

**25.10.2025 →
23.08.2026**

Fondation *Cartier*
pour l'art contemporain

visitor's guide

Exposition Générale foregrounds over 40 years of recent contemporary art, featuring fragments of exhibitions that have marked the programming of the Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, which since its creation in 1984 has been committed to supporting artistic creation from all over the world. Mirroring the history of the institution, the exhibition highlights major themes and emblematic works of the Fondation Cartier Collection, built alongside its programming.

The title, *Exposition Générale*, refers to exhibitions that were organized by the Grands Magasins du Louvre department store starting in the late 19th century, in this very Haussmannian building that the Fondation Cartier now occupies, originally built for the first Parisian Exposition Universelle in 1855. These events broadened the urban cultural field and heralded a new era for the circulation of knowledge. Jean Nouvel's architectural project engages with the legacy of the building, by renewing the use of the space in a way that enables a reimagining of the possible approaches to exhibition-making. The design of the exhibition, conceived by Italian studio Formafantasma, references the material history of display systems that were used in these department store exhibitions, reactivating their social and experimental nature and exploring their influence in the evolution of museological practices.

Exposition Générale sketches an alternative map of contemporary creation that promotes a different model to that of the encyclopedic museum. It does so in four sections: an ephemeral architectural laboratory (*Machines d'architecture*); a reflection on living worlds and the importance of their preservation (*Être nature*); a space for experimentation with materials and techniques (*Making Things*); and a section of forward-looking narratives that blend science, technology, and fiction (*Un monde réel*). In addition to this thematic organization, the exhibition includes presentations of works that reveal the individual or collaborative paths of artists from the Fondation Cartier Collection.

The exhibition also extends into the immediate urban surroundings of the Fondation Cartier and engages with the neighborhood's architectural and social history. The Place du Palais-Royal and the Galerie Valois—an underground passage that once linked the subway platform to the Grands Magasins du Louvre—host artistic projects that extend the relationship between *Exposition Générale* and the city. Thus, the Fondation Cartier makes this exhibition a place for collective creation of new narratives, forms and knowledge in the heart of the city.

The Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain is a forum for discussion and artistic experimentation that places contemporary art in all its forms, its exhibition, and its accessibility to the public at the core of its institutional mission. Since its founding in 1984 by Alain Dominique Perrin, who was President of Cartier at that time, its activities have promoted collaboration and exchange across artistic disciplines. Built up over the course of its exhibitions, its Collection reflects the multidisciplinary and breadth of the themes it explores through its programming, in resonance with society and contemporary stakes.

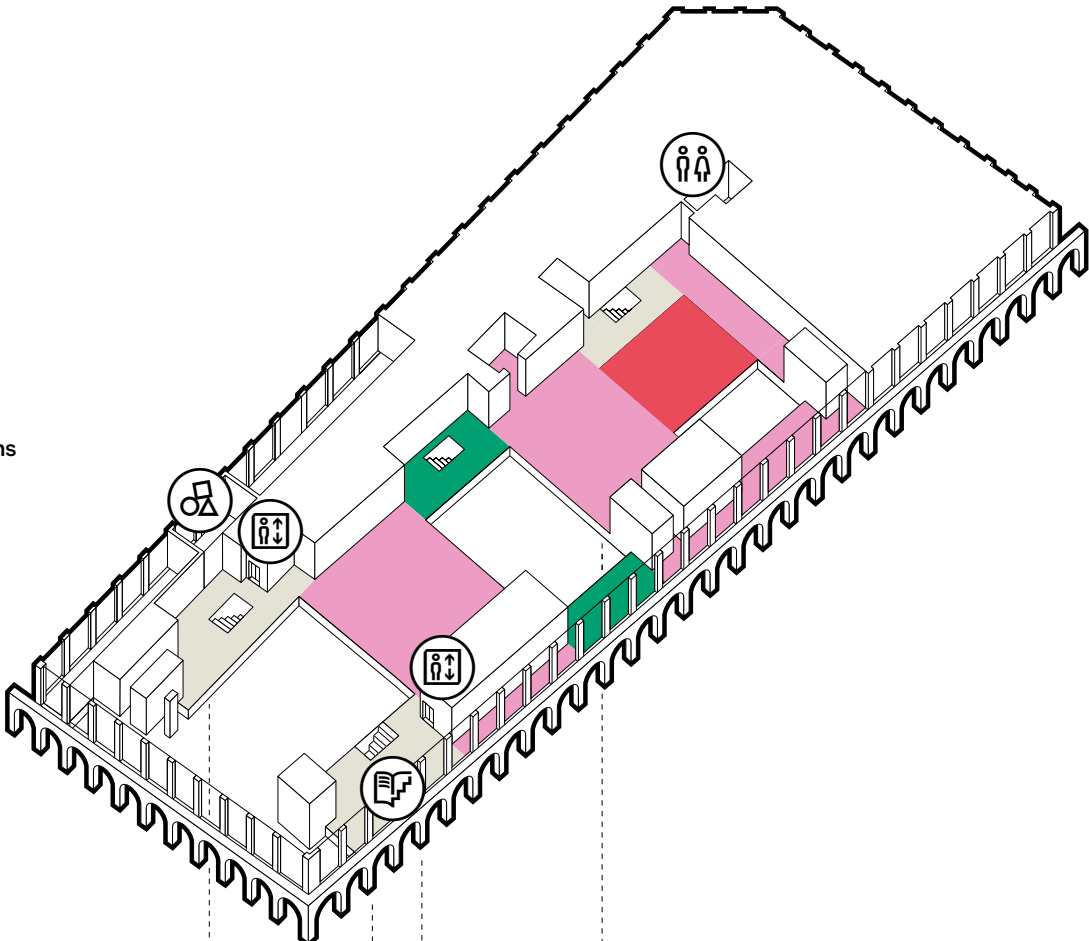
The Fondation Cartier carries out its activities and commitments with the desire and ambition to make contemporary art accessible to everyone. Through its program of exhibitions and events, the Fondation Cartier creates pathways between creative spaces and fosters a genuine environment for multicultural exchange.

