

LYRIC CONCERTS – MOULIN DES ARTS – ENTRECASTEAUX 3 & 4 NOVEMBER 20H30 & 16H00

The Moulin des Arts is sponsoring two more concerts this November, Saturday November 3 at 20h30, and Sunday 4 November at 16h00, featuring the Berlin soprano Fatma Said, and Hamburg pianist Matthias Veit.

Programme includes Bizet, Brahms, Debussy, Fauré, Ravel, Schumann, Strauss. Tickets € 20 p/p et € 15 p/p members & le verre de l'amitié inclus

Tel : 04 94 69 58 07 & 06 20 31 83 92 (Sylvie Brignone) E : <u>mrkucko@yahoo.fr</u>

Ancien Moulin a Huile, **17 Rue de Lubac - Entrecasteaux**

The Travelling Book Swap Nov 21st

Plenty of books, DVDs, CDs - coffee/tea/bics as usual -10.00- 12.00 - all very welcome.Chez Penny & Grove Balaam, 16, Chemin de La Nate, St Antonin 83510. There is parking at the house and also at the bottom of the road..balloons will show the way. GPS co ordinates are: N43.51513 E6.28545 (Landline: 0494-80 35 17 OR portable 0612-31 69 10)

Email Mim Kay- <u>mimi4opp@gmail.com</u> for further details



Plaisirs d'Orchestre

Avec l'Orchestre symphonique : JugendmusikschuleSt.Georgen-Furtwangen

AVEC Frédéric Audibert, violoncelle et Pascal Pons, direction

AU PROGRAMME Sibelius, Lalo, Haydn, Musiques de film

FESTIVAL CELLO FAN – CONCERT 3 NOVEMBER – CALLIAN – SALLE OMNISPORTS – 16H00

SAMEDI 3 NOV. 2018

Omnisports CALLIAN

Salle

16h00

Cellist Frederic Audibert, and Pascal Pons, bring a programme of wonderful music to Callian, Saturday 3 November. Accompanied by the Orchestre Symphonique des Jeunes de Sankt-Goergen-Furtwangen (50 musiciens). Free entry, and contributions welcome.



OPERA DE TOULON – CONCERTS – 9 NOVEMBER 20H & SUNDAY 11 NOVEMBER17h - MOZART'S REQUIUM

Concert commemorating the Centenary of the Armistice of 1918

CONCERT – FRIDAY 23 NOVEMBER – « SOIR DU BATAILLE''

Commenorating the Centenary of the Armistice of 1918, works by composers of that time: Jean Kras, Frank Bridge, Septimus Kelly, Earnest Farrar, and Maurice Ravel, with the Orchestra Symphonique de lÓpera de Toulon.

CINE-CONCERT – CHARLIE CHAPLIN'S ''GOLD RUSH'', ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE LÓPERA DE TOULON - SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 20H & SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER 14H.00



JAZZ CONCERTS – ENTRECASTEAUX – MOULIN DES ARTS 10 & 11 November -Trio French Sumo

Saturday 10 November - 20h30 Sunday 11 November – 16h-00 Ancient Moulin a Huile, 17 Rue de Lubac, Entrecasteaux Tickets € 20 p/p et € 15 p/p members & le verre de l'amitié inclus Tel : 04 94 69 58 07 & 06 20 31 83 92 (Sylvie Brignone) E : mrkucko@yahoo.fr



BALLET – OPERA DE TOULON – BALLET DE LÓPERA NATIONAL DE KAZAN – TCHAIKOVSKI'S LAC DES CYGNES

Thurday 15 & Friday 16 November – 20h



COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMISTICE 1918

Every village will be celebrating the commemoration of the Centenary of the Armistice 1918, Sunday November 11 at the 11 hour, and of course there will be the usual grand celebration at the Cenotaph in Whitehall.



FILMS IN VO – LORGUES CINEMA

Saturday 3 November – 18h00 – A Star is Born – Lady Gaga & Bradley Cooper

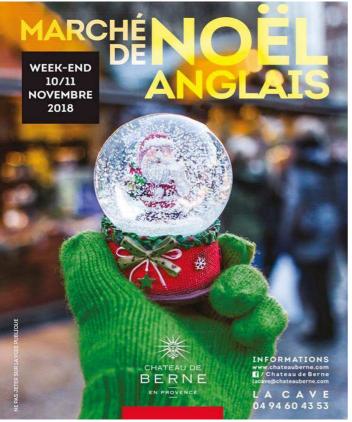
Sunday 4 November – 18h00 – A Star is Born Saturday 10 November – 18h00 – Johnny English – Rowan Atkinson, Emma Thompson

Sunday 11 November – 18h00 – Johnny English

Thursday 15 November – 19h00 – Royal Opera – Mayerling Saturday 17 November – 18h00 – First Man – Neil Armstrong Sunday 18 Novmber – 18h00 – Cést la Vie - French wedding, with English subtitles

Sunday 25 November – 18h00 – Bohemian Rhapsody – Biopic about Freddie Mercury & Queen





CHATEAU DE BERNE – LORGUES – CHRISTMAS MARKETS ENGLISH CHRISTMAS MARKET 10 & 11 NOVEMBER

Free entry, Saturday 10 & Sunday 11 November from 10 H to 18H - 20 exhibitors (cupcakes, carrot cakes, crackers, Irish specialties: whiskies, beers and gastronomy, English books for children) and adults, small Christmas decoration, cotton candy, personalized pottery and for a touch of the old Empire British: India silks, teas in bulk and bags!

Tours by caleche for children and adults offered from 11 to 18 h. - arrival of Santa Claus in a carriage at 4 pm - possibility of writing a letter to Santa Claus in the mailbox Provision of Irish dance by students of the Academy of dance "Azur Irish Dance Academy" Saturday 10 to 15 H. -Sunday 11, dance company 11: 00 and 14: 00.

