

Royat-Chamalières welcomes the 3rd Café of Europe for the European Project “Sources of Culture”

Round Tables & Conferences

On the theme of Travel Books in the European Thermal Towns
“TRAVEL, OTHER PATHS THROUGH EUROPE: JOURNEYS AND MEMORY”



Thursday 14 November 2013 from 2pm to 6:30pm

Théâtre du Casino in Royat-Chamalières – Free Entry

After the success of the Book Fair on the 5th and 6th of last October, the mayors of Chamalières and Royat are reiterating their desire to promote culture to the general public in their area. In this vein, they are organising the 3rd Café of Europe, a completely free event open to all in line with the “Sources of Culture” European project, led by the Route of Spa Towns in the Massif Central in partnership with the European Historic Thermal Towns Association (EHTTA), of which the Royat-Chamalières spa is a member.

2

Organised by the Royat-Chamalières Tourist Office with participation from the “Il Faut Aller Voir, Rendez-Vous du Carnet de Voyage” association, this third instalment of the Cafés of Europe will take place on Thursday 14 November, from 2pm to 6:30pm at the Théâtre du Casino in Royat-Chamalières, and will address the theme of [Travel](#).

The event will notably consist of two round tables about the [various forms of the Travel literature](#) and transmitting [Travel literature to further European people's knowledge of themselves](#). These round tables will allow artists, writers, travellers, travel writers, historians and even video makers to collate their points of view.

Practical Information: Royat-Chamalières Tourist Office – 04 73 29 74 70 – tourisme-royat-chamalieres.com

Press Contacts: Audrey FOURNIER – Press Officer - 06 98 26 67 14 – aud.fournier@gmail.com

Virginie DELAS – Director of the Tourist Office – 04 73 29 74 72 – v.delas@ot-royat.com



CONTENTS

I.	THE EVENT	3
	A. PRESTIGIOUS SPEAKERS	
	B. A DRAMATISED SETTING	
	C. AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT	
	D. DELICACIES AND WATERS FROM ELSEWHERE	
II.	THE CAFÉ OF EUROPE	
	A “SOURCES OF CULTURE” PROJECT EVENT	6
	A. THE SOURCES OF CULTURE PROJECT	
	B. THE EHTTA	
	C. THE ROUTE OF SPA TOWNS IN THE MASSIF CENTRAL	
III.	ROYAT-CHAMALIERES	
	TOURIST DESTINATION	8
IV.	CONTACTS AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION	8

I. THE EVENT

14:00: Opening Speech

The Mayor of Royat

The Mayor of Chamalières

Christian CORNE, President of the European Historic Thermal Towns Association (EHTTA)

14:30: Introduction

- **The Thermal Towns: Literary salons of Eurpe**, by **Dominique JARASSÉ**, Professor of Contemporary Art History – Université Bordeaux 3
- **The Taste of European Towns** by **Pascale LISMONDE**, Journalist and Art Critic

15:30: 1st ROUND TABLE:

Alternative ways of travelling, relation to the other and to time

With the participation of the « Il faut aller voir, Les Rendez-Vous du Carnet de Voyage » Association

This exchange will be led by **Michel RENAUD**, Vice-President of the “Il faut aller voir” Association and creator of the “Les Rendez-Vous du Carnet de Voyage” event, Through the converging views of **Damien ROUDEAU**, designer, **Bastien DUBOIS**, producer of the short film “Madagascar, Carnet de Voyage”, nominated for the Oscars in 2011, and **Elsie HERBESTEIN**, travelogue author and designer, this round table will discuss the variety of forms that travel books can take.

Evidence in images with film extracts and design slides,

16:45: 2nd ROUND TABLE: Memories of the World: what would become of travel without books, pictures and travel books?

Travel books, in whatever form, are indispensable archives for the progression of knowledge as much of Europe as the world, from as much an historical as sociological point of view. **Marc WILTZ**, author of the book “Le Tour du Monde en 80 livres” (Around the World in 80 Books), and Director of Editions Magellan will give the floor to writers, photographers and directors, all with a passion for travel, who will show an interest in Travel Literature and the evolution of stories, at a time when travellers can speak of their journeys in real time via social networks. Through a filmed interview, **Katia CHAPOUTIER**, writer and Producer for the Des Racines et des Ailes magazine, will speak about the Jerusalem case through her book “Lost in Jerusalem.” **Nadine LAPORTE**, writer, will talk about the great writer and traveler, Nicolas Bouvier. **Claudio BOCCI**, director of the Literature Rome Travel Festival, will relate his experience. Finally, **Françoise DUBOSCLARD** Finally, of the Transfo, the agency in charge of Art and Culture in Auvergne, will speak about “France seen by writers”.

