

EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY ART
26 APRIL - 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

FIGURES
LIBRES

FLÂNERIE AUX JARDINS

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MOUANS-SARTOUX
The GARDENS of THE
INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF PERFUMERY

FRANCE / CÔTE D'AZUR

Free Figures: A Stroll in the Gardens

From 26 April to 30 September 2019

THE GARDENS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF PERFUMERY

979 chemin des Gourettes,
06370 Mouans-Sartoux - France

Tel.: +33 (0)4.92.98.92.69

Free Parking

OPENING HOURS

- Spring (opening 30 March): 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m
 - Summer (May - August): 10 a.m. to 7 p.m
 - Autumn (September - November): 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m
- Closed from 1 December to 29 March

TARIF

Full-rate: €4

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

Olivier Quiquempois, Director of the Museums of Grasse, Heritage Curator

Grégory Couderc, Conservation Officer, Museums of Grasse

Cindy Levinspuhl, Exhibitions and Museographic Projects Officer, Museums of Grasse

Nathalie Derra, Exhibitions and Sponsorship Officer, Museums of Grasse

Chloé Fargier, Documentalist, Museums of Grasse

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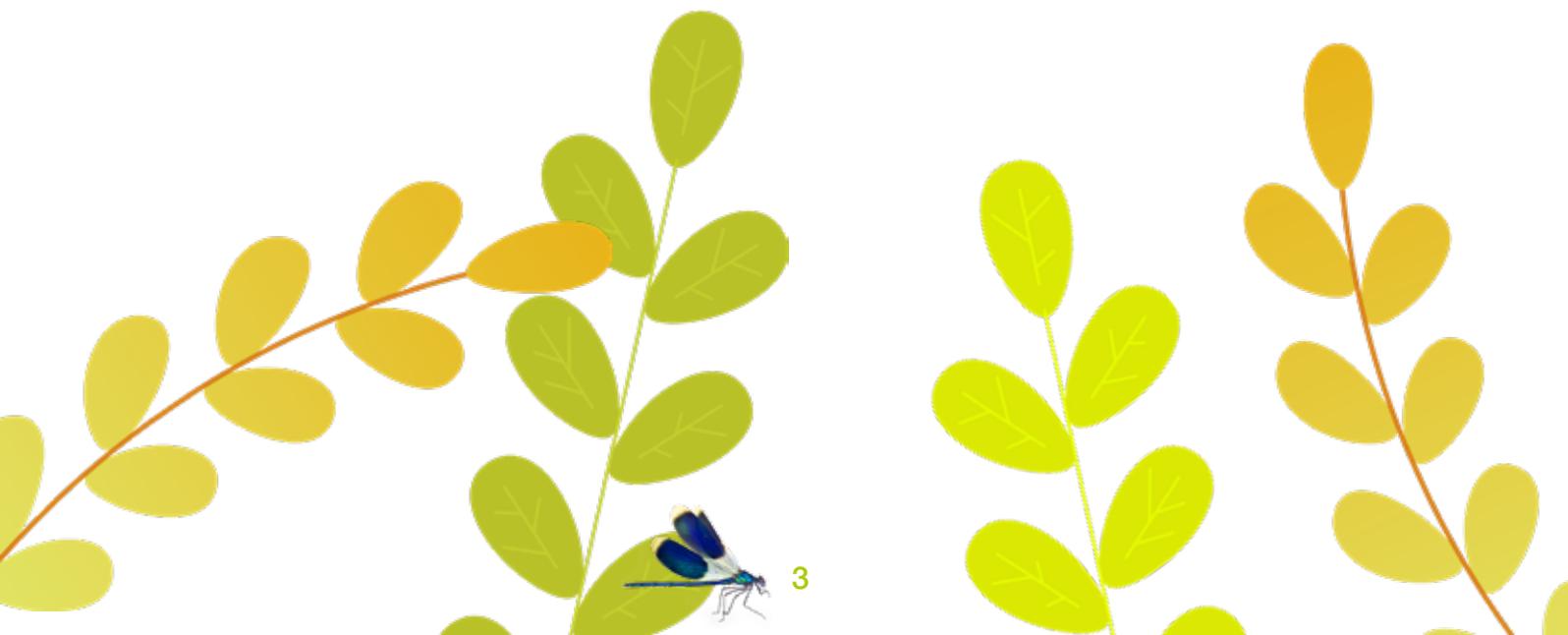
I. EDITORIAL

Place of discovery of scented plants and evocation of the flower fields of the Pays de Grasse at the time when they went down the Vallée de la Siagne to the Mediterranean shores. The Gardens of the MIP in Mouans-Sartoux often also cause in the visitor a special state of attention imbued with serenity. Here, this opening of mind is conducive to a different understanding of art works which, in the rooms of a museum, would not benefit from the same gaze. And while sculpture and gardens have for a long time now formed a happy couple, at the Gardens of the MIP, we like to offer ephemeral art works connected in the summer period, sometimes profoundly, with nature and the very specific environment of our gardens.

