





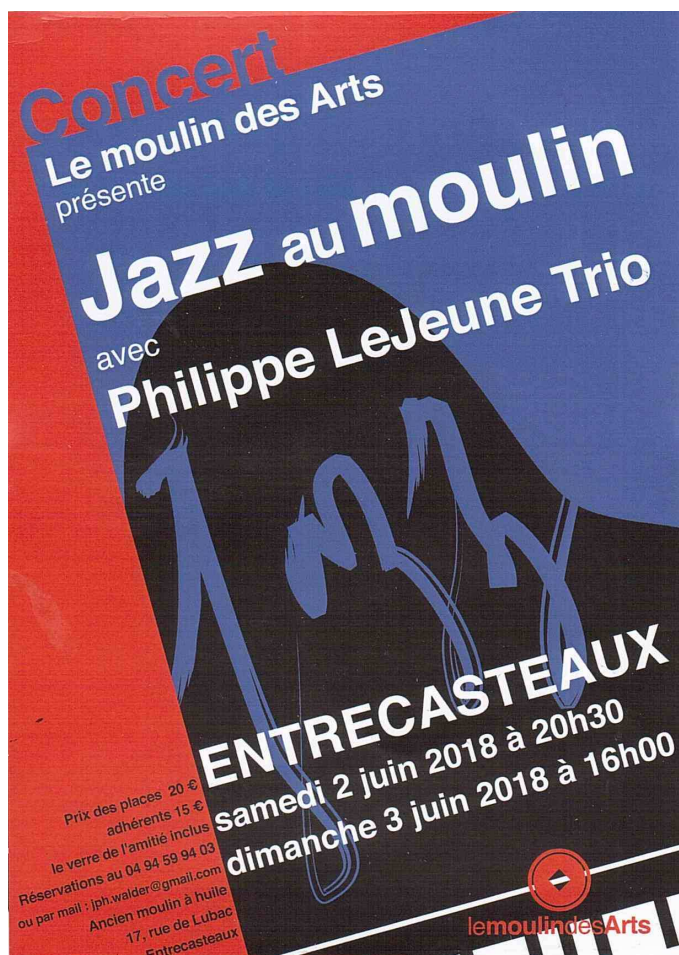
RENDEZVOUS AUX JARDINS -1 – 3 JUNE

For passionate gardeners, their perfect event of the year, Hundreds of gardens, public and private open to visitors. Just go into the very interactive website map, and find out where is the nearest, most wonderful, or most interesting garden to see, and the prospect is just huge stretching from beyond Marseille to over the Italian border, and in fact all over the world. You will be spoilt for choice.

Plus all the gardening shops will be trying to entice you with furniture, seeds, plants, everything

In addition, remember that the Gardens of Menton will have reached their zenith this month, the whole of June is the time to visit this celebrated group of gardens, the majority of which were started and cultivated by British gardeners who feel in love with the temperate climate offered by this region. Gardens like Serra Madonna, etc. many of which are now closed to visitors, so do take advantage. There will be organised visits, lectures, etc. Just consult the Menton website for details.

▶ rendezvousauxjardins.gouv.fr
▶ www.menton.fr



CONCERT JAZZ – MOULIN DES ARTS – ENTRECASTEAUX - 2 & 3 JUNE

Jazz concerts with the Philippe LeJeune Trio, at the Moulin à l'Huile, 17 rue de Lubac, Entrecasteaux.

Saturday 2 June – 20h30

Sunday 3 June – 15h00

20 € – 15 € verre de l'amitié inclus

Seats limited Please Reserve :

téléphone 04 94 / 59 94 03 (Jean-Paul et Helen Walde

e-mail à jph.walder@gmail.com



OPERA DE TOULON – VERDI'S ""NABUCCO"" 3. 5 & 8 June

Sunday 3 June – 14h30 - Tuesday 5 June – 20h - Friday 8 June – 20h

This production, which one might consider one of the treasures of the opera gamme, tickets will sell out fast. NABUCCO, the tale of an eccentric ! Assyrian family involved in the defeat and slavery of Jerusalem, involves hostage slaying lots of blood and thunder , coup and counter coup, and was one of Verdi's first great hits, when first performed in Milan in 1842. One of its hit numbers is the slave chorus « Va, pensiero » which became practically the hymn of Italian rebellion against Austrian rule, and hymn for the Risorgimento of the time, and it could again resound in Italy as Salvini and DiMaio battle out to be Prime Minister and for independence from the EU.
<http://www.operadetoulon.fr>



TOULON MUSIC FESTIVAL 4 JUNE – 12 JULY

SIX FOURS 21 JUNE – 21 JULY

A wonderful mix of music, a lot of it in the opne air, to delight all sorts of melomanes, particularly lovers of the pianoforte.

Wednesday 13 June – Pianos Sauvage – from 10h – 19h
 Place V. Hugo, Place Puget, Carre du Port & Galerie du Centre Mayol. In case of bad weather, two pianos Centre Mayol,

Wednesday 13 June – Le Sacre dud Printemps – 18h
 Place Puget, with Frantz Baronti, & Bertrand Massei, pianos
Saturday 23 June – 11.30 – Theatre de Verdure de Mont Faron
 Concert des Eleves de Conservatoire, Fanfare de Cuivre. Quatuor de Guitare. Duo Guitare, Quintette de Cuivre.

Wednesday 27 June – 18 H – Place Victor Hugo
 Orchestre de Harmonie Toulon Var Mediterannee, works by Lully, Rameau, Vaughan Williams to Gershwin.

Friday 29 June – 18h Place Puget
 Venise-Paris-Vienne au XVIII siecle, Ensemble Instrumental de Toulon & Var, works by Vivaldi, Rameau & Mozart

Plus 2 june – Concert for the benefit of Pharmacie Humanitaire Internationale Var – Eglise Saint Louis. – Chœur de Chambre Kaliste, & Ensemble Instrumental de Toulon & du var.

