

Teens banned from photo expo on teens

The exhibition *Kiss The Past Hello*, by photographer and film-maker Larry Clark, opened at the Musée d'Art Moderne in Paris amid controversy. The retrospective features more than 200 original photographic prints, taken over the last half century, showing American teenagers posing or in candid shots, on the streets, in their bathrooms and bedrooms. Some of these pictures evoke themes of nudity, sexuality and drug-taking, topics of which most people who have been through teenage years will be aware. These are beautiful and striking images which represent the spirit of youth in all its innocence and rawness.

Ironically, administrators at the Mairie of Paris have decided that the show is unsuitable for teenagers and have



above: Larry Clark: 'Untitled', 1968
below left: Larry Clark: 'Jonathan Velasquez', 2004

banned entrance to those aged under 18. The Mairie claims that otherwise it would contravene article 227-241 of the Code pénal, which forbids the display of violent or pornographic material to minors and could expose the municipality to fines of up to €75,000. Mayor Bertrand Delanoë explained that, in his opinion, "What was easy 20 years ago causes problems today."

Libération demonstrated its opposition to what it sees as censorship by publishing one of the most graphic of the photographs on its front page, the day before the opening. In an interview with the newspaper the same day, Clark said: "To forbid 16- or 17-year-olds from coming here and recognising themselves is ridiculous. I see this as an attack on youth, on teenagers. These photos are for them." *MW*

'Kiss the Past Hello' 08/10/2010-02/01/2011, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, 11 avenue du Président Wilson, 75116 Paris. Metro: Iéna. Tuesday-Sunday: 10am-6pm. <http://mam.paris.fr/fr/expositions/larry-clark>, 01 53 67 40 00



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST, LUHRING AUGUSTINE, NEW YORK AND SIMON LEE GALLERY, LONDON

Paris contemporary art fair, the arty rendez-vous

Next Thursday sees the opening of this year's Foire Internationale d'Art Contemporain (FIAC), the International Contemporary Art Fair in Paris. A major event in the European art calendar, it brings together 195 modern and contemporary art galleries from 24 countries, with 63 of those galleries showing for the first time. Exhibition spaces will be at the Grand Palais, the Cour Carrée du Louvre and the Tuileries Garden.

Artists whose work is on show range from household names such as Picasso and Dali to the many newcomers who are debuting at the event. FIAC was established in 1974 and has developed over the years to include not only paintings and sculpture but also music, theatre and lectures.

With FIAC, plus current exhibitions of Monet (Grand Palais), Murakami (Versailles), Arman (Pompidou), André Kertész (Jeu de Paume), Moebius (Fondation Cartier) and



The Cour Carrée du Louvre

Basquiat and Larry Clark at MAM, this is a great time to get to Paris for an art fix! *MW*
Foire Internationale d'Art Contemporain (FIAC), 21-24/10, Grand Palais & Louvre & Tuileries. €28 adults, €15 students, free for under 12s. www.fiac.com

The forgotten Impressionist

Giuseppe di Nittis (1846-1884) was born in Barletta, Italy, but soon came to Paris where he joined the Impressionist movement and became a friend and protégé of Manet and Degas. His work was exhibited at the highly influential first Impressionist show in Paris.

Like Degas, he enjoyed depicting the colour and movement of the lively local horse-racing scene, but he was equally adept at catching the life of the Paris boulevards and Tuileries gardens and was also a sensitive landscape artist. With his fellow Impressionists he experimented with pastels in some remarkable larger works.

However, his death at only 38 – mourned by Alexandre Dumas as "in full youth and full glory" – meant that his growing reputation was soon overwhelmed by those of his contemporaries. The extent of that may be judged by the fact that this is di Nittis's first Paris show since 1886.

The exhibition at the Petit Palais has more than 110 paintings drawn from public and private collections in France, Italy and the United States.

'Giuseppe di Nittis (1846-1884): La modernité élégante' 21/10-16/11/11, Petit Palais, Paris. Open Tuesday-Sunday 10am-6pm (8pm on Thursday). Closed Mondays and public holidays. www.petitpalais.paris.fr 01 53 43 40 00. €10

'I am from nowhere'



With 91 works on loan from the Medzilaborce Presov in Slovakia, the Andy Warhol exhibition at the Cistercian Abbey of Escaladieu (65) underlines his Slovak origin and highlights the Byzantine iconography that has influenced his portraits. His cultural and family background is depicted by the inclusion of personal effects and documents.

