

EXHIBITION-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Saturday 13 February

• **Lecture “Convulsive beauty”** Photographs of hysterics taken in the late 19th century at the Salpêtrière Hospital overturned perceptions of the nature of beauty, and consequently the image of women portrayed through art...
Palais Lumière, Salle des Templiers (Templiers Room) (length 1hr 15mins), 4pm. €8. Tickets and bookings at exhibition reception desk.

Saturday 30 April

• **Concert “Faraway beauties in musical expression”**, performed by the Musique en lumière association. Recital for voice and piano with Sarah Pagin (soprano) and Davide Di Censo (piano), performing works by G. Rossini, L. Délibes, C. Debussy, M. Jaell and G. Bizet.
Palais Lumière Auditorium, 8pm. €16 / €13 (reduced rate). Tour of exhibition included. Tickets on sale at exhibition reception desk.

During the exhibition

Screening “Female artists and the power of the brush”, (2015), a documentary by Manuelle Blanc.
A journey into the history of art through its major female figures, some of whom have been unjustly forgotten.
Co-produced by Ex Nihilo / Arte France.
DVD on sale in the shop.

Workshops

• Children’s workshops (6-12 years):

- Saturday 13 February: **“To the one I love”** (A gift to the one I love)
- Saturday 5 March: **“Fashion trends”** (depicting the female body and dress)
- Saturday 19 March: **“Divine sanguine”** (portraits in sanguine)

Palais Lumière, 10am - 12noon. Workshops preceded by a short tour of the exhibition (30 mins). Register at reception: €5 / child / workshop.

• Family workshop (children aged 3+)

- Saturday 2 April: **“In the latest style”** (fashion sketches)
- Saturday 9 April: **“To the one I love”** (A gift to the one I love)

Palais Lumière, 10am-12noon. Workshop preceded by a short tour of the exhibition (30 mins). Register at reception: €5 / child / workshop and €8 / parent.

• Creative writing workshop (adults)

- Saturday 30 April: **“My idea of beauty”** (creative writing on the theme of beauty).

Palais Lumière, 10am-12noon. Workshop preceded by a short tour of the exhibition (30 mins). Booking essential: €8 / adult.
Workshops can also be arranged by appointment, for adult groups and/or people with disabilities: + 33 [0]4 50 83 10 19 / courrier@ville-evian.fr

February half-term and Easter holidays

Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 February
Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 February
Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 April
Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 April
• **2-day course** (for children aged 6-12):
“Fashion parade” (wire sculpture).

Palais Lumière, 2pm - 4pm. Workshop preceded by a short tour of the exhibition (30 mins). To book a place, call +33 [0]4 50 83 15 90: €8 / child per 2-day course.



Alphonse Eugène Lecadre, *The Sleep*, 1872. Oil on canvas. Coll. Nantes Museum of Fine Arts © RMN-Grand Palais / Gérard Blot.

Tour, lecture and reading / themed tours

Saturday 27 February, 12 March, 9 April, 14 May

• **Tour with readings: “The eternal feminine”** (Perception of women portrayed through the leading voices of French literature).
Palais Lumière, 4pm. €4 plus admission fee.

Sunday 14 February

• **Tour with readings: “Loving, she said”** a poetic journey for two voices, St Valentine’s Special), followed by a complimentary aperitif.
Palais Lumière, 11am and 5pm. €4 plus admission fee.

• Themed tours with dual narration

Tuesday 8 March (International Women’s Day): “One is not born a female artist, one becomes one” (an exploration of the work of female artists Delaunay and Laurencin and their place in the art world).
4pm. Reduced rate and free to all women taking part in the tour.

Friday 15 and Saturday 16 April

(World Art Day): “Each to their own ‘feminine’ style” (exploring major artistic movements from 1860 to 1930, from a female perspective).
4pm.

Sunday 29 May

(Mother’s Day in France): “Intempor’elles - the timeless female” (changing depictions of women, from nurturing mother to seductress).
11am and 4pm. Reduced rate and free to all women taking part in the tour.

Sunday 7 and 21 February, 6 and 20 March, 3 and 17 April, 1st and 15 May

“One day, one woman” (exploring in turn the eight female artists featured in the tour of the exhibition).
4pm. Palais Lumière, €4 plus admission fee.

For additional information

Tel. +33 (0)4 50 83 10 19 / 15 90

Practical Info

Open daily from 10am - 7pm (Mondays 2pm -7pm) and public holidays.

