

# PICTURE COVERS – REAL CAVES

## LEBANON

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### Grotte de Jeïta \*

Nahr el Kelb, Beyrouth

**PC-RE-LB1** France 1970

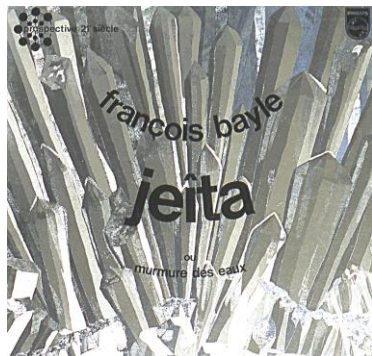
**LP:** JEÏTA OU MURMURE DES EAUX

**Perf:** François Bayle (Concrète – **CT#**)

**Label:** Philips (Prospective 21e Siècle) 6521-016

**Photos:** (Black & white) Sami Karkabi & Mamoug

**Notes:** The original LP covers were printed on glossy reflective silver paper. The front cover had a design of a



massive cluster of quartz crystals shooting up from a central point at the bottom middle. The



back cover shows a montage of five black and white photos, four of which are signed. From top right clockwise they show: a group of stalactites (photo by Sami Karkabi); François Bayle (photo by Perrine); a detail portion of some stalactites; soda straws and helectites (photo by S. Karkabi); and, in the center, a detail of some rippled flowstone (photo by Mamoug).

At least three editions of the vinyl LP were released in the 70s and 80s: the first edition had the glossy reflective silver paper and on the back cover at the bottom right the printed text "Recto: Procédé Héliophore – Imp. phonogram Louviers"; the second edition was the same but the text at the bottom right only read – "Recto: Procédé Héliophore"; and the third edition kept the crystal design but on normal glossy paper without the reflective metallic silver paper. The first two editions had a turquoise green label whereas the third edition had a black label.

**Ref:** Anon. 1990, Spéléologie Source d'inspiration, *Al Ouât'ouate*, Nouvelle série n. 5, 1990, p. 105-107, & 112-117

Anon. 2013, The Caves of Lebanon – Jiita Cave, Spéleo Club du Liban, [speleoliban](http://speleoliban)

Brison, David 1998, Caves Celebrated in Recorded Music & Songs (sic), *Al Ouât'ouate*, Nouvelle série n. 11, 1998, p. 99, 101, 106

François Bayle, Jeïta ou murmure des eaux LP, [Discogs](http://Discogs)

Grotte de Jeïta, History & Description, (in French), [Wikipedia](http://Wikipedia) & Jeita Cave (in English), [Wikipedia](http://Wikipedia)

Jeïta Grotto, Website, [jeitagrotto](http://jeitagrotto)

Karkabi, Sami n.d. (ca. 1959), *La Grotte de Jiita*, Libraires Antoine, Beyrouth

Karkabi, Sami 1974, *Jeïta – Architecture des temps*, Beyrouth, photos 45, 60, 86

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**PC-RE-LB2** West Germany 1972

**LP:** ES UND AUFWÄRTS AUS DEN SIEBEN TAGEN

**Perf:** Karlheinz Stockhausen (Contemporary)

**Label:** Deutsche Grammophon 2530255

**Photo:** Frank Horvat; Boulogne sur Seine, France

**Notes:** The color photo shows Stockhausen, the world-famous German composer of contemporary "concrète" music, conducting some of his works in the "Galerie Supérieure" (Upper Gallery) of the celebrated Jeïta Cave.

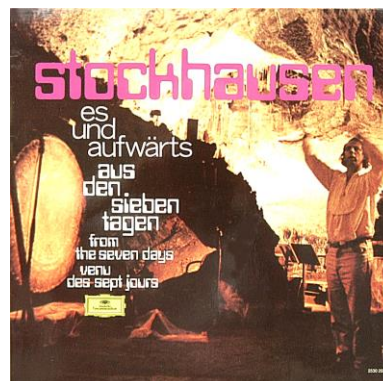
He gave a series of four concerts entitled "Concerts Spéléophoniques" there in November 1969. This photo was taken on one of these occasions but none of the works he performed are on this record. The two, which were recorded here, "It" and "Upwards," have no relation to caves.

