

August 17, 2022

Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

## Dialogues of the Muses: The Paris Opera House and the Arts November 5 [Sat.], 2022 - February 5 [Sun.], 2023

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1. Édouard MANET, *Masked Ball at the Opera*, 1873, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

2. Charles GARNIER, *Front View of the Facade of the Palais Garnier*, 1861 ©Bibliothèque Nationale de France

The Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation (Director: Ishibashi Hiroshi), presents *Dialogues of the Muses: The Paris Opera House and the Arts*.

The Paris Opera House is known as a glorious sacred space for ballet and opera performances. Founded in 1669 by King Louis XIV, the Paris Opera House has, throughout its history, consistently commissioned works with artistically innovative, even revolutionary, potential from librettists, composers, and artists. This exhibition explores the history of the Paris Opera House from the seventeenth century to the present, examining the relationships between various fields of art and their appeal from a comprehensive artistic perspective. The focus is particularly on the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the age of romantic ballet, grand opera, and the Ballets Russes. Introducing the multifaceted appeal of the Paris Opera House from artistic, cultural, and sociological perspectives, using about 250 works from the Bibliothèque nationale de France and other sources in Japan and abroad, this exhibition reveals its historic significance. In making the complex connections between the Paris Opera House and many arts, this exhibition is an utterly unprecedented venture.

## What is the Paris Opera House?

France's iconic setting for musical theater performances, this gorgeous building in the 9th arrondissement of Paris was planned as one part of the modernization of Paris in the latter half of the nineteenth century and completed in 1875. The theater is called the Palais Garnier, after its architect, Charles Garnier. During the more than 350 years since its predecessor, the Académie Royale de Musique, was founded by King Louis XIV in 1669, it has always commissioned works that make possible artistic advances and innovations from librettists, composers, and artists. In 1989, a new theater, the Opéra Bastille, was completed. Today, both Opera Houses present ballets and operas, from the classics to contemporary works.



Interior of the Paris Opera House  
© Jean-Pierre Delagarde / Opéra national de Paris

## Exhibition Highlights

### 1. 200 works from the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Musée d'Orsay, and other sources, on display in Japan

The Department of Music of the Bibliothèque nationale de France has a large collection of materials related to French opera and ballet, with a focus on works that have been performed at the Paris Opera House. This exhibition introduces about 200 works from that collection, plus works from the Musée d'Orsay, including Edgar Degas's *The Dance Class*, and other works related to the Opera House from sources in Japan and abroad.

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3. François-Gabriel-Guillaume LÉPAULLE, *Trio from Act V, Scene 3 of Robert le Diable (Robert the Devil)*, 1835  
©Bibliothèque Nationale de France

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4. Edgar DEGAS, *The Dance Class*, 1873-76, Paris, Musée d'Orsay  
Photo © RMN-Grand Palais (musée d'Orsay) / Adrien Didierjean / distributed by AMF

### 2. Interpreting the appeal of the Opera House as a “comprehensive work of art”

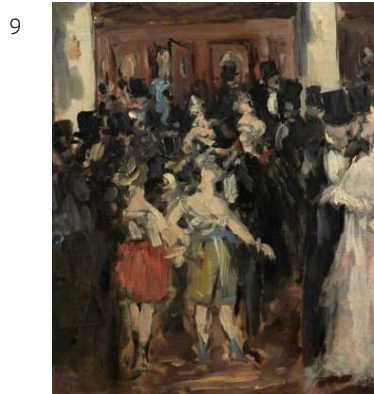
From set designers and costume designers during the rule of Louis XIV to the composers of Grand Opera and the dancers performing Romantic Ballet in the nineteenth century and performers in the twenty-first century, the Paris Opera House has built its own distinctive artistic policies through collaboration among creators in a host of fields. Here we explore that process and its results.



5. Poster of the first performance of *Tannhäuser*, 1861 ©Bibliothèque Nationale de France  
 6. *Ida Rubinstein's Headdress in Scheherazade*, c.1910 ©Bibliothèque Nationale de France  
 7. Christian LACROIX, *Costume Design for Les anges ternis (Tarnished Angels)*, c.1987 ©Bibliothèque Nationale de France

### 3. Two of Manet's paintings of the Opera House on Display

The nineteenth-century French artist Édouard Manet (1832-83) took the Opera House as his subject in several works, including one that the Artizon Museum owns. For this exhibition, it is being displayed with another on that subject from the Washington National Gallery, in a rare opportunity to view both.



