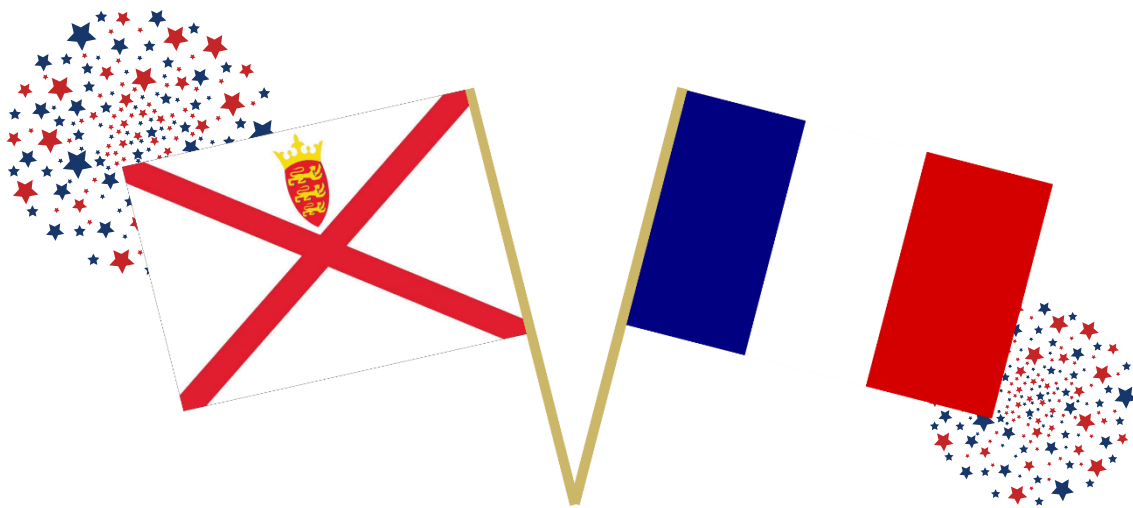




# *La Saison Française*

## *French Season 2024*

### *A Celebration of Culture in Jersey*



#### *Introduction:*

Embark on a journey of cultural discovery as we unveil La Saison Française / French Season 2024 in Jersey, a vibrant celebration of French culture set against the backdrop of our picturesque island. From June 22nd to July 28th, 2024, cultural institutions from around Jersey are working together to bring us a step closer to our neighbours as a 'warm-up' to the 2024 Paris Olympics and focused around two annual public French cultural events: Fête de la Musique and Bastille Day.

This proposal is to outline plans for the season and to request sponsorship for two celebratory free public programmes in St Helier to mark Fête de la Musique (Saturday 22 June) and Bastille Day Celebrations (Saturday 13 July).

## *Meet the Organisers of La Saison Française*

La Saison Française is brought to you by a collective effort of Jersey institutions, each bringing its unique expertise and passion to the table. Together, we are dedicated to curating an unforgettable cultural experience that celebrates the vibrant tapestry of French culture and strengthens the bonds between Jersey and France.



**Alliance Française:** As the leading authority on French language and culture in Jersey, Alliance Française is committed to promoting linguistic and cultural exchange. With a rich history of fostering connections between Jersey and the French-speaking world, Alliance Française plays a pivotal role in shaping the cultural landscape of our island.

**ArtHouse Jersey:** At the forefront of artistic innovation and community engagement, ArtHouse Jersey champions creativity in all its forms. Through groundbreaking initiatives and collaborative projects, ArtHouse Jersey empowers artists and audiences alike, enriching our cultural fabric and inspiring positive change.

**Jersey Opera House:** A cultural beacon in the heart of St Helier, Jersey Opera House is synonymous with world-class performances and captivating experiences. With a diverse program spanning theatre, music, dance, and more, Jersey Opera House is a cherished institution that brings people together through the magic of live entertainment.

**La Maison de la Normandie et de la Manche:** Serving as a cultural bridge between Jersey and its French neighbours, La Maison de la Normandie et de la Manche represents the Region of Normandy and the Conseil Departemental de la Manche, promotes cross-channel cooperation and celebrates the shared heritage of our region. Through a dynamic array of events and initiatives, La Maison de la Normandie et de la Manche fosters mutual understanding and collaboration.

Together, the Alliance Française, Art House Jersey, Jersey Opera House, and La Maison de la Normandie et de la Manche form a formidable alliance dedicated to bringing La Saison française to life. With our collective expertise, passion, and commitment to excellence, we invite you to join us on this extraordinary journey of cultural discovery and celebration. Vive La Saison française!

