

# THE CITY'S LIGHTS

YOUR PARISIAN NEWSLETTER BY MON PETIT PARIS





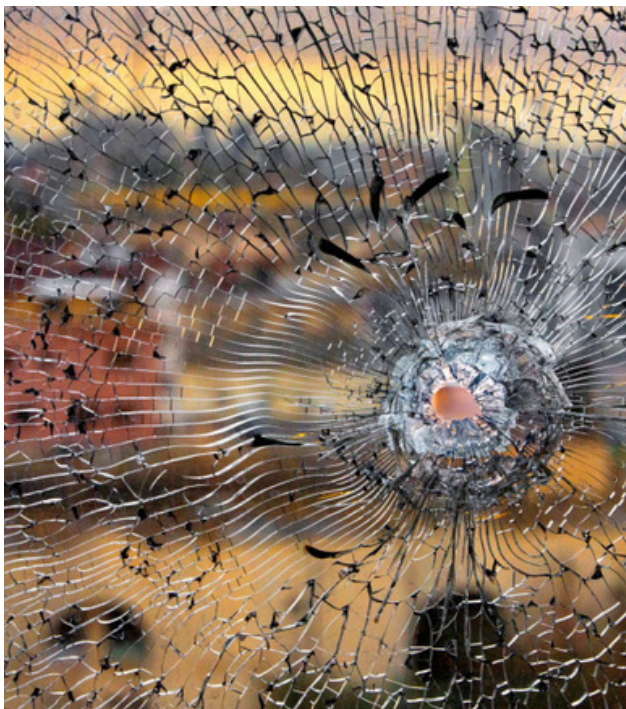
# Plantu - Reza

## Regards croisés (meeting of minds)

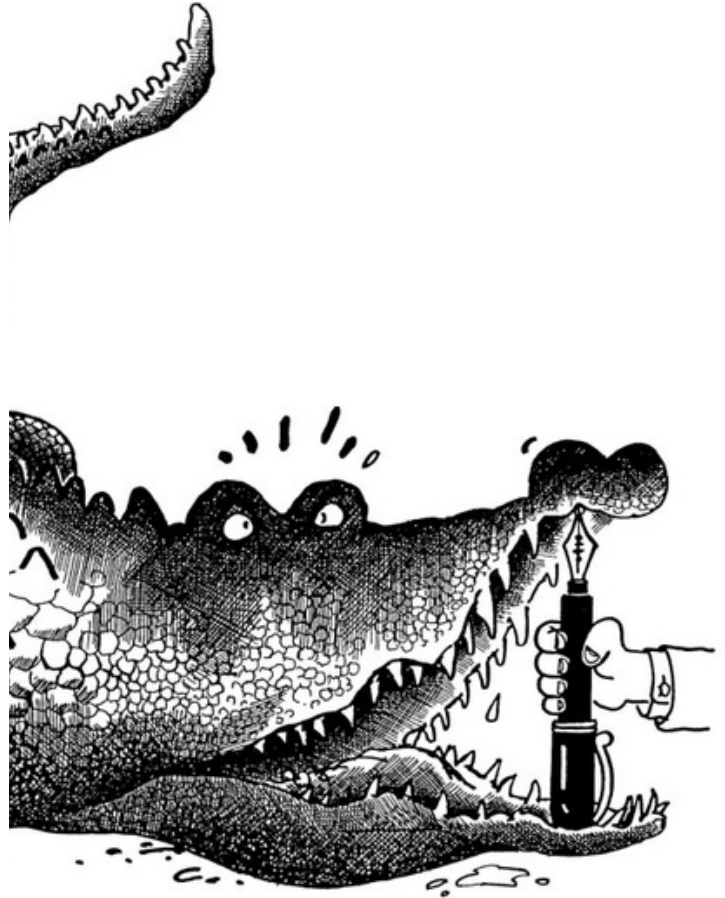
MUSEE DE L'HOMME - **MAY 11 TO DECEMBER 31 2023**

This year, the Musee de l'Homme invites us to discover the meeting of two of the most major artists of our time's mind. One of them is Jean Plantureux, better known as Plantu, a French cartoonist and illustrator. The second artist is Reza Deghati, an Iranian photographer known by his first name, Reza. Plantu uses humor and satire to bring his drawings to life while Reza is closer to photojournalism and attempts to capture reality at its closest.

Although in different ways, they both take a critical look upon our society through their works. When they met at the International Press Drawings Meetings in 2011 at Memorial de Caen, Plantu offered his caricature to Reza.



Kurdistan Regional Government, Irak, 2015  
© Reza



Crocodile © Plantu

This was the beginning of a long collaboration as this was the occasion for each artist to admit they admired and feel close to the other's work. Thus, they decided to use their four hands to create art which later were published in the book *Plantu - Reza : regards croisés* publié by the Editions Gallimard in 2021, and are now displayed in an exclusive exhibition.

