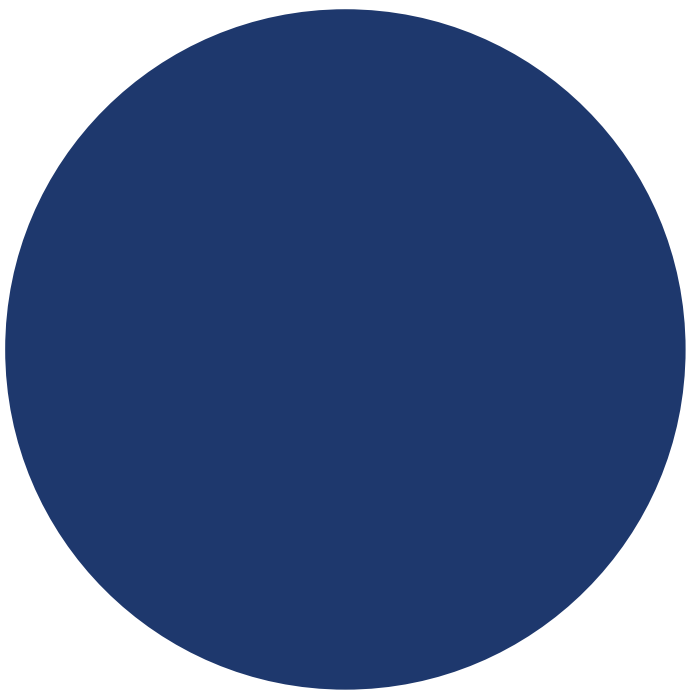
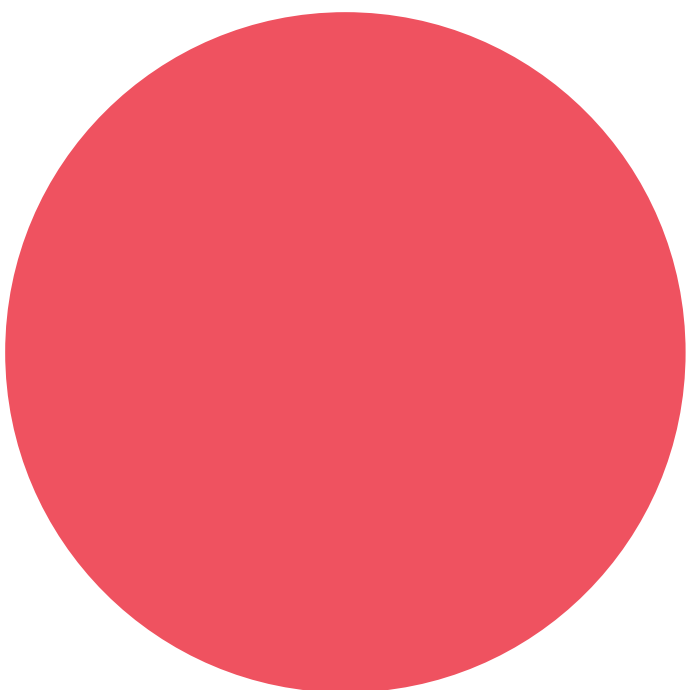


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french institute
alliance française



Annual Report **Fiscal Year 2019** July 2018–June 2019



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President's Letter

To our dear FIAF Famille:

For over a century, the French Institute Alliance Française has been building bridges between France and the United States with one guiding principle: bringing the best of French and Francophone cultures to New Yorkers. Over time, we have led the way as a symbol and beacon of international understanding and *amitié*. We believe that today, more than ever, it is essential for FIAF to continue promoting Franco-American understanding and to uphold the values of an open, vibrant, and creative society.

To preserve these values, our ambitions throughout the past year were twofold: engage with new and young audiences through our outreach program and develop exciting new cinema programs.

Striving to be more inclusive, FIAF has actively worked to include New York City students in our programming, focusing on underserved students and public schools who may not otherwise have access to the arts. FIAF's successful Young Audience Program (YAP) offers students opportunities to engage with French and Francophone cultures through performances, films, and fine art. The launch of a specific fundraising campaign for our Young Audience Program in 2019 has allowed us to develop even more projects and reach a wider audience. We were able to double the number of participating students in the program this past year.

As we continue our robust cinema line-up with CinéSalon, FIAF aims to expand our programs and become New York's destination for French Cinema on weekends with the new *FIAF:Cinema* program. For the first time, FIAF opened on select weekends to present US premieres of new French movies to New Yorkers. This first season of *FIAF:Cinema* was the perfect opportunity to allow New Yorkers to discover the newest trends of French Cinema with Bruno Dumont as well as to see favorite actors such as Louis Garrel.

In addition to these new and exciting programs, FIAF continued to cultivate excellence through teaching French at our Language Center, inviting internationally acclaimed artists to New York through imaginative festivals, and exhibiting young French artists in our Gallery.

