

CITÉ DE LA MUSIQUE
PHILHARMONIE DE PARIS

FILM MUSICALS!

A glorious feeling

From October 2018 to January 2019

Singin' in the rain, Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen, USA, 1952 © Warner Bros.

THE EXHIBITION

Film musicals are enjoying a huge revival among all generations boosted by extraordinary media enthusiasm.

So the Philharmonie de Paris would like to devote a spectacular world-exclusive exhibition to the genre.

FILM MUSICALS! A GLORIOUS FEELING examines the making of musicals in the USA and Europe, and explores variations in other cultures, especially Egypt and India. The exhibition adopts the narrative line of hit musicals such as *Broadway Melody* (1929), *Singin' in the Rain* (1953) or *Moulin Rouge* (2002), up to *La La Land* (2016), following all the stages in the production of a musical from the development of the idea to its triumphant performance, via casting, the recording of the music, filming, editing, etc.



La La Land, Damien Chazelle, 2016 © Lionsgate



The Wizard of Oz, Victor Fleming, 1939 © MGM Pictures © Warner Bros.

THE ARTIST'S INSTALLATION JEAN-PAUL GOUDE

Jean-Paul Goude is one of the most brilliant “image makers” of contemporary creation. He has worked in every cultural field: from fashion to photography, from advertising to the performing arts. He staged the ceremony of the French Revolution bicentenary celebration in Paris in 1989, he was the craftsman of Grace Jones’ iconic image, and in turn illustrator, art director, photographer, and director of advertising campaigns for Chanel, Kodak and Galeries Lafayette.

His mother had once been a dancer on Broadway, and more notably for the famous Ziegfeld Follies. Crazy about musicals that have shaped his imagination since childhood, Jean-Paul Goude will design an installation as a testament of his love for the genre.

INTENTIONS

- Large numbers of works, archives and cult items revive our memories of the genre: music and film excerpts, personal accounts, scores and libretti, rare photos, posters, costumes and accessories.
- Innovative interactive exhibits ensure visit participation at each key stage in the itinerary, structuring an immersive, original exhibition that explores the creative background of the musical: writing words and music, touring the film set, singing and dancing with the stars, trying on a costume, taking part in the post-synchronisation of tap dancing, etc.
- Over the itinerary, areas are dedicated to key themes:
 - Sources and influences (including novels, non musical plays, Broadway shows, including the ones adapted from motion pictures),
 - 'Parallel' industries and media (radio, records, published scores, TV, internet...)
 - Remarkable personalities (Fred Astaire, Busby Berkeley, Judy Garland, Gene Kelly, Julie Andrews, Bob Fosse, Jacques Demy...)
 - Fairy tales and animated films (*The Wizard of Oz*, of course, but also Disney productions which, though not always considered musicals, have always maintained a tradition of

KEY INFORMATION

- Around a hundred film excerpts, together with costumes and scores.
- 800 m2 of modular space.
- A diverse programme of films and cineconcerts.

song and dance in live action as well as animated features, even at periods when the musical genre itself was at a low ebb),

- New artistic forms that pay homage to the genre (such as artists' installations, but also music videos, mash-ups...).



Swing Time, 1936, George Stevens © RKO Pictures

THE CURATOR: N. T. BINH

N. T. Binh is a senior lecturer in Cinematographic Studies at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and an expert of the Hollywood musical.

He is a member of the editorial committee of the journal *Positif*, writing under the pen name Yann Tobin. He has been working for the publication since 1979 and has especially published many musical-related articles and interviews (Stanley Donen, Julie Andrews, etc.).

N. T. Binh also curated the 2013 exhibition *Music and Cinema: Marriage of the Century?*, one of the Philharmonie de Paris's greatest successes.

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