



# Biennale textile

CLERMONT-FERRAND

A BIENNIAL

TO CHANGE  
THE WORLD

Une co-production :

HS\_Projets - Ville de Clermont-Ferrand -  
Musée d'art Roger Quilliot, Clermont Auvergne Métropole



+ musées  
métropolitains

+ clermont  
auvergne  
métropole

VILLE DE  
**CLERMONT**  
FERRAND





## THE TEXTILE BIENNIAL OFFERS A UNIQUE HUMAN EXPERIENCE DESIGNED TO CHANGE AND REFINE OUR PERCEPTION OF PEOPLE AND THE WORLD.

### For 14 years, the Textile Biennial has been setting the international textile scene in the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region, in Clermont-Ferrand.

The Textile Biennial, formerly known as the International Festival of Extraordinary Textiles (FITE) is a creation and co-production between the HS\_Projets association, the City of Clermont-Ferrand and the Roger-Quilliot Art Museum, Clermont Auvergne Métropole. A collective, collaborative, multigenerational and multicultural project involving civil society, schools, businesses and the cultural world. The first and only international textile biennial to defend human rights. It is the only one to go back and forth between France in even-numbered years, and another country in uneven-numbered years.

Extra-ordinary textiles refer to the textile know-how and extra-ordinary life skills of individuals and human groups: little-known, rare, sometimes disappearing or inaccessible, that have meaning for people, know-how that conveys and ensures the transmission of certain values of human societies.

The FITE received Unesco patronage in 2012 and 2014. In 2012, the heart exhibition at the Musée Bargoin received the label of national interest from the French Ministry of Culture. In 2013-2014, 2019, 2021 and 2022, the FITE is part of the Institut Français' Saisons croisées program. In 2018, FITE was awarded the European Cultural Heritage label. In 2016, the FITE became one of the four festivals in Clermont-Ferrand's bid to become European Capital of Culture 2028. In 2024, the FITE officially became the Textile Biennial.

All the region's institutions are behind it: the Direction Régionale des Affaires Culturelles (DRAC), the Conseil régional Auvergne- Rhône-Alpes, the Conseil départemental du Puy de Dôme, the Rectorat de l'Académie de Clermont-Ferrand, and the French Institute.

### Some telling figures

Created in 2012, the Biennial is thematic and chooses a new theme every two years. Over the years, the themes have been Metamorphoses, Renaissance, Rebels, Deviations, Love etc., Imagine! and PLAY. It takes place in even-numbered years in Clermont-Ferrand, and in odd-numbered years in another country. It has been held in Hue, Vietnam; Manila, Philippines; Mexico City, Mexico; and in a travelling format in Romania (Baita, Brasov, Sibiu, Bucharest and Constanta), then planned for Dakar in Senegal, it was finally presented in Clermont-Ferrand due to the Covid-19 pandemic, travelled through Lithuania (from Vilnius to Nida, via Kaunas), and finally to São Paulo, Brazil, in 2025.

### The Textile Biennial in number 48 000 visitors in 2024

2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
12 000	25 000	48 000	52 000	32 000	88 000

and 900 manufacturers

2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
1 200	1 700	1 800	700	1 050

### The festival became the Biennial.

Known since 2012 as the International Festival of Extraordinary Textiles (FITE), the Textile Biennial will take on its definitive name in 2024. It will continue to be held in Clermont-Ferrand in even-numbered years and in another country in odd-numbered years. The Biennial will now take place at the beginning of the summer with a festive atmosphere and will continue with a professional and student focus and a wider audience in September and until the end of the year. This summer opening will allow for greater visibility over time and across a wider area (Forez, Loire, etc.), as well as a real opportunity to enhance the cultural and tourist offering during this period.

# The actors

**The Textile Biennial is a creation and co-production of the HS\_Projets association, the City of Clermont-Ferrand, Clermont Auvergne Métropole and the Roger-Quilliot Art Museum, players in a world that links people, knowledge and ideas.**

## HS\_Projets

HS\_Projets is an international association under the French law of 1901, recognized as being of public interest. The association structures exchanges and cooperations between regional, national, European and international actors through the organization of artistic events.