SIX FOURS

Thursday 21 June – 21h – prc jean Robert –
 Festival de la Collegiale – Lénsmble Mmatheuz. – Bring picnics.
www.festivalmusiquetoulon.com



HARLEY DAVIDSON ANNUAL HOG JUNCKET – ST. TROPEZ 7 – 10 JUNE

The annual HOG Harley Davidson Juncket is about to hit St. Tropez, Grimaud, Gassin, & Cogolin, and actually the whole hinterland, as Hog owners proudly ride their large handlebarred steeds all around and over the hills of the Var, all resplendent in leathers, chains and pony tails, retiring in the evening to enjoy even rowdier music on the beach, as concerts split the eardrums. This year's headliners will be "" Simple Minds!" A must for motorbyke fans.

<http://events.harley-davidson.com/euro-festival/>





HERMES JAZZ FESTIVAL – FREJUS – 8 – 10 JUNE CONCERTS & MASTERCLASS THEATRE ROMAIN

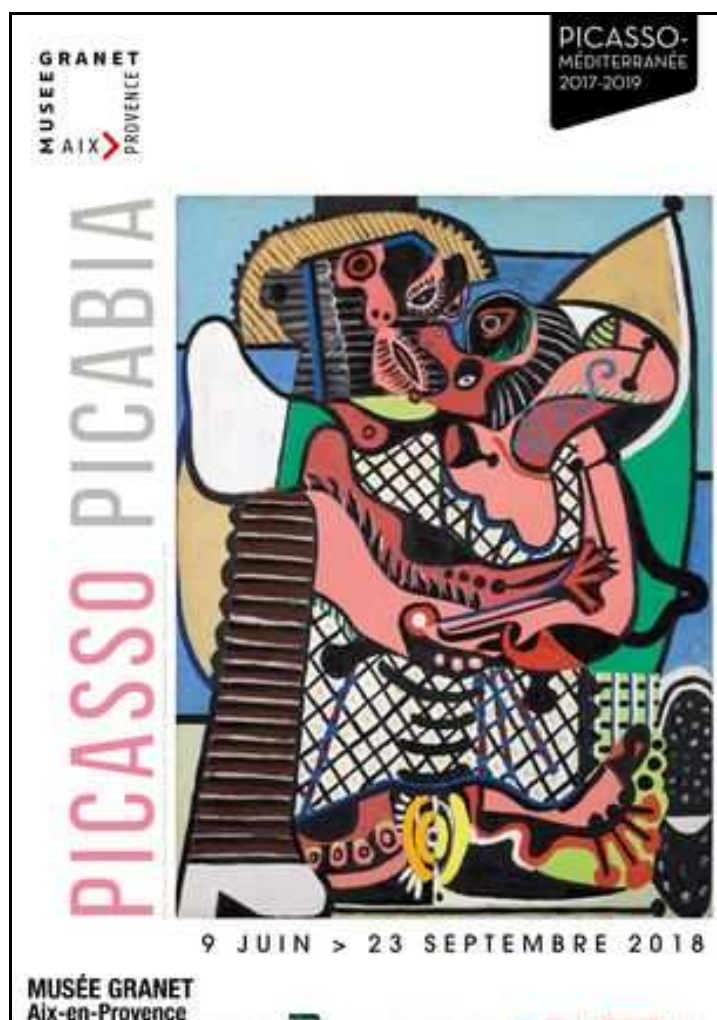
8 June – 18h30 – THÉÂTRE ROMAIN : SCHOOL BAND RENÉ CHAR (première partie)

20h00 – THÉÂTRE ROMAIN : TRIO MARTEL / POTTER / WALSH

9 June – 14h45 – MASTERCLASS // école municipale de musique et d'art dramatique Jacques-Melzer MASTERCLASS BATTERIE AVEC PHILIPPE LE VAN MASTERCLASS CHANT AVEC KRISTIN MARION

19h00 – THÉÂTRE ROMAIN :

<https://frejus.fr/agenda/hermes-jazz-festival-8-10-juin-theatre-romain/>



GRANET MUSEUM – AIX EN PROVENCE - PICASSO – PICABIA 9 JUNE – 23 SEPTEMBER

When Picabia declared, in 1922, that “Picasso is the only painter I love”, was it simply another example of Picasso’s gravitational pull? A measure of his decisive influence over 20th century artists?

Painting a more complicated picture, this exhibition aims to reflect the fact that, in addition to his love, Picasso was also the target of Picabia’s witticisms and pastiches.



The first exhibition to compare their work, *Picasso-Picabia* offers an insight into an artistic tandem unprecedented in the history of 20th century painting. Exploring fifty years of rich, diverse and uninterrupted artistic production, it features both masterpieces and sometimes lesser-known works by these two artists of Spanish heritage.

Presented in an 800 sq.m. temporary exhibition space, some 110

works by these two artists echo but also occasionally clash and combine with each other.

This history of painting, strewn with conflict and rivalry, but also unsettling similarities, sheds light on the founding pictorial practices and movements of Modernity: Cubism and Orphism, Dada machines and Ingresque Classicism, mid-1920s "monster Surrealism" in the South of France, portraits of women in the 1930s, and the vital role played by photography in their work. Enjoying the same artistic freedom, Picasso could well have said - as Picabia did of himself - that he was an "artist in all genres",



and both men changed the face of painting in the 20th century.

This exhibition forms part of [Picasso Méditerranée](#), an international cultural event that runs from spring 2017 to spring 2019. More than sixty institutions have come together to create a program around Pablo Picasso's stubbornly Mediterranean work. On the initiative of the [Musée National Picasso-Paris](#), this

journey in the creation of the artist and in the places that inspired him offers an unprecedented cultural experience, wishing to tighten the links between all the banks.

