



ACADÉMIE
DES BEAUX-ARTS
INSTITUT DE FRANCE

PRESS RELEASE

Versailles, March 11, 2021

The Friends of the Royal Opera (ADOR) and the Academy of Beaux-Arts establish the Foundation of the Royal Opera of Versailles

The Foundation of the Royal Opera aims to ensure the continuation of a full artistic season at the Royal Opera and the Royal Chapel.

The primary mission of the Foundation of the Royal Opera is to perpetuate the season of concerts and operas at the Palace of Versailles. It acts to ensure the continuation of a full artistic season at the Royal Opera and the Royal Chapel. It supports educational projects linked to the programming of the Royal Opera and awards grants and prizes to artists.

The Foundation of the Royal Opera of Versailles was created at the Palace of the Institut de France on Wednesday March 10, 2021. It is a "foundation under aegis" under the auspices of the **Academy of Beaux Arts**, created jointly by **ADOR** – the Friends of the Royal Opera and the Academy of Beaux Arts, a merger of the royal academies of painting, sculpture, architecture and music.

The creation of the Foundation was made possible thanks to a substantial endowment of 850,000 € provided by a committee made up of founding members who are involved in its governance.

The founding members undertake to supplement the endowment of the foundation and to support its long-term development.

To carry out its missions, the Foundation may appeal to the generosity of the public and solicit bequests and donations. Its accounts are under the strict oversight by the Academy of Beaux-Arts.

Governance

The Foundation of the Royal Opera – Academy of Beaux-Arts is governed by a board of 6 members.

- **President of the Board : Laurent Petitgirard**, Perpetual Secretary of the Academy of Beaux-Arts is the President of the Board
- **Vice-President of the Board : Aline Foriel-Destezet**, Founder of the Foundation
- **Board's Members :**
 - Wilfried Meynet**, President of the Friends of the Royal Opera of Versailles
 - Alain Pouyat**, Delegate of the Founders' committee
 - Muriel Mayette-Holtz**, Member of the Academy of Beaux-Arts
 - Hugues R. Gall**, Member of the Academy of Beaux-Arts

Verbatim

Mrs Aline Foriel-Destezet, Founder

« On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the Opéra Royal, it was important for me to personally and actively contribute to its influence by initiating this foundation whose mission is to perpetuate a musical season at the Château de Versailles »

Mr Laurent Petitgirard, Perpetual Secretary of the Academy of Beaux-Arts

« As a composer and conductor, I am naturally really happy to see the creation of this foundation which will have as unique mission to support all the projects of the Royal Opera, and its director, Laurent Brunner. By housing this Foundation in the service of the Royal Opera, the Academy of Beaux Arts thus fully assumes its statutory mission of defending and representing the artistic heritage of France ».

Mrs Catherine Pégard, President of the Palace, Museum of the National Estate of Versailles

« By creating this foundation in such uncertain times, the Friends of the Royal Opera express to us their determination that music continues to live on in Versailles where Louis XIV wanted it to accompany every moment of the day»

Laurent Brunner, Director of the Royal Opera and Château de Versailles Spectacles

« I am very moved, in the name of the Royal Opera and Château de Versailles Spectacles' team, that our incredible work is now recognized and confirmed by the creation of this Foundation. We salute the remarkable commitment of these founders, who express a strong desire to maintain the Royal Opera at the level of excellence which symbolizes Versailles »

Press contacts

Fanny Collard : fcollard@chateauversailles-spectacles.fr

Mathilde Bardot : mbardot@chateauversailles-spectacles.fr

The Foundation of the Royal Opera

Institut de France

23 Quai de Conti - 75006 Paris

+ 33 1 30 83 70 92

fondationoperaroyal@academiedesbeauxarts.fr