A 16-minute documentary film was also made of this concert, entitled, "Stockhausen et les Grottes de Jeïta," it was produced by the Conseil National du Tourisme Libanais & MEA-Air Liban and directed by Anne Marie Deshays. (Anon. 1973)

**Ref:** Anon. 1973, Letter addressed to *Inter Speleologia* 1973 in Olomouc, Czechoslovakia, dated 17 Mars 1973

Anon. 1990, Karl-Heinz Stockhausen, *Al Ouat'ouate*, Nouvelle série n. 5, 1990, p. 118-121

Karlheinz Stockhausen, *Es und Aufwärts aus den sieben Tagen* LP, [Discogs](#)



**PC-RE-LB3** France 1999

**CD:** BAYLE Vol. 13 – JEÏTA (includes JEÏTA-RETOUR)

**Perf:** François Bayle (Concrète – [CT#](#))

**Liner Notes:** (24-page booklet) F. Bayle, Gérard D. Khoury (poem), Georges Shéhadé, & Maurice Fleuret

**Label:** Musidisc 248122

**Photos:** (Color) Sami Karkabi

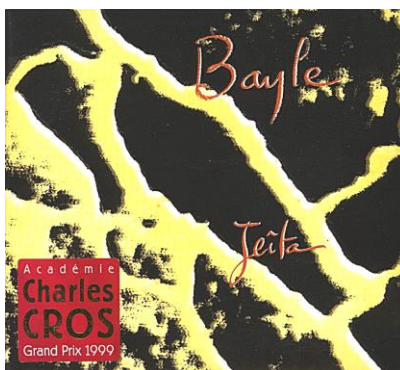
(Black & white) Sami Karkabi & Mamoug

**Notes:** The triple panel CD cover used an abstract pattern covering two panels, which somewhat resembling the crackled crust of molten lava flows with the multiple glowing fractures fanning out in all directions. (This was the same abstract pattern that had been used for the cover of the program booklet for the Inaugural Concert given in the cave in January 1969.) The third panel shows a wide shot of the entrance to the upper levels (grotte supérieure) of the Jeïta Cave including the caver Sami Karkabi (former manager of Jeïta Cave and president of the Spéléo Club du Liban) standing below the foot bridge leading to the Concert Hall (Salle de Concert).



The label of the CD has a color shot of another formation room in the upper level with two pillars on the left and the concrete walkway designed by the architect, Ghassan Klink.

The 24-page liner notes booklet has several cave photos taken by Sami Karkabi and Mamoug: a detail of a cluster of calcite popcorn; a footbridge traversing high over the floor of a large formation room; a tall stalagmite; and the huge Concert Hall on the occasion of the Inaugural Concert in January 1969 for the newly opened Upper Galleries of this show cave (photo by Mamoug shown here). This concert was the première of François Bayle's *Nadar*, the first version of *Jeïta*. In the center of the photo can be seen the ensemble of three singers and four instrumentalists under the direction of K. Simonovic and the



platform running in an arc along the far wall with the assembled seated audience two rows deep. Off to the right foreground is a temporary platform where the sound engineer is working with his mixing board.

This CD was awarded the “Grand Prix 1999” by the Académie Charles Cros. Cros was the first to conceive the idea of a cylinder phonograph on April 30, 1877, but before he had a chance to construct a working model Thomas Edison introduced his first working phonograph in the United States and patented it on January 15, 1878. (Anon. 2013)

This CD cover design was taken from the design of the 1969 Jeïta concert poster & the program booklet.

**Ref:** Anon. 2013, Charles Cros, Biography (in French) [Wikipedia](#) & (in English) [Wikipedia](#)

Bayle, François et al. 1969, *Jeïta 1969*, (Program book for the inaugural concert), 11 Jan. 1969, Beirut, Lebanon, 16 p.

Beffa, Karol, François Bayle (CD record review), *Classica*, Oct. 1999

Cazaban, Costin, François Bayle (CD record review), *Le Monde de la musique*, Oct. 1999

Chion, Michel (Ed.) 1994, *François Bayle, parcours d'un compositeur*, Musiques et Recherches, Ohain, France, p. 57-62, 113-115

François Bayle, Jeïta – L'Infini du bruit CD, [Discogs](#)

Karkabi, Sami 1981, *Grottes au Liban*, Conseil National du Tourisme au Liban, Beyrouth

Vermeil, Jean, Jeïta ou murmure des eaux, L'Infini du bruit, Jeïta-Retour (CD record review), *Répertoire des CD*, n. 128, Oct. 1999

Sikora, Elizabeth, François Bayle (CD record review), *Diapason*, Oct. 1999

[caveinspiredmusic.com](http://caveinspiredmusic.com)