

GUIDED TOURS OF THE EXHIBITION

eduCaixa
A world of educational activities

Dramatised tours for school groups

Tours adapted to different school levels
Please sign up beforehand by calling 931 847 142
or by sending an email to
caixaforumbarcelona@marmacultura.com
From Monday to Friday, times by arrangement
Price per group: €25

Guided tours for school groups

Tours adapted to different school levels
Please sign up beforehand by calling 931 847 142
or by sending an email to
caixaforumbarcelona@marmacultura.com
From Monday to Friday, times by arrangement
Price per group: €20

"LA CAIXA"
CUSTOMERS
DISCOUNT 50%



Guided tours for the general public

Every Wednesday, at 5 p.m., and Saturdays at 6 p.m.
Price per person: €3

Pre-arranged tours for groups

Groups of no more than 25 people
Please sign up beforehand by calling 93 184 71 42
Groups with their own guide should still reserve a day
and time
Price per group: €60

Guided tours for groups of people with visual impairmen

Groups of no fewer than 10 people
Please sign up beforehand by calling 931 847 1422

Sign language (SL) tours and tours adapted to oral communication

Groups of no fewer than 10 people
Please sign up beforehand by sending an email to
caixaforumbarcelona@marmacultura.com

From 18 November 2015 to 14 February 2016

CaixaForum

Social and Cultural Centre
Av. de Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8
08038 Barcelona
Tel. 934 768 600

Open every day

Monday to Sunday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Information Office of "la Caixa" Foundation

Tel. 902 223 040
Seven days a week:
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
www.laCaixa.es/ObraSocial

Exhibition Ticket Prices

Admission to exhibitions: €4
Children under 16: admission free

"LA CAIXA"
CUSTOMERS
ADMISSION FREE

Activities:

"LA CAIXA"
CUSTOMERS
DISCOUNT 50%

Admission and activities tickets from
the CaixaForum ticket-office and at:

TICKET
ONLINE

CaixaForum.com/agenda

Public transport

Metro: Espanya station,
lines 1 and 3
Catalan Railway (FGC):
Espanya station, lines L8, S33,
S4, S8, R5 and R6
Buses: lines 13 and 150
stop in front of CaixaForum
Lines 9, 13, 23, 27, 50, 65, 79, 91,
109 and 165 stop in Pl. d'Espanya
Lines D20, H12, V7, L72, L80, L81,
L86, L87, L95 stop in Pl. d'Espanya

bicing

Gran Via - Pl. d'Espanya
(station 96)
Rius i Taulet (station 237)

B:SM Car Park

P Entrance from
Av. de Maria Cristina
and Av. de Rius i Taulet
Direct access to CaixaForum
at the basement level (-1)

Laie Bookshop - CaixaForum

Tel. 934 768 659
Fax 934 768 687
caixaforum@laie.es

Cafeteria - Restaurant

Tel. 934 768 669
caixaforum@compass-group.es

The centre is equipped with

Wi-Fi

Exhibition jointly organised
with the Louvre Museum

LOUVRE

#LeBrunVersailles

Full information at:

www.CaixaForum.com/agenda



Find out about our exhibitions on:

You Tube



"la Caixa" Foundation



"la Caixa" Foundation

Charles Le Brun, The Different Nations of Asia, Black pencil, white chalk and sanguine on paper, 168 x 2,35 m. Musée du Louvre. © RMN-Grand Palais - Photo C. Chavan

Drawing
VERSAILLES

CHARLES LE BRUN
— 1619-1690 —

Barcelona
CaixaForum

ACTIVITIES AROUND THE EXHIBITION

LECTURE GIVEN BY THE CURATOR

Wednesday 18 November | 7 p.m.

Drawing Versailles.

Charles Le Brun (1619-1690)

Bénédicte Gady, scientific collaborator at the Department of Graphic Arts of the Louvre Museum
Admission to the lecture: €4

LECTURE CYCLE

Art and power

Tuesday 19 January | 7 p.m.

The power of myth

Tuesday 26 January | 7 p.m.

The power of religion

Thursday 4 February | 7 p.m.

The power of politics

Tuesday 9 February | 7 p.m.