Musée Granet, Place Saint Jean de Malte
13100 Aix-en-Provence
museegranet-aixenprovence.fr



CHATEAU MENTONE – ST ANTONIN DU VAR - 7 June – Jazz Aperero

Château Mentone, tucked away at the top corner of St. Antonin recommences its JAZZ APERO every first Thursday of the month, reservation required, formula includes aperitif, all on the terrasse of the Auberge.

The AUBERGE is now open for Sunday Brunch, with tempting formulas, plus there is a Midday offer, at €18, for example Wednesdays - the M'Burger, Thursdays – the fresh pate of the day, Friday, the Aioli du Chef, and Saturdays – Poulet fermier a la Broche. Petite entrée, plat du jour, verre de vin & café, plus service.

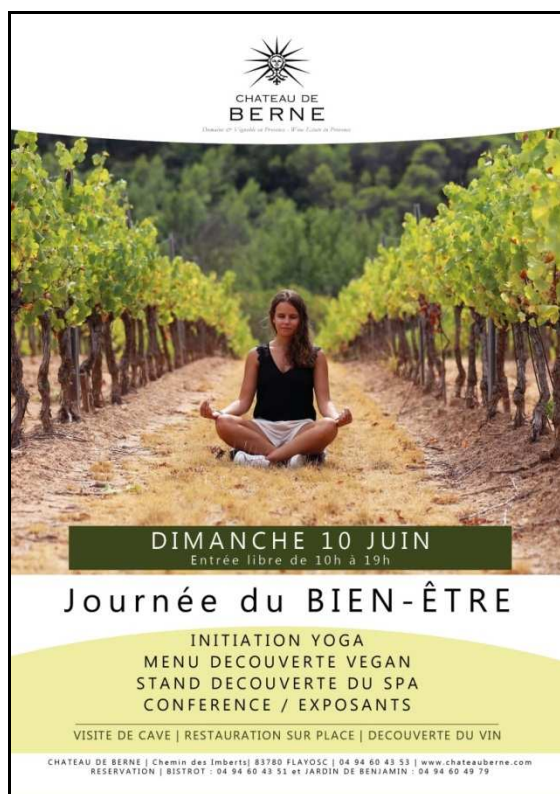
04 94 04 42 00 / info@chateamentone.com

TRANS EN PROVENCE – MEDIEAVAL DAYS – 9 & 10 June

All sorts of Association all join together to provide a really fun, Mediaval weekend, with fune and game for children, falconry, sword fights, spectacles, Son & Lumiere, plus you can hire a costume and join in the fun yourself.

TRAVELLING BOOK SWAP – 20 JUNE

The Travelling Book Swap will be on Wednesday 20th June, usual time 10-12, at the house of Pat Toohey. As well as books, d.v.d.s, coffee and chit chat, there will be an opportunity to buy some really lovely handmade jewelry from Jackie Sheck. Each piece is very delicate and wonderfully crafted and all profits go to animal rescue. Which sounds like an extremely good reason to treat yourself. Mim will also be selling her greetings cards, which are very popular with you all. Can I once again remind you to please be selective in your sharing choices...bring only up to date books in good condition: the sort of thing you would grab if you hadn't read it.



CHATEAU DE BERNE – LORGUES - EVENTS

SUNDAY JUNE 10 - WELLNESS DAY A whole day dedicated to well-being and nature. Free Entry.

SUNDAY JUNE 17 : ANTIQUE FAIR Free Entry.

FRIDAY JUNE 22 - International Rosé Day Activities and wine tasting. Free Entry.

JUNE 26 - FLAVORS OF THE WORLD @ LE BISTROT Latin signature evening 39€ excluding drinks.

JULY & AUGUST Live pianist @ Le Jardin de Benjamin .Every Wednesday evening on the terrace to accompany your meal from 7- 10 pm. Prior booking recommended.

CHÂTEAU DE BERNE CHEMIN DES IMBERTS, FLAYOSC
+33 (0)4 94 60 43 60

WWW.CHATEAUBERNE.COM

JAZZ EVENT – ST. ANTONIN DU VAR TIMES SQUARE - 16 June

Two groups. Tit'Zil, thumping out Rock, Ska & Cajun, then Les Poulettes girl group

An evenings entertainment

Square Jean Foustier, Buvette, drinks. Etc.



CONCERT – LE THORONET SUNDAY 17 JUNE – 17H

Concert Var's Musica à l'Abbaye du Thoronet à 17h
Récital voix et harpe "L'Arpa Festante" Œuvres de Marenzio, Monteverdi, Caccini, Stradella - Gabriel Jublin, contre-ténor et Chiara Granata, harpe

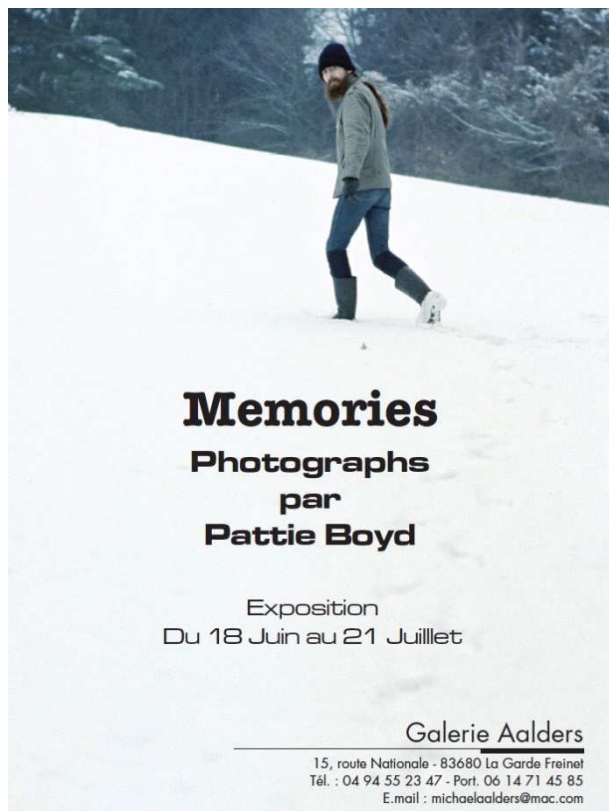
Prix : 20€ - Réductions : 15€ (étudiants de moins de 26 ans, allocataires du RSA, demandeurs d'emploi) Gratuit : enfants jusqu'à 12 ans.

