

THIS SEASON AT THE GRAND PALAIS

I, AUGUSTUS, EMPEROR OF ROME...

19 March - 13 July 2014

The adopted son of Jules César, Augustus (63 B.C. - 14 A.D.) was the first Roman Emperor in history. His long reign (more than 40 years) was marked by remarkable artistic ferment: the "Augustan Age" and the name "Maecenas", a close friend of the Emperor and patron of Virgil, Propertius and Horace, have become universal cultural references.

ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE

26 March - 13 July 2014

Robert Mapplethorpe was one of the great masters of art photography. He produced highly stylised black and white portraits, nudes and still lifes. Beyond the erotic power that made Mapplethorpe's work famous, the exhibition presents the classic dimension of the artist's work and his search for aesthetic perfection.

CANDIDO PORTINARI. WAR AND PEACE

7 May - 9 June 2014

"War and Peace" was the last work and the masterpiece of Brazilian neo-realist painter Candido Portinari (1903-1962), considered as one of the leading 20th century Brazilian artists. Following a restoration campaign, it will be presented at the Grand Palais with forty preparatory drawings before being returned to the UN Headquarters in early summer.

MONUMENTA 2014. ILYA AND EMILIA KABAKOV. THE STRANGE CITY

10 May - 22 June 2014

Each year Monumenta invites an internationally renowned contemporary artist to take over the Nave of the Grand Palais. In 2014, Russian artists Ilya and Emilia Kabakov will create a spectacular, mysterious installation: through a Utopian city under the monumental glass roof, it offers the visitor a journey of initiation and a reflection on the human condition.

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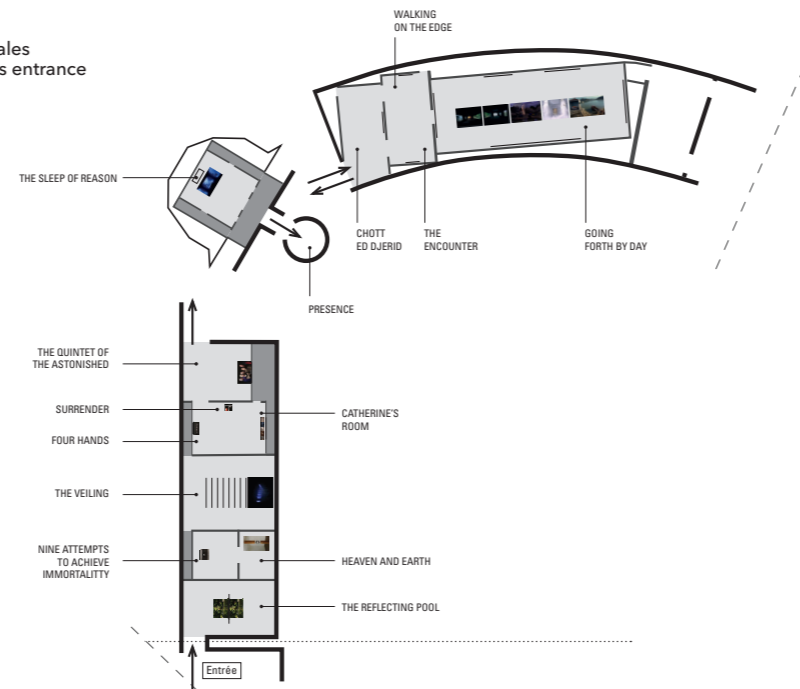


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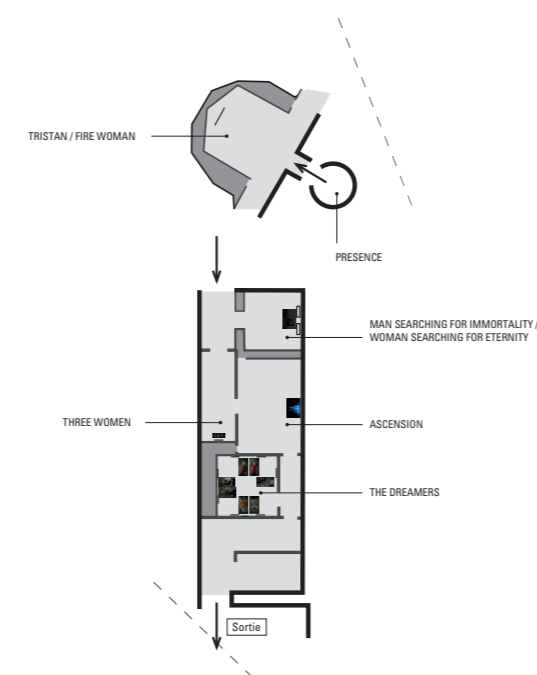
EXHIBITION FLOOR PLAN

LEVEL 1

Galleries nationales
Champs-Élysées entrance



LEVEL 2



AROUND THE EXHIBITION

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Free admission to the Champs-Élysées Auditorium. For the Wednesday encounters, priority access on presentation of an invitation available at grandpalais.fr. Find our conferences online at grandpalais.fr, itunes.fr/grandpalais and France Culture Plus.