18h00: Conclusion: The interactive novel “At the Sources of Europe”

At the end of the debates, **Michel THOMAS-PENETTE**, Delegate-General for the European Historic Thermal Towns Association (EHTTA), will bring to life a never-before-seen multimedia experiment between creativity and interaction. 4 characters will stop off at thermal towns and will meet notable historical and contemporary personalities from the towns’ histories.



PRESTIGIOUS SPEAKERS

MICHEL THOMAS-PENETTE

Born in Paris in 1946 Michel Thomas-Penette, biologist and former director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes, has always shown a great interest in art and writing, and has brought these together into one passion, implementing a programme launched by the Council of Europe 20 years ago. The European cultural routes bring together 24 major themes of European cooperation in artistic, scientific and technological culture. From the silkworm to parks and gardens via the Spa Towns, biology goes hand in hand with Romanesque architecture and the route of the book...

5

DOMINIQUE JARASSÉ

Professor of Contemporary Art History at Université Bordeaux 3, Dominique Jarassé has furthered research in various areas, from painting to African and Oceanic art, as well as landscape architecture. His most pioneering work is still the book 'Synagogues – Une architecture de l'identité juive' (Synagogues: Jewish identity in architecture), in which he addresses Jewish architecture from historical, tourist, sociological and religious angles, based on the experiences of emblematic figures such as Georges Pérec, Modigliani, and Chagall, as well as Dreyfus.

PASCALE LISMONDE

Pascale Lismonde is a French journalist, who has notably produced numerous radio programmes for France Culture and France Inter, which has allowed her to travel the world, particularly Italy. In continuation of her work on the Mediterranean for Radio-France, she has been part of the ODYSSEA scientific committee since 2010, a committee which develops the odyssey Mediterranean ports (1500 ports in 22 countries), extending the Council of Europe-labelled Mediterranean cultural routes. She is also an art critic.

DAMIEN ROUDEAU - globetrottoir.tumblr.com

Damien draws in groups, be it with the inhabitants of an estate in Villiers-le-Bel (villiersrebel.tumblr.com), in gold mines with journalists from the Argos collective (www.collectifargos.com), or in Shandong, China with the Tribulants (carnettistes-tribulants.com). He also draws cartoon strips of them too, sometimes.

BASTIEN DUBOIS

A native of Northern France, Bastien Dubois has tried his hand at programming and animation since he was his secondary school days. But it was during his studies at Supinfo.com that he had the idea of an animated travelogue. Thanks to 3D software, he gave his designs a 3rd dimension, allowing the viewer to immerse themselves in his world. From there, the idea was born to produce a short-film travelogue: "Madagascar, Carnet de Voyage". This film has received numerous prizes and nominations from across the globe, including a nomination at the 2011 Oscars. He has since created "Portraits de Voyage", a series that follows a different inhabitant of a country in each episode, who tells the traveller something about their culture, history and surroundings.

ELSIE HERBERSTEIN

Elsie Herberstein is an author and designer of travelogues and reportages. South Africa, Tibetan exiles, Zanzibar, Cambodia, Algiers, Namibia, and Guatemala are all distant destinations and subjects on which she has produced books and documentaries, mixing depictions of real life with stories. But her explorations also take her to the street

corner, to the Moquette, a different and innovative shelter for the homeless and other marginalised sections of society.

MICHEL RENAUD

Former journalist, and head of publicity for the municipality of Clermont-Ferrand, Michel Renaud initiated the fantastic international group of the best “plumes” for travel, “LES RENDEZ-VOUS DU CARNET DE VOYAGE DE CLERMONT – FD”. Today, he is Vice-President of the “Il Faut Aller Voir” association, who organise this event.

MARC WILTZ

Born in Saint-Mandé on 12 September 1961, Marc Wiltz spent his entire childhood in Le Havre, until the age of 22. Having graduated from the École supérieure de commerce du Havre in 1983, Marc Wiltz tried the theatre, radio, publishing and an internship at the Maison de la Culture. Then he worked at IBM, spent two years in Africa before becoming a film recording studio manager for 4 years. Marc Wiltz has always two passions in life: books and travelling, which led him to create MAGELLAN & Cie in 1999, bringing the two together. This publishing house now has a catalogue of 250 titles, many of which based on a ‘cinema’-style arrangement, as the publisher likes to call it, meaning finding the equivalent of the post-production advances on receipts approach.