This year, it is a complete trail through all the plots of the gardens which we created with 11 visual artists whom Cathy Cuby got on board this aesthetic exploration. Each of these works is unique and independent, but they form a coherent whole through their links to the natural environment around them. Each work offers a different exchange with the visitor, and the final narrative retains an overall coherence. It is one of the mysteries of art to enable these apparent contradictions and that the essential fragility of the creations, the variety of materials, the freedom of the trail, freely chosen by the stroller, all lead to an individual experience which can be renewed with each wandering.

So, we invite you to come and come again to discover our exhibition **“Free Figures: A Stroll in the Gardens,”** this artistic work, an 11-voice polyphony forming only one in the middle of the scented flowers and plants of the Gardens of the MIP.

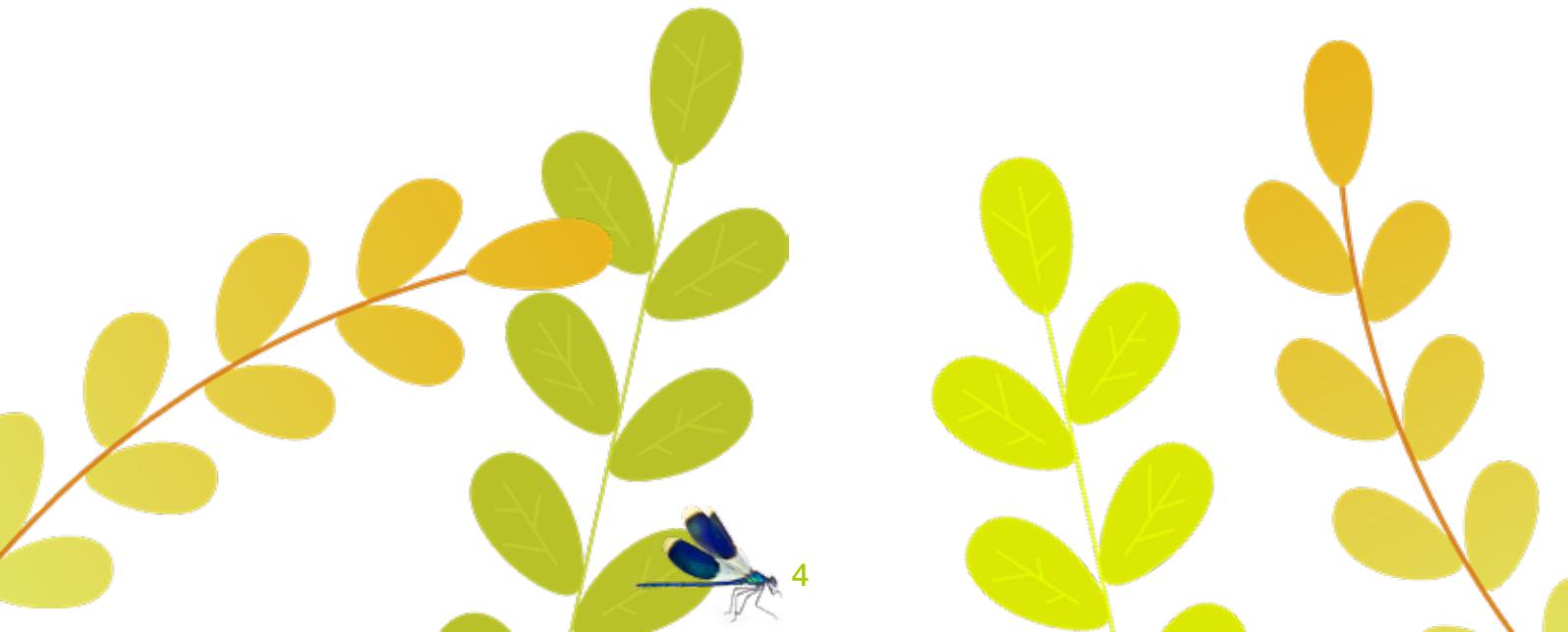
Olivier Quiquempois
Director of the Museums of Grasse
Heritage Curator



II. ARTISTIC ENCOUNTERS IN THE GARDENS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF PERFUMERY

The Gardens of the International Museum of Perfumery welcome eleven contemporary artists, driven by a shared reflection on nature and perfumery. Colourful, fun installations, sometimes interactive, punctuate the gardens and deliver messages in harmony with the environment, as essential as it is fragile.