# *La Saison Française / French Season 2024*

## *Programme :*

La Saison Française is more than just a series of events; it is an ode to the rich tapestry of French culture, brought to life on the vibrant streets of Jersey. With the support of our esteemed partners, we invite you to experience the essence of France right here on our shores.

*Opening free event: Fête de la Musique (June 22<sup>nd</sup>), Organised by Jersey Opera House, Maison de la Normandie, Alliance Française Jersey and ArtHouse Jersey*

Step into the heart of St Helier as we kickstart La Saison française with a dazzling display of musical talent at the first-ever Fête de la Musique in Jersey. Originating over 40 years ago in France, this iconic event is a celebration of music in all its forms.

Prepare to be swept away by the enchanting melodies and pulsating rhythms as La Saison française kicks off with the inaugural Fête de la Musique on June 22nd. This celebration of music transcends boundaries, inviting both amateurs and seasoned professionals to showcase their talent and passion for the art form. Our mission is clear: to make music accessible to all, fostering a sense of community and appreciation for diverse musical genres.

Picture the streets of St Helier coming alive with the vibrant sounds of music, as audiences are pleasantly surprised by free performances around every corner. A carefully curated **mix of local Jersey and French Normandy musicians**, selected through a call for applications, will grace the stage, ensuring a diverse and eclectic musical experience. From the infectious beats of rhythmic batucada to the ethereal tones of hand drums, there's something to delight every musical palate.

The festivities will unfold across **four locations in St Helier**, ensuring that music enthusiasts can immerse themselves in a symphony of sounds throughout the day. **Three acoustic sets** will captivate audiences at the **Cider Press**, in **front of Paperchase**, and in **front of Bastille**, providing intimate settings for listeners to connect with the music on a deeper level. For those craving a more **amplified experience**, the **Royal Square** will host a dynamic set, igniting the spirit of celebration and camaraderie.

**From 11am until 5 p.m.**, music will serve as the heartbeat of the city, uniting people from all walks of life in a shared celebration of creativity and expression. Whether you're a casual listener or a devoted music aficionado, La Fête de la Musique promises a great experience that will resonate long after the final notes fade into the twilight. Join us as we set the stage for a day filled with harmony, rhythm, and boundless joy.

## *Fête de la Musique: meet the artists!*

La Fête de la Musique will also be an opportunity to **celebrate our links with our closest neighbours** as professional and amateur musicians from Normandy will come to Jersey to perform. Many Norman artists answered our call for application and will be delighted to perform during the first Fête de la Musique in Jersey.

Although our programme is still TBC, have a look below at some of the names and bands we preselected to take part in our event.



### **Ca R'Samba Koi**

Let's bring out the drums in the streets of St Helier!

Based in Cherbourg (Normandy), this ensemble plays « batucada », a brazilian music style derived from samba to make everybody dance!

### **La Mafia Normande**

Let's get ready to go back in time and swing to the sound of the « Norman Mafia », a fun and lively band from Normandy playing jazz, swing and revisited French tunes from the beginning of the 20th century.



### **Ana Kap**

Atypical trio from Normandy playing trumpet, violin and accordion.

# *La Saison Française / French Season 2024*

*(June 14<sup>th</sup> - July 28<sup>th</sup>)*

Following the Fête de la Musique, La Saison Française continues with a series of innovative and accessible exhibitions, performances and screenings celebrating collaborative cultural exchange and the work of distinguished contemporary French artists:

- **Cinéclub - Divertimento, organised by Alliance Française Jersey**



**14 June, 6pm at Jersey Museum, St Helier**

At 17, Zahia Ziouani dreams of becoming an orchestra conductor. Her twin sister, Fettouma, is a professional cellist. Lulled by classical symphonic music from an early age, they too want to make it accessible to everyone, everywhere. With determination, passion and courage, the two sisters have come up with the incredible project of creating their own orchestra: Divertimento.

- **Conversation au pub, organised by Alliance Française Jersey**

**28 June, 5.30-7pm at the Peirson, St Helier**

Parlez-vous français?! Whether you are just embarking on your journey into French, you are an expert or you are just curious, start the weekend with a drink in good company by joining us for our monthly pub conversation.



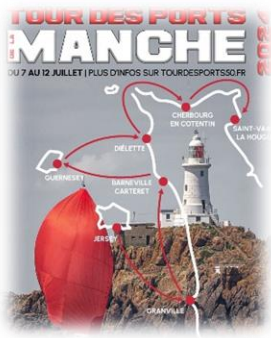
- **Olympic games: Challenges and vision for Paris 2024, organised by Alliance Française UK network**

**5 July, 6pm online**



This online conference will focus on the 2024 project and the key words associated with it, such as inclusivity, sustainability and the environment. The conference will also be linked to the changes in the daily lives of Parisians, tourists and even in the organisation of the Games (torches/places used/calendar/ceremony).