Menu spécial « Noël Anglais », Bistrot de Benjamin réservation required 04 94 60 43 51. Entrée/ Plat OU Plat/Dessert à 26€ (hors boissons) Entrée/ Plat / Dessert à 32€ (hors boissons) Royal British Legion will be there selling Poppies and British Association of the Var with Christmas Cards.

17 & 18 NOEL PROVENCAL 24 & 25 NOVEMBER - NOEL DU MONDE INFORMATIONS 04 94 60 43 53 lacave@chateauberne.com

RANDONNEURS & WALKERS

The hunting season is in full swing, so do take care. Hunters are now obliged to wear hi-vis orange vests, but still accidents happen. Hunting accidents are frequent, and it is not just hunters that are hit, but oftimes innocent walkers with dogs.



COACH TRIP TO SAN REMO – SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER !! BREAKING NEWS – DATE CHANGE! As there is due to be a strike over petrol prices, Saturday 17 November, Carolyn has put the date forward a week to 24th ! Make sure of your Seat, send your cheques in pronto ! Still some seats left.

Apparently it's now Autumn but with temperatures around 30 degrees most days it's hard to believe – although they say it's due to go a bit cooler this week!? As yet another end of month approaches it's time to start thinking about the annual outing to San Remo which this year will be on <u>Saturday 24 November</u>. As always we have an early start ensuring plenty of time to enjoy browsing round the market stalls, the fabulous covered market with all the wonderful and very reasonably priced Italian specialities and not forgetting the high street shops. There is time for a nice lunch in one of the many restaurants before we leave San Remo and head home via Ventimiglia and the Eurodrink supermarket where we stop for approximately 45 mins so you can stock up with supplies - alcohol and cigarettes still being slightly more reasonably priced in Italy than France! The times of departure are as follows :

07h20 - Les Arcs-sur-Argens

07h20 - Les Arcs-sur-Argens 07h30 - Le Muy Peage (no. 36)

07h45 - Frejus Peage (no. 38)

(return times are between 18h and 19h depending on the time we leave and the traffic)

The cost of this trip is $28 \in per person$.

In the first instance if you are interested in joining us for this day out please email me to let me know so that I can add your name to the passenger list. Once there are enough people to confirm the trip I will be in touch to confirm your departure point and give payment details plus answer any questions you might have.

CAROLYN MOULET - RIVIERA TOURS Mail - <u>riviera.tours@orange.fr</u> Mobile : 06 80 08 87 47

Quartier Le Plan -1018 Route des Arcs 83460 TARADEAU

PS: I know it is horrid getting up so early in the morning, but it is worth it for a fun day out, coming home with lots of Christmas Goodies, plus loads of Christmas alcoholic cheer from cheap drinks at Ventimiglia. Sorry about date change, but nobody, but nobody would want to get stuck in some huge tailback due to strikes on the A8 Autoroute, so book your seats Now! Don't miss out





WHATEVER NEXT? By TRENCHERMAN

Just when I thought that I had seen it all, eaten it all and read it all.

There is now a growing movement to recreate cooking as a secret code for those in the know. More complicated than rolled up trousers and funny hand shakes. In some ways more sinister than the Emperors new clothes.

I have called it "ingredient cooking" a seemingly innocuous name for a new secret movement which takes another step into the unknown. Chefs now boldly go where none may follow, certainly I can't follow.

It starts out simply, in a user friendly way, with a dish which you recognise the name of, say shepherds pie, beneath it is a list of ingredients, apart from the name of the sheep and the name of the farm and the name of the farmer; there is a further list which mentions obscure herbaceous plants known only to the head hunters of Bunga-bonga Land and certainly not available at a shop near you and only a few minutes from this theatrical production.

On a recent trip to New York, I was taken by my loving daughter to an 'à la mode' restaurant situated in Greenwich village in an old speakeasy. It is called Blue Hill, the same name as a farm owned by the chef proprietor in upstate NY.

They don't open for lunch which many of you will know is my preferred meal of the day. In the big apple they compensate for this by opening at 5.00pm. So a large breakfast, my preference being 'corned beef hash with a poached egg', a dish that no longer meets my desires as it has essentially been deconstructed and gentrified and is not in any way a dish to be loved. So a large breakfast of some kind, actually large is not the problem as that is the norm, a stroll around one or more galleries, and NY has some of the best in the world and an appetite for Blue Hill has been established.

At exactly 5.00 pm we entered an elegant restaurant and after effusive welcomes from the staff and we were seated and a cocktail list was to hand.

I foolishly chose a cocktail which was native to the restaurant and had been devised by natives, but from where I never found out.

Daughter and I chose the 'Farmers Feast' a six course menu with some things I not only recognised but was keen to taste.

I ordered some wine from a deconstructed list with wines listed under categories I had never seen written down before, including, Petrol and Stone fruit for some white wines and Rustic for some reds (under which Barolo was listed), I went for Big and Bold and chose a Syrah from Sonoma County.`

We started our meal with six different amuses bouches, they were very tasty and, although quite small, were undoubtedly long on kitchen time.

Our main feast started with Badger Flame Beets, small and delicious, this was followed by Bean Bundle with egg salad and crispy pig ear, there was not nearly enough ear.

The main course was Stone Barns Duck with shelling beans, preserved apricot and horseradish. It was a semi raw maigret, the French would have been proud of him: 898 Squash came next served with ricotta pine nuts and pork hock..... and so on. We even had a dish containing Einkorn, which most of you will know is better known as Triticum monococcum and very good for you it is too.

Oh the wine! It arrived and was opened and it came out a little thinner than I had expected for Big and Bold so I asked to look at the back label and it was 11.7%, I have tooth paste stronger than that I said, how can you sell it as Big and Bold?

I was told that this was the fashion now; My reply was unprintable.

