

AÉROPORTS DE PARIS PRESENTS THE WINGS OF GLORY

THE FIRST EXHIBITION IN THE ESPACE MUSÉES
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MUSÉE RODIN



Where art and culture
come to Paris-Charles
de Gaulle airport

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AÉROPORTS DE PARIS



Augustin de Romanet

Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of Aéroports de Paris



“Aéroports de Paris offers passengers from all over the world a unique experience with its Espace Musées, a new cultural showcase and major venue for the promotion of French artistic heritage.”

"Our ambition is to offer the 61 million passengers that pass through Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport each year an emotionally charged Parisian excursion, so that the pleasure of their journey starts right at the airport and so that travellers from all over the world take a final image of the magic of France away with them.

And what an excursion our passengers will experience within the Espace Musées! There will be two free-entry themed exhibitions a year, showcasing the most illustrious works of French artistic heritage, in the heart of our new infrastructure, Hall M of Terminal 2E.

To create this Space, we enlisted the help of the best specialists:

- Francis Briest, co-director of the Artcurial auction house, with whom we initiated the project and who manages the Espace Musées endowment fund
- Serge Lemoine, former chairman of Musée d'Orsay, who is the artistic director for all the exhibitions
- Nelson Wilmotte of Nelson Wilmotte Architectes, who devised the Space architecture.

We wanted to unveil our Space by paying tribute to French sculpture, and its most prominent representative, Auguste Rodin, who is greatly renowned for his work the world over.

I would especially like to thank Musée Rodin whose support throughout this ambitious project has made our first exhibition possible, we've called it "Auguste Rodin, The Wings of Glory", with scenography by Hubert Le Gall."

The Wings of Glory,

from 13 December 2012
to the end of April 2013,
a first exhibition
in partnership with
Musée Rodin

The first Espace Musées exhibition is dedicated to an internationally renowned master of sculpture: Auguste Rodin. The pieces presented will provide a comprehensive overview of Rodin's masterpieces – *le Penseur* (The Thinker), *le Baiser* (The Kiss) and *l'Age d'airain* (The Age of Bronze).

Nearly fifty pieces will be exhibited for travellers to discover, some for the very first time.

The exhibition's theme, linked to flight, presents an opportunity to unveil some less well-known pieces. For the first time, a series of winged figures and one large wing will be on display, recalling the myth of the conquest of sky and space, a real challenge for a sculptor. Indeed, the great Master is said to have exclaimed upon seeing an aeroplane in 1912: "Look, da Vinci's dream is flying by!".

The exhibition's various major themes will be used to demonstrate the sheer extent and modernity of this great artist's work:

- great figures, nudes and draped bodies, often made for public monuments
- men's torsos, emphasising the main part of the body, from which all vital energy bursts forth
- expressive portraits, conveying the model's character and revealing their soul.

This ambitious exhibition within *Espace Musées*, where the dominant theme is movement and flight, will offer visitors a unique airport experience.





World-renown works, exhibited to travellers from all over the world

Nearly fifty works will be exhibited to passengers in Hall M of Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport.



*Les Bénédictions
(The Benedictions), or
les Gloires (The Glories)*
before 1896

Rodin's work featured many winged figures, like a constant challenge to the heaviness of the material. *The Bénédictions* group, originally designed by joining together two small winged female nudes, was placed by Rodin at the top of a monument to labour project, the *Tour du travail* (The Tower of Labour) (1898). The diving movement of the figures counterbalances that of the wings.

This work is symbolic of the title of the exhibition organised by Musée Rodin within *Espace Musées* at Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport: *Les Ailes de la Gloire* (The Wings of Glory).



*L'Age d'airain
(The Age of Bronze)*
1877

Rodin's first major work, this statue caused scandal when it was first exhibited in Brussels and Paris.

A young Belgian soldier, Auguste Ney, was the model for this sculpture which recalls one of the early ages of mankind. There was originally a spear in the left hand, but Rodin decided to remove the weapon to free the arm and infuse the gesture with a new liberality.