- **Tour des ports de la Manche – Sailing race organised by Maison de la Normandie**

**6-7 July at Albert Pier, St Helier**

Created in 1984, the ‘Tour des Ports de la Manche’ is a renowned sailing race with 7 stops across the Channel and gathering more than 100 boats every year. For the first time this year, the race will start from Jersey on 7 July. The sailors will arrive at the Albert Pier on Saturday 6 July, giving everyone a wonderful opportunity to admire the boats and enjoy the friendly and festive atmosphere of the event.

- **Norman Market organised by Maison de la Normandie**

**11-14 July, 9am to 6pm at the Royal Square**

Well-established event in Jersey, the Norman Market is all about bringing something different to the island and promoting the quality of French products. Cheese, cider, fruits, vegetables, saucisson... Everything we need for a wonderful French apéritif and more!



- **Cinéclub – Tempête, organised by Alliance Française Jersey**

**12 July, 6pm at Jersey Museum, St Helier**



Born on her parents' stud farm, Zoé has grown up surrounded by horses and has only one dream: to become a jockey! Tempête, a filly she saw being born, was to become her alter ego. But one stormy evening, Tempête tramples Zoé's back in a panic, shattering all her dreams and preventing her from walking again. But she hangs on, whatever the cost, for years, trying the impossible to reconnect with her destiny.

- **What Shadow? (Ce Que Dit La Bouche d’Ombre), organised by ArtHouse Jersey**

**13-28 July, Capital House at ArtHouse Jersey**

Brand new exhibition showcasing collaborative exchanges between 6 artists inspired from the rich and dramatic landscapes, mythologies and social histories of Brittany, Guernsey and Jersey. Produced in association with Guernsey Arts, Les Ateliers du Vent Rennes and ArtHouse Jersey.



- **Camille Lacroix, organised by ArtHouse Jersey**

**18 July, 7pm, Greve de Lecq Barracks, ArtHouse Jersey**

Experimental sound artist presents a playful and impressive double bill of two solo works inspired from the writings of Marcel Duchamp, in which the body becomes an electronic amplifier of sound and movement.



- **Jérôme Bel, organised by ArtHouse Jersey**

**19-20 July, 7.30pm, Greve de Lecq Barracks, ArtHouse Jersey**

Jérôme Bel is the first staging in English of a new work by renowned French choreographer Jérôme Bel, whose conceptual and playful interrogations of what it means to dance, to be a dancer and to create dance becomes a moving and philosophical self-reflection of what it means to live.



- **Burn to Shine, organised by ArtHouse Jersey**

**25 July, 7pm at Jersey Museum, St Helier**

A screening of the extraordinary film by theatre-maker, writer and director Patricia Allio, which traces centuries of history, mythology and rituals from a small village in Finisterre, Brittany through leaps of time and imagination



## *Bastille Day Celebrations (July 13<sup>th</sup>), organised by Maison de la Normandie et Alliance Française Jersey*

As La Saison Française reaches its peak, join us for a celebration to remember with our Bastille Day event.



Mark your calendars for July 13th as we **gather on the historic Royal Square to commemorate Bastille Day in true French style**. Transforming the Square into a bustling French village, complete with Norman market stalls and traditional delicacies, we'll transport you to the heart of France without ever leaving Jersey.

A stage will take centre stage, playing host to an array of **live performances and a captivating French music mix** that will keep spirits high throughout the festivities. As the clock strikes 6 p.m., we'll have the honour of our **new Honorary French Consul inaugurating the official celebrations**, setting the tone for an evening filled with warmth, camaraderie, and cultural exchange. Join us in raising a glass during the **vin d'honneur**, extending the spirit of hospitality to all who gather in the Square.



But the celebrations don't stop there. As twilight descends, the night sky will come alive with a dazzling **display of fireworks**, casting a radiant glow over the Square and igniting the hearts of all who bear witness. It's a momentous occasion, not only for the French community in Jersey but for all islanders to come together and revel in the special bonds that unite us with France.



Bastille Day in Jersey is more than just a celebration; it's a testament to the enduring friendship and shared history between our Island and France. So join us as we raise our voices in song, savour the flavours of France, and bask in the glow of fireworks illuminating the night sky.