LAURENT STOCKER
FROM COMÉDIE-FRANÇAISE

BON ENTENDEUR
MUSICAL DIRECTION

ALEXANDRE ASTIER

MARIE S'INFILTRE

ARIELLE DOMBASLE

CHARLES BERLING



CITÉ IMMERSIVE DES FABLES

Dream with Jean de La Fontaine

CITÉ IMMERSIVE FABLES

OPENING ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2025 | 5 RUE DE BERRI, PARIS 8e

PRESS KIT



A SPECTACULAR EXHIBITION REVISITING LA FONTAINE’S FABLES

Starting in Fall 2025, Paris will host the major exhibition *La Cité Immersive des Fables*: a sensory and immersive journey into the world of Jean de La Fontaine and his famous creatures. Over more than 1000 m², visitors are plunged into a lush scenography, with striking installations and decor, special effects and immersive projection technologies, as well as a large variety of interactive games. Top actors from the French stage will appear, including Laurent Stocker of the Comédie-Française, Alexandre Astier, Arielle Dombasle, Charles Berling, and Marie S’Infiltre. Musical direction is provided by the group Bon Entendeur, for a visual and auditory journey of wonder. The exhibition is open to all audiences, offering an entertaining yet accessible take on literary heritage through a 100% playful, educational and immersive experience.

1000 m² of exhibition space

100% educational and interactive

Video mapping 360°

A magical journey through the world of the Fables

Starting in September, a new immersive exhibition concept will take shape on the Champs-Élysées, in the heart of Paris. Among the 243 fables written by Jean de La Fontaine, the exhibition highlights the most iconic ones, presenting them in an imaginative staging that blends narration, technology, and scenography. In this exceptional new format, visitors become part of the immersive experience, stepping into a dreamlike world where they become both the audience and the protagonist.

With a running time of approximately 1h30, the tour offers theatrical, stylized spaces that bring the great fables back to life with captivating costumes and theatrical makeup. This poetic exploration delivers a unique reinterpretation: colorful and playful, yet inhabited by subtly modernized dialogues and characters who embody the vitality and irony of La Fontaine's time. The cast features a dream team of French cinema and theatre: Laurent Stocker as La Fontaine, Alexandre Astier as the Lion, Arielle Dombasle as the Wolf, Charles Berling as the Fox, and Marie S'Infiltre as the Frog. Also appearing: Félix Junier as the Donkey, Hubert Myon as the Dog, and Axelle Saint-Cirel as the Crow. Axelle Saint-Cirel is the mezzo-soprano who performed the Marseillaise at the 2024 Paris Olympics' Opening Ceremony.

Throughout the journey, visitors are transported into the Grand Siècle – the age of Louis XIV and Versailles, both festive and strict – and rediscover the many layers of this cultural legacy and the timeless relevance of 17th-century tales. Each room features portraits of the actors portraying La Fontaine's creatures, unique scenic atmospheres, lush vegetation, 360° projections, sound and light effects, 3D audio spatialization, and rigorous educational content.

A remarkable finale

At the end of the tour, a 20-minute 360° video mapping spectacle transports visitors into the fantastical world of the fables. From Japanese ukiyo-e to street art, via Jean-Baptiste Oudry, La Fontaine's universe is brought to life in many forms. A dramatic reading of his fables accompanies the visuals. The room's musical direction is once again led by Bon Entendeur, represented here by Arnaud Bonnet and Pierre Della Monica, known for their iconic mixes blending French literature and electronic music.

An ambitious cultural project for all audiences

Poetic, playful and spectacular, La Cité Immersive des Fables speaks to all generations. It celebrates the modernity and universality of La Fontaine's work, while offering a new way of engaging with French literary heritage.The exhibition offers a fresh interpretation of the fables, honoring their timelessness, educational value, and relevance across centuries, while peppering the experience with nods to contemporary culture.

A rigorous scientific committee

The exhibition relies on a rigorous scientific committee, led by **Tiphaine Rolland**, PhD and lecturer in French literature at the Sorbonne and specialist in La Fontaine's work. The committee also includes **Patrick Dandrey**, professor of literature, editor of *La Fabrique des Fables* and President of the Society of Friends of Jean de La Fontaine, and **Didier Foucault**, 17th-century history specialist. The famous YouTuber and science communicator **Nota Bene**, with over 4 million subscribers, will guide visitors throughout the tour via interactive touchscreens specially designed for the exhibition.



Hall of dreams © Cité Immersive des Fables — David Morganti



The Fox's Garden © Cité Immersive des Fables — David Morganti

THE JOURNEY

La Fontaine's office

Laurent Stocker (from Comédie-Française)

The visitor steps into Jean de La Fontaine's study, a true immersion into the 17th century. The poet sets the stage for the immersive exhibition, as well as for the legacy of his 243 fables.



