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## Zum Tod von Juliette Gréco

The French chanson icon Juliette Gréco, born in Montpellier in the south of France, grew up in the Paris district of Saint-Germain-des-Prés.

After the family had left Paris in 1939, her mother was active in the Résistance Sud network in 1940 until she was arrested by the Gestapo on September 8, 1943 in the Dordogne.

Shortly thereafter, Juliette Gréco and her sister, who had returned to Paris, were also arrested and imprisoned in Fresnes prison. 16-year-old Juliette was released after three weeks. Her mother and older sister Charlotte were deported to the Ravensbrück concentration camp by the Nazis and were only able to return to France in 1945 after the liberation by the Red Army.

After Gréco was released from prison, she stayed with her mother's friend, Hélène Duc, who encouraged her to train as an actress. Three years later, Gréco received her first role in Roger Vitrac's "Victor ou les enfants au pouvoir" at the Théâtre de la Gaîté Montparnasse.

After the liberation of Paris, Gréco joined the youth organization Jeunesse communiste. In her autobiography she recalled: »Jujube decides to join the Jeunesse communiste. Communism seems to be the only way to give life a meaning. To justify it. To fight for victory, for yourself, with others, for others. In her fresh memory, the wounds of torture are still there. (...) Jujube hates injustice. "

In the Tabou nightclub, Gréco meets Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir. In 1946 she met Jacques Prévert, who gave her two lyrics: "Je suis comme je suis" and "Les feuilles mortes". Sartre wrote the poem "La rue des Blancs-Manteaux" for Gréco, and from 1954 she sang in a duet with Georges Brassens. Her song "Déshabillez-moi" became a radio hit in 68. Gréco started her film career in 1951, but she was only really successful with the television series "Belphégor or the Secret of the Louvre" (1965).

Gréco remained political throughout her life: in May 68 she brought Alain Krivine, the leader of the Trotskyist Ligue communiste révolutionnaire, who was persecuted by the police, into her home.

In 1999 Gréco gave a big concert at the Fête de L'Humanité. She performed well into old age, but eventually withdrew from the big stage for health reasons. Juliette Gréco died on September 23 at the age of 93 in Ramatuelle.

<https://www.jungewelt.de/artikel/387093.nachruf-jujube-hasst-ungerechtigkeit.html>