## Clermont Auvergne Métropole / Roger-Quilliot Art Museum

The economic, university, cultural and sporting capital of Clermont-Ferrand, the Clermont-Ferrand metropolite comprises 21 communes and covers an area of over 30,000 hectares with a population of almost 300,000 inhabitants. One in four people from Auvergne lives here, while one out of every two inhabitants of the metropolitan area lives in Clermont-Ferrand. The nearby Volcanoes of Auvergne represent an exceptional natural heritage, designated as UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2018, which contributes to the region's collective identity.

The Roger-Quilliot Art Museum (MARQ), located in the historic district of Montferrand, occupies the buildings of a former 17th-century Ursuline convent, classified as a historic monument. The museum brings together nearly 2,000 French and European works from the Middle Ages to the 21st century, and now includes the non-European textile collection from the Bargoin Museum. This collection offers an overview of tribal and rural textiles outside Europe (Africa, Asia, America and Oceania, from the 18th to the 21st century), with some items that are unique in France, such as pieces from Yemen and Syria.

## Clermont-Ferrand City

19th-largest urban area, with a population of 296,180, advocates co-construction and new forms of cooperation for a common project. The city is driven by a strong preoccupation with social and cultural links, considered vital. It is committed to the development and influence of its territory, and to the joint invention of its future. The city of Clermont-Ferrand is a finalist for the title of European Capital of Culture 2028, with the involvement of the metropolis. A dynamic that generates reflection, federates residents and stimulates local actors and projects within a territorial project.





# Editions

**The only textile event to go back and forth between France, in even years, and another country in uneven years.**

**The first edition of the Biennial took place in 2012, under the theme of “Metamorphoses”**

The Metamorphoses theme aims to transform the way we look at the world. Wherever we are on Earth, our vision of the world is fragmented, and our mental borders are often stronger than our territorial ones. To broaden our vision, we felt it essential to invite people from all five continents with exemplary approaches and work, who could shake our certainties by demonstrating their commitment. These people are the driving force behind the Textile Biennial.

**And was held in Hué (Vietnam) in 2013.**

The Biennial travelled to Vietnam, invited by the International Festival of Traditional Crafts in the city of Hué. This event is organised as part of the France-Vietnam Year 2013-2014. It takes place in

a very poetic setting along the cultural street of Le Loi, bordered by the Perfume River, thanks to the support of the French Institute, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the French Ministry of Information and Communication, the Government of the Republic of Vietnam and the City of Hué.

**The seconde edition was in 2014, following the “Rebirth” theme.**

This edition addressed rebirth, in the sense of the rebirth of peoples and the idea of renewal. Like the Italian Renaissance, which placed humanity at the centre of all discourse, the festival focused its attention on the human person.

**Then in 2015, the international edition took place in the Philippines (Manila).**

The event was hosted at the Metropolitan Museum in Manila. Creations by Patis Tesoro, a leading Filipino fashion designer, were added to the main exhibition. The French Embassy in the Philippines supported the event in its entirety, from its conception to its realisation. The National Commission for Culture and the Arts of the Philippines contributed to the participation of all the festival's actors, and HABI, the Philippine Textile Council, contributed to the participation of Filipino artisans. The Mexican Development Agency and the Mexican Embassy are supporting the participation of the great Mexican designer Carmen Rion. Scientists and fashion designers such as Professor Kinor Jiang and Tsang Fan Yu are joining the festival from China.

**The third edition focuses on rebellion in 2016.**

The biennial has decided to explore different forms of rebellion around the world. The contexts may vary, but the rebels we are interested in are striving for freedom, a more just society and equality for all. It evokes rebels who resist oppression through mass civil disobedience based on non-violence, with the aim of elevating everyone through education and living culture. It focuses on those who propose social projects that break with the status quo, rejecting the appearance of inevitability and false assumptions. It draws close to personalities who are constantly expanding the realm of possibilities for social projects that break with 'misery, poverty, deprivation,





suffering, sexism and all other forms of discrimination with which freedom has no meaning' (Nelson Mandela).

### **The following year, the international edition of 'Rebels' took place in Mexico City, Mexico.**

Mexico City hosted the Biennial edition in December, supported by the French Embassy and the Institut Français d'Amérique Latine (IFAL). IFAL hosted the main exhibition at the Casa de Francia, as well as the showroom and fashion show. The fashion show, featuring leading Mexican fashion designers (Carmen Rion, Carla Fernandez and Fabrica Social), was entirely supported by THEA Laboratories. Numerous partners joined the event, including the Ibericoamericana Universidad and the UNAM. Projects were carried out throughout the year with children from schools in Ocotitlan and Amatlan Morelos, Mexico, and were shown during the Mexican and Clermont editions..