We are deeply grateful to our colleagues, artists, friends, partners, and donors for sharing another exciting year with us. It is thanks to your support that we are able to continue bringing the richness and diversity of French cultures to our ever-expanding FIAF Famille!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie-Monique Steckel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marie-Monique Steckel

FIAF's mission is to create and offer New Yorkers innovative and unique programs in education and the arts that explore the evolving diversity and richness of French cultures. We seek to generate new ideas and promote cross-cultural dialogue through partnerships and new platforms of expression.



Bienvenue © Brittany Buongiorno

The French Institute Alliance Française (FI AF) was founded in 1898 as a center for French language and culture in New York.



FI AF is a private, American 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization incorporated in the state of New York and is not an agency of the French government.

As the leading French language and cultural center in the United States, FI AF is dedicated to innovative and unique programming in education and the arts. These programs explore the evolving diversity and richness of French cultures.

FI AF offers unique access to French language and culture at our beautiful Beaux Arts building in Manhattan as well as at our satellite in Montclair, New Jersey.



French Classes © Chloe Mossessian

Adults

FIAF's Language Center benefits from its strong experience to offer a first-class French education to New-Yorkers.

French for New York

In a city that prides itself on its diverse and multilingual population, FIAF's home on East 60th Street and satellite location in Montclair, New Jersey have become the top destinations to learn French in the tri-state area.

6,000 French learners choose our high quality immersive classes each year. FIAF welcomes beginners, French connoisseurs, and experienced speakers alike.

Classes for All

FIAF's 80 native-French speaking teachers lead classes of every level and size. Students can select classes based on their level and interest: planning for a future vacation in France, reading French literature, progressing in a professional French-speaking environment, and much more.

With a maximum of 12 students per class and an average class size of 6-7 students, FIAF ensures individualized attention at any level.

FIAF also offers online learning options Speedlingua™ and Frantastique, as well as certification exams and test prep classes.

Learn as you wish

Outside of the classroom, students have the possibility to learn French in an informal, conversational environment with classes at Le Pain Quotidien Café, or to explore New York City through a French lens with our French and the City class.



Students © Sasha Arutyunova

Student Perks

FIAF students receive a free one-year membership, entitling them to borrowing privileges at FIAF's Library, access to the Culturethèque digital library, free tickets to CinéSalon movie screenings and receptions every Tuesday, and discounted tickets to FIAF special events.

Students are also invited to both mid-session and end of session parties organized by the Language Center to socialize in French outside of the classroom.



Language Center Preschool in Central Park © Sasha Arutyunova

Kids

Fun in French for all ages

French Classes for Children

Learning French starts early at FIAF! Programs customized for every age and ability make it easy for families to find the best way to immerse their children.

Beginners and native speakers from age 1 to 17 are all welcome in FIAF's fully immersive French classes. With a range of choices including workshops, private lessons, group classes, and summer camps, every child leaves FIAF with the skills and confidence to go beyond *bonjour!*

The French as a foreign language classes follow the Common European Framework and the native speaker classes are designed by the Youth Programs Coordinator to meet the standards of the French Ministry of Education.

At FIAF, families choose between:

- **à petits pas**
Children aged 1-4 discover French language and culture through hands-on activities.
- **Classes and Workshops**
Children aged 5 and up can sign up for after school or Saturday lessons.
- **Holiday Camps**
Children of all ages can register for FIAF's summer camps as well as the winter and spring camps offered during school holidays.

French Immersion Preschool

FIAF's French Immersion Preschool is celebrating its seventh year in French language instruction. Students from age two-and-a-half to four can choose from our half-day or full-day program.

The Preschool is led entirely in French and focuses on fostering interest in French language and culture in young New Yorkers.

FIAF Preschool graduates are accepted to many of the most competitive international and American schools in New York City.



Language Center Preschool © Sasha Arutyunova

French in Montclair

Since its creation in 2008, FIAF Montclair has become the premier destination for all things French in New Jersey. FIAF Montclair offers French classes, workshops, and social events for all ages and levels in Montclair, New Jersey.

à petits pas Excellence

The innovative *à petits pas Excellence* program was specially crafted for children aged two-and-a-half to four. The engaging curriculum focuses on language learning, motor skills development, social and emotional development, and exposure to art for toddlers, entirely in French!

It serves as a great addition to part-time preschool programs or as an alternative to a regular preschool program.

Montclair, NJ Language Center Registrations

"I like that my son is not only having an amazingly rich, busy and structured experience but he is being exposed to French in such a positive way that he is developing an interest in the language that comes entirely from within himself" – Parent of a student



FIAF's John and Francine Haskell Library provides FIAF's members with a dynamic collection of literature and educational resources, and is a *rendez-vous* for French culture in New York City.