Pré-Réservation office du tourisme Thoronet : 04 94 60 10 94



**GALERIE AALDERS – LA GARDE
FREINET - PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPO –
«MEMORIES -Photographs by Pattie
Boyd - 18 June – 21 July –
“Pattie & George in the Rose Garden”
15 Route Nationale, La GardeFreinet,
Tel 04 94 55 23 47.**

E : michaelaalders@mac.com



www.fetedelamusique.fr

FETE DE LA MUSIQUE – 21 JUNE

And there will be music everywhere, you can't escape it, concerts in the streets, of all sorts, from jazz, to rock, to ska, whatever, and even classical. Every one is getting out their musical instruments to serenade the crowds. Enjoy!



MUSICAL EVENING - HOTEL BOR – HYERES- THURSDAY 21 JUNE SALSA SOIREE

Concerts, themed evenings

Every Thursday, les musicales du BOR presents concerts by well known artists and musicians. Once again the harmonicist Lionel Mollo has concocted a high quality programme as he has for the last 3 years. A programme that can be enjoyed on the hotel terrace right on the beach, every Thursday from 21st June.

These evenings kick off with the YEMAYA / Cuban Group - Salsa Orchestra

www.hotel-bor.com/en/



LES MUSICALES DANS LES VIGNES

AU VIGNOBLE DU CLOS DES ROSES

VENDREDI 22 JUIN 2018 À 19H

À l'occasion de la Journée Internationale du Rosé
Concert Jazz Manouche & Dégustation de Vin

Avec Michel Pellegrino et Swing du Sud

Concert + dégustation 1 verre de vin : 25€ (gratuit jusqu'à 12 ans)



SWING CONCERT – LES MUSICALES DANS LES VIGNES – VIGNOBLE DU CLOS DES ROSES – FREJUS FRIDAY 22 JUNE 19H



Vignobles Clos de Roses, 1609 Route de Malpasset, RD38. Frejus



**CONCERT INAUGURAL CATHEDRALE
 SAINT LEONCE – FREJUS
 – ORGAN PERCUSSION –
 SUNDAY 24 JUNE – 16H**



**CELLO FESTIVAL- CALLIAN –
 29 JUNE- 2 JULY**

A festival devoted to classical, baroque and contemporary music. Some forty musicians transform the splendid hilltop villages of the Pays de Fayence in Provence into a big musical stage. The Festiva is devoted to classical, baroque and contemporary musi
Friday 29 June - Eglise. Callian. 18h30. - PRELUDE Sonates de J.S Bach n°3 et Sonate de Vivaldi n°5 Kenneth Weiss, clavecin ; Florent Audibert, violoncelle piccolo Frédéric Audibert violoncelle

Eglise. Callian. 20h30 Kenneth Weiss, le clavecin souverain Bach Haendel Kenneth Weiss, clavecin orchestre du festival sur instruments anciens

Saturday 30 June - Eglise. Mons. 11h30. Sonates de J.S Bach et Scarlatti Kenneth Weiss, clavecin ; Florent Audibert, violoncelle piccolo

Eglise de Mons.15h00. The Best of Debussy Avec Catherine Michel, harpe

Eglise de Callian. 20h30. Carte Blanche à Gilles Apap Vivaldi, Monti, Kodaly, Musiques traditionnelles...

Sunday 1 July - Chapelle Saint Donat.11h00. Master Class publique Gilles Apap, violon

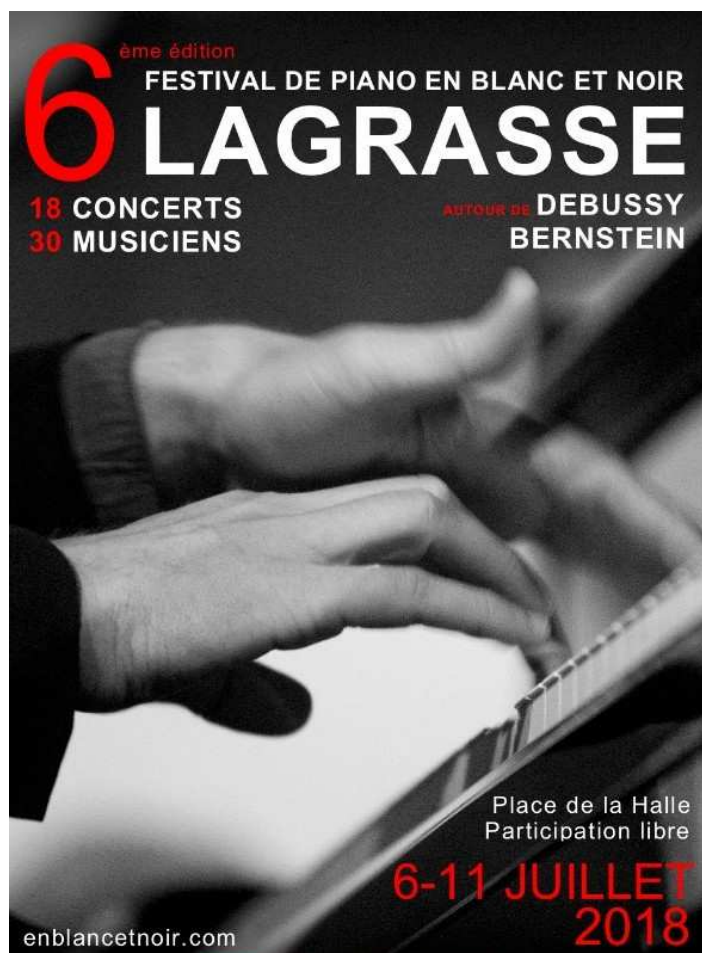
Pique-nique Notre-Dame des Roses Eglise. Callian.15h30. Violoncelles en liberté Casals, Popper, Klengel, Bernstein (centenaire) etc...