All in all, apart from learning that the best onions in the world were grown in the famous 'muck soil' on Puffenroth Farm, I came away being thankful that I had experienced what to do with a redundant speakeasy.

She who likes a nice piece of fish, chose a different menu and dined off Montauk Bycatch Skate with cauliflower and finger lake verjus followed by Blue Hill Farm Chicken with takrima leek and green apple! She really enjoyed it.

New York can always pull out the stops, and the following day on my birthday we went to the MoMA to see a disappointing exhibition and take lunch in Modern, their in-house restaurant, which has never disappointed. My Lobster risotto was perfect and washed down with a crisp sauvignon blanc from Sonoma. It was not big and bold, but otherwise impeccable.

Pip pip



OPERA NEWS By ROBERT TURNBULL

Being on the whole a rather nostalgic brood, it's hard for many opera lovers to shake off the feeling that superstar singers are a thing of the past. The Three Tenor franchise is long over, with only the German heartthrob heldentenor Jonas Kaufmann able to deliver anything remotely as glorious as what emerged either from Pavarotti or Domingo. Among the women, Diva of Divas Jessye Norman lorded over many opera stages even ten years ago but has all but retired today.

The issue is only come up again because of the death last month of possibly the opera world's last great soprano superstar of the 'old model'. Montserrat Caballe had the most extraordinary career that began in her native Barcelona, rapidly spread throughout Europe and North America and eventually embraced pop with hit collaborations with Freddie Mercury and Vangelis. Once both Callas and Sutherland had passed on Caballe became, if you like, global Prima Donna Assoluta for the best part of two decades. It wasn't just that she had a beautiful tone - some say the most beautiful ever recorded - but she was technically able to achieve effects that few singers can ever hope to replicate today. Why is that the case? I would need several thousand words to answer that one! But the gaping hole in our expectations isn't in fact that big. For one thing it depends to a large extent on the voice type.

Baritones are plentiful and opera companies have few problems filling popular roles like Don Giovanni, Scarpia in Tosca or Escamilio in Bizet's Carmen, even producing the odd 'star'. Baroque music has massively benefited from a slew of coloratura sopranos, many of them French, as well as countertenors who generally take the roles formerly taken by the legendary 18th century Italian castrati, even if they probably barely manage the lofty displays of outrageous virtuosity of Farinelli and his ilk.

The problem is more the dearth of the heavier voice types for the most demanding repertory.

I'm of course speaking of Verdi and Wagner and the big roles of Strauss and Berg. For Otello or Tristan, Brunnhilde, Lulu or Elektra, the choice has been meagre, for decades. Occasionally someone emerges to great excitement but then disappear just as quickly as their voices buckle under various pressures musical or otherwise. Most opera companies can produce at best someone effective or competent in a given role but not a fully-fledged star. That however might be about to change with the appearance in the last year or so of around a dozen singers, who are showing great promise. Of course we need at least ten world class Isoldes; one or two is not enough. Anyway there is talent out there and having done some research I would suggest the following are among the ones to watch.

Lise Davidsen - the Norwegian Wagnerian who won the Operalia singing competition in 2015 is primed for an outstanding career in top German repertory. For evidence of her talent click on YouTube to hear Domingo conduct her in an aria from Lohengrin.

Dominic Sedgwick - Guildhall School of Music and Dramatrained baritone is tipped as a possible successor to Simon Keenlyside. Currently enrolled in the ROH's Jette Parker Young Artists Programme, this seasonthe Cambrdge theology graduate takes on roles in Billy Budd and Katya Kabanova, among others. Jennifer France is a brilliant young coloratura soprano who won the Song Award at Kathleen Ferrier Competition in 2014. She has a light, agile and charming voice perfect for fizzling roles such as Amor and Zerbinetta.

The French mezzo Alix Le Saux is currently starring in Massenet's Cendrillon for the Glyndebourne touring company. She excels in bel canto roles such as Rosina in Rossini's Barber of Seville and will be singing Didon et Enee at Lyon Opera.



MACRON IN DENIAL

"" As chalices go, few are as poisoned as the one Emmanuel Macron has just handed Christophe Castaner. Minister of the interior is one of the most challenging posts in government. The former Socialist MP has cultivated an image over the years of a political tough guy, in contrast to his predecessor, the diminutive Gérard Collomb. But what passes for tough in the National Assembly won't intimidate the tough guys in France's inner cities.

During his eighteen months in the post, Collomb was a diligent minister, but in the end the 71-year-old was worn down by the enormity of his task. He parted with a message that should cause his successor a few sleepless nights. Explaining that he had toured the inner cities of Marseille, Toulouse and Paris, Collomb said:

"The situation is very difficult and the phrase 'Reconquering the Republic" is apt because in these districts it's the law of the strongest that reigns, that of the drug dealers and radical Islamists, which has supplanted the Republic."

He ended his farewell by expressing his anxiety that if something is not done today then tomorrow France will be faced with "immense problems". He elaborated on what those problems will be in one of his last interviews, with the weekly magazine *L'Express*. Asked if he shared the fear of the head of France's equivalent of MI5 that a civil war was a real risk, Collomb said:

"You always have that risk...it's not a fantasy, even if I don't like using the term 'civil war'."

The tragedy is that this isn't a new warning. France was alerted to what Collomb describes as the 'ghettoïsation' of France in 2002 with the publication of the book, 'The Lost Territories of the Republic: anti-Semitism, racism and sexism in schools'. One of its editors was Barbara Lefebvre who, instead of being acclaimed for her honest investigation, was branded an Islamophobe for daring to speak the unspeakable.