Library Offerings

At the Haskell Library, FIAF's students and members benefit from access to the library's vast collection of books, magazine subscriptions and DVDs. The ideal place to discover French classics or novels *à la mode!*

Espace Jeunesse

As demand for children's resources and activities increases, FIAF's Library continues to develop its Kid's Corner. This cozy corner of the Library is a great place for toddlers, kids, and teens to flip through books in French or participate in one of the many educational programs developed by the Library's Children's Programs Director.

Regularly updated suggested reading and online resource lists make choosing the right book for the right level easy.



Library © Martha Sachser

Culturethèque - Digital Library

Culturethèque, FIAF's French language digital library, is a free resource available to all FIAF students and members. It offers e-books, magazines, French textbooks, music, graphic novels, podcasts and plenty of interactive books for kids.

These offerings are available to download or to stream, making the FIAF Library accessible at all times, from all places: a French library that can fit right in your pocket!

A Rich Program

In addition to its resources and collections, the Library offers programs to engage Francophiles of all ages and levels, including book clubs, literary events, conversation programs, game nights, homework help sessions, and children's story hours.

The *Jacques and Alexandre Leviant Centre d'Auto-Apprentissage*, a dedicated section of the Library, provides FIAF students with materials to boost their language learning experience at all levels of competency.

The Library in Numbers

38,000 visitors in Fiscal Year 2019
5 adult programs each week
3 children's programs each week

Collection

27,000 volumes in the library's collection
250,000 digital documents
100 magazine subscription
1,500 DVDs
30,000 materials borrowed in Fiscal Year 2019



#PUNK 100% POP *NIGGA © Ian Douglas

**“Adventurous programming that makes you think as much about your place in the world as about art itself”
– The New York Times**



**Crossing
the Line**

About the Festival

FIAF’s annual interdisciplinary arts festival *Crossing the Line* (CTL) celebrated its 12th edition between September 18 – October 13, 2018.

Since its inception in 2007, *Crossing the Line* has become a renowned and celebrated platform for French and international artists across language and discipline.

The twelfth edition of *Crossing the Line* was the last one curated by its visionary founders: Lili Chopra, Simon Dove, and Gideon Lester. The directorship of the festival has been passed on to FIAF’s new Artistic Director, Courtney Geraghty.

In this twelfth *Crossing the Line*, artists engaged with pertinent questions facing our society and allowed us to build a deeper understanding across perceived boundaries. By bringing some of the most compelling international artists to New York, CTL strived to foster a vibrant and open community.

“*Crossing the Line* festival expands its mission of challenging artistic and geographical divisions by highlighting work that also troubles the boundaries between fact and fiction, self and other, past and present.” – The New York Times



CTL 10000 Gestures © Chloé Mossessian

Crossing the Line 2018

Launched in 2016 by FIAF and The Edmond de Rothschild Foundations, **BRIDGING: An International Dialogue on Diversity and Inclusion in the Arts**, explores issues of equity across cultures. This year's program offered a deeper look into the artistic, social, and educational work of artists Syhem Belkhdja (Tunisia) and Nacera Belaza (Algeria).

In partnership with the Hermès Foundation, CTL featured New Settings, a program supporting new performing arts productions that shift borders between disciplines to create innovative art forms. CTL 2018 featured works by Boris Charmatz and nora chipaumire within the framework of the New Settings Program.

CTL Works

- Trajal Harrell *Caen Amour*
- Claudia Huidobro *Faite Main*
- Mohamed El Khatib *A Beautiful Ending*
- David Geselson *Unwritten Letters*
- Will Rawls & Claudia Rankine *What Remains*
- Leila Bordreuil *Episodes et Mutations*
- Boris Charmatz *10000 gestures*
- An evening with Syhem Belkhdja
- Mette Ingvartsen *21 pornographies*
- Nacera Belaza *Sur le Fil, La Nuit and La Traversée*
- tg STAN and Dood Paard *Art*, text by Yasmina Reza
- nora chipaumire *#PUNK 100% POP *N!GGA*
- Jeanne Balibar *Les Historiennes (The Historians)*

CTL in Numbers

- 12** premieres
- 9** countries
- 7** venues

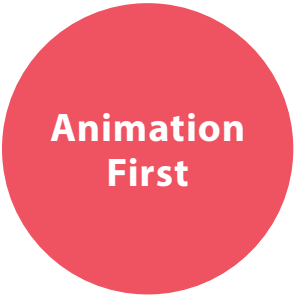
Co-presented with

Danspace Project
Gibney
ISSUE Project Room
The Kitchen
NYU Skirball



VR experience © Elena Olivo

“France’s incredible animation talent takes the world stage in New York’s second-annual FIAF Animation First festival.”
– Collider



About the Festival

FIAF’s newest festival, Animation First, celebrates France’s role as the pioneer of animation. Since its launch in 2018, Animation First has featured award-winning feature films and shorts, virtual and augmented reality exhibits, interactive workshops, and panel discussions with leading directors, animators, and studio executives.

As the first festival of French animation in the United States, Animation First is bringing to light the breadth and artistry of French animation in a great diversity of genres.

