

PRESS RELEASE
Chambord, September 20, 2021

TRÉSORS SAUVÉS EN TEMPS DE GUERRE

CHAMBORD DEDICATES FOUR ROOMS TO A PERMANENT EXHIBITION EXPLORING A THEME THAT HAS MARKED ITS HISTORY AND WELCOMES A TEMPORARY EXHIBITION OF WORK BY THE CANADIAN ARTIST DOMINIQUE BLAIN

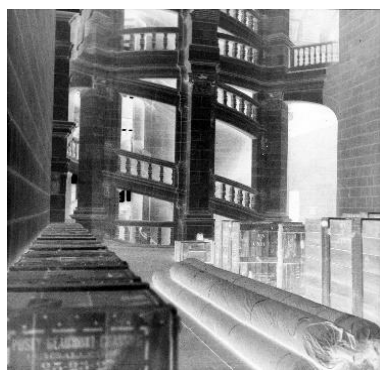
From November 21, Chambord will be exploring the fate of artworks in times of conflict through a new permanent exhibition dedicated to the life of the chateau during the Second World War, a little-known but fascinating part of its history.

At the same time, to illustrate the contemporary resonance of this theme, Chambord will be presenting *Displacements*, a temporary exhibition of recent works by the Canadian artist Dominique Blain examining the representation and protection of artworks.

Chambord, 1939–1945: “Saving some of the world’s beauty”, a permanent exhibition in four rooms, has been added to the visitor itinerary

In 1939 thousands of works were sent in convoy to eleven chateaus and abbeys in central and western France, including Chambord, to preserve them from bombings and Nazi greed. The chateau, closed to the public, thus sheltered a multitude of artworks, mainly from the French public collections. Chambord became the largest depository in France. Iconic works including Leonardo da Vinci’s *Mona Lisa*, Eugène Delacroix’s *Liberty Leading the People* and *The Lady and the Unicorn* were hidden there.

The new space, accessible from the chateau terraces, highlights the role played by Chambord in saving humanity’s treasures in the spirit of UNESCO, which added the chateau to its World Heritage List in 1981. Thanks to museological innovations, the permanent exhibition will lift the veil on a hitherto unexplored episode in the history of Chambord and appeal to all audiences, including the youngest. [Further information.](#)



Dominique Blain, *First-Floor Vestibule – Château de Chambord 1939–1945*, Number 1, 2021

***Displacements*, a temporary exhibition of the work of Dominique Blain (November 21–March 13)**

The fate of artworks in times of conflict is once again a burning issue, one at the heart of Dominique Blain’s thinking. **With the exhibition *Displacements*, presented in parallel with the opening of the new permanent spaces**, the Canadian artist pays tribute to the role of citizens in protecting the cultural heritage of humanity.

Organized in partnership with the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris, the exhibition will allow visitors to reflect on what works of art mean to them. What are we prepared to do to protect our masterpieces in times of war, crisis, repression and attacks on freedom of expression?



View of the installation *Monuments II* at the exhibition *Displacements*, Canadian Cultural Centre, 2019.

Photo: Vincent Royer, Open Up Studio.

By opening the new permanent exhibition dedicated to the role of the chateau during the Second World War and the Dominique Blain temporary exposition at the same time, Chambord invites visitors to become part of the dialogue between history and contemporary thinking about the major and still-topical issue of safeguarding our shared cultural heritage during times of war.