The works of Slovak artists Daniel Brogyanyi, Radoslav Repicky and Martin Kudla, from Warhol's home region, and four local artists inspired by the Pop Art movement (Nicolas

A defender of tradition

While the Monet show at the Grand Palais represents the triumph of Impressionism over the critics who for so long derided it, the Musée d'Orsay is celebrating the works of one of the new wave's most implacable foes. Jean-Léon Gérôme (1824-1904) was fierce in his defence of the traditional, academic style of painting, with its reliance on historic, religious and classical subjects and its almost photographic realism. He even welcomed the arrival of photography itself, saying, "At last Truth has left the well."

For most of his long career, Gérôme was highly regarded and received important commissions, but his outspoken attacks on the Impressionists were out of tune with changing tastes. His former popularity ebbed away and he came to be seen as representing the sterility of academic art. Only recently, his works have been reconsidered and he is increasingly regarded as one of the finest image-makers of the 19th century. To his credit, later in life, Gérôme became more tolerant of Impressionism, even remarking of the Manet exhibition of 1884: "It was not as bad as I thought."

The exhibition opening on Tuesday looks at all aspects of his work, from his sources to his influences on other painters, and from his theatrical interpretations of historic scenes to his fine polychrome sculptures. It has previously been seen at the Getty Museum in Los Angeles and at the Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid. *MH*

'Jean-Léon Gérôme (1824-1904): L'histoire en spectacle' 19/10-23/01/11, Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Open daily, except Mondays, 25/12 and 1/1/11. 9.30am-6pm (9.45pm Thursdays). €8

Fournillier, Marc Ledogar, Mélanie Maura and Patricia Monneraud) are also on display.

'I am from nowhere': 09/10-28/11
Entry 9.30am-4.30pm (closes 5.30)
€10, in group of 10+ €8, reduced €6 (students), under-10s, jobseekers, pilgrims free
Escaladieu Abbey 05 62 39 16 97 www.cg65.fr



Peter Hackett's

French as she is spoke

Think you have been conned?
Someone's pulled a fast one?

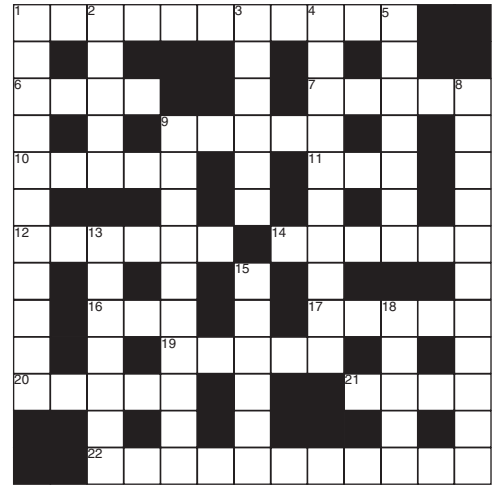


On m'a fait avaler des coulevres. (Literally: someone has made me eat grass snakes.)

POLYMOT No 12

BILINGUAL CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Across solutions are in English, down solutions in French



Across (solutions in English)

Down (solutions in French)

- Flagging taste of woman friend in meeting (5,6)
- He leaves hugely caricaturised sisters (4)
- Short chapter a really loud badinage emerges from (5)
- Fair city is saucy, hot (5)
- Would god be heard back in very tasty bit? (5)
- High speed runner held back by plumes (3)
- Improves, putting me in goals (6)
- Recede about order (6)
- Book-end missing surprising expression (3)
- Find globes excessively round (5)
- New remit to cover head of church (5)
- Retro manuscript holds inexperienced group of flyers (5)
- Heady glow as learner leaves greeting (4)
- Can't my shape change in prompt settlement? (4,7)
- See if juror's out on days off (5,6)
- Roof style given rise to offence (5)
- Someone else in Truffaut ruin (6)
- Bowman takes in Biblical ground zero for old floater (5,2,3)
- Queen holds worth to assess (7)
- Avignon build to take a long weekend (5,2,4)
- Tribunal's head office has small measure in prim types (4,6)
- Virgin so attired (2,5)
- Carried up too much (2,4)
- Say land measure led astray (5)

Send your solution with your name and postal address to: **French Week, BP1, 47330 Castillonès or email it to redac@french-week.com**
Solution and winner will appear in Issue 15 (November 5)

A year's subscription to French Week goes to the first correct solution opened on October 29, 2010
Winner of Polymot 9: Vivien Delahaye (Midi-Pyrénées)
Winner of Minimot 8 Maurice Puttock (Midi-Pyrénées)

SOLUTION TO POLYMOT 9 AND MINIMOT 8