In an interview with Le Figaro earlier this month, Lefebvre compared Collomb to a captain who abandons his ship as it nears the reef. But her strongest criticism was reserved for Emmanuel Macron. The president, she said, "seems to be overwhelmed by the reality of the fractures within France." These fractures aren't the figment of the right's imagination. Two well-known journalists from the left-wing Le Monde newspaper this week published a book that describes the extent of the Islamisation of Seine-Saint-Denis, to the north of Paris, where trade unions are now organised along religious lines, bus drivers refuse to shake the hands of their female colleagues and schoolgirls excuse themselves from swimming lessons. Then there's the endemic violence in France: the frequent ambushes of the emergency services, the anti-Semitic murders, the homophobic assaults, the sexual harassment, the latter so bad that in Seine-Saint-Denis a scheme has been introduced where women can ask bus drivers to stop as close as is practical to their home in order to reduce the chances they'll be accosted on the street.

The mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, may paint pedestrian crossings in the rainbow colours of gay pride and boast that her city is a "refuge that embraces the Republican values of liberty, equality and fraternity" but she, like her president, knows the bitter truth.

This reality was articulated in an open letter to Macron by the mother of Adrien Perez, who was stabbed to death in July outside a Grenoble nightclub in an unprovoked attack. Accusing the president of failing in his obligation to protect his people, Mrs Perez ended her letter with a cold mockery of her country, writing:

Liberty: It disappeared when the State proved incapable of assuring the security of each person.

Equality: It disappeared when the State consented that a murderous minority could carry on a reign of terror

Fraternity: It disappeared when the State allowed violence to govern social relations

Barbara Lefebvre believes that the situation in France is now so bad that the "tipping point is close, everyone can feel it coming". This then is what Christophe Castaner must digest in his first week of his new job - not forgetting that other hefty file in his intray marked 'immigration'. The question is: will Castaner face up to the truth? Or will he adhere to what Lefebvre describes as the "progressive utopia" espoused by his boss? He's known as a Macron 'loyalist', which doesn't bode well, particularly in light of what the president said in a television interview last night.

"The world is fracturing, new disorders are appearing and Europe is tipping almost everywhere toward extremes and again is giving way to nationalism," declaredMacron. "Those who do not see what is going on around us are sleepwalking. Not me". No country in western Europe is fracturing as swiftly and as deeply as France, but nationalists aren't to blame. Yet its president refuses to confront this reality. Gerard Collomb talked of reconquering the Republic but for the moment the conquest continues, by those who wish to turn the French Republic into an Islamic one.""

The above recent article emphasises how much Macron is in Denial, he seems to prefer prancing about the EU stage, with the hoped for power mongers, preparing instead for the EU elections next spring. Perhaps he should take care of affairs back home. Both he and Merkel are on their way out.

From VAR MATIN



"Everyone is afraid": Berthe Tower (Toulon/La Seyne HLM) where between 6,000 to 10,000 euros change hands per day

Recently the police spent a week blockading the Berthe Tower block - one of the biggest points of sale of narcotic drugs in the neighborhood Berthe

Interior Minister Collomb visited Marseille, France's second city, but far more infamous as a centre of crime, and the drug trade, run pretty exclusively by the Corsican mafia. He perhaps should also have visited Toulon/La Seyne, which is rapidly being absorbed into the tentacles of the Marseille crime network. Barely a month - of even a week goes by -without a report in VAR MATIN of a drug related shooting in the projects areas of Toulon. Shootings with Kalishnikovs, in a bar, in the precincts, residents dare not go out at night!

One can hardly blame the police for the upsurge in crime, they are overstretched and undermanned, as they demonstrated with strikes, several times in the past few months. Several members of their corps have committed suicide - the stress of the job! But where is "Jupiter" Macron. Nowhere to be seen, except in carefully stage managed "Bains de foule" surrounded by adoring fans, in his visits to Fort Bragance. Even his adoring older wife admits he is "arrogant" and that's saying something. And it is not just the banlieues of Paris that are affected, but areas of Paris itself, for example around the Gare du Nord, where

immigrants congregate, despite being moved on numerous times by the police.



PARIS METRO DRIVERS DON'T STOP AT SEVERAL STATIONS BECAUSE OF DRUG JUNKIES

Paris Metro drivers have spoken out about the disruption and dangers caused by drug dealers and addicts at certain Metro stations on certain lines, a problem which they say has been escalating for years.

Recent reports detailed how RATP Metro Drivers would not stop at several stations. The violence associated with the drug dealing and addiction has been on the increase at certain Metro stations in the north east of the French capital. And as a result certain drivers, particularly on Metro lines 12 and 4 have been choosing not to stop at the most affected stations in order to protect both passengers and themselves, they say. Line 12 drivers has described in detail the phenomenon which they say has been growing over the past few years.

"Historically, line 12 has always been at the main core of drug addiction, especially Porte de la Chapelle, the situation really degenerated about 18 months ago.



"For example, last year, there were no fewer than 850 traffic interruptions and power cuts because drug addicts crossed the tracks, carried out their business on the tracks, or pulled the alarm to stop the trains to either sell or buy drugs," Chaplan, who is also a representative of the trade union SUD-RATP, said. Since the last quarter of 2017, there have been six accidents at work due to verbal or physical aggression, Chaplain said, adding that these range from insults to spitting."Everyday at Marx Dormoy (a northern station on line 12), among others, there are up to seven or eight drug addicts using illicit substances, either

crack or heroin, in sight of employees and travelers. It's intolerable $^{\prime\prime\prime\prime}$



BARBARIANS AT THE GATE !

Two thousand years ago, or thereabouts, Barbarians were knocking on the gates of Rome, the Imperial City. Now, it seems, the Roman Barbarians are threatening the Brussels citadelle, with their intransigence, and their new budget. Who, one wonders, is going to blink first.

Italy's Interior Minister Salvini has also been trading epithets with President Macron – Macron in high dudgeon accusing the Italians of lack of humanity in refusing to let the NGO boats land, which as one can imagine, Salvini reposted pretty immediately at such hypocrisy, bearing in mind that Macron and his ministers have adamantly refused to let any NGO boats land at their Mediterannean ports of Nice, Toulon & Marseill. In addition the Italian border police have in the past few weeks caught French police in the act of dumping immigrants over the border in the Alpes at night.