Salle Omnisport. 18h00 Le violoncelle fait son cinéma Avec l'orchestre des jeunes violoncellistes de France

Monday 2 July - Chapelle Dior. Montauroux.19h00 et 21h15 Duo At Home Anthony Jambon, guitare et Guillaume Latil, violoncelle

Jazz Love Cello 21H45Pique-nique sur l'Esplanade Saint-Barthélémy , Trio violoncelle, oud et percussions With l'orchestre du festival et l'ensemble Cello Fan

<http://www.cello-fan.com/>



FESTIVAL DE PIANO EN BLANC ET NOIR – LAGRASSE – AUDE 6 – 11 JULY 18 CONCERTS AUTOUR DE DEBUSSY & BERNSTEIN

This wonderful piano festival takes place in the historic and beautiful village of Lagrasse in the Aude, southwest, was founded by Music and opera Critic Robert Turnbull, to champion and hopefully further the careers of young pianists. The concerts, which take place de la Halle in the centre of the village, are all free, and enjoy an increasingly larger audience as its fame grows. Tell your friends who might want to know about it. Programme includes the following.

Friday 6 July – 10h – 12h – Masterclass Debussy with paul Roberts

14h – 17h Piano a volonte, students, and members of the public participate

21h30 – James Kreiling, with Janneke Brits, works of Debussy, Poulenc

Saturday 7 July – morning, pianists play throughout the market

18h00 – Reka Baksai, violin, Morgan de Lafforest, cello, Javier Loopez Jorge, Piano, Debussy

21h30 – Soiree Cinema – Richar Uttley & Kate Whitley – Satie, Stravinsky, Milhaud

Sunday 8 July – 12h – Anna Geniushene, Brhams-Busoni, Chopin, Rachmaninov, Verdi-Lizt

18h. Ylia Chaplina, works of ravel, Debussy, Bizet, Saint-Saens

21h30 – Bobby Mitchell & Ashley Hribar, works by Grainger, Bernstein, Porat

Midnight – Michelle Lee, flute, Francois-Michel Rignol, piano, Philippe, Gaubert, Debussy, Messiaen, Saint-Saens

Monday 9 July – 12h – Luis Grane, Debussy, Ravel, de Falla,
18h – Peter Kiss, Beethoven, Debussy, Brahms
21h30 – Lev Atlas, violin, Stephne Adam, piano with Chnateurs du Royal Conservatoire of Scotland – Bernstein
Tuesday 10 July – 12h – Simone Tavoni, piano, Philip Attard, saxophone – Debussy, ravel, de Falla
18h – Jonathan Fournel – Cesar Franck, Chopin, Debussy
21h30 – Joerre-Yves Plat, - Jazz imrpovisations on Chopin
Midnight – Theo Fouchenneret – Janacek
Wednesday 11 July – 12h – Guillaume Sigier, piano, Julien Dieudegard, violin, Strauus, Beethoven, Janacek
18h – Alexander Karpeyev, Chopin, Lizt, Thalberg, Field
21h30 – Amelie Saadia, mezzo – Sondheim, Gershwin, Poulenc, Weill. Porter, Bernstein.

And of course you can easily donate to support this event by just going to the website at: www.enblancetnoir.com



FILMS IN VO – LORGUES

Sunday 03 June: 19h 00 *Une femme Heureuse*

Saturday 09 June: 18h 00 *Nico, 1988*

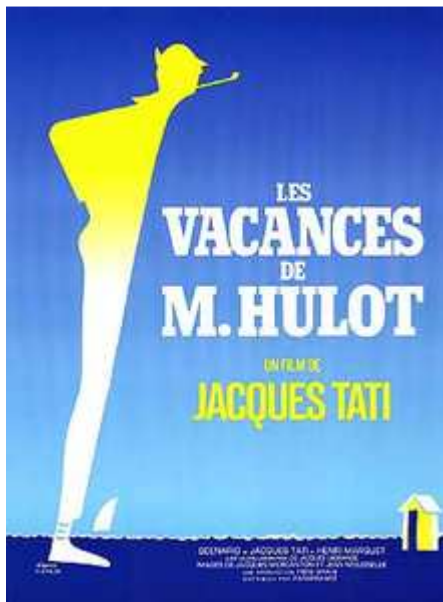
Wednesday 13 June: 21h 00 *La route Sauvage*

Thursday 14 June: 19h 00 *Royal Opéra—Manon*

Sunday 17 June: 19h 00 *La route sauvage*

Sunday 24 June: 19h 00 *Paul, Apostle Christ*

Sunday 01 July : 19h 00 *Désobéissance*



MEMORIES BY TRENCHERMAN

The first time I tasted Les Pommes de Noirmoutiers, was in the mid 70's. We were spending a weekend with some French friends whose parents had a house on the island.

It was very much a Monsieur Hulot weekend, an underdeveloped island, flat and without compelling scenery, a weekend retreat for the Nantaise and even some from Paris.

An island where fruits de mer was an average lunch, but far from average; hours spent with picks and pins trying to extract the maximum from each shell or claw. The seafood was as fresh as one could have hoped for and from cold Atlantic waters, it was full of flavour.

The island was also known for its sea salt, mounds of which were gleaned from the marais around the island. The bicycle was the favoured form of travel, reinforcing the M. Hulot flashbacks, which appeared everywhere you looked.

