

THE CITY'S LIGHTS

YOUR PARISIAN NEWSLETTER BY MON PETIT PARIS



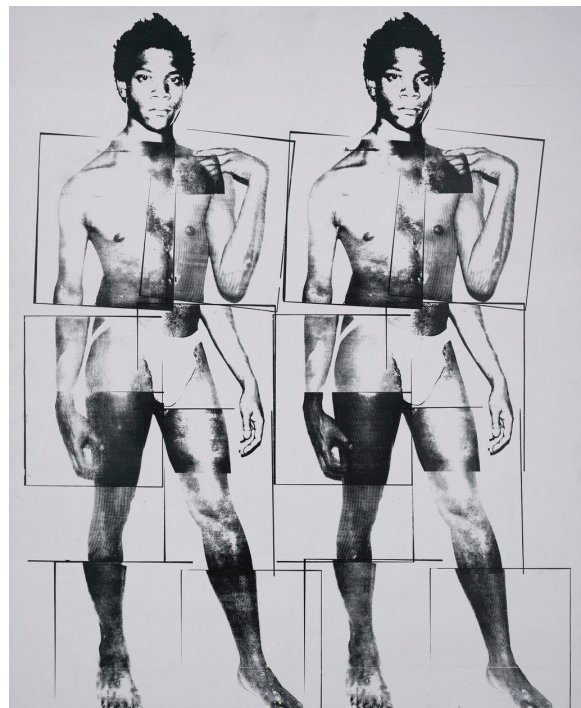
Basquiat x Warhol

À quatre mains (Four hands)

FONDATION LOUIS VUITTON - **APRIL 5 TO AUGUST 28 2023**

Despite a short career, Basquiat left a substantial amount of artworks. In just ten years, he produced over a thousand paintings and drawings. His work, which has already been exhibited at the Fondation Louis Vuitton in 2018, is being presented again under a completely different perspective: his collaboration with Andy Warhol.

The two artists met in 1982 when Basquiat, who had just started displaying his canvases in New York and who was very admiring of Warhol's art, attempted to show him his work. A true friendship and a genuine bond developed between them and led to the production of 160 paintings on which were left the traces of the union of their two universes. Basquiat discovered a unique use of popular culture for artistic purposes thanks to Warhol, who then reconciled with painting, which he had put aside.



Andy Warhol, *Portrait of Jean-Michel Basquiat as David*, 1984, Synthetic polymer paint and silk-screen ink on canvas, 228,6 x 176,5 cm
Norman and Irma Braman collection © The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc. / Licensed by ADAGP, Paris 2023

However, the two artists eventually grew apart, partly because of Basquiat's drug addiction problem. Warhol's death in 1987 only increased Basquiat's misery, and he died from an overdose a year later, as if one could not survive the other.

The Fondation Louis Vuitton invites us, through an over 300 artwork exhibition, to return to the 80s New York artistic environment.



DÉCOUVERTE...

Sarah Bernhardt

PETIT PALAIS - **DU 14 AVRIL AU 27 AOÛT 2023**

This month, the Petit Palais puts the spotlight on one of the greatest actresses of all time: Sarah Bernhardt. Despite a tough childhood with an unknown father and an absentee mother, she was able to join the Conservatoire de Paris and then the Comédie Française.

Her talent was rapidly noticed, especially by Victor Hugo who saw her acting in his play *Ruy Blas*. This was the beginning of her swift ascent to popularity: she played in Racine and Shakespeare's greatest tragedies; which include *Hamlet*, a male character played by a woman.

Once she became a real icon of all theatrical genres, famous for her voice and confident attitude, she directed theaters and troupes, the old Theatre des Nations, renamed Theatre Sarah-Bernhardt, being one of them.

This exhibition takes us back to this incredible career but also on some little-known aspects of Sarah Bernhardt's life such as her work as a plastician artist: paintings and sculptures which show an utter artistic sensitivity.

She was friend with numerous artists and therefore the subject of many portraits, including one by her friend Georges Clairin, which is viewed as one of the most famous portraits of the actress. One can also mention a her portrait by Louise Abbéma, her friend and companion, or even Alphonse Mucha's notorious collared lithographies.

In order to provide a true immersion into the world of this "sacred monster", Sarah Bernhardt's privacy is unveiled by way of items and clothes she owned in both her private and public life.



Portrait de Sarah Bernhardt par Georges Clairin Comédie Française, 1897 (© Coll Comédie-Française)

Des cheveux et des poils

MUSÉE DES ARTS DÉCORATIFS - **DU 5 AVRIL AU 17 SEPTEMBRE 2023**

This year, the Musée des Arts Décoratifs pursues its study of the human body as a fashion object and presents an exhibition with a peculiar topic titled "Des cheveux et des poils" (which translates as "Hair and hairs"). The exhibition is split into 5 parts and invites us to find out about the shifting history of hairs through time, genders, fashion, and classes.