Animation First is co-curated by Delphine Selles-Alvarez, Film Curator at FIAF, and Catherine Lamairesse, Founder of the festival *Focus on French Cinema*.



Delphine Selles-Alvarez, Eléa Gobbé-Mévellec, Catherine Lamairesse, Michel Ocelot, Marie-Monique Steckel, Zabou Breitman, Fabien Robert and Jérémie Patrier-Leitus

Animation First 2019

Building on its wildly successful launch in 2018, the second edition of Animation First included US and New York premieres, provoking feature length films, exciting shorts, immersive exhibits, video game demonstrations, and panels with filmmakers. This year's festival included a special spotlight on the City of Bordeaux's animation industry.

Legendary director Michel Ocelot was this year's guest of honor, and the festival opened with the 20th anniversary celebration of his groundbreaking feature, *Kirikou and the Sorceress*.

Denis Do's *Funan*, which won the Cristal Award for best feature at the 2018 Annecy International Animation Film Festival, the most prestigious animation film festival in the world, was also highlighted in this year's selection.

Co-directors Zabou Breitman and Eléa Gobbé-Mévellec presented an exclusive look at then work-in-progress *The Swallows of Kabul*, based on Yasmina Khadra's novel about life under Taliban rule, discussed their collaboration, and detailed the process behind their animated feature.

Animation First also screened a selection of notable and award-winning shorts from the Annecy Festival, as well as a program featuring all of the animated shorts nominated for the 2019 César Award. Noteworthy shorts in documentary and humor genres were also featured, as well as more provocative works in programs of Erotic Shorts and Late Night Chills, looking at science-fiction and suspense.

A major highlight of this year's festival introduced New Yorkers to the pinscreen instrument, a historic tool responsible for a small yet influential body of work since the early 1900s. The Pinscreen Magic program included a screening of short films, from 1933's *Une Nuit sur le mont chauve* to 2018's *Etreintes*, demonstrating the striking effects produced with this labor intensive method.

Animation First in Numbers

- 8** US premieres
- 9** New York premieres
- 16** female filmmakers featured



**“A collection of multidisciplinary works that seek to open up the world of performance for younger audiences”
– The New York Times**



About the Festival

Co-curated for the first time by Laurent Clavel, Cultural Attaché of the French Embassy, and FIAF Artistic Director Courtney Geraghty, *TILT Kids Festival* reached new heights with leading French, Francophone and American Artists. This year’s festival, running from March 2-31, 2019, showcased works dedicated to families and young audiences without compromising on level of artistry.

The 2019 edition of the festival featured works that spoke to young people’s keen ability to process the world around them. The programming provided an outlet for conversation and contemplation about today’s society, exploring themes of inclusivity and acceptance. Events ranged across artistic disciplines from storytelling and illustration, to music, theater, philosophy and even augmented reality visual art.

TILT Kids 2019 Artists

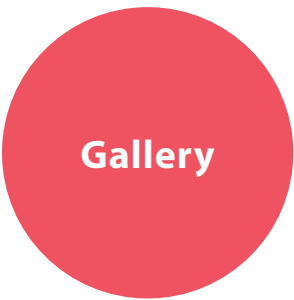
- Olivier Py *The Young Girl, the Devil and the Mill, a Grimms’ Fairy Tale*
- Johanny Bert & Magali Mougel *She No Princess, He No Hero*
- Harmonica Sunbeam *Drag Queen Story Hour*
- Julie Stephen *Chheng Uramado AR*
- Marc Boutavant *The Dumpster Ball*
- Malika Zarra *Musical Journey*
- Okwui Okpokwasili *Adaku’s Revolt*
- Yacine Boulares & Sarah E. Charles Ajoyo
- Guillaume Pigé & Theatre Re *The Nature of Forgetting*
- Philosophy for Kids

Co-presented with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy.



Swing Cars © Chloé Mosseslian

Supporting French artists living and working in New York



About the Gallery

After several years as a space solely dedicated to photography, FIAF's Gallery embraced new genres in 2019. Several successful exhibitions throughout the year increased FIAF's visibility as an exhibition space focused on French artists working in New York.

Exhibitions

Taming Nature: Animated Perspectives, Video Art by Vergine Keaton, Françoise Petrovitch and Christine Rebet

- Showcasing video by three exciting female artists, the exhibition featured works exploring the tense relationship between nature and humans through different animation techniques.

Momentum, Guillaume Bresson

- In collaboration with Galerie Nathalie Obadia, FIAF presented Guillaume Bresson's first solo show in the U.S. A rising star in France, Bresson uses classical techniques to address current divisions in a globalized world.

Fabrications, Elodie Blanchard

- Award-winning French artist and designer Elodie Blanchard brought her signature vision to the FIAF Gallery in this special exhibition organized in collaboration with WantedDesign, as part of NYCxDESIGN. She presented to the public four unique projects created with a wide range of textile and stitching techniques.