Its new premises, located at 2 Place du Palais-Royal in a Haussmannian building constructed in 1855, have been completely reconceived by architect Jean Nouvel. The dynamic architecture he envisioned, consisting of five mobile platforms, allows for fully adjustable spatial configurations and lighting variations, multiplying the possibilities for programming and exhibition-making. The architecture acts as a flexible system serving the institution's commitments, open to the broad spectrum of visual arts, crafts, performance and science.

Expanding its potential, the Fondation Cartier has turned this unique venue into a space for educational innovation and shared aesthetic experiences, where artists and audiences come together to open up new perspectives on contemporary art and culture.

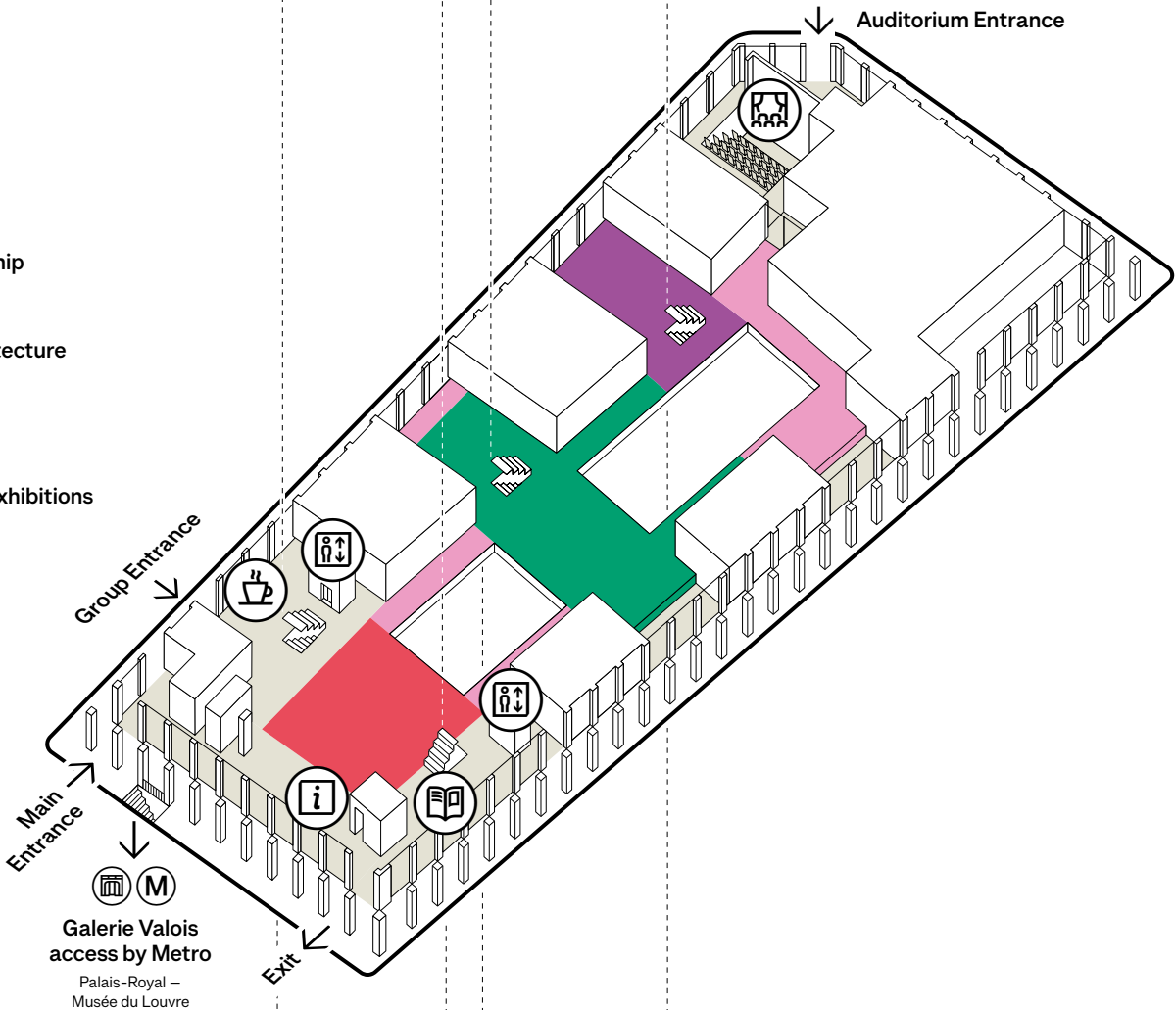
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- Toilets
- Education & Workshops
(Spring 2026)
- Lifts
- Mezzanine
- Machines d'architecture
- Être nature
- Un monde réel
- Making Things
- Solo and Group Exhibitions