ENCOUNTERS WEDNESDAY AT 6:30pm

Wednesday 5 March: "Sculpting time"

Encounter: Jérôme Neutres, exhibition curator, talks with Bill Viola and Kira Perov, co-creator of many of the artist's works.

Wednesday 12 March: *Born with video*

Roundtable: with Anne-Marie Duguet, Professor Emeritus at Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Raymond Bellour, Research Director Emeritus at the CNRS and Jean-Paul Fargier, author and director. Mediating: Mathilde Roman, theorist, art critic and teacher.

Wednesday 2 April: *Bill Viola, The Eye of the Heart*

Screening: a film by Mark Kidel, 2003, 1h

Attended by the director (this film will also be shown on Friday 7 and 14 March at 12pm)

Wednesday 9 April: *Bill Viola, the inaugural image*

Conference by Alain Fleischer, director of Le Fresnoy, National Contemporary Arts Studio

Wednesday 16 April: *Around Tristan and Isolde*

Discussion: Peter Sellars, stage director, talks with Jérôme Neutres, exhibition curator (subject to change).

EVENT

Saturday 12 April from 7pm

GRAND PALAIS CLUB presents *the Immersion evening* in the Salon d'Honneur

Saturday 17 May

European Museum Night Exceptional opening from 8pm to midnight. Free admission

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Dates, times and reservations at grandpalais.fr

INDIVIDUAL VISIT FOR ADULTS / Studio

According to Bill Viola "The real place the work exists is in the mind and heart of the person who has seen it".

Indeed, the creations of this pioneer of video art are not seen but lived. In order to get the full effect, broaden your knowledge with a speaker's comments before visiting the exhibition. Then, on your own and at your own pace, enter the environments designed by the American artist.

Duration: 1h30 (presentation in the studio by a speaker, followed by a discussion session).

Studio only: full rate €9 / Concession €7 - Studio and exhibition ticket: full rate €22 / Concession €16

Tribe tariff (ticket for a group of 4 paying visitors including 2 young people aged 16 to 25): €60

Dates: 4pm Monday, Thursday and Friday, 6.30pm Wednesday, 10.30am and 4pm Saturday. Reservations at grandpalais.fr

MULTIMEDIA

MOBILE APPLICATION GRAND PALAIS ART SCAN



Download - Scan - View. Scan the exhibition posters, catalogue and album and access unreleased video extracts of Bill Viola's works on your Smartphone.

Free bilingual application (fr-eng) for smartphone www.tinyurl.com/viola2014

THE EXHIBITION FILM: BILL VIOLA, EXPERIENCE INFINITY (52 mn), produced by Jean-Paul Fargier. Available on DVD and to download on ArteVOD. Our multimedia products at www.itunes.com/grandpalais

Screenings in the auditorium from 6 March to 20 June: at 5pm Mondays: 10, 17, 24 and 31 March, 7 and 28 April, 26 May, 2 and 16 June; at 12pm Thursdays: 6, 13, 20 and 27 March, 3 and 10 April, 15 and 22 May, 5, 12 and 19 June; at 2pm Fridays: 7, 14, 22 and 28 March, 4 and 11 April, 16 and 30 May, 6 and 20 June.

THE EXHIBITION E-ALBUM: The album enriched with videos by Bill Viola. €4.49 for tablets.

PUBLICATIONS

THE EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

24.5 x 29 cm, 180 pages, 160 illustrations, hardback, with an image recognition system to view the videos by Bill Viola. Editions de la Réunion des musées nationaux - Grand Palais, Paris 2014; Flammarion distribution. Price: €35.



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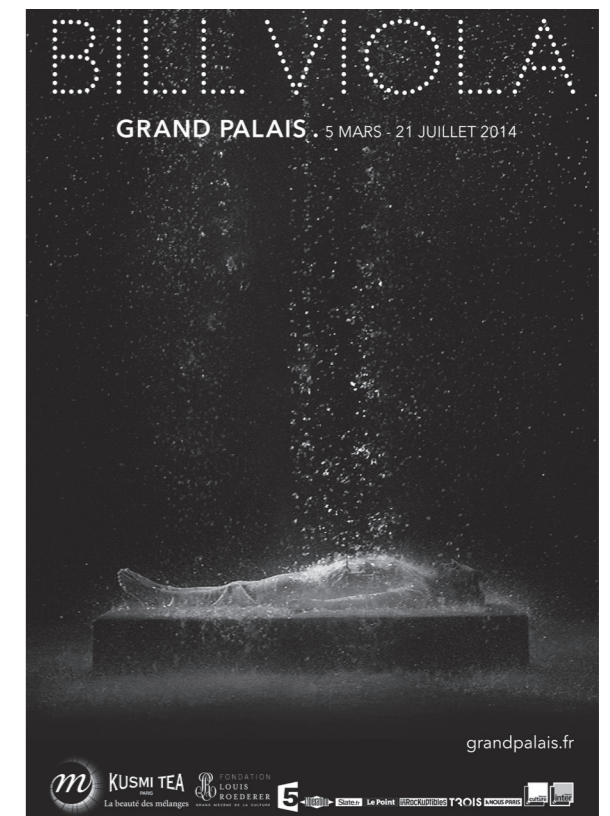
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Grand Palais, Galeries nationales
Champs-Élysées entrance

BILL VIOLA

5 March - 21 July 2014



English version



ENRICH YOUR VISIT

With videos, interviews, articles...
and the section for young audiences

OVERVIEW OF THE EXHIBITION

- **The most important retrospective** ever dedicated to Bill Viola, the leading representative of video art.