The first part focuses on feminine hairstyles from the 15th to the 19th century. Before the 15th century, people mainly hid their hair. From then, they started to show more and more, styling hair in more and more extravagant ways.



Affiche de l'exposition "Des cheveux et des poils" librement inspirée du travail de Naro Pinosa

The second part of the exhibit is centered on beards and the different roles it played throughout the centuries. Beards and moustaches were extremely popular through the 16th and 19th centuries as they were considered as a true sign of manliness. A few centuries later, smooth shaved faces were preferred to hairy ones. Nowadays, hairiness is in line with current tastes again but only if tidy as it reflects to our bestiality otherwise.

The third part is about wigs, which were worn since the Middle Ages depending on social status and which then became fashion accessories, the miscellaneous - natural or not - hair colors which could be observed at the time and their symbolism.

The fourth part draws attention on the professions dealing with the aesthetics of hairs: hairstylist, barber, wigmaker... and the big names of the milieu.

Finally, the exhibit depicts the importance of the 20th and 21st great hairstyles in the definition of an identity and a feeling of belonging to specific groups or communities.

Be prepared to be disheveled!



Lodewijk van der Helst —Portrait d'Adriana Hinlopen1667Amsterdam, Rijksmuseum. Crédit photo :© Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

Ramesses

& the Pharaoh's gold

GRANDE HALLE DE LA VILLETTE - **APRIL 7 TO SEPTEMBER 6 2023**

For the last decades, our societies' fascination for Ancient Egypt and its representation in temporary exhibitions have only just escalated. After a successful exhibit dedicated to Toutankhamon in 2019 which had beaten records in number of visitors, this time, the Villette offers a study of Ramesses II.

As 19th Egyptian Dynasty's third pharaoh, Ramesses ruled over the peninsula for over sixty years. He was married to a dozen women, had hundreds of concubines during his whole life and had nearly as many children.

Ramesses was a great warrior and is known for his battles against the Hittites and the conquest of many territories. However, our interest here is drawn to the artistic production encouraged during his reign.

Known as "the Builder", Ramesses ordered the building of sumptuous edifices such as the Abu Simbel temples, gigantic statues of him,

nicknamed "colossal statues", and the making of numerous precious objects. This one-off exhibition allows the public to have access to some of these valuables, 180 authentic pieces to be exact.

To name some of them: Ramesses' cedarwood coffin in which his mummy was discovered, one of the limestone colossal statues depicting him, multiple golden pieces of jewellery and masks, stone statuettes and other wonders. The pharaoh is always depicted with his royal attributes: a false beard, a royal headdress - the *nemes* and the *urheus* - a cobra worn above the head in order to be protected against any foe.

These items illustrate the quality and fineness of Ancient Egypt's artistic creations and, at the same time, of the extraordinary aspect of Ramesses' life who was a husband, a father, a warrior and a model to a whole visual culture he shaped to his image, all at once.



Feminine surrealism?

MUSÉE DE MONTMARTRE - **MARCH 31 TO SEPTEMBER 10 2023**



Jane Graverol, Le Sacre de Printemps, 1960, huile sur toile, RAW (Rediscovering Art by Women) (© ADAGP, Paris, 2022, photo © Stéphane Pons)

As many others, surrealism is an artistic movement which is more well known for his male artists: Dali, De Chirico, Magritte or Picasso just to name a few. But who nowadays has ever heard of a female surrealist painter ?

The Musée de Montmartre wishes to give some visibility to them, from the most renowned artists to the most underground names. Its new exhibit depicts the complex relationship between women and surrealism. Women had an unusual amount of freedom of speech in surrealism circles compared to others, although they also had to free themselves from set rules established by their mentors so they could assert their individuality.

This exhibit also includes a large part focusing on the depiction of female characters in paintings, trying to surpass their image of mere objects of desire and temptation.

Elliott Erwitt, a retrospective

MUSÉE MAILLOL - **DU MARCH 23 TO AUGUST 15 2023**

The Musée Maillol pays tribute to Elliott Erwitt, an American photographer who started taking pictures during his trips before eventually focusing on the American daily life. Erwitt was rapidly spotted by professional photographers but, Robert Capa, cofounder of the Magnum agency, who forever changed his carer by offering him to join him in 1954. He is still a member of the agency almost 70 years later.

This exhibit, dedicated to his work, gives a journey through a hundred black-and-white and coloured photographs, portraits of celebrities and street scenes, or even intimate shots, filled with humor and joy.



© Elliott Erwitt/MAGNUM PHOTOS | Crédits : © Elliott Erwitt/MAGNUM PHOTOS

Merci!

Mon Petit Paris wishes you all the best for this beautiful and activity-rich month of April.

See you soon for May's Parisian newsletter!