Land Art plant sculptures blending perfectly into nature, monumental installations playing with scale and blurring our perceptions invite the visitor to a recreational and cultural stroll.



III. THE TRAIL AND THE WORKS OF THE 11 VISUAL ARTISTS

For this exhibition, eleven visual artists let themselves be inspired by the beauty and the scents of the Gardens of the International Museum of Perfumery. They responded to this enchanting setting, creating a very personal dialogue between art and nature.

Each work, in its distinct style and well-defined position, creates a varied and rhythmic whole throughout the floral plots of the garden, inviting strollers to fully explore the location.

We wish that through this exhibition the public may look with fresh eyes at these beautiful natural surroundings and discover the role of art in this verdant setting.

CATHY CUBY: *SCULPTURE-OISEAU*

Driftwood and reclaimed wood on iron structure.

“Gardens are not just flowers and trees. Birds are also present, these discreet free visitors who enjoy these locations.”



CHRISTIAN FULCHERI: *“LEVITATION”*

The work in collusion with the visitor and the immaterial third dimension of its reflection becomes a source of inspiration and escape.

It is both barrier and crossing, as well as weight and grace.

It lets us go with our own random mise-en-scène and offers us a fleeting gift with the feeling that the instant has to be seized in these unique moments of an endless search for the improbable.

We are invited to access the subjective mysteries of visions which explore a world of correspondences and reveal the wonderful in the familiar through the transformations of light, matter and time through rendering not of what we have actually seen, but of our perceptions.

It will enable us to find what we had not expected.



FIONA PATERSON :

"I would like to pay tribute to the insects which, as we know, play an essential role in the eco-system which supports plants and flowers: the fundamental basis of the perfume industry.

This tribute takes the form of two giant Chinese lanterns which also have the practical function of providing shelter to insects.

The orange "fruits" inside the lantern are pierced with holes of different sizes to shelter bees and other insects of the gardens."



4

ISABELLE AUBRY : "MORPHO"

This is a spatial layout of 200 wooden butterflies on the trunk of a tree.

In a context of changing our way of life, butterflies are endangered.

Their disappearance is partly due to increasing urban density, the spread of intensive agriculture, the climate ... etc.

Sought-after for their colour and aesthetics, collectors grab them to decorate interiors.

What will become of them in the future?

What other species will be endangered by extinction in our gardens and meadows?

In the botanical garden, the cloud offers the visitor look at biodiversity, so close, so visible and ponder what nature gives us and what mankind does with it.

The tree, a symbol of strength, verticality and robustness, can also be vulnerable.

Rooted, standing, it is also a support for life, here bearing the cloud of Morpho, ready to fly, like a sign of re-birth and hope.



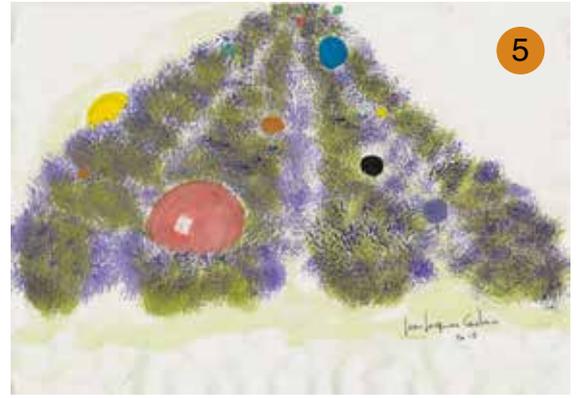
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6

JEAN JACQUES CASTEX: "FRAGRANCES"

From time immemorial, plants and flowers have been grown for their perfumes, awakening our sense of smell to seduce it. These coloured bubbles emanating from the plants represent their much-coveted fragrances.