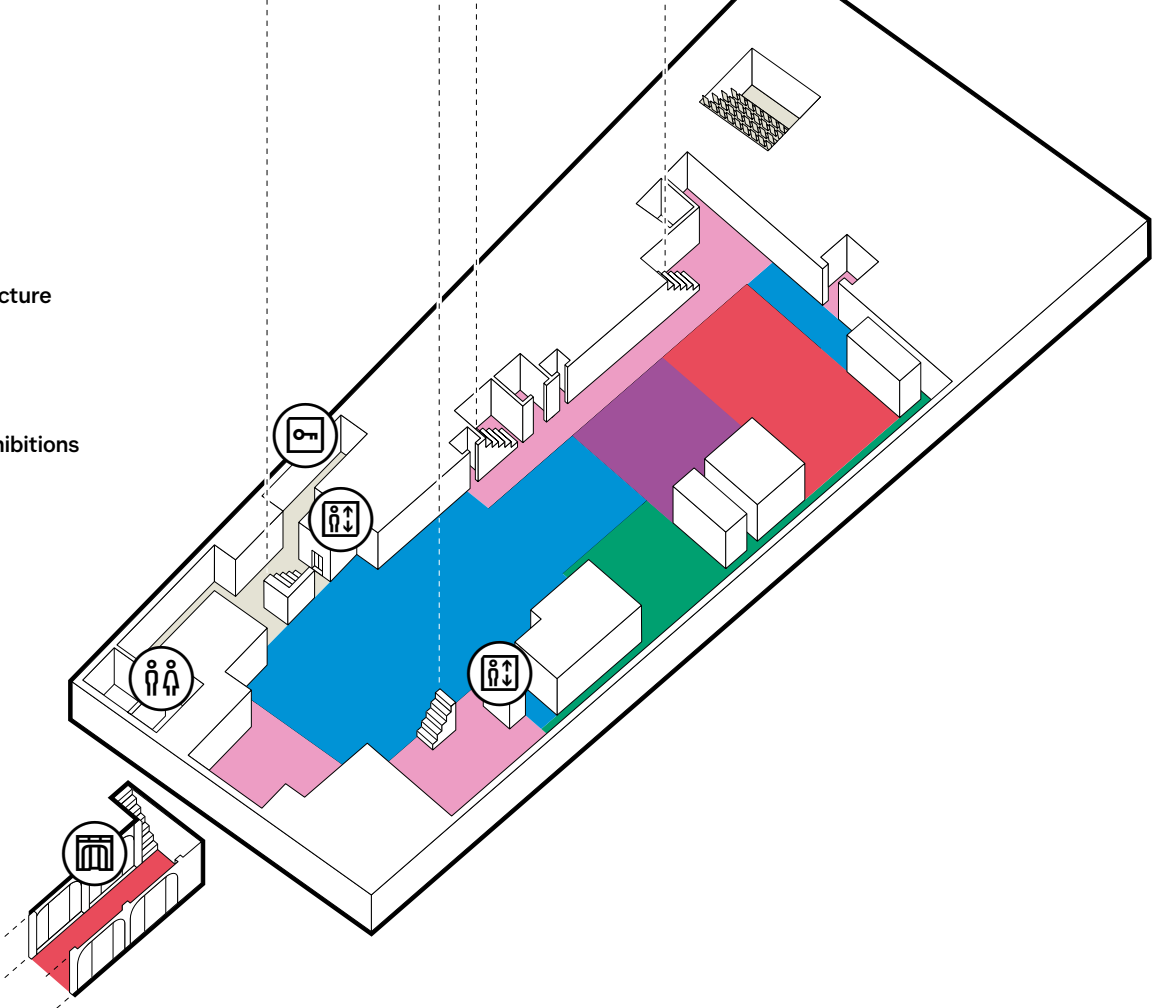
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- Coffee Corner
- Bookshop
- Auditorium
- Infos & Membership
- Lifts
- Machines d'architecture
- Être nature
- Un monde réel
- Making Things
- Solo and Group Exhibitions



