

THE CITY'S LIGHTS

YOUR PARISIAN NEWSLETTER, BY LOCALERS

MUSEUMS IN BLOOM



Musée Cluny

The grand reopening

MUSÉE CLUNY - OPENS MAY 12TH 2022



Tenture de la dame à la licorne Late 15th - early 16th century ©Musée de Cluny.

This month's key event, the Cluny museums finally reopens its doors after 7 year of renovations. Welcoming visitors in the heart of the Latin Quarter since 1843, the Middle Ages museum chose to close its doors in 2015 to revamp its architecture and renew access to two new areas: the gothic cave and Roman annex. A new space, signed Bernard Desmoulin, was specially conceived for the occasion, to make the museum more accessible. The structure uses elements from gothic and medieval architecture with its pinions and medieval motifs inserted on its metallic guipures.



Rose d'or, lead, 1300, © Musée Cluny.

The museum promises to give an immersive and reduced-mobility-friendly experience : 21 rooms, fully reimagined, and close to 1600 unique pieces ,chronologically displayed !

Unveiled will be the famous ancient bathhouses of Lutetia, the *hôtel* of the abbots of Cluny, as well as key artworks like the famous tapestries *La Dame à la licorne* and the *Têtes des rois de Juda*.

BELLE ÉPOQUE, ITALIAN STYLE

DISCOVER...

Boldini, Les Plaisirs et les Jours

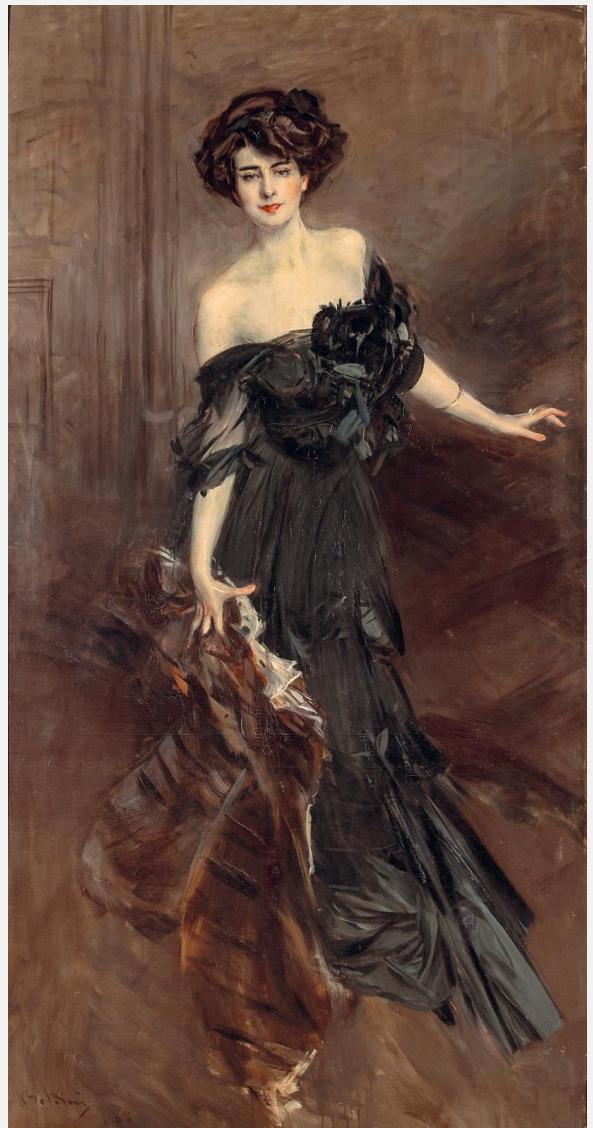
Big arrival at the Little Palace

PETIT PALAIS - MARCH 29TH TO JULY 24TH 2022

Le Petit Palais has decided to dedicate its rooms to Italian artist Giovanni Boldini. Born in 1842 in Italy, this genre painter and portrait marked Turn of the Century Paris with his portrayals of high society, aristocracy, and all the luxury the capital had to offer.

A tally of 150 pieces containing paintings, drawings costumes and prints, reveals all of Parisian Belle Epoque. Among them, one finds the portrait of Giuseppe Verdi and worldly ladies like *Mademoiselle de Demidoff* and *Cléo de Mérode*, whose minds and charm were a source of fascination. Close to Degas, Boldini spent much time amid bourgeois and aristocratic circles, for whom he deployed his many talents.

Always having an eye for fashion, he would paint the outfits of his contemporary designers, whether it be Worth or Jacques Doucet, or even Paul Poiret. From his training, his whole artistic journey is displayed, summarizing his experience of Belle Epoque *salons*, rife with artists and poets.



Giovanni Boldini (1842-1931), *Mademoiselle de Demidoff*, 1908, oil on canvas, 232 x 122 cm, private collection, © DR.