The contours, teeming with life, which was unusual at the time, together with the statue's natural pose caused such amazement that Rodin was accused of having used a life cast of his sitter - a great insult for a sculptor.



Le Penseur (The Thinker)

1881-1882

A symbolic and universal figure, *Le Penseur*, also entitled *le Poète* (The Poet), evokes the power and genius of its creator. It sits in the centre of the tympanum of a monumental door inspired by Dante's *Divine Comedy* (the Gates of Hell), where it dominates the doors as poet or creator meditating on the human condition. Yet Rodin quickly isolates him from this context.

He makes him an autonomous and independent figure, bent over in the traditional meditative pose, seated, head resting on his hand:

"My idea was to represent man as a symbol of humanity, a rugged and laborious man who stops in the middle of his task to think about things, to exercise a faculty that distinguishes him from animals." (Auguste Rodin)



Le Baiser (The Kiss)

around 1882

This couple, full of charm and sensuality is also from the monumental Dante-inspired door intended for a museum of decorative arts to be built in Paris. It originally represented Paolo and Francesca, unhappy lovers slain by Francesca's husband.

Exhibited from 1887, this work was an instant success with the public, who, deprived of any details that would identify the lovers, gave it the name "*Le Baiser*" (The Kiss).

This sculpture, enlarged in marble between 1888 and 1898, became a universal icon celebrating love.

Renowned partners



Francis Briest

Francis Briest manages the *Espace Musées* endowment fund which ensures the loan of original works of art from French and international museums and their transport.

Francis Briest has been an auctioneer since 1979. In 2001, he linked up with Artcurial, joined in 2002 by Hervé Poulain and Rémy Le Fur, then in 2005 by François Tajan, with whom he is now co-chairman of Artcurial auction house.

Chairman of the association "Les Amis du Donjon de Vez", each year he organises in the context of this listed historic monument, a modern and contemporary sculpture exhibition: Calder in 1996, Dubuffet in 1997, Miro in 1998, American sculpture in 2004 and Alberto Giacometti in 2005.



Serge Lemoine

Serge Lemoine devised the exhibition programming for the *Espace Musées*.

Serge Lemoine, is a French art historian. He held the prestigious post of director of Musée de Grenoble from 1986 to 2001 before becoming chairman of Musée d'Orsay from 2001 to 2008.

Emeritus professor at Université Paris-IV Sorbonne since 1999, Serge Lemoine is also the cultural and scientific advisor to Artcurial auction house.