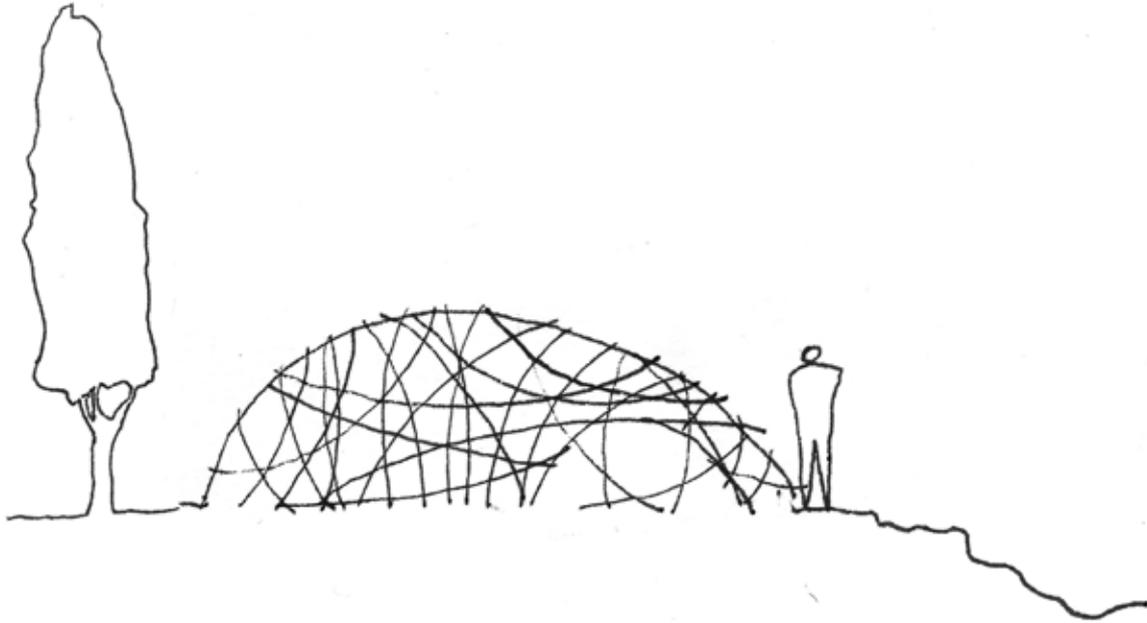
JEAN-CHRISTOPHE PUGLIESE: "NANO"

This is about Siddhartha before becoming Buddha, and It is in Carrara marble. His hands welcome visitors with fresh rose petals.



KIM CAO:

Bamboo weaver, creates plant sculptures inspired by natural forms. Installed in the middle of woods, placed straight on the ground or attached to the branches of trees, his works integrate perfectly with their environment. Kim Cao makes us raise our eyes to his sculptures which also invite us to meditation. The public is invited to interact with his installations which one can enter.

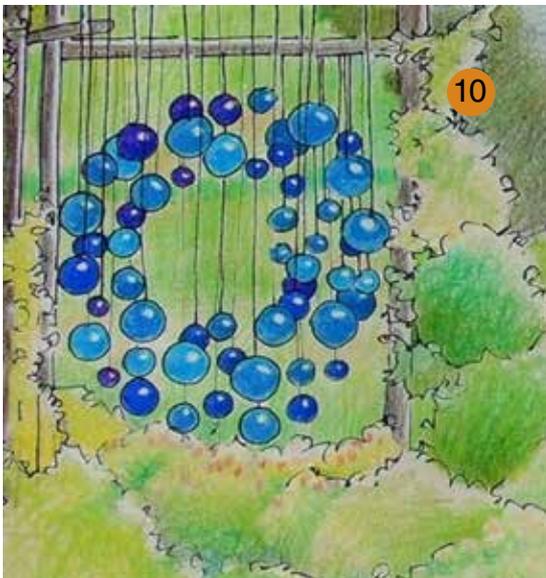


MARINA KULIK: "THE O" FOR OXYGEN

Plants provide us with fantastic colours and perfumes but they also produce a contribution to the Earth's existence as we know by producing oxygen.

To highlight this, I want to create a temporary monument with the 'O', the symbol of 'oxygene' in the tableau periodic table of elements, as several blue circles in the garden. Blue – because oxygen is blue and it gives its name to our "Blue" planet.

Everything was made from recycled materials.



PHILIPPE SCARDINA: "BUNDLE"

Like a meta-creature of Japanese mythology, BUNDLE borrows from the animal, plant, and energy worlds.

Made up of bundles of bamboo, wood, plant fibres, metal etc ..., it wanders rising from the earth, buries itself to rise again a few metres away, creating aerial arches, visible correspondences to the underground networks it uses.