We were staying with our hosts parents and on the first evening we were treated to fresh sole caught that afternoon, which was delicious, accompanied by small waxy potatoes which were a revelation. An Irishman's dream had arrived on a plate and I left no potato unturned as she, who is much more polite, looked on in horror at my scoffing of the tubers.

Our hosts, on the other hand, were delighted, proud as they were of their unique potatoes, grown in salty land and fertilised with seaweed.

Served with local butter and salt from the sea they were all I could think of as I slipped into the arms of Morpheus that night.

Three days later, we left the island with wonderful memories, and in my case a 7 kilo bag of potatoes which caused some concern at Heathrow airport.

In those far off days (aren't they all?) my closest friend was a fellow Irishman, old school chum and lauded restaurateur, Peter Langan; a frequent guest around our table as he adored *Her* cooking. When he tasted the potatoes a dreamy look came into his eyes as he announced his intention of getting me to drive him down there and loading up on a few.

I put it down to the wine, but I agreed and the following week we set off on our Hulot adventure.

It is a long drive from London to Noirmoutier and this was August, the time of their second crop. I had a Citroen Safari, a vast estate car perfectly suited, said Peter, to carrying potatoes.

We arrived late in the evening and I stayed with our friends and Peter was in an hotel, near to a nightclub called the Boîte de Sel. He was there until they closed and for an hour after that. The next morning I arrived to collect him, or what was left of him and we set off for the wholesaler to buy our potatoes.

Half a ton of potatoes carefully packed in my car and we went in search of cheeses, and fresh herbs. My car was now a travelling delicatessen and with the benefit of the hot August sun, was beginning to smell like a Japanese wrestlers jock strap. Not that I have ever been near enough to one to be sure, but it was my best guess.

Windows wound down we headed back towards Dover, arriving there at close to midnight.

In those days Her Majesty's Customs had drive through areas which gave one choices, including nothing to declare and 'something to declare'.

I insisted that we take the latter as it was not going to require the services of a sniffer dog to know that we were carrying!

I stopped outside the customs office and as the officer came across to us I wound down the window (closed during the crossing) and a waft of our cargo left him gasping for breath. He staggered back to his office and shouted to ask us what we had to declare.

Some potatoes, I replied. How many? was the next question. About half a ton I shouted. His face, already puce from the odour took on the form that would have placed him first in a Gurning competition and he disappeared inside, for his head to suddenly reappear and order me to close my window.

I watched though the frosted glass of his office as he consulted books and then, that not having satisfied him, he made phone calls.

Eventually, he plucked up his courage and a saddened and defeated man emerged and told us to get the hell out of there and not to do it again.

Clearly my explanation that they were for personal consumption did not carry weight, and the sight of two Irish passports on the dashboard, confirmed all of his prejudices.

I did not look back as we headed for London and the much needed sleep I was overdue.

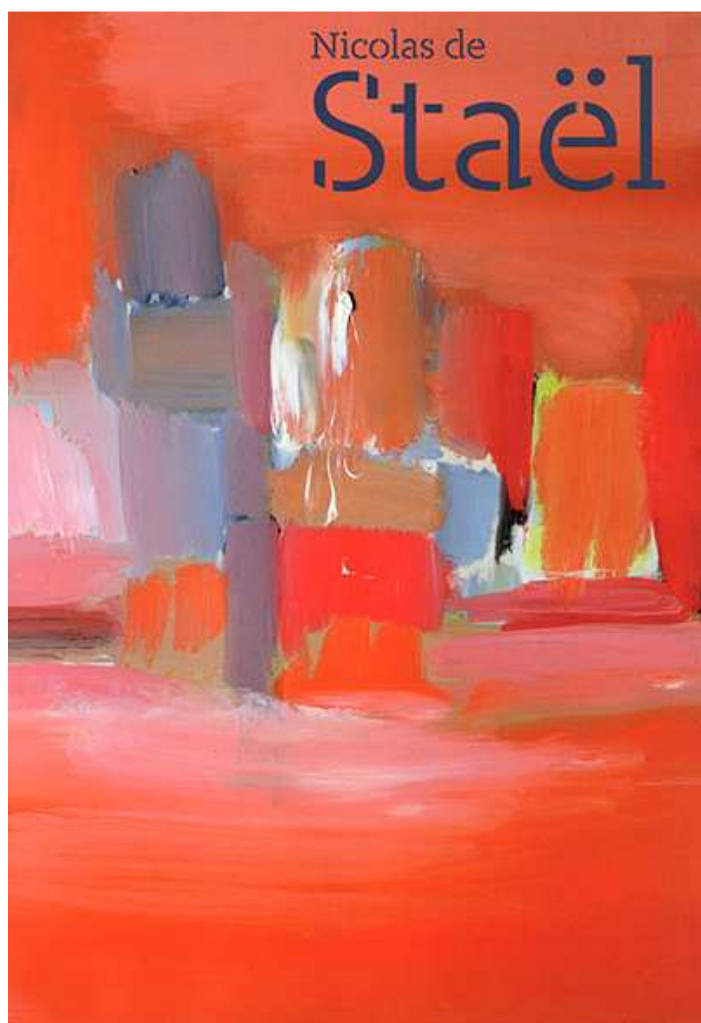
Over the next few weeks visitors to Peter's restaurant, Odins, returned time and again to eat, insisting that they had potatoes, and a smart delicatessen near Victoria started to import them.

Anyway the point is that every year that I have been here I have promised myself that I would drive up for another Hulot weekend, but somehow I never quite make it.

So my second anyway, is that I have discovered that I can buy them on line and they get delivered.

Yesterday three punnets arrived and tonight will be the night! I shall let you know if memory serves.