These hybrid creations, a mix between drawings and photos, offer you visions of current events and their concerns and condemn neverending wars and conflits, climate and economic crisis, endangered freedom of speech... but in a funny way!

# Norman Foster

CENTRE POMPIDOU - **MAY 10 TO AUGUST 7 2023**

Norman Foster is one of the most renowned English architect of our time. After graduating from the University of Manchester and the University of Yale, he started an office with Richard Rogers and then created a second with his wife, Wendy Cheesman - who is an architect as well. Their office, Foster Associates, renamed Foster + Partners, is now one of the biggest architect's office in the UK.



The Millau Viaduc (Millau, France, 1993 - 2004) © photo : Daniel Jamme/Eiffage

Even if you are not familiar with his name, you know about at least one of Norman Foster's constructions: Nîmes' Carré d'Art, London's Millennium Bridge and City Hall, the le Carré d'Art de Nîmes, the Millennium Bridge, the Millau Viaduc or NYC's Hearst Tower and other skyscrapers, airports or museums. Foster's trademark is the high-tech character he introduces in his buildings by enhancing the technical and technological elements of his constructions.

The drawings and models displayed at Centre Pompidou give us an opportunity to better understand Foster's work which oscillates between high technology and environmental friendliness. Modern and contemporary works, which were sources of inspiration for the architect, are also presented in this exhibition.



Foster + Partners, "Marseille's Ombrelle at the Old Port" (France), 2010 - 2013 © Norman Foster Photo © Edmund Sumner / VIEW, 2013



## DISCOVER...

### Perfume workshop

#### MUSEE DU PARFUM FRAGONARD

This month, experience something new by pushing the door of the Musée Fragonard. Since 1983, this museum, a beautiful Napoleon style *hotel particulier*, located on rue Scribe just a few steps away from Opera Garnier, has been dedicated to perfume - more specifically Fragonard. The Grasse based parfumerie has moved into the private mansion to display their *savoir-faire* and allow their guests to uncover the secrets of the heady art of perfume.

The gorgeous rooms of the *hotel particulier* deserve to be visited by themselves. However, perfume, which occupies the place, opens up to us about its history and main fragrances in a cabinet of curiosities, between Italian citrus bergamia and Australian sandalwood.



© Musée du Parfum Fragonard

The room of alambics focuses on the different steps and techniques of perfume making. Of course, the job of a "*nez*" (nose) is described in all its finest details: it is the work of an artist. The olfaction room offers visitors to become a *nez* themselves for a few minutes by training their sense of smell to different scents. The museum's collections also include works from antiquity to our days: paintings, diverse artefacts, precious and extravagant bottles... As you must have guessed, this museum deserves a visit!

But, the experience we suggest you do is even more complete. First, dive into the universe of Fragonard thanks to a 20-minute guided tour in English. Then, create your own original perfume you can bring home during a 15-minute workshop. L'expérience que nous vous proposons est encore plus complète. A sensorial experience which is as educational as it is unforgettable!



© Musée du Parfum Fragonard

# Tacita Dean

BOURSE DE COMMERCE - **MAY 24 TO SEPTEMBER 11 2023**

This spring, one of Bourse du Commerce's exhibition should catch your eye more than the others: the British contemporary artist Tacita Dean's!

Born in Canterbury in 1965 and London Slade School of Fine Art graduate, she started her career 1990. She is now internationally renowned thanks to her films, photographs, drawings and paintings.

Her films have a 16 mm width and she uses an analogue camera for her photographs. One of Dean's productions distinctive feature is that she prefers older techniques which emphasise the image's material to new digital ones: she is interested in materiality and the visual effects' rendering.

After often staging her characters to give her shots a sense of narrative at the start of her career, she slowly chose natural elements to the human figure. Her favourite topics are thus exclusively taken from natural environment in their rawest aspects: oceans, trees, rocks, mountains, glaciers became the subjects of her works.

Beyond the tribute Tacita Dean is paying to vast yet fragile natural wonders, her work mainly set a reflection on time passing by in places more legitimate than others to illustrate past and future, change and immutability, reality and fantasy.



Tacita Dean *The Wreck of Hope*, 2022 Chalk on Blackboard 366 x 732 cm Photo: Fredrik Nilsen Studio Courtesy the artist; Marian Goodman Gallery New York/Paris and Frith Street Gallery, London



# Pierre Dac

## Le Parti d'en rire

MUSEE D'ART ET D'HISTOIRE DU JUDAISME - **APRIL 20 TO AUGUST 27 2023**

Pierre Dac was born in 1893 to a Jewish family from Alsace. While looking for his work path, he held all kind of positions before he became a cabaret singer. Then, as he began to draw attention, theatres doors slowly opened to him. He soon started a career at the radio and his performances were a success.