The power of beauty

Lectures given by **Rafael Argullol**, writer and professor of Aesthetics at the Pompeu Fabra University
Price per lecture: €4

CONCERTS

Music season

Sunday 22 November | 7 p.m.

Mathilde Vialle (viola da gamba)

Diego Salamanca (theorbo)

Works by Marais, Visée and De Machy

Diumenge 29 de novembre | 19 h

Le Jardin Secret

(soprano, viola da gamba, theorbo / baroque

guitar and harpsichord)

Works by Michi, Lully, Charpentier, Rossi
and Froberger, among others

Sunday 13 December | 7 p.m.

Catalina Vicens (harpsichord)

Works by Lully and Couperin

Price per person: €12

FILM SEASON

Versailles-related cinema

Tuesday 24 November | 7 p.m.

Le Roi danse (The King is Dancing)

Gérard Corbiau, France-Germany-Belgium (2000),
115 min, original version subtitled in Spanish

Thursday 3 December | 7 p.m.

Vatel

Roland Joffé, France-United Kingdom-Belgium (2000),
103 min, original version subtitled in Spanish

Tuesday 15 December | 7 p.m.

Marie Antoinette

Sofia Coppola, USA-France-Japan (2006), 123 min,
original version subtitled in Spanish

Tuesday 22 December | 7 p.m.

Les Adieux à la reine (Farewell, My Queen)

Benoît Jacquot, France (2012), 100 min, original version
subtitled in Spanish

Price per person: €4

ACTIVITIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Coffee-discussion

From 24 November, Tuesdays at 4.30 p.m.

Groups of no fewer than 10 and no more than 25

Please sign up beforehand by calling 93 184 71 42

Price per person: €4

FAMILY ACTIVITIES



Family tours +7

Sundays, from 22 November

to 14 February | 12 midday

Drawing Versailles

Price per person: €2

Educational area +5

Allegories; the magical vision of a kingdom

You will find an area in the exhibition given over to
families where we offer activities revolving around
different ideas taken from the show.

Drawing

VERSAILLES

CHARLES LE BRUN

— 1619-1690 —

In 1682, Louis XIV transferred the French court to Versailles. The artist Charles Le Brun (1619-1690) was responsible for planning this work, to which he applied an “orchestral” treatment, which involved the participation of hundreds of artisans and artists, the best from each discipline. Le Brun personally produced several pieces, including two particularly impressive compositions: the Staircase of the Ambassadors and the Hall of Mirrors, adorned by a series of mature paintings imbued with the most captivating beauty.

A little-known body of original material is conserved from this undertaking: the preparatory cartoons, which illustrate the final phase in the artist’s working process. The cartoons demonstrate Le Brun’s virtuosity as a draftsman, his talent for constructing scenes and his painstaking care, down to the last detail. The drawings include studies of characters, allegorical figures, trophies and animals that formed part of the artist’s compositions, conceived as a great symbolic jigsaw puzzle.

Such cartoons were commonly used between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries, but few have reached our days. Those produced by Le Brun are the exception: three hundred and fifty cartoons in a store of three thousand drawings found at the artist’s studio, requisitioned and added to the royal collections after his death in 1690.



Charles Simonneau. *Ceiling of the Great Staircase at Versailles*
Etching and burin 38.7 x 70.5 cm. Chalcographic copper plate printing
Photo © RMN-Grand Palais (musée du Louvre)

The Staircase of the Ambassadors

Le Brun’s drawings provide a vision of the decoration, now lost, from the Staircase of the Ambassadors, featuring figures on the same scale, enriched with all the gravity and dramatic quality of drawing in black pencil.

This staircase, which led up to the grand apartments of the king and queen, was the first space that represented the power of the monarch at Versailles. Designed in around 1671 and decorated between 1674 and 1679, the staircase was destroyed in 1752, during the reign of Louis XIV. In it, Le Brun made exceptional use of a narrow space that only received overhead lighting. Using optical illusion, he increased the sensation of space, mixing fact and fiction to create an allegorical composition that depicted the return of Louis XIV after one of his military victories.