Tel. +33 (0)4 50 83 15 90 / www.ville-evian.fr / Follow the Palais Lumière on [facebook](#)

Curation team: Blandine Chavanne, general heritage curator, assistant director of museum policy at the Ministry of Culture and Communication / Directorate General for Heritage, Museums of France division, **Cyrille Sciamia**, curator responsible for 19th century collections, acting scientific, artistic and cultural director at the Nantes Museum of Fine Arts, **William Saadé**, honorary head heritage curator, scientific advisor at the Palais Lumière.

Admission fees

• General public

- Full rate: €10;
- **A combined admission offer includes entry to the “Fabled Alpine Way” exhibition (9 April - 13 November) at the Maison Gribaldi:** €1 discount on admission fee;
- **Tours with audio-guides** (French/English): €4 plus admission fee;
- **Individual guided tours** daily at 2.30pm: €4 plus admission fee.
- **Themed tours:** €4 plus admission fee (for details, see: “exhibition-related activities”).

• Young people / Families

- Free entry for under-10s;
- **Reduced rate:** €8 for young people aged 10 to 16, students and large families;
- **Guided tours for families:** discovery trail for under 10s accompanied by their parents, Wednesdays at 4pm.
- **“The Little Palais Lumière Game”:** a booklet of fun-packed activities to accompany the exhibition, available at the reception desk.
- **Educational workshops:** €5 / child-teenager / workshop and for family groups €8 / adult (for details, see: “exhibition-related activities”).
- **Holiday course and workshops:** €8 per 2 sessions, (for details, see: “exhibition-related activities”).

• Groups

- **Reduced rate:** €8 (groups of 10+ people);
- **Guided tours by reservation:** +33 [0]4 50 83 10 19 / courrier@ville-evian.fr, €55 per group of 10 to 25 people, plus admission fee.

• Students / teachers

- Free entry for school groups;
- **Guided tours by reservation:** +33 [0]4 50 83 10 19 / courrier@ville-evian.fr, €55 per group of 10 to 30 pupils;
- **Educational workshops:** also available to schools, youth & cultural centres and summer camps (for details, see: “exhibition-related activities”), €5 / child.
- **Educational resources** online at www.ville-evian.fr

• Preferential rates

- (on presentation of supporting documents)
- Free entry for UDOTSI members, Léman sans frontière cardholders and journalists;
- **Reduced rate:** €8 for job seekers, people with disabilities, C.E. leisure cardholders, CNAS members, partner hotels and holiday homes, CGN members, municipal multimedia library and swimming pool members, members of Les Amis du Palais Lumière and Société des Amis du Louvre.
- **50% discount** on admission fees (full or reduced rate) on presentation of a Ville d’Evian family tax benefits card;
- This ticket also entitles users to a **30% reduction** on admission to exhibitions at the Fondation Pierre Gianadda in Martigny.
- Exhibition catalogue.

Co-published by: Ed. Snoeck-Palais Lumière, on sale in the shop: €35.

Tickets also on sale at FNAC sales outlets and at www.fnac.com



Forthcoming exhibitions in 2016-2017

At the Palais Lumière

• **2 July-2 October 2016**
“Albert Besnard (1849-1934), Modernities of the Belle Époque”
• **5 Nov. 2016 - 8 January 2017**
“From Cartoonists to Admen, 1850-1918”.

At the Maison Gribaldi

• **9 avril-13 novembre**
The fabled Alpine Way, from Lake Geneva to the Mediterranean

At the Fondation Pierre Gianadda à Martigny

• **Until 12 June 2016**
Zao Wou-Ki
• **17 June - 20 November 2016**
Picasso, the final masterpiece, homage to Jacqueline



Tamara de Lempicka, *Kizette in pink* (detail), 1927. Coll. Nantes Museum of Fine Arts © RMN-Grand Palais / Gérard Blot © Tamara Art Heritage / ADAGP. Paris 2016

6 February-29 May 2016 Palais Lumière Evian

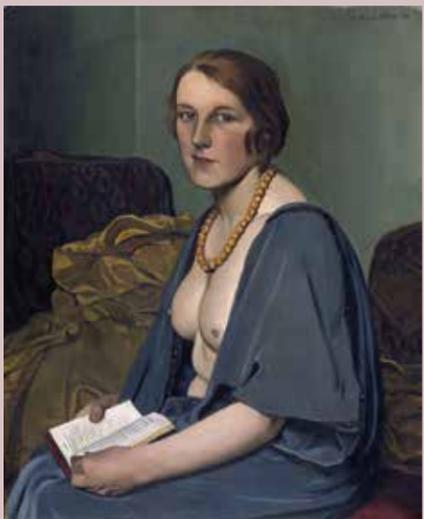


The Belles de jour exhibition explores the depiction of the female figure from the 19th century to the early 20th century, a project bringing together more than 70 works from the collections of the Nantes Museum of Fine Arts. Housewife or menial worker, heroine or socialite, courtesan or muse, women are viewed as symbols of fantasy and liberty.