In 1938, he got a start in the Press industry with the creation of the ravishing comedy magazine "L'os à la moelle." When World War II put an end to post-war's respite, he left France and joined Radio Londres (French for Radio London).

His return to Paris, after the war, also marks his return to the theatres' stages where he is accompanied by other comedians; especially Francis Blanche with whom he created a theatrical and radiophonic duet. This professional and friendly relationship saved him from the depression which was eating him away. Indeed, despite the whole funny and full of energy universe he built from scratch for the public, Pierre Dac had dark thoughts and made a suicide attempt in the 1950s-1960s. Even so, he ran to the 1965 Presidential elections in his magazine: that was one of his last great prank.

The Musee d'Art et d'Histoire du Judaisme dedicates Pierre Dac an exhibition which comes back on the journey of one of the greatest French comedians, the king of absurd, the inventor of the Schmilblick by means of radio samples, extracts from shows and press cuttings to provide a cheerful multimedia experience.



Pierre Dac with his mic in Paris in 1935.  
(Collection particulière © Estate Brassai — RMN-Grand Palais)

Photo © RMN-Grand Palais/Jean-Gilles Berizzi)



© Musée d'Art et d'Histoire du Judaisme

## Hatred of the clans. French wars of Religion, 1559-1610

MUSEE DE L'ARMEE - **APRIL 5 TO JULY 30 2023**

The second part of the 16th century was a peculiar time of our History. Indeed, between 1559 and 1610, France and Europe were ablaze by eight religious wars; ultra-catholics, protestants and moderates ripped each others to shreds during religious political conflicts. The 1572 Saint Bartholomew's Day massacre is a testify of a violence at its climax during that period.

This exhibition at Musee de l'Armee invites us to dive into five centuries in the past by the means of authentic items, paintings, archives in order to better understand these dark times of trouble.

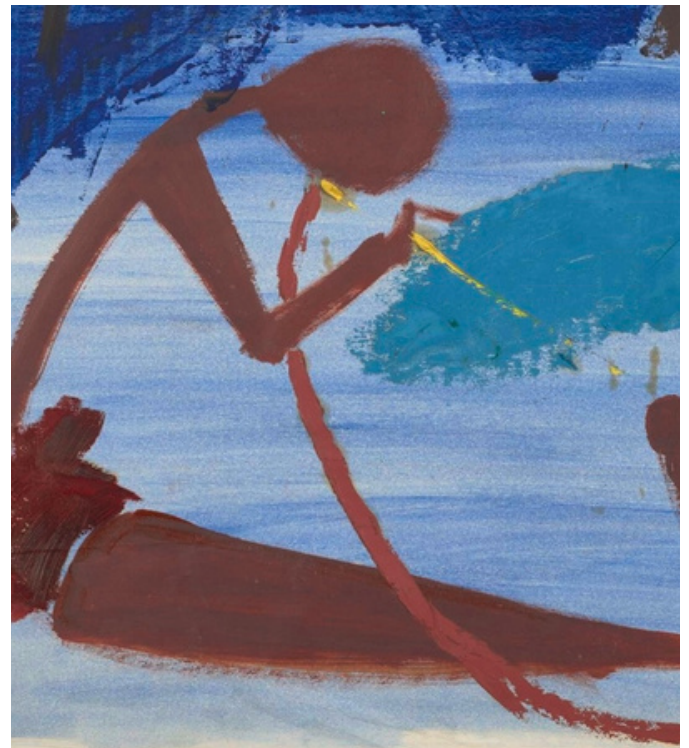


© Musee de l'Armée

## Anne Eisner

MUSEE DU QUAI BRANLY - **APRIL 4 TO SEPTEMBER 3 2023**

Anne Eisner, an American painter born in 1911, is well-known for her abstract depictions of landscapes. She married anthropologist Patrick Putnam in the 1940s with whom she left for Congo. She then started to paint the inhabitants and natural habitats of the Ituri region which became her main source of inspiration. After returning to the US, she chose to embrace the American abstract expressionism while keeping her universe created from memories of the years she spent in Africa. These moments had a strong impact on her paintings but also nourished a true interest in Congo's native populations as one can guess with the books she published in the following years. The Independence of Congo in 1960, seven years before her death, was a turning point in her work of a acknowledgment of a whole population.



© Musee du Quai Branly - Jacques Chirac, photo Pauline Guyon

# Merci!

Mon Petit Paris wishes you all the best and activity-rich times in this beautiful month of May.

**See you in June for another number of your Parisian newsletter!**

