

## News from Versailles. April 2024

### 1. ESCALE V: "Dreams in motion"

A solidarity project in partnership with the charitable Association Nouvelle du Vivre Ensemble.

Now in its 5th year, the Escale V project at the Palace of Versailles focuses on creating dreams in motion. The Palace involves charitable associations like the Association Nouvelle du Vivre Ensemble, in making Versailles accessible to all. This project is aimed at people with disabilities. A total of 5 groups, led by a professional choreographer, take part in a choreography in one of the iconic halls of the Palace of Versailles. Each stage is punctuated by a final filmed and photographed performance. These videos and photos will be featured in an exhibition in the gardens of the château from June 14, 2024. This project is made possible thanks to the support of the McArthurGlen group, and the Yvelines department.



© Patrick Berger

### 2. This spring, the Palace of Versailles shines

Two exceptional exhibitions

Until June 23rd, the Palace of Versailles unveils an in situ exhibition focusing on the "Soieries" (Silks) commissioned by Napoleon and never before exhibited. The Palace's influence also extends to Asia: to mark the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between France and China, the Forbidden City and the Palace of Versailles are presenting an exhibition at the Palace Museum in Beijing until June 30th, 2024, with the support of Maison Cartier.



Marie Leszczynska, *La foire de la ville de Nankin*, 1761

## **Appolo's chariot, a major restoration project**

### A long-awaited return to water

Last February, one of the most famous fountains in the gardens of Versailles, Appolo's chariot, was restored to its rightful place at the heart of the eponymous basin. This is the first time in 100 years that this monumental sculpted group in gilded lead has been restored, thanks to the exclusive patronage of CMA CGM. The figure of Appollo has now been returned to the water where it has stood since the 17th century, providing an opportunity to rediscover it on a stroll through the gardens as the Grandes Eaux Musicales season gets underway.



© EPV / Didier Saulnier

## **3. Launch of an unprecedented adoption campaign**

### Le Nôtre's historic topiaries

At Versailles, the topiaries of the Parterre du Midi, noble conifers renowned for their longevity, are carefully pruned by the gardeners of art. As early as 1661, architect André Le Nôtre paid particular attention to this harmonious, symmetrical composition. The Parterre du Midi is on its way to regaining its royal perspective!



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