Pip, pip



HOTEL DE CAIMONT – AIX EN PROVENCE

NEW ART EXHIBITION

- Nicolas de Staël in Provence

From 27 April to 23 September

Presenting 71 paintings and 26 drawings from prestigious international public and private collections, the exhibition focuses—for the first time and exclusively—on the development of Nicolas de Staël's work during his Provençal period, between July 1953 and June 1954.

Nicolas de Staël's Provençal period was an important turning point in the painter's life and work. Between July 1953 and June 1954, the artist drew new inspiration from Provence. His discovery of the midday Provençal sun, the exceptional beauty of the landscapes, his love affair with a woman, and the intense experience of solitude that enabled him to produce works for his future exhibition at the Paul Rosenberg Gallery in New York were all experiences that nourished his imagination and the incredible pace of his artistic work. Nicolas de Staël's international fame grew in the heart of Provence.

In Lagnes (July 1953), he attained his quest for light in his work. The landscape motifs were depicted faithfully and with greater observation of the light as it changed during the day. In August, the painter travelled to Sicily. His exploration of the landscapes, archaeological sites, and museums enabled him, when he returned to Lagnes, to begin working on a series of paintings—some of the most significant works in his career—, based on notes made in his sketchbooks at Agrigento, Ragusa, Syracuse,

Catania, Taormina, and Fiesole. During this period, his interest in nude studies found complete expression in the large-scale paintings of figures and nudes that interacted with the landscapes.



In 1954, following a year of intensive work, the painter was confident that he had done his best. When he was preparing for his exhibition in New York, he wrote to Paul Rosenberg: *'What I've given you should ensure that you can hold the finest ever exhibition of my work.'* The exhibition 'Nicolas de Staël in Provence' highlights the summit of Staël's pictorial work. In these works close observation resulted in highly innovative representations of nature.



And of course one can make a visit to this Museum a complete day's outing, housing as it does a very sophisticated collection of 18th c artefacts, pictures, furniture, tapestries, everything that complimented life in that era, plus there is a charming courtyard, gardens, and café cum restaurant serving appetising snacks lunches, an immersive experience, total culture.

Visuel bandeau : Nicolas de Staël, *Agrigente* (detail), 1953-54, oil on canvas, Private collection - Courtesy Lefevre Fine Art, Londres © Adagp Paris, 201

<http://www.caumont-centredart.com/en>

located just a few steps from the Cours Mirabeau

Ouvert de 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

3 rue Joseph Cabassol

13100 Aix-en-Provence



Annonciade Museum – St. Tropez

The Annonciade Museum in St. Tropez is one of the treasures of the Riviera, housing as it does a superb collection of post impressionist works by the principally Fauvist (savage) artists of the day. It is my favourite Museum, which I can visit with pleasure time and time again. It has not staged any new exhibitions for a while, one suspects due to budgetary concerns, not only is it expensive to mount such shows, but the insurance is prohibitive - but its collection is such that every visit yields more pleasure.

St. Tropez and its Museum owe its beginnings to the artist Paul Signac – above his painting L'Annonciade - at the beginning of the XXth Century, who, on board his ship called l'Olympia, discovered this little fishing harbour in 1892. He fell under the spell of the place, bought a house, la Hune, which he turned into his studio and invited many other painters to join him: Cross, Matisse, Derain, Marquet.



The collection on show, ranges from 1890 to 1950 and is both of surprisingly high standard and homogeneity. The artists displayed have based their work upon the study of colour as well as shape, the whole collection is composed of top range pictures, essentially belonging to the pointillist, Nabis and Fauvist movements.

More than 20 international paintings are exposed at the Annonciade Museum, and include works by Andre Derain (painted in London), Matisse, Bonnard, Bracque, Seurat, Hencri Edmund Cross, one of my favourites, Manguin, Camoin, Dufy, Van Dongen, Maillol, Vuillard, and the superb Maurice de Vlaminck. It is as I say a total treasure house of paintings of that era, full to the brim of colour, excitement, reflecting the

excitement these painters found in this region of the Mediterranean.

It is very well worth organising a visit to the Annonciade this May, before, hopefully, the tourist crowds descend. It is right on the old Harbour, facing all those ghastly, huge, yacht dynasaurs, but close to the Harbour parking.

2 Rue de l'Annonciade, Place Georges Grammont, 83990 Saint-Tropez. • Opens 10AM

Phone: 04 94 17 84 10



Musée Bonnard – Le Cannet

Another lovely Museum to visit not too far away is the Bonnard Museum in Le Cannet, just up from Cannes, housing as it does a fine collection of Bonnard works.

Pierre Bonnard lived in Le Cannet from 1922 to 1947, eventually acquiring the villa Le Bosquet, up on the heights of the town. He loved and painted the light of the Midi, which formed his inspiration, and produced over 300 paintings of the region.



Left L'Annonciade, painting acquired in 2014.

16 boulevard Sadi Carnot, 06110 LE CANNET, +33 (0)4.93.94.06.06

<http://www.museebonnard.fr/>

A small museum, delightful, spread over three floors, a pleasure to visit, but a good idea to check out the parkings in the area beforehand.



PICASSO AND THE SPANISH MASTERS / FLOWER POWER - POP CULTURE

Carrières de Lumières – Les Baux de Provence

From March 2018 to 6 January 2019

The Carrières de Lumières in Les Baux-de-Provence opened its new digital and immersive exhibition: ('Picasso and the Spanish masters') March 2018 and it runs to 6 January 2019. Digitised masterpieces by Picasso, Goya, and Sorolla create a dialogue to the sound of music on the immense limestone surfaces of the Carrières. A veritable invitation to go on a journey of discovery, this original multimedia show retraces a century of Spanish painting, providing visitors with an intense artistic experience.

