The Art Explora foundation presents two new major, flagship projects in their innovative approach of sharing culture with all:

The ARTEXPLORER museum boat

and

The Art Explora Academy art history discovery platform

Since November 2019, the Art Explora Foundation, created by entrepreneur and philanthropist Frédéric Jousset, has undertaken to reduce the cultural divide and share art with as many people as possible. To do this, the foundation is rolling out a set of initiatives, in France and abroad, based especially on new technologies, but also on mobile devices open to all.

“A public interest aim: sharing the arts and culture with as many people as possible.”
In 2023, Art Explora will inaugurate a museum boat, which will cross the oceans to provide visitors from all over the world with innovative arts and cultural experiences. This travelling project fulfils Art Explora’s ambition to bridge cultural divides by reaching out to audiences in the same coastal areas.

The 46-metre-long catamaran was designed by Axel de Beaufort and Guillaume Verdier to high environmental standards. As part of a project that is both cultural and environmental, it will take on the challenge of raising visitors’ awareness of contemporary issues. With a capacity of up to 2000 visitors per day, it will sail from port to port to meet the public and provide a unique immersive art experience.

Designing a 46.5 metre catamaran—the largest in the world—was in itself an exciting challenge; constructing a museum boat of these proportions that can accommodate 2000 visitors is an unparalleled architectural and boatbuilding challenge that I am extremely pleased to be tackling with my teams. We imagined this aquatic museum as a full-blown work of art, using the finest materials, craftspeople, and know-how for its construction.

Alongside the work we are undertaking to develop the characteristics and performance required to travel around the world by sail, our main challenge with this unusual project being to devise an innovative design that reconciles the modular nature of its spaces with the interior and exterior layout.

This will allow the museum’s design to be optimally laid out to offer all-comers a unique cultural experience in all four corners of the world.

Axel de Beaufort, naval architecture and design -

Roland Berger consultancy firm supports the ARTEXPLORER project with skilled-based sponsorship, working more especially on the project organization and the first route of the boat. The team of Energy Observer, expert in sea voyage and in the development of clean energy solutions, is also partnering with Art Explora to develop the boat-museum project.
ARTEXPLORER, 3 visit settings

In the boat
Visitors will be welcomed onto the catamaran in an initial space that will mark the start of the experience: the pitch room. The ARTEXPLORER project, the safety instructions and the itinerary of the visit will be presented there.

The route then leads to the Flybridge, where visitors can watch a presentation of the Art Explora Foundation in the form of a documentary. This space will also be fitted out to host a multidisciplinary arts programme, conferences, workshops or even performances.

The heart of the catamaran will be occupied by the Gallery which will house the immersive exhibition produced with the partner museums on the theme of the route. An adjoining room, the Project Room will give the exhibition another perspective through the eyes of contemporary artists.

The rear deck will be dedicated to the screening of a documentary on the thematic exhibition, designed in collaboration with the curators and custodians involved in the project.

On the quayside
At each port of call, ARTEXPLORER will roll out an exhibition of works by contemporary artists, presented in containers and temporary architectural structures that will follow the museum boat on the entire voyage. This programme, pieced together in close collaboration with international partner institutions and curators, will focus on the issues and themes addressed along the route.

Highly modular, this large village set up on the quayside will provide an authentic art experience. The programme, which will honour artists from the coastal region chosen for the voyage, will put some of the most established artists on the international scene into dialogue with emerging artists.

In the city
In order to create a true cultural encounter at each port of call and forge ties with different local actors, Art Explora will offer a multidisciplinary cultural festival in each port city coordinated by an internationally renowned curator from the country, in collaboration with local cultural institutions. In connection with the objective the project has set for itself of raising awareness of current issues, associations, schools and NGOs will also be rallied to actively participate in the project as a whole.

The aim is to create a cultural agenda that will enliven the ARTEXPLORER’s stopover with a number of events bringing together all art disciplines. This exciting event, deeply rooted in the cities where it will drop anchor, will offer performances, conferences, screenings, readings or even concerts offering various themes directly connected to the local context of the country.

Art Explora Pass
In order to offer visitors a comprehensive cultural experience, the creation of an Art Explora Pass will allow them to visit both the museum boat, the container village and the entire festival programme in the city. This pass will also afford access to private visits to a selection of local cultural institutions.
Over the years ARTEXPLORER will make voyages on different routes in various regions of the world. On each of them, the project will adopt a specific approach to the contemporary issues specific to each geographical area in order to offer a highly original artistic experience.

1 route, 1 region of the world, its challenges

ARTEXPLORER will begin its voyage in late 2023 with a Mediterranean route lasting several months. The museum boat will cross the entire Mediterranean basin, from the Maghreb to the Middle East.