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- Lockers
- Toilets
- Lifts
- Galerie Valois
(access by Metro)
- Machines d'architecture
- Être nature
- Un monde réel
- Making Things
- Solo and Group Exhibitions



Machines d'architecture

Absalon
Richard Artschwager
Andrea Branzi
Mamadou Cissé
Diller Scofidio + Renfro
Junya Ishigami
Bodys Isek Kingelez
Freddy Mamani
Alessandro Mendini
Juan Muñoz

Être nature

Robert Adams
Efacio Álvarez
Claudia Andujar
Lothar Baumgarten
Kesaia Biuvanua
Jorge Carema
Alex Červený
Hinatea Colombani
Raymond Depardon
Jaider Esbell
Doriana Falcón Romero
Floriberta Fermín

Ebonie Fifita-Laufilitoga-Maka
Rafael Flores
Sally Gabori
Florencio Giménez
Gustavo Benito Giménez
Patricio Giménez
Rongomai Grbic-Hoskins
Sheroanawe Hakihiiwe
Nikau Hindin
Fabrice Hyber
Clemente Juliuz
Estela Juliuz
Angélica Klassen
Esteban Klassen
Hina Puamohala
Kneubuhl
Bernie Krause & Soundwalk Collective
Jivya Soma Mashe
Asque Eurides
Modesto Gómez
Movimento dos Artistas
Huni Kuĩ (MAKHU)
Claudine Nougaret
Bruno Novelli
Marcos Ortiz
Giuseppe Penone
Richart Peralta
Santídio Pereira
Solange Pessoa

Osvaldo Pitoe
Adriana Varejão
Ehuana Yaira
Joseca Yanomami
Luiz Zerbini

Un monde réel

Jean-Michel Alberola
Cai Guo-Qiang
Thomas Demand
Peter Halley
Raymond Hains
Rinko Kawauchi
Mario Merz
Annette Messenger
Möebius
Panamarenko
Diller Scofidio + Renfro
Sarah Sze
Shantaram Chintya
Tumbada
Andrei Ujică
Agnès Varda
Paul Virilio
Jessica Wynne

Making Things

Olga de Amaral
Judith Bartolani
Vincent Beaurin
Izabel Mendès da Cunha
Eliane Duarte
Gérard Garouste
Peter Halley
Simon Hantaï
Damien Hirst
Jivya Soma Mashe
Ron Mueck
Jean-Michel Othoniel
Joan Mitchell
Gustavo Pérez
Virgil Ortiz
Alain Séchas
Véio

Solo and Group Exhibitions

Jean-Michel Alberola
Matthew Barney
Christian Boltanski
James Lee Byars
Vija Celmins
James Coleman
Marc Couturier

William Eggleston
& Guillermo Kuitca
Fernell Franco
& Oscar Muñoz
Raymond Hains
& Pierrick Sorin
David Hammons
Graciela Iturbide
Bijoy Jain, Alev Ebüzziya
Siesbye & Ali Kazma
Hu Liu
Huang Yong Ping
David Lynch
Daido Moriyama
Ron Mueck
Chéri Samba
Malick Sidibé
Patti Smith
James Turrell
Jonathan Vinel
Bill Viola
Francesca Woodman
Tadanori Yokoo