Amid an ongoing row over unauthorized crossings of the two countries' remote Alpine border, unnamed sources in Rome told the Italian press that an investigation was underway into whether gendarmes sought to drive underage migrants into Italy. The incident allegedly took place on the night of October 18th, around a week after Italian police said they spotted French officers driving two men across the border near the ski resort of Claviere. Authorities in France admitted to the earlier incident, which they put down to a "mistake".

That explanation will be less convincing if Italy can prove that the same thing happened more than once. Interior Minister Matteo Salvini, who styles himself as French President Emmanuel Macron's biggest critic, insists that similar incidents have recurred for several months and has shared what he claimed to be video evidence on his Facebook page.



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 toto 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 Demoiselles 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.



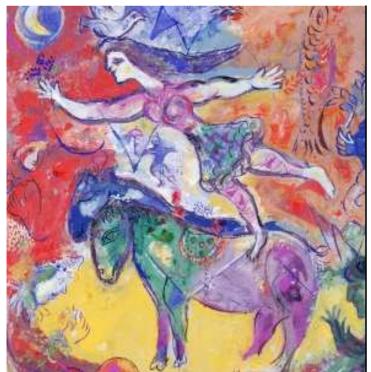
Designed as a journey of discovery of Iberian art in the twentieth century, the digital and immersive exhibition 'Picasso and the Spanish masters' presents thousands of moving images of digitised works, which are brought to life via the cutting edge AMIEX® technical equipment. Hence, the white limestone 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 Carrieres, 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



ART EXHIBITION - HOTEL CAUMONT – AIX EN PROVENCE - CHAGALL "From Black & White to Colour" 1 NOVEMBER -24 March 2019

Marc Chagall was celebrated as a master of colour by the artists and critics of his day. This new exhibition is devoted to the last part of the artist's career, highlights his change of style and reveals each stage in the artist's creative process, from 1948 until his death in 1985.



More than 100 works (paintings, sculptures, drawings, engravings, washes, gouaches, and collages) reflect Chagall's artistic exploration of black and white and his subsequent mastery of particularly luminous, intense, and profound tints.

A RENEWED AND UNIQUE APPROACH TO WORKING WITH COLOUR

In Chagall's work, the dialogue between black and white and colour began in the 1920s, when he discovered the techniques of engraving in Berlin. In the 1920s and 1930s, Ambroise Vollard

commissioned him to illustrate Fables de La Fontaine and the Bible. The artist captured the range of colours in the landscapes of the Auvergne and Palestine, and then mastered the density and various shades of black.



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.

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 favourtie 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. Right now is has on show pictures celebrating lighthouses, an exchange with the Musees of Dunkirk. This is on until 14 November this year.



Musée Bonnard – Le Cannet



Another lovely Museum to visit not too far away is the Bonnard Museum in Le Cannet, just up from Cannes, houseing 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. 16 boulevard Sadi Carnot , 06110 LE CANNET, +33 (0)4.93.94.06.06 <u>http://www.museebonnard.fr/</u> 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.



BREXIT FACTS & FIGURES

Every day brings a new example of the EU's failure to negotiate Brexit in good faith. Refusing to agree how financial services should be conducted, despite the UK's offer to allow EU firms based in the UK to continue trading as before.

Being not prepared to grant import certificates to UK organic farmers until after Brexit, when there be a nine-month waiting period. Threatening to stop our aircraft from taking off and blocking Eurostar trains from entering the Channel tunnel. The EU is revealing itself to be little better than an aggressive bully when it does not get its way. Then there's the gameplaying, with Michel Barnier promising us the best ever trade deal one day and withdrawing the offer the day after.

Now they want to tie us indefinitely into the Customs Union and Single Market to preserve the Good Friday agreement when the reality is that in the case of no deal, the EU would instruct the Irish Republic to impose a hard customs border with Northern Ireland.

The EU's attitude to the Brexit negotiations more than justifies our decision to leave. But there are ten much bigger reasons. **1.The EU is fundamentally protectionist**

Big business lobbies Brussels for more regulations to make it

more difficult for small companies to enter the market and compete. The Customs Union, to which all EU member states belong, imposes more than 13,000 tariffs on imported goods. As a result, EU consumers are paying an average of 17 per cent above world prices on food. The Single Market is a single protectionist zone where regulations are harmonised and all goods and services produced must satisfy these regulations whether or not they are sold in other member states. Only 6 per cent of UK companies trade with the EU – accounting for around 12 per cent of Gross Domestic Product - yet 100 per cent of UK regulations are determined in Brussels, including for the 94 per cent of UK companies that do not trade with the EU. The UK, in particular, has seen little economic benefit from the Single Market. UK goods exports to the 11 fellow founding members of the Single Market have grown over the years 1993-2015 at just 1 per cent pa. Over the same period, UK goods exports to the 111 countries with which it trades under World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules have grown at 2.88 per cent pa, nearly three times faster. This helps to explain why UK trade with the EU has fallen from 60 per cent to 44 per cent since the Single Market was introduced.

Services account for 80% of the UK economy but only 40% of the UK's service exports go to the EU, amounting to just 5% of GDP. The result is a £28bn services surplus but a £95bn goods deficit with the EU, leaving an overall £67bn trade deficit in 2017.

Even strong supporters of the EU, like the Financial Times' Wolfgang Münchau, concede that the Single Market is "not visible in the macro statistics.... the data are telling us a different story – that the Single Market is a giant economic non-event, for both the EU and the UK".