The scene of meetings and exchanges for thousands of years, the Mediterranean is by nature a place of intercultural dialogue. The scale of the migratory flows that cross it adds to the social and cultural challenges its populations are faced with. This vast maritime region

also brings into question ecological issues such as the preservation of the oceans, ecosystems and climate change.

The choice of this first route will thus set the course for the thematic areas that will permeate the entire programme. The protection of the environment, migration issues and women’s rights will be addressed throughout the voyage through the event programming in each port.

The first exhibition in 2023 will be led by the Department of Oriental Antiquities of the Louvre Museum in dialogue with major cultural institutions in the Mediterranean basin. Noémie Daucé, custodian at the Department of Oriental Antiquities, offers a digital exhibition designed as a reflection both on female figuration, its place and nature in the masterpieces that inhabit museums and monuments on both sides of the Mediterranean, and on the role of women in art production as it has developed from Antiquity to the present day. Rooted in the collections of the Louvre and the partner museums of the Art Explora project, the selection of digitised works will bring together all fields of artistic production, drawing as much from the repertory of visual arts as from that of literature and poetry and music.

The scientific committee of the first voyage

The scientific committee will be led by the Art Explora Foundation and the Louvre Museum and will be made up of leading lights and experts from the art world and associations, including:

- LUMA Arles
  Maja Hoffmann, Mustapha Bouharyati
- SOS MÉDITERRANÉE
  Sophie Bea, Fabienne Lassalle, Sabine Grenard
- TBA21-Academy
  Francesca Thyssen-Bornemisza, Markus Reymann
- Robert Calcagni
  Director of the Oceanographic Institute of Monaco
- Sandra Dagher
  Co-founder of the Beirut Art Center and curator
- Victorien Erussard
  Captain and founder of Energy Observer
- Hans Ulrich Obrist
  Artistic director of Serpentine Galleries
- Loïck Peyron
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The Art Explora Academy art history discovery platform

In collaboration with Sorbonne University

Art Explora launches Art Explora Academy, the first completely free digital platform devoted to the history of art learning and leading to a certificate validated by Sorbonne University. This partnership is made possible by the Fondation Sorbonne Université.

Available in French and in English, designed for use on a computer, mobile or tablet, Art Explora Academy is aimed at all those who wish to develop and deepen their knowledge in art history but also at all those inquiring minds looking for a new way to approach artists and their works.

Accessible to everyone from the age of 13 up, Art Explora Academy offers 11 original courses but also a media library offering a range of video and audio content hosted on the platform to delve further into the key concepts of art history.

To go further on Asian art

OFF WE GO

The history of art step by step

Where do we start? Choose three themes

ASIAN ARTS
AFRICAN ARTS
ARTS OF THE AMERICAS
CONTEMPORARY ART
ANCIENT GREECE AND ANCIENT ROME
MEDIEVAL ARTS
19TH-CENTURY ART
EGYPT AND MESOPOTAMIA
ISLAMIC ARTS
20TH CENTURY MODERN ART

The program of our art history courses has been validated by Sorbonne University

academy.artexplora.org ➔
The 11 courses

These 11 courses, with the innovative micro-learning approach, were designed with professors from the Sorbonne University Art History department.

The 11 art-history courses:
- Asian arts
- Egypt and Mesopotamia
- Islamic arts
- African arts
- Arts from the Americas
- Ancient Greece and Rome
- Art in the Middle Ages
- The Renaissance and the Enlightenment
- 19th century art
- Modern art in the 20th century
- Contemporary art

Each course will be made up of 4 parts, offering an experience that lasts approximately 40 minutes. Users can stop and restart as they please, in order to progress at their own pace.

Each part has the following structure:
- an introduction to the topic in a short video
- a sequence of 5 to 7 key points (text + visual format)
- a practice quiz, in order to assimilate the concepts dealt with
- a suggestion of videos and podcasts from the media library to watch / listen to in order to go into more detail in the concepts dealt with

A big quiz of 12 questions then concludes each course. Once the badges for the 11 courses have been obtained, the user is awarded their Art Explora certificate validated by Sorbonne University.

In about 8 hours of micro-learning, it is therefore possible to master the main concepts of art history.
In all of its actions, the Art Explora Foundation also endeavours to promote existing works and cultural content. Thus, the platform also acts as a content aggregator. At Art Explora Academy, you will find a large number of videos and podcasts, in French and English, which address topics relating to the history of art, artists and their works.

Concerned to cover different points of view and approaches, Art Explora wanted to pool content in French and English produced by cultural institutions, independent YouTubers and podcasters, and also public and private audiovisual actors. All this content can be found directly on the platform and will be accessible either from the library through a search system combined with a filter system (by artist, by length, by artistic medium ...), or from the history of art courses. Editor’s playlists will also be offered and will enrich Art Explora Academy on a daily basis, in line with current events or specific topics.