Feeding on air, land and water, it is a benevolent creature which undulates with the perfumes of the garden.



7

SALLY DYCROW: "ROSE WATER"

Recovered elements often find a second life in the works of Sally Ducrow. Here, waste from our consumption of canned drinks are transformed into coloured petals which are assembled into the shape of a giant perfume bottle.



11

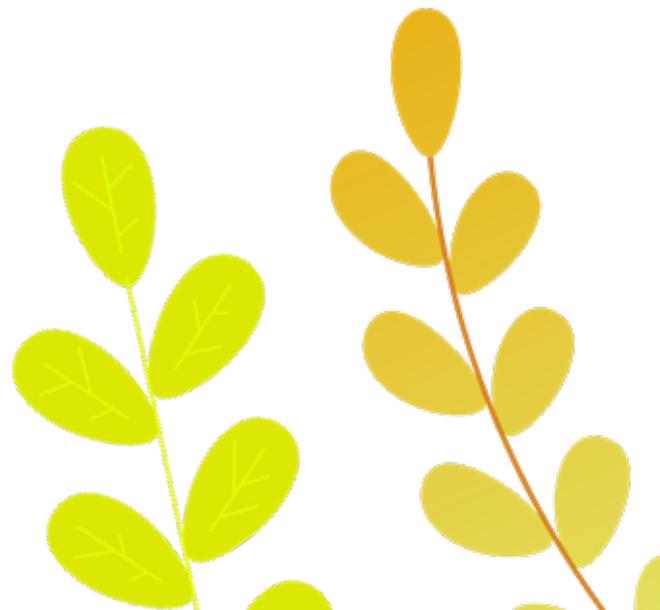


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TIZIANO:

Marble sculptor, here he converts a quarry buffer, used in the quarries to separate blocks of marble from the mountain when it is being extracted.

Highly coloured, his installation evokes a traffic sign recalling the fragility of nature's biological processes and our obligation to respect it.





Locations may vary slightly

- 1 - JEAN-CHRISTOPHE PUGLIESE, NANO
- 2 - ISABELLE AUBRY
- 3 - CHRISTIAN FULCHERI
- 4 - FIONA PATERSON
- 5 - JEAN JACQUES CASTEX
- 6 - KIM CAO

- 7 - PHILIPPE SCARDINA
- 8 - CATHY CUBY
- 9 - TIZIANO
- 10 - MARINA KULIK
- 11 - SALLY DUCROW



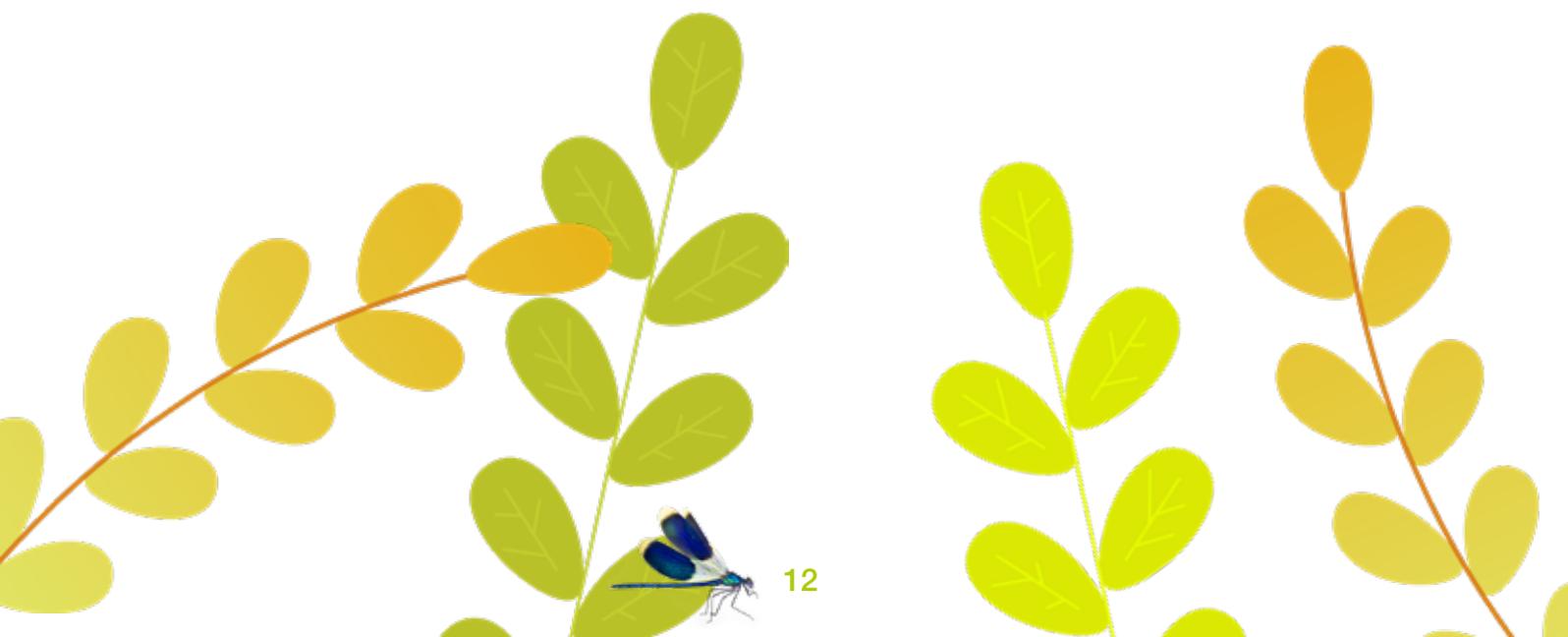
IV. THE GARDENS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF PERFUMERY