The 19th century collection of the Nantes Museum of Fine Arts is particularly important, with a large and diverse array of paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures. Scenes from literary, religious and mythological history typify the taste of artists up until the early 20th century for works created for the Paris Salon art exhibition but also for an affluent and educated clientele.

In this respect, the collection illustrates particularly well the representation of female portraits, notably during the period 1860-1930. While the 19th century collections are known for a number of remarkable masterpieces, it appears that at the heart of paintings from this specific period, it is the feminine ideal which

prevails. However, the works on display at the Palais Lumière are not a faithful reflection in the historic and sociological sense of the role of women in French society over the course of these decades. In the final analysis, the museum's collection gives a fairly conservative idea of women via portraits, nudes and depictions of motherhood, conventional mythological themes frequently painted by male but also by female artists.



Félix Vallotton, *Woman Reading*, 1921. Oil on canvas. Coll. Nantes Museum of Fine Arts.

The portraits provide a certain insight into the role of women in French society during the period 1900-1930. Paul-Emile Chabas produced his *Portrait of Madame Claire Pavillon* in the society portrait tradition. Jacques-Emile Blanche presents a traditional vision of the literary woman with his *Portrait of the Countess of Noailles*, striking a theatrical pose that reveals

Jean Jules Antoine Lecomte du Nouÿ, *The White Slave*, 1888. Oil on canvas. Coll. Nantes Museum of Fine Arts © RMN-Grand Palais / Gérard Blot.

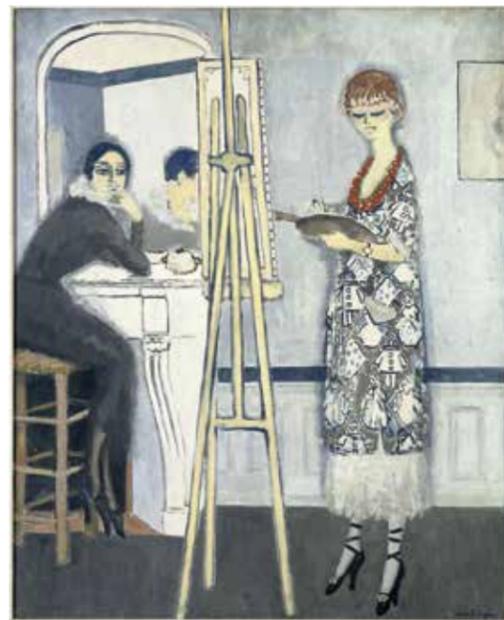


both the model's status and the abstracted gaze of the poet. *Seated Woman* by André Lhote clearly comes from an affluent background. Her pearl necklace and the cut of her dress highlight this. The model's attitude and pose reveal a certain self-assurance and herald the freedom and independence that would characterise the Roaring Twenties.

The portraits of women reading depict women of all ages and from all walks of life. Concentrating or distracted by the painter, looking straight at or totally ignoring the artist, these portraits remind us that reading is not a pursuit enjoyed exclusively by an intellectual elite but an activity shared by all. In her *Portrait of Kizette*, the book is a device enabling Tamara de Lempicka to remind us that her daughter is still a schoolchild. In *Lady with a Book* by Jean-Alexandre Coraboeuf and *Woman Reading* by Félix Vallotton, the artists depict their model gazing straight at the spectator, as if seeking their opinion of what she has just read, offering it up to their interpretation.



Jean-Alexandre Coraboeuf, *Lady with a Book*, 1913. Oil on canvas © Nantes Museum of Fine Arts / Photographer : A. Guillard © Guitard Family.



Kees Van Dongen, *Honest Pastime*, circa 1920. Oil on canvas. Coll. Nantes Museum of Fine Arts © RMN Grand Palais / Gérard Blot © ADAGP, Paris 2016.