More than 1000 video and podcast features are offered on Art Explora Academy and the library will continue to refresh them, in particular with new programmes of which Art Explora will be co-producer.

For its launch, Art Explora offers a highly original first programme: Ô détail!, a series of 10 videos co-produced with Summum 3D, an agency specialising in the 3D digitisation of works of art, and Camille Jouneaux, founder of La Minute Culture. Based on images in which we can contemplate a work in its finest detail, the voice of Camille Jouneaux guides us in its discovery. This programme has also had the support of CNC.
News from the foundation in the 2nd semester of 2021

The Dubai World Expo

The World Expo will be running from 1st October 2021 to 31st March 2022. Art Explora has chosen to represent culture in the France Pavilion. The foundation is taking part in the Expo in 2 major areas:

#1 The permanent exhibition based on the theme of “Connecting Minds, Building the Future”.

The Art Explora area illustrates the Foundation’s missions which include providing access to culture to as many people as possible and support for contemporary creation with:

- On the one hand, the presentation of the ARTEXPLORER museum boat by means of a model (3.6m long by 1.4m wide and 5m high) and an immersive panoramic film 17m long by 3m high.
- On the other hand, an interactive digital installation, There is no I in Island, created by French artist Neïl Beloufa, produced in collaboration with Bad Manner’s. The viewer is filmed and their image rebroadcast live in the middle of a world map with volume elements on which the ArtExplorer catamaran sails. Through their movements, they interact with the continents and oceans that move, go out of shape, metamorphosise. It is up to the viewer to try to answer the complaints of this planet bent out of shape by their arrival.

#2 The arts programme

- On the occasion of France Day on 2 October, Art Explora programmed in various areas of the Exhibition the performance GrimeLove by Cecilia Bengolea and François Chaignaud, in collaboration with the National Ballet of Marseilles.
- On the occasion of the Cities thematic week from 29 October to 11 November, 2021, Art Explora will exhibit on backlit panels placed in front of the France Pavilion the works of internationally renowned French artists: Cecilia Bengolea, Hicham Berrada, Alex Cecchetti, Coëlle Choisy, Morgan Courtois, Mimosa Echard, Laure Prouvost and Achraf Touiloub. These posters will be simultaneously presented in key public spaces in Paris and Dubai, at the Palais-Royal - Musée du Louvre metro station and on Jumeirah Road, in order to share the Universal Exhibition’s arts programme with the widest possible public.
- Art Explora will also present a programme of films by artists about the environment, one of the major themes of the World Expo. This programme will be designed in collaboration with leading local institutions and will be shown in Dubai in conjunction with the World Expo.
- Art Explora and IFF present an olfactory creation by the artist Morgan Courtois entitled Hybris, created in collaboration with perfumer Céline Barel. It will be distributed to the public in the France Pavilion and in the Paris metro during the World Expo’s Urban & Rural Development Week.

The France Pavilion’s exhibitions and events programme are also be available online free of charge.

With the support of our partners IFF, the French Institute of the United Arab Emirates, JCDecaux, the France Pavilion and the RATP Group.

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The Art Explora Villas

In France
In Paris, the second annual session of the Art Explora - International City of the Arts artist residencies began in September and welcomed artists from all over the world for a period of 3 to 6 months: Chino Amobi (USA), Liz Johnson Artu (Russia, Ghana & United Kingdom), Rina Banerjee (India & USA), Nicholas Grafia (Germany, USA & Philippines), Adriana Lara (Mexico), Monica Narula from the Raqs media collective (India), Ani Sala (Albania & France), Toma Savic-Gecan (Croatia & Netherlands), Ramya Tegegne (Switzerland) and Natsuko Uchino (Japan & France).

Applications to edition 2022 are now open until November 15th on www.artexplora.org

In the United States
Art Explora is partnering with Villa Albertine, a new residency program and cultural institution launching in fall 2021 and anchored in 10 cities across the United States.

In the context of this collaboration, Art Explora is supporting the development of thematic residencies:

- In Miami, residencies will focus on the theme of environmental emergencies
- In Los Angeles and New York, residencies will focus on theme of new creative and digital industries
- In Houston and Marfa, residencies will focus on astronomy

Art Explora has thus enabled 10 French artists to participate in eight residencies: (LA)HORDE collective (Marine Brutti, onathan Debrouwer, Arthur Harel) in Los Angeles and New York; Josèfa Ntjam in Los Angeles; Dove Allouche and Fatoumata Kebe in Houston and Marfa; and Hicham Berrada, Mimosa Echard, Simone Lagrand and Ariane Michel à Miami.

The Art Explora - Académie des Beaux-Arts European prize

In December, Art Explora will reveal the winners of the 2021 edition of the Art Explora - Académie des beaux-arts European prize.
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Credits
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