrocked).

There is no record of the configuration being given to Mr Simard. It is believed however that it is the same source as Mr Arnould. The church is unwilling to give any records of Mr Simard and have been curiously un co-operative of our attempts to clarify the circumstances. We have managed to get some details from present day relatives of the alledged events.

Mr Simard had served as a priest for 22 years and was the responsible for a local orphanage in St Savin. The orphanage was a small farm on the outskirts of St Savin. From what we can gather, all of the children around the year of 1836 went missing in the space of 3 months. No investigation was performed and the church had forbidden even the local police to access the empty Orphanage. Mr Simard Claimed that travelling families had taken the children and he was powerless to stop them. He was released from the catholic church in 1837 and moved across the small town to a rented house. There was much local sympathy for the priest, so many were surprised when his house was found empty 6 months later. All his possessions were left behind. The local community feared that the church had 'disposed of him. I suspect he opened the box as a penance.

The Orphanage - taken in 1863



Gilles Simard (daguerreotype)



**Simard's house in Saint Savin
(Still standing today.)**

Innocence Configuration Historical record.

Any additional information may be submitted to Dr Stulak

3rd recorded entry

Henri Gagnone - 1874. Landlord and deputy Mayor (Marie)

Very little records exist of the events surrounding the Gagnone events. The descendants of Henri Gagnone still own the property in St Savin (see current picture below).

The family claim that he went 'overseas' to manage his land in the America's. This cannot be proven.

Henri was the direct and subsequent owner of the box after Simard (the priest - see information page).

Having repossessed all of the priests belongings in lieu of rent owed to the property that Gilles Simard abandoned.

Before his disappearance, Gagnone's son was found dead in the attic of the family home. Again the body seemed to be missing its dermis totalis. The murder was believed to be an act of revenge by a woodsman for eviction from a farm owned by Gagnone. I believe the child was successful in solving the configuration, as with the other deaths in the history of the Innocence configuration.

The box then disappeared from record until 1903.

The Gagnone residence in 1872



Same house in 1982



Innocence Configuration Historical record.

Any additional information may be submitted to Dr Stulak

4th recorded entry

The Bernier Brothers. Christophe and Didier - 1901. Toymakers

The Bernier brothers were a beloved part of the Chauvigny town. They were firm friends and were always seen together. They had a small business making wooden and tin toys to be sold at local markets. The loft of their family home was the workshop in which they incorporated the Innocence puzzle into the main stand of a zoetrope machine. The brothers were a famous face on the local markets where they sold their small toys. The box was purchased from a travelling vendor at the market, as were most of the materials used in their business.

I do not think they were in any way aware of what they possessed. The Bernier family has had no murders or strange happenings of any kind. The only sad occasion of note is the passing of the brothers themselves. They were both conscripted to fight in WW1 and were reported as killed in action. No bodies were found, but under the circumstances, I am not surprised.

The toy business was closed when Christophe and Didier went to war. Any remaining items were kept in the family until the death of the oldest relative in 1963. It is strange however that the box was never sold and was eventually removed from the zoetrope machine and kept by Didier. Family members swore Didier took the box to war with him to trade for food. It was not seen again until the 1940's when it appeared in the cellar of the family home.

In 1963 the Box, along with many of the toys made by the Bernier brothers and some family items, were given to Bertrand Poulin a local historian.

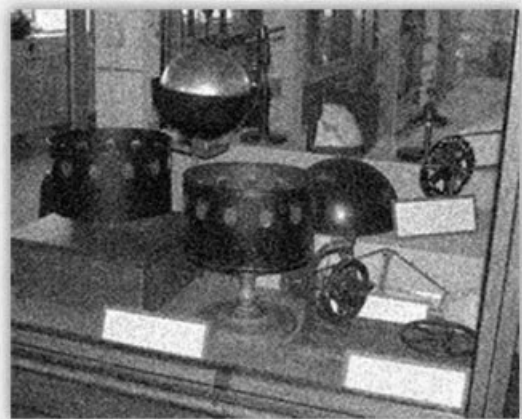
Maybe the brothers were lucky enough to escape the effects of the configuration. By all accounts, they were happy and well adjusted young men. Not Cenobial material at all.

Cristophe and Didier Bernier



Some of their toys

In particular - Zoetrope machines



Test results and analysis

The box will be given to test subject 'K' to ascertain the hands on mechanism of the box. The test subject has not encountered a Le marchand box before. The subject is also unaware of the possible outcomes of the test.

Step 1

To place the subject in a locked observation room with a pre positioned videotape machine and camera.

Step 2

The subject will manipulate the box until progress is achieved. As soon as any movement in the box is detected, the subject must place the box in the Videotape camera booth and stand in the marked area.

Step 3

To be determined on any success of the experiment performed.

There has been some concerns raised as to subject 'K's inclination to participate in the experiment. I feel that is not a valid concern. We have been funding his 'medicine' for some time. Also his success as a chess player is partially down to our intervention. The subject will present no problems.

First test scheduled for May 8th 1986.

~~Project
SUSPENDED~~

NO FURTHER
ACTION ON THIS

THIS FILE TO BE
ARCHIVED A.S.A.P.