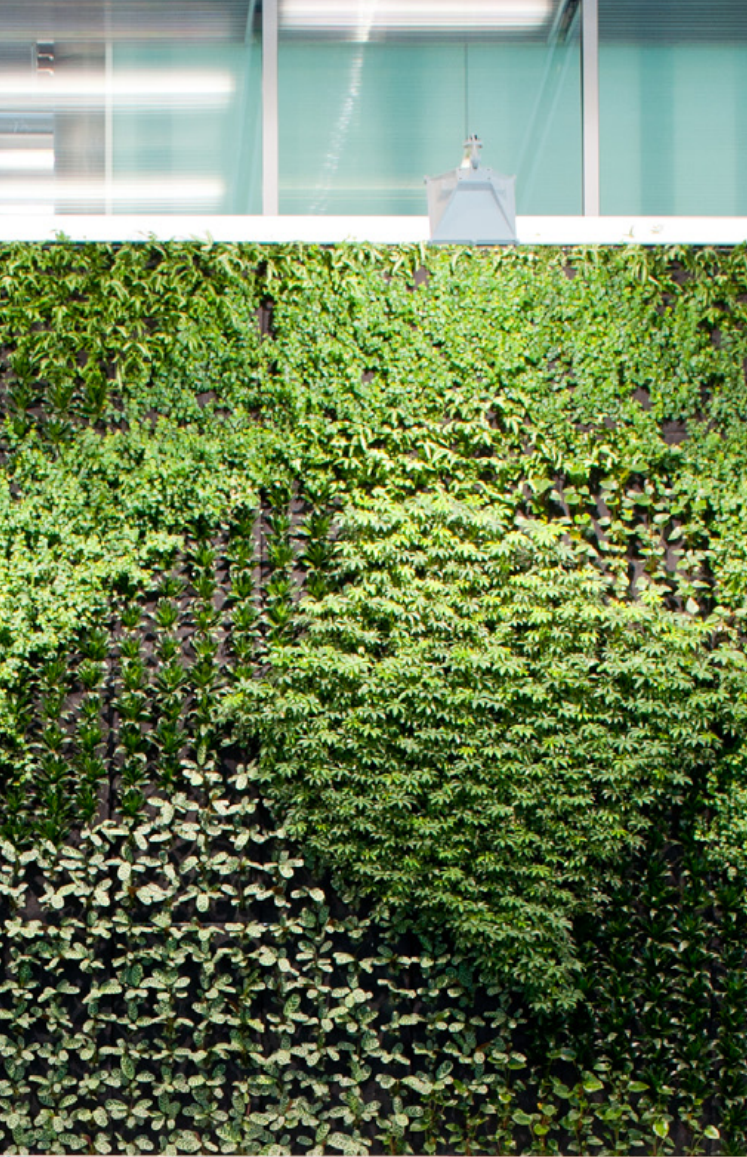
Hubert Le Gall

Hubert Le Gall devised the scenography for "Wings of Glory", the first exhibition in the *Espace Musées*.

Hubert Le Gall is a French designer, creator and sculptor of contemporary art. He is now one of the best-known exhibition scenographers.

His more recent achievements include the "Canaletto à Venise" exhibition at Musée Maillol in Paris, "Le crépuscule des Pharaons" at Musée Jacquemart-André in Paris, and the "Odilon Redon" and "Claude Monet" exhibitions at the Grand Palais.





A cultural showcase

At the end of June 2012, Aéroports de Paris unveiled its new departure lounge in Terminal 2E of Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport - Hall M.

Aéroports de Paris paid particular attention to the atmosphere, the retail areas, the smooth flow of the routes and the materials used.

Bright and spacious, Hall M offers passengers a 6000 m² retail area of shops, bars and restaurants, and a 25,000 m² departure lounge, that's the size of 128 tennis courts!

With its water walls designed by Taro Suzuki, the wooden terraces and plant walls inside and out, its trees and "High Environmental Quality" certification, the building offers many original creations.

A blend of luxury and culture

Espace Musées fits perfectly into Hall M, whose goal is to offer passengers a final Parisian excursion before they board their flight.

This Hall was designed to be a succession of magical moments of Parisian life, from the Grand Magasin in the Avenue, dedicated to luxury, to La Place and the Jardins Parisiens.

Espace Musées is located in the centre of the Avenue, next to the most exquisite French and international luxury fashion houses, from Dior and Hermès to Prada, Gucci, Bottega Veneta, Cartier, Ladurée and Bulgari.



An ambitious architectural

concept by
NWA and Wilmotte

"Designed like the landing stage to the new Hall M of Terminal 2E at Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport, Espace Musées is a vast free-entry 250m² space like a huge picture rail for use by Parisian museums.

Through varied spaces and a pathway that gradually rises floating above the ground, the course of time stops for a few moments in the contemplation of the works.

Situated in the Avenue, an area dedicated to the most exquisite fashion brands, travellers let themselves be drawn in by the museum's conical glass entrance, accepting this pleasant invitation to board for a visit.

As the characters in Watteau's painting board for Cythera, travellers in transit step onto the landing stage and discover Rodin, whose museum will be unveiling a series of successive exhibitions every 6 months. Master Rodin had great feeling for this painting, describing it as an invitation to gourmet delights.

Displayed at the entrance on a majestic totem pole, Espace Musées draws the travellers' attention, enticing the art lover, with its gigantic glass megaphone, to walk through the door and into the galleries to discover the authentic works that await them inside.