CinéSalon

FIAF's CinéSalon is a favorite destination for French cinema lovers.

CinéSalon

FIAF's signature film program, CinéSalon, brings the best of French cinema to the Florence Gould Hall on Tuesday evenings for FIAF Members and citywide cinephiles alike.

Carefully selected by FIAF's Film Curator, Delphine Selles-Alvarez, CinéSalon features classics as well as films from new up-and-coming directors.

Films are introduced by personalities in the arts and are followed by wine & beer receptions. Series are organized around leading figures in cinema or themes to accommodate all tastes! This year's series include:

- Brilliant Quirky: Jeanne Balibar on Film
- Pascal Greggory: *Unsung Eros*
- Jacques Becker: *Liberating Cinema*
- Isabelle Huppert on Screen
- Burning Bright: *New French Film Makers*

Special Screenings

FIAF also presents special screenings and events with prestigious guests.

Classics of French Cinema with Olivier Barrot

French journalist Olivier Barrot handpicked and introduced three films.

Focus on French Cinema Festival

Closing night special screening of *Invisibles* and *In the Move For Love*, with a post-screening Q&A with co-directors Romane Bohringer and Philippe Rebot.

The Wolf's Call

Writer-director and former diplomat Antonin Baudry presented the US premiere of his debut film, followed by a discussion.



A Faithful Man © Kino Lorber

FIAF: Cinema

Your Weekend Destination for New French Films.

New Cinema Offerings

Building on a legacy of introducing treasures of Francophone cinema to New York audiences, FIAF launched FIAF:Cinema in spring 2019.

This new series, dedicated to showcasing first-run French cinema, aims to provide a venue for French films and their devotees, at a time when independent movie theaters are struggling, particularly in uptown Manhattan.

Through this new program, FIAF brings the most recently released French movies to New Yorkers.

Cinephiles are now welcomed to FIAF on special weekends to see the most exciting new French films.

An Exciting First Season

The first season of FIAF:Cinema featured:

- ***Girls of the Sun***: Director Eva Husson's acclaimed second feature was presented at FIAF for two weekends in April. Eva Husson attended the first screening and participated in a cross-cultural discussion.
- ***My Son***: This intense thriller by writer/director Christian Carion starring acclaimed French actor Guillaume Canet was shown during two weekends in May.
- ***A Faithful Man***: Co-written by legendary Jean-Claude Carrière and actor/director Louis Garrel and starring Laetitia Casta and Lily-Rose Depp, this film brings a contemporary twist to an unconventional love triangle. It was screened for two weekends in July.
- ***Coincoin and the Extra-Humans***: Bruno Dumont's farcical follow-up to his celebrated mini-series *Li'l Quinquin* was presented during a weekend of marathon screenings in July.



Les Contes d'Hoffmann © Julien Benhamou

FIAF is your go-to destination to discover the best of the French art scene.

Performing Arts

In addition to its numerous festivals, FIAF brings to New York the very best of France in performing arts throughout the year.

- *Homage to Patrice Chéreau* by French actor **Pascal Gregory**
- *The Heart – Réparer les Vivants*, Molière award-winning play with acclaimed French actor **Emmanuel Noblet**
- *Bonne Nuit Blanche* by French star humorist **Blanche Gardin**

HD Screening Series: Paris Opera & Ballet

The second season of this series gives New Yorkers an exclusive glimpse into the prestigious Palais Garnier and Bastille.

- *Thierryée / Shechter / Pérez / Pite* featured four contemporary choreographers' work for the Paris Opera's resident ballet company
- *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*: a spectacular production directed by Robert Carsen, conducted by Philippe Jordan, and starring tenor Ramon Vargas





Isabelle Huppert and Adam Gopnik © Chloe Mossessian

Talks, luncheons, and tastings at FIAF allow New Yorkers to experience the French *art de vivre*.

FIAF: Talks

Prestigious guests came to FIAF for fascinating conversations in their respective fields and on the state of contemporary France.

- Presentation of Clémence von Mueffling's *Ageless Beauty the French Way* by the author, in conversation with beauty innovators Tata Harper and Romain Gaillard, moderated by *Elle* journalist Emily Dougherty
- Screening of the documentary *Protecting Paris and New York: A Cross-Cultural Dialogue Against Terrorism* with a special testimony of Gregory, hostage at the Bataclan during the November 13 attack, documentary filmmaker Jules Naudet and Joseph Pfeifer, former NYC Fire Department Chief of Counterterrorism and Emergency Preparedness

- Conversation with Isabelle Huppert and journalist Adam Gopnik
- *Art and Wine at Versailles*, a conversation between Catherine Pégard, President of the Château de Versailles, and Philippe Sereys de Rothschild, co-owner of Château Mouton Rothschild, led by Philippe de Montebello, Director Emeritus of the Metropolitan Museum of Art



Wine Tour de France

This classic spring series returned for another season! The Wine Tour de France led FIAF members and wine enthusiasts through five masterclasses on the best French wines. The tastings provided a journey through the most exciting new trends or classics in French wines, all hosted by experts.