8. Édouard MANET, *Masked Ball at the Opera*, 1873, Gift of Mrs. Horace Havemeyer in memory of her mother-in-law, Louise W. Havemeyer, National Gallery of Art, Washington  
 9. Édouard MANET, *Masked Ball at the Opera*, 1873, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

### Other Noteworthy Exhibits





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10. Antoine WATTEAU, *La Perspective (View through the Trees in the Park of Pierre Crozat)*, c. 1715, Maria Antoinette Evans Fund, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
11. Jean-Baptiste CARPEAUX, *The Genius of the Dance, No.2*, Paris, Musée d'Orsay Photo © RMN-Grand Palais (musée d'Orsay) / Tony Querrec / distributed by AMF
12. Jean-Baptiste Édouard DETAILLE, *The Inauguration of the Opéra de Paris on January 5, 1875, 1878*, Paris, Musée d'Orsay, dépôt au musée national du château de Versailles Photo ©RMN-Grand Palais (Château de Versailles) / Gérard Blot/ distributed by AMF
13. Marc CHAGALL, *Figures at the Opera*, 1968-1971, Pola Museum of Art ©ADAGP, Paris&JASPAR, Tokyo, 2022 Chagall® C3919
14. Alfred Edward CHALON, *Pas de Quatre (Carlotta Grisi, Marie Taglioni, Lucile Grahm & Fanny Cerrito)*, 1845, Hyogo Performing Arts Center, Kenji Usui Ballet Collection

## Composition of the Exhibition

Overture: Birth of the Palais Garnier

Act 1: 17th - 18th centuries

- (1) "Great Century" mechanisms and dream play
- (2) "Fête galante" accompanied by music
- (3) Neoclassical aesthetic innovations

Act 2: 19th century (1)

- (1) Opera house on rue Le Peletier
- (2) Grand opera
- (3) Romantic ballet
- (4) Costume designers and costume makers \* Regarding theater-goers in Paris

Act 3: 19th century (2)

- (1) Reform of grand opera
- (2) Degas and the Paris Opera
- (3) Artists who painted the theater
- (4) The aesthetics of Wagner \*Authors and the Paris Opera \* Japonisme and the Paris Opera

Act 4: 20th - 21st centuries

- (1) Invitation to Ballets Russes
- (2) Modern art and the Paris Opera
- (3) Chagall, appeal to designers
- (4) The opera of directors and choreographers \* Movies and musicals

Epilogue: The Opéra Bastille and its future

## Exhibition Overview

Exhibition title:	Dialogues of the Muses: The Paris Opera House and the Arts
Organized by	Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
Venue:	Artizon Museum, 6,5F Galleries
Exhibition period:	November 5 [Sat.], 2022 - February 5 [Sun.], 2023
Opening hours:	10:00 – 18:00 (until 20:00 on Fridays) *Last entry 30 minutes before closing.
Closed:	Mondays (except January 9), December 28 to January 3, January 10
Admission (incl. tax):	Timed entry system (Online booking starts from September 6, 2022) Online ticket: 1,800 yen Same day ticket (on sale at museum): 2,000 yen Students: Free entry (Advance online booking required.) *This admission fee gives the visitor access to the concurrent exhibition. *Same day tickets on sale at the museum are available only for time slots that have not reached full capacity. *Advance booking is not required for children up to junior high school age.
Supervisor:	MIURA Atsushi (Professor, The University of Tokyo)
Curators:	KAGAWA Kyoko, TADOKORO Natsuko

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Directions: 5 minutes on foot from JR Tokyo Station (Yaesu Central Exit); Tokyo Metro Ginza Line Kyobashi Station (No.6, 7 Exit); Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, Tozai Line, Toei Asakusa Line Nihombashi Station (B1 Exit)

## Concurrent Exhibition

Selections from the Ishibashi Foundation Collection Special Section

### Art in a Box: The Box in a Valise by Marcel Duchamp and It's Aftermath

In the 4F Gallery, in addition to presenting selections from the Ishibashi Foundation Collection, we have prepared a special Duchamp section. Here we present Marcel Duchamp's "box" works, including his *Box in a Valise* (1952) as well as *The Green Box* and *The White Box* and explore their influence and aftermath in later box-form works.



Left: Marcel DUCHAMP, *From or by Marcel Duchamp or Rose Sélavy (Box in a Valise), Series B*, 1952, 1946 (pencil drawing) © Association Marcel Duchamp / ADAGP, Paris & JASPAR, Tokyo 2022 C3919

Right: Marcel DUCHAMP, *The Bride Stripped Bare by her Bachelors Even (The Green Box)*, 1934 © Association Marcel Duchamp / ADAGP, Paris & JASPAR, Tokyo 2022 C3919

Organized by Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation  
Venue: Artizon Museum, 4F Gallery  
Curator: SHIMBATA Yasuhide

Exhibition period: October 25 [Tue], 2022 - February 5 [Sun], 2023

Opening hours: 10:00 – 18:00 (until 20:00 on Fridays)

\*Last entry 30 minutes before closing.

Closed: Mondays (except January 9), November 4, December 28 to January 3, January 10

\*Special notice for October 25 [Tue.] to November 3 [Thu.]

Only the 4F Gallery will be open; the 5F and 6F Galleries will be closed.

Admission (incl. tax): Timed entry system  
(Online booking starts from September 6, 2022)  
Online ticket: 500 yen  
Same day ticket (on sale at museum): 500 yen  
Students: Free entry (Advance online booking required.)  
\*Same day tickets on sale at the museum are available only for time slots that have not reached full capacity.  
\*Advance booking is not required for children up to junior high school age.  
\*This admission fee gives the visitor access to *Selections from the Ishibashi Foundation Collection* (4F Gallery).

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