“Le Tour du Monde en 80 livres”: in 28 chapters, from “Mythologies” to “Conquérants”, through being big children, observers of civilisations and the best ways to use transport, Marc Wiltz offers a new insight into 80 books with travel as their main theme that have had an influence on him.

AND MANY OTHERS TO FOLLOW...



A. A DRAMATISED SETTING

In order to put this event into context within the Cafés of Europe series organised by the Spa Towns involved in the European project, “Sources of Culture”, the organisers have appealed to three tour guides. All year round, they run guided tours of the Spa Towns Royat-Chamalières and Sancy in Belle Époque dress, in order to create an original setting, purposefully out of step.

Therefore, speakers and participants of the 3rd Café of Europe will be welcomed by:

- **Hortense de Rocham** (Elsa Schneider-Manuch, guide for the Royat-Chamalières Tourist Office) - *Photo*
- **Charlotte de la Tronchette** (Agnès Bertet, from the Virées du Sancy association)
- **Joséphine de la Renardière** (Pascale Chappot, from the Virées du Sancy association)

The characters, who will have spent almost two months journeying from Ourense (Spain, setting for the 2nd Café of Europe, 19 September 2013) will then stop off at Royat-Chamalières, before heading off for Baden-Baden (Germany, setting for the 4th Café of Europe).

Through short dramatized mini-scenes, they will introduce the speakers and the event’s highlights, bringing to life the atmosphere of an afternoon at the Spa Towns in the Belle Époque.

Important: To contribute to this “alive” atmosphere which the organisers desire, the Café of Europe will unfold on a raised stage in the middle of the theatre at the Casino de Royat-Chamalières, in order to facilitate exchanges between speakers and the public.



B. AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT

Several classes at the Maison Familiale Rurale de Vernines (www.mfr-vernines.fr) and the Lycée de Chamalières (www.lyceedechamalieres.fr) schools have worked with their teachers on the theme of travel prior to the Café of Europe. Students will participate in the event and will ask the various speakers questions on this occasion.

C. AND FOR THE TASTE BUDS: DELICACIES AND WATERS FROM ELSEWHERE...

Delicacies and mineral waters from other European Spa Towns participating in the European project Sources of Culture will be on offer to the public all afternoon.

II. THE CAFÉ OF EUROPE:

A “SOURCES OF CULTURE” PROJECT EVENT

A. THE EUROPEAN PROJECT, SOURCES OF CULTURE

Sources of Culture is a European project coordinated by the Route of Spa Towns in the Massif Central, who collaborate with 9 EHTTA (European Historic Thermal Towns Association) member spa towns/structures, including the Royat-Chamalières Tourist Office. This multidisciplinary project is founded on the question of the origins and future of European Spa Culture. In this manner, it includes all forms of creativity that have contributed to our shared European culture: art, literature, music, philosophy, science, even town planning. Working together, the member Spa Towns of the Sources of Culture project have given themselves the goal of reminding the general public of their common cultural heritage.

The **Cafés of Europe** make up one of the project's four strands, the others being: Festivals (collaboration for organising festivals and exhibitions), the interactive novel “At the Sources of Europe”, and the creation of the International Thermal Heritage Resource Centre in Vichy. For more information, visit: www.sources-of-culture.com

THE CAFÉS OF EUROPE

Following the town of Spa's (Belgium) example, which was known as the “Café of Europe” during the 19th Century, the European spa towns have always been towns of cures, but they are also holiday locations, where writers, artists, politicians and intellectuals of all angles and camps would come to stay. Through creating the Cafés of Europe, a series of prestigious round tables taking place in the Sources of Culture project's member spa towns, the organisers are aiming to revive the intellectual fermentation that took place in these destinations during the Belle Époque. Among the themes discussed will be: digital promotion of the spa towns, the spa towns at the origin of modern cultural tourism, the spa towns as sources of travel literature, and the spa towns as the sources of musical creation.

“AT THE SOURCES OF EUROPE”, THE INTERACTIVE NOVEL

Led by Michel Thomas-Penette, EHTTA Delegate-General, in collaboration with the public and key cultural operators from the spa towns, the trans-media, interactive novel “At the Sources of Europe” will see the light of day at the Café of Europe in Royat-Chamalières, on 14th of next November.