- **Back to Nature: Pascaline Lepeltier and Will Horowitz:** Curated and presented by Pascaline Lepeltier, first woman to be named Best Sommelier of France.
- **An Aromatic Wine Journey through Burgundy:** Presented by Mike DeSimone and Jeff Jenssen, Entertaining and Lifestyle Editors for Wine Enthusiast Magazine.
- **A New Era of French & American Women Winemakers with Marie Vayron-Ponsonnet:** Curated and presented by Marie Vayron-Ponsonnet, sommelier at Le Bernardin, and founder of CéMa Way and Colète Wine.
- **Bubbles & Joy: Champagne & Macaron Tasting:** Presented by Susan Kostrzewa, Executive Editor of Wine Enthusiast
- **Summer Rosés from the South of France:** Presented by Mathilde Benard, Executive Director of the American Branch of Sud de France.



Q & A with Olivier Tarpa and his team after When Birds refused to fly © FIAF

Outreach Program

FIAF invites school children in the tri-state area to discover the best of French programs.

Young Audience Program

FIAF's Young Audience Program (YAP) offers students in the tri-state area the unique opportunity to experience art by French and Francophone artists. A rich program of award-winning performances, films, workshops and exhibitions, selected for their artistic excellence and specially designed for kids, provides an exciting introduction to the arts and French culture.

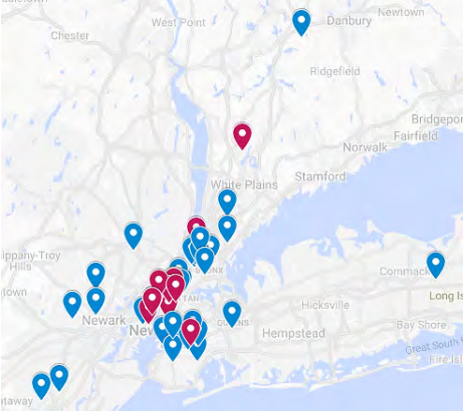
Committed to creating impactful experiences, FIAF provides educators with a free study guide including detailed content about the show as well as recommended related activities. All events are followed by an interactive Q&A session with the artists.

An Ambitious Goal

This program, created to compensate for diminishing state and federal budgets for arts education, is free for public schools and affordable for private schools.

In Fiscal Year 2019, FIAF doubled its efforts for YAP programs, both in terms of programming and fundraising, which resulted in a growth of 81% in participation compared to Fiscal Year 2018.

By stimulating creativity, imagination and curiosity for all things French, FIAF is engaging with students without access to the arts. We are thrilled to have expanded our reach and welcomed more students than ever before.



44 participating schools in FY2019
 ● 32 public schools
 ● 12 private schools



Julie Stephen Chheng, workshop Uramado © FIAF

Events at FIAF

- Screening of the documentary *Speak Up* by Stephane de Freitas, followed by a Q & A moderated by Hélène Godec and Andrew Clark from Fordham University and a mini public speaking workshop.
- Screening of the animated movie *Azur and Asmar* introduced by director Michel Ocelot and followed by a Q & A.
- Performance *She No Princess, He No Hero* by French director Johanny Bert
- Mask-making workshop conducted by artist Julie Stephen Chheng.
- Performances of *Adaku's Revolt* by MacArthur Award recipient Okwui Okpokwasili, in partnership with Abrons Arts Center.
- Performance of *The Nature of Forgetting*, by French director Guillaume Pigé, in partnership with The New Victory Theater.

- Concert *Ajoyo*, conceived by French-Tunisian multi-reed player Yacine Boularès and featuring jazz vocalist Sarah E. Charles.
- Workshops with French visual artist Elodie Blanchard in conjunction with the artist's exhibition in FIAF's Gallery, *Fabrications*.
- Screening of the documentary *School of Babel* by Julie Bertuccelli, followed by a Q & A with a specialist on the representation of education, school and youth in contemporary films.

Two additional events were organized (Olivier Py's *The Young Girl, the Devil and the Mill* and a partnership with French baroque orchestra Les Arts Florissants for their concert at Lincoln Center) but had to be canceled because of snow days requiring public schools to close.

In-School Outreach

For the first time, FIAF provided schools with the fantastic opportunity to host a professional theatrical performance in their classrooms. FIAF organized a tour of Johanny Bert's *She No Princess, He No Hero*, which was specifically designed for non-theatrical venues. The piece, which challenges clichés about gender and identity, was presented 10 times in 8 different schools in Brooklyn, Harlem, and the Bronx. The cast engaged in interactive Q&A sessions after each performance.

Thanks to this additional inclusive program, FIAF was able to reach new students and offer an even more impactful experience.



FIAF's annual *Trophée des Arts* Gala honors leading figures in business and the arts for their contribution to French-American cross-cultural exchange.