Fabulous Corridor

The Fox's Garden

Charles Berling (Fox)
Axelle Saint-Cirel (Crow)

In a 17th-century French garden, under a tree, the visitor discovers the fable "The Crow and the Fox", with the evocation of courtiers and flattery. On the periphery, the viewer discovers the Fox's lair and the story of Jean de La Fontaine.



The Wolf's Forest

Arielle Dombasle (Lion)
Hubert Myon (Dog)

At the edge of a forest, under the light of a full moon, "The Wolf and the Dog" meet — between freedom and the lure of comfort — in a scene echoing the life of Jean de La Fontaine. A photo booth, skill games, engaging mediation tools, and collection pieces complete the space.



Hall of dreams

The Hall of dreams marks the grand finale of the journey. A dazzling 20-minute 360° video projection immerses visitors in a timeless experience.
This immersive show is presented in collaboration with Ateliers BK, with musical direction by Bon Entendeur.



The Lion's Court

Alexandre Astier (Lion),
Félix Jugnier (Donkey) et d'autres animaux

This section of the journey revisits the fable "The Animals Sick of the Plague." Here, the animals meet in a video conference, searching for a scapegoat to bear their misfortune. A mural of visitor-created drawings brought to life with AI animation, along with skill-based games, completes the experience.



The Frog's Swamp

Marie S'Infiltre (Frog)

Under the watchful eye of Jean de La Fontaine, this thematic universe invites visitors to step into a pond filled with water lilies, inspired by the vain frog who "Wanted to Be as Big as the Ox." The room also explores the famous fable "The Frogs Who Desired a King", offering visitors the chance to playfully put themselves in the spotlight of "bigness." A jukebox of fables set to music enriches the experience.





The Lion's Court © Cité Immersive des Fables — David Morganti

An exceptional cast



Laurent Stocker
Jean de La Fontaine



Arielle Dombasle
The Wolf



Marie S'infiltre
The Frog



Charles Berling
The Fox



Alexandre Astier
The Lion



Felix Junier
The Donkey



Hubert Myon
The Dog



Axelle Saint-Cirel
The Crow

Musical direction
by the Bon
Entendeur
collective

CITÉ IMMERSIVE FABLES

A PROJECT LED BY CITÉS IMMERSIVES

"Despite the world being a land of history, rich in heritage and epic tales, many of these stories remain unknown to the general public. We believe that adopting a different approach to the traditional museum can engage a wider audience. We believe that emotion and spectacle should serve education."

This belief led to the creation of Cités Immersives, founded in 2023 by Jean Vergès and Anthony Samama. The project aims to use immersion and new technologies to tell history with accuracy, passion, and poetry. With 83% of French people expressing a strong interest in history, Cités Immersives is inventing a new model of cultural venue : a space offering a historical and scientific perspective within a unique immersive scenography, designed to immerse visitors in a grand story around heritage.

The project invites visitors to dive into history, to feel, experience, and understand the elements and cultures that have shaped territories. It sheds new light on heroes, legends, and the cultural richness of regions, within a unique melting pot of influences in Europe. Each Cité Immersive is a window into a piece of heritage, a bridge between past and present, and a promise to strengthen bonds between curious minds, scholars, generations, and society as a whole.

An innovative company committed to bringing history and cultural richness to the widest audience, Cités Immersives designs, produces, and operates immersive cultural venues in France and internationally. The aim is to rethink the museum experience and enhance regional heritage, sharing the love of history to all audiences. Each Cité Immersive is intended to become a living space as well as a cultural space, with constantly renewed content, events, and cultural activities, encouraging visitors to engage with their history at an affordable price.

In venues of over 1000 m^2, Cités Immersives offers a spectacular sensory, visual, and sound experience. Using cutting-edge technology and captivating storytelling, Cités Immersives merges history and technology with historical sets, 360° video projections, and 3D musical devices.

Cités Immersives is expanding across France through close collaboration with local stakeholders, respecting and enhancing the unique heritage of each region. By reconnecting individuals with their history, Cités Immersives aims to weave stronger ties within a shared historical narrative, reinforcing our collective curiosity and sense of belonging. It showcases the intellectual achievements of our predecessors to unite, educate, and pass on the richness of history and heritage.

The first venue, Cité Immersive Viking, opened in Rouen on June 15, 2024. It is now the most visited paid cultural venue in Rouen and the surrounding area. Following this success, a second space opened on December 20, 2024 in Île-de-France, at Westfield Carré Sénart in Lieusaint, as a temporary exhibition. The Cité Immersive des Fables will subsequently tour internationally in several large cities across France and Europe.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

La Cité Immersive des Fables

5 rue de Berri
Paris 8e

Opening Hours and Ticket Price

For more information, please refer to the website :
fables.cites-immersives.fr/paris/
cites-immersives.fr/

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