The immersive exhibition, which focuses on Spain, brings together works by the great masters of modern Spanish painting. The first part of the show highlights portraits and scenes of daily life painted by Goya, Rusiñol, Zuloaga, and Sorolla. The second part focuses on Picasso, who was unquestionably one of the most influential great masters in twentieth-century art, and provides viewers with a panorama of his incredibly rich and creative oeuvre. From the royal court to Goya's rustic scenes, Rusiñol's enchanting gardens, Zuloaga's portraits, and Sorolla's luminous beach scenes, visitors are invited to go on a journey of discovery and then immerse themselves in the rich and captivating pictorial world of Picasso and his masterpiece. The distinctive forms of the *Demaiselles d'Avignon* (1907), the soothing pink and blue of *The Pipes of Pan* (1923), the menacing potency of *Guernica* (1937), and the Mediterranean shores of *The Joy of Life* (1946) take the viewers into the heart of the artist's creative genius.

Designed as a journey of discovery of Iberian art in the twentieth century, the digital and immersive exhibition 'Picasso and the Spanish masters' presents thousands of moving images of digitised works, which are brought to life via the cutting edge AMIEX® technical equipment. Hence, the white limestone walls are transformed into masterpieces lit up by around a hundred projectors. The visitors are invited to stroll around freely in the monumental spaces of the Carrières in order to discover in their own time the dynamic projections around them. A vibrant selection of music, ranging from Albeniz to jazz, help enrich the emotional experience of the visitor.



"FLOWER POWER - POP CULTURE" BETWEEN 2 PROJECTIONS OF PICASSO AND THE SPANISH MASTERS

Between two projections of Picasso and the Spanish masters, a short program is dedicated to the quintessence of the Flower Power movement. The Carrières de Lumières are transformed into an imaginary city, around which the viewers are invited to stroll and lose themselves as they follow in the footsteps of the idealistic generation at the end of the 1960s, which changed the world.



These exhibitions are incredibly exciting, innovative, and as they say, utterly immersive experiences of the art works. As the weather gets warmer it is a good time to visit les Carrières, limestone caves, which can be exceedingly cool. Take a cardigan to enjoy to the most. Created by Gianfranco Iannuzzi - Renato Gatto - Massimiliano Siccardi - with the musical collaboration of Luca Longobardi Produced by Culturespaces

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SEASON PETERS OUT WITH PLAY-OFF EXIT

By SIMON EVELEIGH

Having finished fourth in the regular season, Toulon qualified for the end of season play-offs and, crucially, their first game would be at home. We have already spent much of this season talking about the contrast between Toulon's home form and their performances on the road, so confidence was high that they would brush Lyon aside and progress to the semi-finals. Lyon are coached by former Toulon player, Pierre Mignoni, and their team contains a number of others who have previously plied their trade at Stade Mayol, including Frédéric Michalak, who is hanging up his boots at the end of this season. This experience of big game days in the bear pit that is Mayol will have been invaluable to the Lyon team and they certainly showed no signs of being overawed by the occasion.

Toulon started well and had chances to build an unassailable lead. Twice record try scorer Chris Ashton knocked the ball on when his route to the line was clear and Lyon grew in confidence as the game stayed within their grasp.

With just over 10 minutes to go, Toulon led 16-11, but Lyon scored a try that would prove crucial in so many ways. The conversion would have given Lyon a two point lead, but they missed it. Both sides still had time to win the game, but neither could make their chances count, so full time came with the scores level, meaning that extra time of 10 minutes each way would be needed.

Both teams kicked a penalty during this period, but they were still locked together as the clock ticked down.

In the event that teams are level after extra time, the side that has scored more tries wins. That Lyon score that had taken the match into extra time was their second try of the game and Toulon had only scored one, so Lyon knew that a draw would be good enough for them.

Toulon threw everything at Lyon, but they held firm and the match ended as a 19-19 draw.

This was an agonising way to bring the curtain down on a season where Toulon had shown glimpses of quality, but had, at times, had difficulty putting teams away when they were dominant. The week after their heroics at Toulon, Lyon were blown away by Montpellier in their semi-final. On 2nd June, Montpellier will play Castres in the Top 14 final.

Castres are very much the underdogs, but having finished sixth and beaten Toulouse away and then European Cup finalists Racing in the semi-final, they have already defied the odds and will not be daunted by the task ahead of them.

The Top 14 final brings down the curtain on the domestic season, with that having already happened elsewhere in Europe. In

England, Saracens regained their crown, whilst Leinster completed the double by beating Scarlets in the Pro 14 final. Rugby, however, does not stop just because the northern hemisphere summer is approaching (I promise it will get here one day!!)

England will be looking to put things back on track as they travel to South Africa for a three Test series. Eddie Jones has taken the opportunity to "rest" a few of his more experienced players, but the fact that other senior members of the squad will be present in South Africa, leads to the conclusion that if some of the younger players show up well on tour, those rested players may face an uphill battle to get back into the mix in time for next year's World Cup.



During this series, South Africa will be captained by a black player (Siya Kolisi) for the first time. South African rugby has struggled in the last couple of years but they do have a crop of young exciting players and they are never a pushover on home turf, so putting an end to England's three match losing run will not be easy.

If England's task is tricky, spare a thought for France, as they travel to New Zealand to play 3 tests. Jacques Brunel has restored some pride in French rugby this year, but they still finished in the bottom half of the 6 Nations and struggled to score tries, so nobody but the most one-eyed French supporter can see anything but a 3-0 series win for The All Blacks.

Grand slam winners Ireland travel to Australia and will be confident that they can continue their steady progress towards Japan 2019. Ireland won a two match series in Australia in 1979, but that was the last time that they beat Australia on their home patch.

Wales get the summer internationals underway with a match against South Africa in Washington DC on 2nd June, before going to Argentina for two tests.

Finally, Scotland play Canada and the US before also going to Argentina.

After all of this international action, the players get a well-earned rest before they get back on the treadmill later in the summer.

With 2019 being World Cup year, managing players' workloads will be even more important than ever in the next 12 months.



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