Maya Ruiz-Picasso

Double-exhibit on the painter's daughter

MUSÉE PICASSO - APRIL 16TH TO DECEMBER 22ND



Pablo Picasso, *Variation sur le déjeuner sur l'herbe de Manet*, 1961, Printed linoleum, © Dation Pablo Picasso.

The Musée Picasso is revealing a double exhibition celebrating Pablo's daughter : Maya Ruiz Picasso. Nine works from her collection are joining the museum's, granting spectators a complete panorama of her artistic prowess. The exhibit explores the Picasso family's intimacy by shedding light on father-daughter complicity. Born in 1935, Maya is Pablo and Marie-Thérèse Walter's firstborn daughter. She never ceases to appear in his works, like an omnipresent model.

Maya's early years were marked by the prolific success of her father. Precious testimonies, photos, documents, and personal mementos complete the series of portraits of Maya and sculptures by Pablo presented in the exhibit. *Maya à la poupée* and *Maya au bateau* depict the attention Pablo gave to the exploration of childhood.

Romy Schneider

CINÉMATHEQUE FRANÇAISE - MARCH 16TH TO JULY 31ST

An homage to famous French actress Romy Schneider! Forty years after her passing, the Cinémathèque is bringing forth a piercing vision of this cinema icon's career. Born in 1938, Romy Schneider kicked off her career in Germany, then in France, where she marked 20th century cinema for years to come. At the young age of 17, she becomes the famous Sissi, opening the door to other historical roles. Surrounded only by the best, and directors Alain Cavalier and Claude Sautet, she plays in French, German, and American productions, but also takes to the stage, alongside Alain Delon in *L'Enfer* or Henri Georges Clouzot in *La Piscine*. This look back to the past reveals costumes, movie scenes, and documents recounting the actress' story



Romy Schneider, photograph, circa 1960. © Ministère de la Culture - Médiathèque de l'architecture et du patrimoine, Dist. RMN-Grand Palais / Sam Lévin.

The Bow and the Saber

Imagining the Japanese warrior

MUSÉE GUIMET - UNTIL APRIL 29TH



Matsudaira Clan Armoir, late 17th- early 18th century,
© RMN- Grand Palais (MNAAG) / Thierry Ollivier.

The Musée Guimet has unveiled an exhibit dedicated to the intriguing figure of the samurai, an icon of medieval Japan. Stemming from Japanese aristocracy and inhabiting the summit of the archipelago's social hierarchy until the 19th century, the samurai would delve into all facets of culture, including poetry, *nô* theater, and tea ceremonies. A fetishized figure in our times' popular perception of Japan, its at the heart of various movies, videogames, and cartoons.

From weapons to colorful prints, from photography to Darth Vader, myriad objects are on display throughout this immersive exhibit. The famous story of the 47 rōnin is told through art thanks to 15 different prints.



The bow and the saber ©© MNAAG, Paris, Dist. RMN-Grand Palais / image musée Guimet.



Did you know?

The warrior's way or *bushido* emerged in warmongering aristocracy, with particular attention brought to culture and reading. Samurai partook therein in concert with Buddhist monks, with the way of tea, *chado*, the way of the woods, *kodo*, and the way of the flowers, *ikebana*.

To go even further...

Simon Hantaï

An exhibition for the century...

FONDATION LOUIS VUITTON - **MAY 18TH TO AUGUST 29TH**

For Simon Hantaï's posthumous 100 year birthday, the Fondation Louis Vuitton has gathered 130 works on the painter, from 1957 to 2000. Can be found there in his many paintings, such as *Écriture rose*, painted in 1958, as well as his *Peintures polychromes*, the *Tabulas* or the famous *Sérigraphies*.

The artist found inspiration amongst many modern icons, like Henri Matisse and Jackson Pollock. He enjoyed travelling to Italy, but also explore Hungarian artistic and surrealist circles. Contemporaries like Michel Parmentier and Daniel Buren contributed to his style of cosmic abstraction, soaked with liturgical meditations.



Simon Hantaï, *Panse*, Paris, 1964. © Archives Simon Hantaï / Adagp, Paris, 2022, Fondation Louis Vuitton / David Bordes.



Simon Hantaï, *Unnamed*, Paris, 1984 © Archives Simon Hantaï / Adagp, Paris, 2022, Primac / Louis Bourjac.

Simon Hantaï experiments with the gestures of painting, writing, scraping, and folding methods to materialize his vision. He paints blindly starting the 1960s to outline shapes and distribute color in his works. The painter's interest for randomness was also a way for him to disappear, so that only the painting would remain.

Merci !

Mon Petit Paris wishes you a rich and plentiful
month of May!

See you soon for June's newsletter!