The work of the female artist is often still deemed an *Honest Pastime*, as depicted by Van Dongen in 1920, and not as a serious profession. And yet the careers of Marie Laurencin, Tamara de Lempicka and Sonia Delaunay have earned them international recognition. *The Portrait of the Artist's Wife* by Jacques-Charles Derrey gives an insight into her role in the creative process. She is depicted looking apprehensively at the spectator as she hands a blank canvas to her husband. With this monochrome canvas in her arms and her questioning gaze, can the artist's wife be seen as the painter's collaborator, a source of his inspiration? Does she represent a tradition?



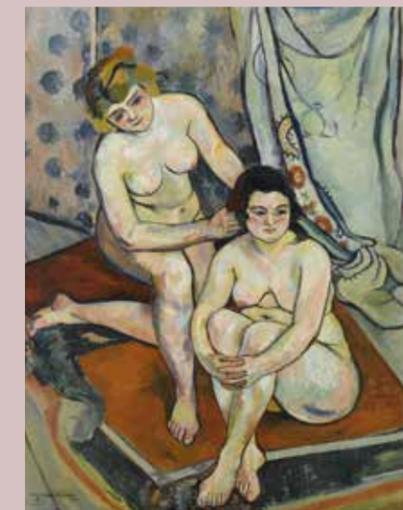
Jacques-Charles Derrey, *Portrait of the Artist's Wife*, 1947. Oil on canvas. Coll. Nantes Museum of Fine Arts.

The female body is a feature of the major artistic movements of the early 20th century: academism (Alleaume), pointillism (Ernest Laurent), symbolism (Marie-Paule Carpentier), fauvism (Suzanne Valadon), expressionism (Sonia Delaunay), cubism (Metzinger) and art deco (Jacqueline Marval). *Pomona* by Ludovic Alleaume is a particularly strange work. Over and above a nude in the academic sense, the artist has placed his model in a "market garden" setting. Though legend tells us that Pomona, a ravishingly beautiful nymph and goddess of fruit, disliked untamed nature, the artist has decked her out in plums, pears and apples and presents her kneeling in a field of pumpkins.

Suzanne Valadon, *The Bathers*, 1923. Oil on canvas. Coll. Nantes Museum of Fine Arts © RMN-Grand Palais / Gérard Blot.

Purchases of works of art, donations and legacies have enabled the Nantes Museum of Fine Arts to present an overview of the major trends of the French artistic scene in the first 30 years of the 20th century: *September Evening* by Maurice Denis, *Kizette in pink* purchased from Tamara de Lempicka, and *Yellow Nude* by Sonia Delaunay, acquired in 1987. The Museum's Society of Friends (previously the Société d'Initiative et de Documentation Artistique) has brought into the collections works by Marie Blanchard, Kees Van Dongen, André Lhote, Suzanne Valadon and Marie Laurencin. This acquisition policy has continued to the present day, supported by partners including the French government and the Pays-de Loire Regional Council.

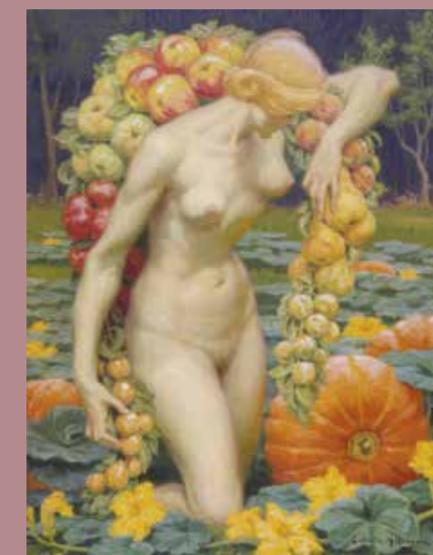
The exhibition continues in Poitiers from 17 June to 9 October 2016 under the name "Belles de Jour: The Museum of Fine Arts in Nantes invites itself at Poitiers." It hosts a dozen major works around the female figure, as an echo to the works of Camille Claudel, Sarah Lipska, Romaine Brooks or The Nymphs of Aristide Maillol. [www.poitiers.fr / musée Sainte-Croix](http://www.poitiers.fr/musee-sainte-croix)



Maurice Denis, *September Evening*, 1911. Oil on canvas. Coll. Nantes Museum of Fine Arts © RMN-Grand Palais / Gérard Blot.



Louis-Robert Antral, *Woman with Yellow Hat*, 20th century. Oil on canvas © Alain Guillard/Nantes Museum of Fine Arts.



Ludovic Alleaume, *Pomona*, 1929. Oil on canvas © Nantes Museum of Fine Arts. Photographer : A. Guillard.