- **Moving paintings, videos**, video installations, sounds and images etc. retracing Bill Viola spiritual journey over the last forty years through his art.

- **An event that retraces the creative process** of an ever-present medium in contemporary art today: video art.

- **The first exhibition dedicated to video art** in the history of the Galeries nationales du Grand Palais.

"If you engage in travel, you will arrive".

Ibn Arabi (1165-1240)

"Sculpting time": is how Bill Viola defines his art. "Time is the basic material of film and video. The mechanics of it may be cameras, film stock, and tape, but what you are working with is time. You are creating events that are going to unfold, on some kind of rigid channel that is embodied in a strip of tape or celluloid, and that thing is coiled up as a potential experience to be unrolled. In a certain way it is like a scroll, which is one of the most ancient forms of visual communication." ¹ This time is something Bill Viola likes to extend, repeat and decelerate – as if to show us all its contours, all its forms.

"I was born at the same time as video".

Bill Viola

It is an aesthetic not unrelated to the practice of meditation, which focuses on the present moment, zeroing in on the subject in order to perceive it more precisely. What can I see? For the artist, the camera is that second eye that "re-teaches us how to see" and addresses the world beyond, or beneath, appearances. The present exhibition is devised like an introspective journey and is divided into three themes based around three metaphysical questions Bill Viola has been wrestling with for forty years: Who am I? Where am I? Where am I going? In his art, Bill Viola's intention is not to answer these questions but to confront us with them. "Ancient people call them the Mysteries. These are not to be answered. There is no answer to birth or death. They are meant to be experienced, they can be approached and studied, but not finally answered." ²

"In short, landscape is the link between our outer and inner selves".

Bill Viola,

Reasons for Knocking at an Empty House, Writings, p.253

A pioneer of video art, Bill Viola is a painter who has invented a new palette of technological and digital color, creating pictures in motion that take their place in a singular history of art comprised of the works of the greatest masters, from Giotto to Goya, via Hieronymus Bosch. His ongoing oeuvre also amounts to an artistic and technological odyssey: it is the story of the creation of a new medium, one now omnipresent in contemporary art. Although Bill Viola's work has been showcased in many of the world's foremost museums, this is his first retrospective in France; it is, in addition, the very first exhibition in the entire history of the French national galleries to be devoted to video art.

"If the doors of perception were cleansed, then everything would appear to man as it is - infinite".

William Blake (1757-1827),
quoted by Bill Viola, *Writings*, 1979 - S3

Five decades of output are represented, from 1977 to 2013, featuring every genre including all of his iconic series. The artist's intention is to create conditions that enable the public to "immerse" itself in the image—a symbol expressed by the recurrent metaphor of a body plunging into water. The present exhibition invites us to dive into every stage, every facet of the fascinating spiritual journey offered by Viola's extraordinary imaginary world.

¹"The Universe continues to be in the present tense," in Viola, *Reasons for Knocking at an Empty House, writings 1973-1994*, Cambridge, MIT Press, 1995, p. 253. e, op. cit. p. 232.

²Viola, *op. cit.*, p. 273.

Exhibition opening hours (5 March - 21 July 2014)

10am - 8pm Sunday and Monday

10am - 10pm Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday

The Grand Palais is closed on Tuesdays

Closed 1 May and 14 July

Exhibition organised by the Réunion des musées nationaux - Grand Palais and the Bill Viola studio.

Curator:

- Jerome Neutres, special advisor to the president of the Réunion des musées nationaux - Grand Palais

- Kira Perov, executive director of the Bill Viola studio

The exhibition is supported by Kusmi Tea and the Louis Roederer Foundation

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Event!

You can also discover Bill Viola's work in the performance *Tristan and Isolde*, showing at the Opéra Bastille from 8 April to 4 May 2014. The video artist accompanies the master piece by Richard Wagner on stage, conceiving a world of parallel images, a world beyond life like "a reflection of the world of the spirit in the mirror of time." *More information at operadeparis.fr*

KUSMI TEA is proud to introduce the Café Kousmichoff on the first floor of its 71 Avenue des Champs-Élysées flagship store.

Breakfast, lunch, dinner everyday from 8am to 11pm (Sat. Sun. 10am - 11pm).

Reservations 01 45 63 08 08 and www.cafekousmichoff.com