2. The EU's major waste

Brussels seriously misallocates resources. Take the EU Budget: 40 per cent goes to farmers, mostly to the richest farmers with the largest farms. Yet agriculture accounts for only 1 per cent of GDP across the EU. The Common Agricultural Policy encourages overproduction. We used to have wine lakes and butter mountains. Now we have the surplus production being dumped in overseas markets. A current example is the dumping of tinned tomatoes in Africa, in particular Ghana, which leads to a significant distortion to the local market and a reduction in the income of Ghanaian tomato farmers.

{Also huge EU fishing fleets, particularly the Dutch enormous factory vessels, as detailed in Mort Rosenblum's article last month distort the market, trawling, hoovering up fish stocks off Morocco, and particularly West Africa, leaving no fish for the people who live along that coast. Is it any wonder then that Africans are driven to trek across the Sahara, to cross the Mediterranean. A fallout not recognised by the protectionist EU in their planning}

{The Common Agricultural Policy heavily favours large landowners, such as for example in the UK, the Queen (whom I do not begrudge), the Duke of Westminster, both huge landowners, who run their estates very efficiently, and do not need the subsidies, but have to take them. The Duke of Edinburgh is heavily involved in running the Queen's estates, it was he, several years ago who decided to plant vines on the Windsor estate, so that now at State Banquets, guests are offered an excellent "Windsor" Champagne! But the large agricultural combines do not need the subsidies, it is the small farmers that are going bankrupt, because they cannot afford to pay staff solely to do EU Bureaucratic paperwork.

Another killer example of this was confided to me by a VVV reader. He has an investment in a small engineering firm. It is so far doing OK, just about, although it would be doing so much better if it did not have to pay one member of staff, from a dozen, solely to deal with EU paperwork. Other small firms cannot afford that level of staffing, and certainly not farmers!}

3. The EU is fundamentally anti-democratic

A whole range of European leaders have made abundantly clear the EU's political agenda, such as Jean Monnet:

"Europe's nations should be guided towards the super-state without their people understanding what is happening. This can be accomplished by successive steps, each disguised as having an economic purpose, but which will eventually and irreversibly lead to federation" And Jean-Claude Juncker: "There can be no democratic choice against the European Treaties".

4. The meddling ECJ

The 'purposive' nature of EU law allows the European Court of Justice to interpret and reinterpret the wording of EU laws in line with the European Commission's (often changing) intentions. This contrasts with the clarity and precision of English laws. A further issue relates to the EU legal convention that everything is prohibited unless it is permitted, which requires constant appeals to the ECJ to grant permission. This contrasts with the English common law tradition where everything is permitted unless it is prohibited.

5. The folly of the euro

Introducing the euro across a group of countries whose economies were so disparate that the operation of a single monetary policy with a single Eurozone interest rate was inevitably going to lead to a pattern of booms and busts in the peripheral states when the interest rate is set to meet the needs of core economies, such as Germany. In addition, the way in which exchange rates were fixed at the start of monetary union resulted in Germany joining at too low an exchange rate, while the peripheral countries joined at too high an exchange rate. This inevitably led to the mainly northern members of the Eurozone, especially Germany, building up large trade surpluses and the southern members, such as Italy and Spain, building up corresponding deficits.

This, in turn, has encouraged capital flight from Italy and Spain to Germany by savers fearful of the solvency of their banks. The deficits building up in Target2, the Eurozone payments system, by Italy and Spain are so serious that it is very likely that the Eurozone will implode – and do so sooner rather than later. In the meantime, the southern member states are stuck in a permanent Japanese-style deflation trap.

6. Being shackled to the EU corpse

The EU's population is ageing, resulting from a combination of rising life expectancy and declining fertility.

Europe's share of the world's population will fall from 7 per cent today to 4 per cent by 2100 and 90 per cent of global economic growth over this period will occur outside the EU. Douglas Carswell, the former MP for Clacton, likened the UK's membership of the EU to being "shackled to a corpse".

7. EU's numerous separatist movements

The EU has inadvertently encouraged regional separatist movements to develop in a number of member states in the mistaken belief that these regions can become 'independent' members of the EU 'with a seat at the top table'. Current examples are Scotland, Catalonia and Corsica.

8. Increasing Euroscepticism

Rising Euroscepticism in the EU – dismissed as 'populism' by europhiles – demonstrated by the East/West split over the immigration and internal security crises. The Visegrád Group, comprising the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, is challenging the authority of Brussels by refusing to accept migrant quotas imposed by Brussels. Viktor Orban, Hungary's prime minister, has said: 'All the institutions of the EU have utterly failed. Neither the European Commission, nor the European Council, nor the European Parliament protected the Schengen Treaty'.

9. Russian rift

The EU has been blamed for the tension between Russia and the Ukraine as a result of its 2014 'Association Agreement' with the Ukraine, which Russia interpreted as an encroachment on its sphere of influence. The Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko described the agreement as Ukraine's 'first but most decisive step' towards EU membership'.

10. Massive corruption (and Incomptenence!)

This is well illustrated by the fact that the EU's accounts have not been approved for the last 20 years by the EU's chief auditor in respect of around €100bn of expenditures. Governed as it is from a centre run by unelected bureaucrats and judges rather than politicians, it is readily apparent that the EU is incapable of reforming itself. ** See below

The EU Fraud Office auditors report notes that due to Brexit, the European Medicines Agency plans to move to temporary premises in Amsterdam at the beginning of 2019 and the "Agency's accounts include provisions for related costs amounting to €18.6 million." Nevertheless, the auditors point out that "the lease agreement for the Agency's current premises in London sets a rental period until 2039 with no exit clause. <u>The notes to the accounts disclose an amount of €489 million</u> <u>remaining rent until 2039, of which a maximum amount of €465</u> <u>million corresponding to the lease period after the Agency's</u> <u>planned</u> move to Amsterdam is disclosed as a contingent liability."

The European Banking Authority also faces challenges due to its move but not to the same extent, due to a more flexible rental agreement: The EBA's move to Paris "is planned for the beginning of 2019 and the Authority's accounts include provisions for related costs amounting to $\in 6.7$ million and disclose $\in 11.2$ million remaining future contractual payments as scheduled for the office in London," the auditors write.