The path through is simple. It quickly offers the pleasure of discovery, the space can be seen as a museum or a private cabinet of curiosities; the paintings and sculptures sit just a few metres from the observer offering visitors an intimate viewing.

Passengers are guided to the final discovery, the last room with its high ceilings, an unexpected transversal walkway!

The visit to the museum is to be a relaxing time. The materials were carefully chosen to create a very serene atmosphere: the old grey oak flooring, dark grey steel guardrails, black stained security doors and slightly off-white shades elsewhere, have a calming effect on the visitor."

Nelson Wilmotte



Café Cubiste

for a gourmet break after the cultural break



Next to the *Espace Musées*, Café Cubiste offers the museum's visitors and other passengers an ideal catering offer before boarding.

In an outstanding setting, both warm and contemporary, with a design in line with *Espace Musées*, Café Cubiste offers travellers a casual dining area.

Everything in this place suggests a refined and artistic environment: art books are available and emblematic works as well as abstract graphic designs are displayed on each wall.

Comfortably seated, passengers will enjoy tasty breakfasts, gourmet burgers, bistro dishes, or French desserts.

Finally, a large central bar with an «exhibition opening» atmosphere offers wine lovers a selection of wines by the glass as well as famous champagnes.

Espace Musées



With the help of Aéroports de Paris, *Espace Musées* organizes twice a year an exhibition in the heart of Hall M at Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport, in partnership with the major Parisian museums.

Funded by Francis Briest, *Espace Musée* aims at promoting the French cultural and artistic heritage among millions of airport passengers.

Espace Musée is managed by a non-profit endowment fund bringing together numerous renowned talents who contribute to the success of this ambitious project.

More information on www.espacemusees.com

About Musée Rodin



This first exhibition dedicated to Rodin, *The Wings of Glory*, was achieved in partnership with Musée Rodin.

Musée Rodin was created in 1916 on Rodin's initiative, thanks to three successive donations the artist made to the State from his works and collections, his library as well as his handwritten letters. It was established on the site chosen by the sculptor: Hôtel Biron and its garden, a private mansion built in the beginning of the eighteenth century that Rodin occupied as a tenant since 1908. He also donated his home in Meudon, the Villa des Brillants, also open to the public.

The international renown of the artist, creator of universally famous sculptures like *Le Penseur* (The Thinker), which became an icon of Western art, and

Le Baiser (This Kiss), contributes to the places' notoriety.

Musée Rodin is currently directed by Catherine Chevillot.

It is the most famous monographic museum in Paris and a place of excellence for the presentation of the sculptures. It brings together the largest collection of Rodin's works in the world at two sites, with Hôtel Biron being the main site in the centre of the 7th *arrondissement*.

A national museum under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture, Musée Rodin is the only public establishment to self-fund all of its operations.

The collections and works owned by Musée Rodin

24,289 works, including:

- 6,745 sculptures
- 6,418 antiques (Egypt, Greece, Asia, Middle Ages)
- 256 pieces of antique furniture
- 200 paintings
- 9,300 drawings and prints
- 12,000 photographs.

About Aéroports de Paris

Aéroports de Paris owns and operates:

- 3 airports: Paris-Charles de Gaulle, Paris-Orly and Paris-Le Bourget

Air traffic figures

- 88.1 million passengers in 2011 (+5.7%)

Nearly 189 client airlines and over 361 cities served

Key figures for 2011 (in EUR million)

- Turnover: 2,502 (+0.9%)

2.6 billion euros of global investments over 5 years (2011-2015)

€42 million of investments in quality of service in 2011, i.e. 27% of the total budget of €155m from 2011-2015

Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport

- 61 million passengers in 2011 (+4.8%)
- 2nd busiest airport in Europe and 7th in the world in terms of passengers
- Leading European hub with 23,800 connection opportunities of under two hours each week.
(source: Air France-KLM)



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