Centifolia rose, jasmine, tuberose, lavender, geranium, broom, orange tree... Perfumes are, first of all, born in plants, from here or elsewhere. The unique setting of the Gardens of the International Museum of Perfumery allows us to explore and smell these species which have for centuries supplied the precious raw materials of perfumery.

Magnificently located at the heart of the fields of perfume plants traditionally grown in the Pays de Grasse, the Gardens of the International Museum of Perfumery are part of the regional project led by the Communauté d'Agglomération du Pays de Grasse. This natural space, evidence of the olfactory landscape related to local agriculture is intended to preserve the special perfume plants of the Grasse area and promote them by disseminating know-how to all audiences.

For example, since 2010, the Educational Garden project offers primary and secondary pupils the opportunity to create a garden thanks to the provision of a plot. Exploration of perfume plants and introduction to ecological gardening are therefore on the programme. Located at the foot of the aromatic city, these botanical gardens of 2.5 hectares offer a delightful and perfumed walk among fields of May roses, jasmine, orange trees, tuberose, violets and many others.

At the same time, the Gardens of the International Museum of Perfumery have a place for fields which are cultivated in the old way, faithfully reconstructed and maintained as naturally as possible.



V. THE GARDENS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF PERFUMERY AND CONTEMPORARY ART

Since 2007, La Bastide du Parfumeur (the former name of the Gardens of the MIP) has followed a policy of partnerships aiming to develop contemporary art in the gardens.

Between the old canal and the stone pool, the visit was already normally an opportunity to encounter contemporary art works as in the exhibition by contemporary artist Michel Blazy in partnership with L'Espace de l'Art Concret, the artists' hives of the town of Mouans-Sartoux and also the artistic creations of the students of the Lycée Horticole of Antibes accompanied by Xavier Theunis, an artist from Nice. Furthermore, the International Museum of Perfumery has already called upon renowned artists such as Christophe Berdaguer & Marie Péjus, Peter Downsborough, Gérard Collin-Thiébaud, Brigitte Nahon, Jean-Michel Othoniel, Dominique Thévenin etc., to complement and provide new interpretations of the inside and outside spaces of the museum.

Indeed, contemporary art on the theme of perfumery can be open to many practices such as Land Art, glassworking, awakening the sense of smell, the industrial aspect ...

In 2011, for its first summer exhibition in the Gardens of the MIP, the Curators Department of the Museums of Grasse under the aegis of the Communauté d'Agglomération gave carte blanche to Bernard Abril, contemporary visual artist.

In 2014, it was an exhibition devoted to the work of Cathy Cuby, visual artist which was displayed during the summer. In 2015, the Curators Department of the Museums of Grasse decided to present the artistic work of René Bruno, artist-photographer. After an exhibition of works of the Nice artist, Armand Scholtès, in 2018, the Gardens of the MIP are hosting in 2019 a collective exhibition of contemporary artists.

By developing this approach to contemporary art, we hope to raise public awareness of the place of aesthetics in the art of the garden as well as art in the garden.

The contemporary art programme in the Gardens is evidence of our desire to develop contemporary art systematically across the various sites of the Museum Curators Service.

Finally, such networking also allows us to reach wider audiences and develop fundamental cultural partnerships in the area of the Communauté d'Agglomération du Pays de Grasse.