As an institution driven by process rather than outcomes, it is drowning in its own rules and this is stifling innovation. It should be clear from the above that remaining in the EU is the high-risk strategy – not leaving it.

Professor David Blake - Cass Business School and a member of Economists for Free Trade



Results of electric pulse fishing.

A French-led effort convinced the European Parliament to vote to prohibit electric pulse fishing on January 16 as part of an overhaul of EU fishing regulations. It is illegal, but still continues! Debate over the technology pits the Dutch, who have widely adopted the technology and defend it on scientific grounds, against the French, who argue it devastates the ocean ecosystem, leaving graveyards of dead fish in its wake. The EU - defender of Sustainability of Fish stocks – bit of a laugh!



DIESELGATE UPDATES

The German government stepped up efforts to thwart courtordered diesel bans over high pollution levels in urban centres, as voter anger mounts over emissions cheating by the industry. A renewed focus on air quality in the wake of Volkswagen's 2015 "dieselgate" scandal -- in which the car giant admitted to cheating regulatory tests on 11 million cars worldwide -- has seen a wave of courtroom action across Germany.

Major cities including **Stuttgart**, **Frankfurt** and most recently the capital **Berlin** were slapped with legal orders to cut emissions, while **Hamburg** decided of its own accord to expel the worst polluters from parts of the urban centre.

The moves have sparked the ire of owners of older diesel vehicles with higher emissions levels, creating a political problem for the government just as the ruling parties faced a crucial state election in Hesse.

The government is also still locked in negotiations with Germany's powerful automobile industry, mired in the "dieselgate" emissions cheating scandal yet vital to the national economy, over covering the cost of refitting older vehicles with more effective exhaust treatment systems.

Of some 5.5 million diesels on the road meeting the 2009-era Euro 5 standard, only 2.2 million can be upgraded to produce lower NO2 emissions.





German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Sunday faced a second regional election in as many weeks set to inflict more pain on her shaky coalition.

Earlier this month, Bavarian voters deserted in droves the two allies Merkel counts on for her national government alliance in Berlin - the deeply conservative Christian Social Union (CSU) and the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD).

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, campaigning for her Christian Democrats (CDU) to retain control of the crucial state of Hesse promised legislation to ward off the threat of air pollution leading to driving bans.

This total volte face and U turn came, after last month, when faced with voter fallout in Bavaria, she (sort of!) promised

heaped pressure on auto giants to pick up the full bill for refits of older polluting diesel vehicles. Promises, Promises

Speaking at a news conference on (22 October), Merkel said it would be disproportionate to ban dirty diesel cars from the road in places like **Frankfurt**, Hesse's largest city, where nitrogen emissions limits were only marginally exceeded.

Following her allies' disastrous showing in Bavaria's regional elections last week, Merkel faces murmurs of dissent within her party. Defeat in the state to the resurgent Greens could prove fatal to her premiership, and further dent Chancellor Angela Merkel's position.

Emissions from diesel cars have pushed nitrogen levels above the permitted level of 50 milligrams per cubic meter in dozens of cities across Germany, and Merkel's government is keen to avoid widely unpopular bans from taking the cars on the road.



And sure enough, after a disastrous election result in Hesse over the weekend, Chancellor Merkel has announced she will step down as leader of the CDU party, but still hang on to the Chancellorship – that is if she is allowed – not altogether certain at all. It was also hinted that she no longer aspires to a post at the EU, perhaps acknowledging how much her power base has waned.

""A politician of Mrs Merkel's generation, who lived through the Cold War, could see that backing the UK into a 'no deal' corner may ultimately accelerate the very same populist political forces Mr Macron seeks to arrest.

Perhaps it was already a forlorn hope to expect, if that time came, that Mrs Merkel could get everyone to take a step back; but by formally firing the starting gun on her own departure the German Chancellor may have sapped her authority to the point of no return.""

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - A German court last week ordered Porsche Automobil Holding SE (<u>PSHG p.DE</u>) to pay shareholders 47.2 million euros (\$53.8 million) in compensation for violating disclosure rules over an emissions scandal at its main investment Volkswagen

Shareholders who held Porsche SE stock between May 23, 2014, and Sept. 22, 2015, were entitled to be compensated for the share price declines caused by Volkswagen's (VW) cheating of U.S. diesel emissions tests, the Stuttgart court said.

Porsche SE shareholders sued the company for failing to inform its investors in a timely manner about VW's diesel emissions cheating, which has cost the automaker more than 27 billion euros in fines and vehicle refits.

Law firm Nieding & Barth said the pension fund for the city of Wolverhampton in central England was awarded 3.2 million euros in damages by the Stuttgart court.

EU DIVERSITY !

Politico has examined the racial makeup of the European Parliament, and found that there are just 17 non-white MEPs, out of 751, or just a little over 2%. *And half of these non-white MEPs are British...*



The European Parliament is the only representative body within the EU, meaning the Union is set to halve its racial diversity representation in March next year when British MEPs lose their jobs. The EU likes to sneer at the UK, calling Brexit xenophobic, in reality the British 9% of seats made up some 50% of their racial diversity. *Those in (mostly white) glass houses...*



INTERNATIONAL TAX & WEALTH MANAGEMENT

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DOWNWARD SPIRAL CONTINUES ! By SIMON EVELEIGH

If things looked bad a month ago, October has proved to be a dreadful month for Toulon. Including their last match in September, five successive defeats leave Toulon in a position which nobody could possibly have envisaged at the start of the season.

If losing at Montpellier on the first weekend was to be expected, what happened on the following two was certainly not in anyone's script.

It wasn't that long ago that Toulon were dominating European competition, winning the trophy three times in a row. Now, however, having Toulon in your group does not strike fear into the heart of the opposition.