This interactive novel is based on the virtual journeys of four characters (a writer, a musician, a doctor and a prince) who encounter notable historic and contemporary figures, who tell of the history of the Source project's participating spa towns.

B. THE EHTTA

The European Historic Thermal Towns Association (EHTTA) is a network that began in Brussels in 2009. Today, it is composed of 25 spa towns, including, Evian, Vichy and Royat-Chamalières in France, Baden-Baden in Germany, Bath in the United Kingdom, Ourense in Spain, Montecatini Terme in Italy, the Czech Republic region Karlovy Vary, and Budapest in Hungary. All these towns possess an emblematic architectural heritage, and all utilise their mineral water's curative properties for therapeutic purposes.

The EHTTA member towns, including Royat-Chamalières, are an integral part of the historic thermal towns cultural route, one of 26 such routes recognised by the Council of Europe (just like the Santiago de Compostela Pilgrimage Ways),

⇒ For more information, visit: www.ehtta.eu

C. THE ROUTE OF SPA TOWNS IN THE MASSIF CENTRAL

The Route of Spa Towns in the Massif Central, EHTTA associate member, is the coordinator for the European project Sources of Culture. Born in 1998 under the impetus of the Massif Central DATAR (inter-ministerial delegation for regional development and attractiveness), and the mayors of thermal communes' desire to create a tourist network just for spa towns, the Route of Spa Towns in the Massif Central today counts 18 spa towns as members, spread over 5 regions (Auvergne, Bourgogne, Limousin, Rhône-Alpes and Midi-Pyrénées) and 9 departments (Allier, Ardèche, Aveyron, Cantal, Creuse, Loire, Nièvre, Puy-de-Dôme and Saône-et-Loire): Bourbon-l'Archambault, Bourboule, Châteauneuf-les-Bains, Châtel-Guyon, Chaudes-Aigues, Cransac-les-Thermes, Evaux-les-Bains, Meyras/Neyrac-les-Bains, Mont-Dore, Montrond-les-Bains, Néris-les-Bains, Royat-Chamalières, Saint-Honoré-les-Bains, Saint-Laurent-les-Bains, Saint-Nectaire, Vals-les-Bains and Vichy.

⇒ For more information, visit: www.villesdeaux.com



III. ROYAT-CHAMALIERES, TOURIST DESTINATION

Located to the west of the Clermont area, and in the immediate proximity of Vulcania, the European Park of Volcanism, and the emblematic Chaîne des Puys, currently awaiting classification on the UNESCO world heritage list, the Royat-Chamalières tourist thermal spa town benefits from a thermal quarter adorned with Belle Époque Spa Town architecture. Today, the town maintains a holiday-resort state of mind, and has numerous facilities to satisfy the smallest to the largest desires (thermal park, Royatonic thermal recreation centre, Hôtel Princesse Flore*****, among others).

For more information, visit: <http://tourisme-royat-chamalières.com>

10

IV. CONTACTS AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The 3rd Café of Europe will take place at the Théâtre du Casino on Royat, Thursday 14 November from 2pm to 6:30pm.

- ⇒ Free Entry
- ⇒ Location: Théâtre du Casino - Allée du Pariou - 63130 Royat

Royat's Théâtre du Casino: An Exceptional place

Reopened in 2012 after many months of renovation work, the Théâtre du Casino in Royat has rediscovered all of its splendour of yesteryear, and its inexorable cultural place in the thermal quarter. Erected in the mid-19th Century to offer bathers a place of entertainment, and joined to the Art Deco Casino during its last construction in 1919, Royat's Théâtre du Casino enjoys a rich and varied cultural season, filled with spectacles, theatre performances and one man shows.

- ⇒ Parking:
Saint-Victor car park (at the foot of Parc Thermal, under the railway viaduct)
Place Allard...
- ⇒ Information:
Royat-Chamalières Tourist Office – 1 avenue Auguste Rouzaud –63130 ROYAT
04 73 29 74 70 or info@ot-royat.com

PRESS CONFERENCE

Thursday 14 November 2013, 11:30am

At HOTEL ROYAL SAINT-MART*** - 6 avenue de la Gare – 63400 CHAMALIERES
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE EUROPEAN DELEGATION

PRESS CONTACTS:

Audrey FOURNIER – Press Officer- 06 98 26 67 14 – aud.fournier@gmail.com

Virginie DELAS – Tourist Office Director– 04 73 29 74 72 – v.delas@ot-royat.com