Trophée des Arts Gala

Trophée des Arts Gala 2018

Since 1992, FIAF has held the annual *Trophée des Arts* Gala to support its mission of fostering a lasting *amitié* between France and the United States. This gala plays an essential role in FIAF's capacity to develop ambitious cultural and educational programs.

Each year, FIAF awards two honorees for their outstanding contributions to the French-American community: the *Trophée des Arts* recognizes a distinguished artist or cultural icon while *The Pilier d'Or* award, established in 2006, recognizes a leading business figure.

On Monday, November 12, 2018, under the patronage of the Ambassador and Consul General of France, FIAF awarded Sébastien Bazin, Chairman and CEO of AccorHotels with the *Pilier d'Or*, and actress Jane Fonda with the *Trophée des Arts*.

The Gala raised **\$1,957,898** in revenue thanks to the generous support of the evening's co-chairs, Samantha & Nabil Chartouni (FIAF Board member and Chairman at Kensico Properties); Clo & Charles S. Cohen (FIAF Chairman & CEO at Cohen Media Group); Darrois Villey Maillot Brochier; Gide Loyrette Nouel; Jeff Koons (FIAF Board Member & Artist); Rothschild & Co, Nicolas Durand and Clémence & William von Mueffling (FIAF Board member & Entrepreneur).



Art de Vivre Award Dinner © Sylvain Gaboury

FIAF's annual *Art de Vivre* Award recognizes prominent ambassadors of the French art of living in the United States.

Art de Vivre Award 2019

Since its creation in 2014, FIAF's *Art de Vivre* Award has distinguished recognized influential figures from the food, wine, luxury, fashion, and beauty industries for their unique role in promoting the French art of living.

More than 100 guests attend this glamorous benefit, starting with a cocktail reception in FIAF's Le Skyroom and followed by an elegant and festive seated dinner at Le Bilboquet, courtesy of owner Philippe Delgrange. A small high-end live auction supports fundraising for FIAF's cultural and educational programs.

FI AF's sixth annual *Art de Vivre* Award was held on Monday, June 3, 2019. French gastronomy was honored this year. **Ariane Daguin**, Founder and CEO of D'Artagnan, received the *Art de Vivre* Award, presented to her by her long-time friend and influential journalist Florence Fabricant.

Thanks to the generous support of the evening's Event Committee, this exclusive event raised **\$111,926** in revenue.





Celebrate with the French and like the French for this national holiday

Bastille Day

Bastille Day on 60th street

FIAF's annual street fair is New York's largest Bastille Day celebration. For its 22nd edition, held on Sunday, July 14, 2019, FIAF welcomed more than **40,000** visitors from the New York metro area for a day of festivities, thanks to the generosity of presenting sponsor Côte d'Azur France.

Guests were able to leisurely walk on 60th street to discover the best of French food, culture, and shopping. They were also invited to attend cheese, wine or champagne tastings or discover French artists during the many performances of

the day. With more than 80 participating booths, an exclusive *French Garden* showcasing luxury French brands, and a special screening of the delightful comedy from Eric Toledano and Olivier Nakache *C'est la vie !*, Bastille Day on 60th street is a true *fête populaire*.

Bastille Day media highlights include mentions in *Time Out New York*, *New York Post*, *CBS New York*, and *The New Yorker*.

Young Patrons event, Lower East Side Gallery Tour © Bethany Jones



Membership

A membership is the best way to be part of the FIAF *famille* and experience New York à la française.

FIAF Members

New York area Francophones and Francophiles alike are at the heart of FIAF's dedicated and vibrant community. This base of nearly 10,000 members provides crucial support of FIAF's cultural and educational programs. Members benefit from insider access to all things French, from free weekly films year round to world-class performances, access to the largest French library in the US, and monthly get-togethers for wine and conversation.

FIAF organizes more than 30 member events per year for varying membership levels. These include, among others:

Rendez-vous: On the first Tuesday of the month, FIAF invites all members to the Skyroom for a festive evening of wine and conversation, *en français*.

Open House: With its annual Open House, FIAF kicks off a new season with over 600 guests. New members get a taste of their membership with a special film screening and wine and cheese tasting.

Members' Holiday Party: One of FIAF's most popular members events, this joyous event at the French Consulate gathers 250 FIAF members and friends for a festive evening of music, champagne, prizes, and *bûches de Noël*.

Galette des Rois: A New Year's *fête* centered around the delicious "king's cake" is the perfect opportunity for FIAF members to partake in this quintessentially French tradition.

Membership Levels

Individual: Free entrance to CinéSalon every Tuesday, unlimited Haskell Library and Culturethèque privileges, discounted tickets to FIAF events, members-only invitations, and special offers from FIAF's partners.

Family: Individual benefits for up to 2 adults and 4 children.

Premier: Family benefits + exclusive invitations to VIP receptions and premiere screenings.