None of the five Champions Cup groups will ever be easy, but a group containing Montpellier, Edinburgh and Newcastle is more straightforward than it could have been. Avoiding the big guns of the English Premiership and, in particular, being drawn in a group without an Irish province, would probably be on most supporters' wish lists when the draw for the pool stages takes place.

Having said that, all twenty teams in the competition are there on merit and none of them should be taken lightly. Toulon's first match was at home to Newcastle Falcons, who, after a great season last year when they finished in the top four, have had a dreadful start to this campaign and are currently bottom of the league.



When Romain Taofifenua charged down a quick and scored a try within 20 seconds of the kick off, all looked rosy for Toulon, even more so when they extended their lead to 10 points shortly afterwards. However, as so often this season so far, Toulon were only flattering to deceive and Newcastle gradually hauled themselves back into the game and went into the half-time break with a one point lead.

It stayed that way for the first ten minutes of the second half, but when a flowing Newcastle move was halted by a high tackle by full back Daniel Ikpefan, Toulon paid the penalty in more ways than one. Firstly, Ikpefan was shown a yellow card, the second Toulon player to suffer that fate, but, more importantly the officials judged that without this illegal intervention, a try would have been scored, so a penalty try was awarded.

Ikpefan's yellow card did not prove to be the turning point that it could have been, as Newcastle lost a player to a card only four minutes later and Toulon scored a converted try and penalty while the teams were playing 14 v 14, giving them a 25-23 lead with a quarter of the match to go.

Toulon's indiscipline was, however, ultimately to prove costly, because only a matter of minutes after Ikpefan's return, Julian Savea was shown a yellow card and Newcastle kicked a penalty to take the lead again.

There were no more scores in the last ten minutes, but Toulon really only have themselves to blame for that.

With a strong wind at their backs, they were awarded a penalty on the halfway line and François Trinh-Duc looked to be lining up a kick at goal, only to be overruled by the coaching team. The kick to the corner led to Toulon setting up camp in the Newcastle 22 metres and eventually winning another penalty.

With five minutes to play and trailing by a point, there was only one option for Toulon, but, defying all logic, they chose to turn down the relatively simple three points that were on offer and kicked to touch.

The argument was that, having scored three tries already, if Toulon could force their way over the line they would grab a bonus point and take a lead of at least four points, meaning Newcastle would need a try to win the game. That was the argument, but not one that many people agreed with. In this position, you firstly get yourself in front by taking the points on offer and then see what happens in the final few plays. The ploy backfired when Newcastle stole the Toulon line out ball and managed to hold out for a famous victory.

Whatever the reasons for Toulon making the choices they did in the dying minutes, many saw it as arrogance, whereas others just thought it was bone-headed stupidity, but all were in agreement, granted with the benefit of hindsight, that they were wrong. Having lost at home in their first match, Toulon needed to get their European campaign back on an even keel.

Edinburgh had also lost their first match, but had managed to bring a losing bonus point back from their trip to Montpellier. Reflecting the current mood in Scottish rugby, Edinburgh play an expansive brand of rugby and the belief that the other countries have about the French teams is that they are big and strong but lack the ability to play an open game of rugby for 80 minutes and if you can monopolise the ball and make them run around, they will struggle.

This certainly seemed to be true when Toulon played at Murrayfield and a final score of 40-14 did not flatter Edinburgh in any way.

All is not completely lost as far as the Champions Cup is concerned, but Toulon will probably need to win all four of their remaining games, starting with the back to back fixtures with Montpellier in mid-December.

As well as having confirmation that Toulon are no longer a force in European rugby, the opening two rounds of action gave us some information we already knew; Saracens, Racing and Leinster are going to be the teams to beat, and some that we did not necessarily know, such as Toulouse, once again, being a force to be reckoned with. However, the main thing that has come out of these early skirmishes is that any contact with an opponent's head will result in action, either by the officials on the pitch or by the disciplinary commission, or both.

With growing proof (and acceptance by those who once denied it) that knocks to the head can cause potentially life-changing problems many years later, rugby is determined to eradicate contact with the head, as far as possible.

Rugby is a physical contact sport and unfortunate injuries will always happen. At the moment, we are all still getting to grips with the changing landscape and you will hear some who say that rugby has "gone soft", but protecting the future health of the participants has to be priority number one.

Toulon's return to domestic action was equally traumatic, marked by a home defeat to La Rochelle, which leaves them in 13th place and with a third of the season now gone, the words Toulon and relegation are now cropping up in more than one conversation.

With the Autumn internationals taking centre stage, Toulon only play twice in the coming month.

On 3rd November, they should get a chance to put things back on track, as they face the only team who currently look worse than them, Perpignan. With eight defeats from eight matches so far, Perpignan look odds-on to go straight back down at the end of the season. Anything but a resounding victory for Toulon would be a catastrophe and would almost certainly sound the death knell for Patrice Collazo's tenure as head coach, even if Mourad Boudjellal has confirmed his confidence in the head coach. Having said that, how many football managers have lost their jobs within days of the board giving him a vote of confidence?! The only other fixture in November is a tricky trip to Bordeaux on 24th of the month.

It is not clear whether the poor start to the season has been instrumental in his decision, but it has recently been announced that French captain Guilhem Guirado will be leaving Toulon at

the end of the season to join Montpellier. It has to be hoped that this is not a sign that players no longer see Toulon as being the place to be to win trophies and/or gain international recognition. There is quality in the Toulon ranks, but they are currently very low on confidence, but also seem completely devoid of ideas or any coherent game plan. Every time a match which we see as the opportunity to get the season up and running, ends in defeat, so the pressure builds. A suivre.....

CHRISTMAS IS COMING !

Editor: If readers have information about Christmas events of note, Concerts, carol concerts, choir concerts, Christmas Fairs, please write in and let me know. News is always welcome.

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