



*Restoration of the Pierre Dulin canvas at the Hôtel des Invalides, September 2020*

## **Lazard Frères Gestion-Institut de France Foundation: A Proud Portfolio of Accomplishments**

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**The Lazard Frères Gestion-Institut de France Foundation was created in 2020 and works to protect and promote artistic and cultural heritage. In less than two years, the initiatives it has undertaken have supported the restoration of works of art, assisted educational projects and promoted the role of women in artistic creation.**

In 2022, Lazard Frères Gestion will celebrate both the second anniversary of its Foundation and 15 years of sponsorship activities. The company first began to engage in philanthropic projects in 2007, most prominently in the 2017 restoration of *Christ in the Garden of Olives* (1827)

by Eugène Delacroix, followed in 2019 by the *Armoire de Fer* strongbox at France's National Archives. Since September 2020, the Lazard Frères Gestion-Institut de France Foundation has provided resources for sustaining and expanding these commitments.

## Preservation of Cultural Heritage

A major component of the Foundation's efforts is the restoration of works threatened or degraded by age. In its first few months of operation, the Foundation provided support for the restoration of a Pierre Dulin painting, *The Establishment of the Hôtel Royal des Invalides*, created between 1710 and 1715. The project, completed in March 2021, restored this extraordinary 20 m<sup>2</sup> work to its original splendour. It will be showcased during the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris.



*Installation of the Pierre Dulin canvas for restoration at the Hôtel des Invalides*

In 2021, the Foundation also supported the restoration and digitisation of a unique

manuscript devoted to the life of Jeannie Gobillard and her cousin Julie Manet, a painter, model and art collector. Rediscovered during preparations for the “Julie Manet, la mémoire impressionniste” exhibition at the Marmottan Monet Museum, this document has provided a precious account of the role of women in the Impressionist movement.



*Restoration of a 17th century casket by an INP student supported by the Foundation*

The original manuscript has been on public display since 19 October, 2021 as part of the exhibition dedicated to the artist.

## Support for Education and Elite Training

The preservation of heritage also involves education and training – a theme dear to the Foundation. An annual program aimed at

supporting four students from France's Institut National du Patrimoine (INP) heritage institute was launched by the Foundation in autumn 2020, and is set to continue into the future. In their fifth and final year of study, these students undertake an artwork restoration project in their field of specialization. The four students supported by the Foundation graduated during the 2020-2021 academic year, after

completing the restoration of an artistic creation involving working with canvas, paper, or wood. We congratulate them on their graduation.



The Foundation has also embarked on a program established by the Foundation for Safeguarding French Art, the aim of which is to introduce a class of high-school students to their local heritage.



*Work in a high school class in Givors (Lyon region)*

Students select a work and follow its restoration throughout the academic year. This initiative raises young people's awareness of questions about cultural heritage, while encouraging potential professional vocations.

A passion for art is transferred not only through training, but also via formative experiences for young children. It was in response to these two complementary approaches that, in 2020-2021, the Foundation supported a student at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris (CNSMDP) as part of the Artist Working in an Academic Environment



*Primary school musical course at the Ecole Anatole France in Saint-Denis*

(AIMS) program. Spending three days a week at the Ecole Anatole France in Saint-Denis, this young artist led a primary-school class in music and singing, culminating in the creation

of an opera that premiered in front of an audience in June 2021.

Lastly – and again in conjunction with the CNSMDP – the Foundation is now supporting three young classical dancers who have entered the prestigious Prix de Lausanne international dance competition. The financial assistance provided by the Foundation has provided the students with additional resources



*Classical dancer preparing for the Prix de Lausanne*

for ensuring they are fully prepared for this event, which is a key generator of professional opportunities. The Foundation also works to promote our institutions and the young artists they train at international level.

## Women in Art

Many of these initiatives have a common thread, which also forms one of the Foundation's raisons d'être: to promote and support the role of women in artistic creation. This cause was honoured during the 2020 and 2021 winter festivals organised in conjunction with the *Elles – Creative Women* organisation, the aim of which is to raise the profile of the female artists and composers of the past and present.

This project, financed by the Foundation, resulted in the creation of short videos introducing and promoting often overlooked works from our musical heritage, produced by women.

**The Foundation will undertake many more projects in 2022. Get the latest news through our publications and social networks.**



*Many artists received support in promoting the works of female artists in conjunction with the Elles – Creative Women association*



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### About the Institut de France

The Institut de France was created in 1795. Its mission is to provide the five *Académies* (French, Humanities, Science, Fine Arts, Moral and Political Sciences) with a harmonious framework for the improvement of letters, sciences and the arts, on a non-profit basis. It is a major patron, encouraging research and supporting creative works through the awarding of prizes, scholarships and grants (more than 23 million euros distributed every year via its supported foundations). Under the conservancy of the President of the French Republic, it is also the custodian of significant heritage assets, most notably the Palais du quai de Conti, four libraries – including the Bibliothèque Mazarine – and many residences and collections that have been bequeathed to it since the late 19th century. These include the Château de Chantilly, the Chaalis estate, the Jacquemart-André museum, the Château de Langeais, the Manoir de Kerazan and the Villa Kérylos.

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