Young Patrons: The Young Patrons are a group of dynamic young professionals who are passionate

about French culture and the arts. In addition to the benefits of an individual membership, FIAF Young Patrons are invited to cocktail receptions, gallery visits, and special events throughout the year offering a behind-the-scenes look at the best of France in New York.

In September 2018, FIAF hosted the first ever Young Patrons Fall Fête.

Cercle d'Amies: This intimate circle of friends enjoys individual membership benefits + luncheons with best-selling authors, talks by renowned journalists and luminaries from the worlds of French literature, arts, and politics, as well as exclusive behind-the-scenes tours of galleries, museums, and boutiques.

FIAF Language Center Students: Each of FIAF's 6,000 students receive a complimentary one year individual-level membership.

Preschool Families: FIAF Preschool families receive a one year complimentary Supporting Premier membership.



Member's event Hudson Yards © Sasha Arutyunova

Thanks to the FIAF Corporate Membership Program, companies provide vital support to FIAF programs while enjoying valuable benefits.



Through FIAF's Corporate Membership Program, organizations can align their brand and meet their philanthropic priorities with tailored partnerships. Corporate members provide vital support to New York's foremost French cultural center, while also enjoying dedicated year-round benefits.

Corporate Members enjoy:

- Year-round brand visibility
- Discounts on FIAF venue rentals
- Exclusive opportunities to promote their brand among New York's French-American business community
- Complimentary memberships for all their staff, who enjoy discounts on classes at FIAF's Language Center, discounts to all cultural events, reserved tickets for special events, and more.

FIAF was delighted to welcome over 300 new individual corporate members in FY 2019 who wished to take advantage of a FIAF membership.

*Members enrolled as of June 30, 2019: 2,647
Compared to 2,344 in FY2018.

Gold Members

- Air France & Delta Air Lines*
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Bleu Members

- Barclais USA*
- Novotel Times Square Hotel*
- Rémy Cointreau*



Member's Even © Brittany Buongiorno

Program Supporters & Sponsors

FIAF could not pursue its mission without the growing support of its community.

As an American not-for-profit organization, FIAF relies on the loyal support of **individuals, members, volunteers, government agencies, corporations, and foundations** to achieve its ambitious and innovative cultural programs and to share the richness and diversity of French and francophone cultures in New York and beyond.

FIAF is deeply grateful to the following generous **institutional supporters** of the 2018-2019 season. For the full fiscal year donor list, please refer to pages 34 and 35.

Key FIAF program supporters*

- Atari
- Bank of the West
- Centre National du cinéma de l'image animée
- City of Bordeaux
- The Edmond de Rothschild Foundations
- Engie Foundation
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- The Florence Gould Foundation
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- The Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater
- National Endowments for the Arts
- New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
- New York State Council on the Arts
- Office de Tourisme de Boulogne-Billancourt
- Pommery

***\$10,000 and above in FY19**



Le Skyroom

Home to three of the city's most attractive and versatile event spaces, FIAF can accommodate a wide variety of special events.

Rental Venues

Le Skyroom

Located on the top floor of FIAF's Beaux-Arts Building, Le Skyroom features floor-to-ceiling windows and can accommodate 200 guests for cocktail receptions, 110 guests for conferences and 100 guests for seated dinners.

The venue offers a modern, high tech environment and has full media capabilities, including a built-in screen, a high definition projector, and a complete sound system with microphones. It also features a modern, fully equipped kitchen.

The Skyroom is a spectacular location for corporate or social events such as intimate lecture-seminar presentations, elegant receptions, galas, team-building seminars, and private events.



Florence Gould Hall

Florence Gould Hall

FIAF's premier venue is a 361-seat theater with its own private entrance at 55 East 59th Street. Florence Gould Hall also has its own on-site Box Office.

It features a proscenium stage and is equipped with state-of-the-art sound and projection equipment. With excellent acoustics and superb sight lines, the hall is perfect for corporate town meetings, conferences, film screenings, concerts, theater, and dance performances.

Distinguished by its intimate atmosphere and classic jewel-box theater décor, over the years FGH has hosted acclaimed events by leading international companies, media and studio corporations, and arts organizations.

Tinker Auditorium

Tinker Auditorium is an intimate, easily customizable venue situated on the mezzanine level of Florence Gould Hall.

This venue is ideal for receptions of as many as 300 guests. With riser style seating, it can accommodate up to 110 guests for lectures and film screenings.

Tinker is a flexible and modular facility. Its proximity to Florence Gould Hall makes it the perfect venue for registration, photo calls, sponsor-table setups, and also pre and post-event receptions, product launches, seminars, film screenings, or film-shoot holding.



Tinker Auditorium

FIAF Donors 2018-2019

As a not-for-profit organization, FIAF depends upon charitable donations from the French and American communities. FIAF is deeply grateful to the following generous supporters of its 2018–2019 season. Reflects donations made from July 2018–June 2019.

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(\$50,000+)

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