Le Brun surrounded the king by representatives from nations in the four continents, the kings of Antiquity, victories, cupids and the arts: a monumental composition to the honour and glory of the absolute monarch. The cartoons reveal that Le Brun worked on the Staircase of the Ambassadors to the last minute, retouching and improving his drawings.



Charles Le Brun (1619-1690)
A Victory dressed, with her right arm raised
Black pencil, white chalk, gratification in black pencil and incisions. 2.040 x 1.570 m . Musée du Louvre © RMN



Charles Le Brun (1619-1690)
Louis XIV nude, in profile facing left
Black pencil, white chalk and incisions. 1.670 x 1.120 m
Photo © RMN-Grand Palais (musée du Louvre)

The Hall of Mirrors

The paintings in the Hall of Mirrors enable us to follow, step by step, the artist’s working process, from the first small sketches, their pencil strokes embodying powerful movement, to the final drawings, which are the same size as the paintings themselves. Also conserved are the engraved copies of the overall work, produced for the purpose of making this artistic accomplishment known beyond French borders, adding to the monarch’s fame.

In European painting, the figure of the king was traditionally represented by a mythological figure: Apollo, Hercules and so on. Le Brun, however, portrays the king himself, leading his armies to victory, wearing an ancient breastplate and a modern wig, in a dialogue with the gods and allegories. Two of the most important scenes on the ceiling are represented: the king’s decision to rule alone, and the war with Holland. One of the most famous episodes in this war, *The Crossing of the Rhine in 1672*, is shown through cartoons exactly as they were found in Le Brun’s studio.

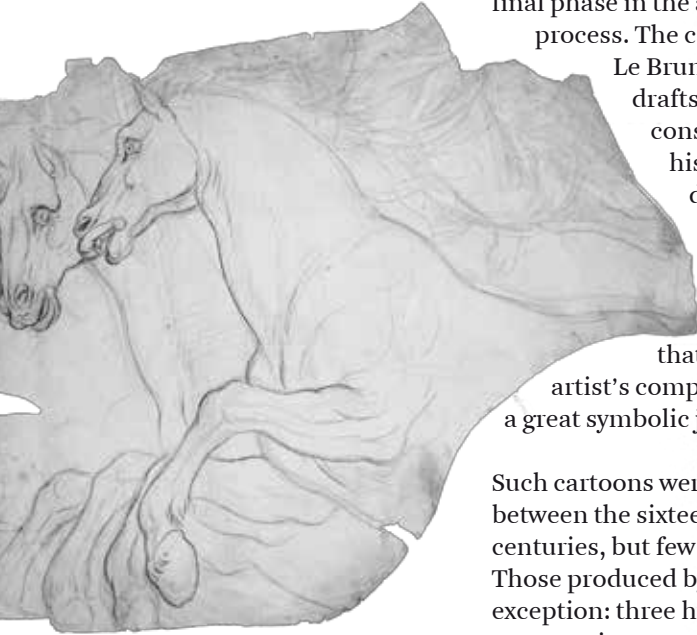


Charles Le Brun (1619-1690). *The King Rules Alone* (fragment)
Oil on canvas. 1.030 x 0.990 m
Photo © Château de Versailles, Dist. RMN-Grand Palais / Jean-Marc Manaï. Versailles, Musée national du château

From the Louvre Museum to CaixaForum

Over the past few years, the Graphic Arts Department of the Louvre Museum has carefully restored these drawings, enabling us to see them now for the first time in all their original splendour.

The exhibition *Drawing Versailles. Studies and Cartoons of Charles Le Brun* is the fruit of a strategic agreement between the Louvre Museum and “la Caixa” Foundation. The purpose of this agreement is to bring to public attention artists, collections and periods in art history that are not represented in our galleries but which occupy eminent positions in the Louvre’s exhibition discourse: Mesopotamian culture, Coptic art, Pharaonic bestiary, women in Ancient Rome, the work of Eugène Delacroix, etc.



Charles Le Brun (1619-1690). *Two horses*
Black pencil, white chalk and incisions. 1.640 x 1.940 m
Photo © RMN-Grand Palais (musée du Louvre) /
Martine Beck-Coppola