### **For the fourth edition, the theme 'Deviations' has been chosen.**

The Biennial explores textile and human deviations, both through the transgression of rules and assigned roles, and through the circulation and mobility of know-how and people. Capable of provoking collisions, hybrid objects and encounters, these deviations lead to transcendence that connects people beyond their differences.

### **In 2019, the edition travels through Romania**

The 2019 edition is labelled 'France-Romania Season' as part of the French Institute's Cross Seasons. In this context, the Biennial teams decided to offer a new, travelling format in Romania. Starting at the new Textile Museum in Baita, the Biennial caravan stopped at the Art Museum of the City of Brasov, which hosted the main exhibition, then in Sibiu to visit the Romanofir Talmaciu spinning mill, where an unlikely fashion show took place. Next, it travelled to Bucharest's NOD coworking space, where works from the art schools of Lyon and Saint-Étienne were installed, and finally to Brancovan Palace, which hosted installations by the Anou Skan company and EN-SATT.





### **The theme of the fifth edition in 2020 was “Love etc.”**

The Textile Biennial embraced love in the broadest and most collective sense of the term. To evoke love is to seek to give it meaning. But how can we define love here and now, as well as elsewhere, yesterday or tomorrow? Love is a creative force that allows us to reflect on the world based on difference rather than identity. This edition is tinged with African influences. In 2020, Clermont-Ferrand became the city where Europe and Africa came together. In 2021, the Biennial was due to take place in Senegal, but will now be held in Clermont-Ferrand in 2022.

### **In 2022, the Biennial offers a reflection on the theme “Imagine!”.**

The Biennial makes hope revolutionary, ‘kindness a political act’ (Alexandre Rowland) and places human emotions and feelings at the centre. In its main exhibition, the Biennial invites artists to imagine a different shared history, a new world concerned with the environment, new artistic practices and new forms of consumption, a new body and new materials to adorn it; a new world where humour and illusion intersect. This edition defends a space of freedom and creativity from which imagination, a tool for emancipation and social transformation, is born.

### **In 2023, the event visited various cities in Lithuania.**

The Biennial travelled to Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipeda and Nida to showcase its collaboration with the Vilnius Academy of Arts. A selection of international artists, enriched with heritage pieces, will be presented in the ‘Imagine!’ exhibition at the House of Histories in Vilnius.

### **For its seventh edition, the Textile Biennial is reversing the theme “PLAY”**

In 2024, at the time of the Paris Olympic Games, the Biennial has chosen the theme ‘PLAY’. The theme proposes play as a guarantee of participation for amateurs and professionals alike, suggesting that play and art should be reinvested in sport in order to open up the possibility of ‘playing by the rules’ and ensuring participation for all. The Biennial is interested in the relationship that our contemporary societies, increasingly won

over by “gaming”, have with video games, sports betting and ‘serious games’. The main exhibition is being held for the last time at the Bargoin Museum, which is offering artists the museum as a playground. The Biennial is also being exported outside Clermont-Ferrand, with exhibitions in Lyon and Cervières.

### **In 2024, the international partner will host the Biennial in São Paulo, Brazil.**

The international exhibition was held at Sesc Pinheiros in São Paulo. With the support of the Consulate General of France in São Paulo and the Institut français’s ‘France-Brazil Season’, five artists and three craftswomen are invited to discover Brazil’s artistic and cultural wealth. Artistic residencies are organised, while introductory workshops on gold thread embroidery and bobbin lace are offered to a diverse audience.







# THE BIENNIAL NETWORK AROUND THE WORLD



## Worldwide

- South Africa (Johannesburg)
- Argentina
- Australia (Brisbane)
- Azerbaijan (Baku)
- Banin
- **Brazil (São Paulo)**
- Canada (Prince Rupert)
- Chile (Rari)
- Congo
- Colombia
- Egypt (Cairo)
- United States of America
- Ghana
- Guyana
- India (Delhi, Ahmedabad, Calcutta)
- Indonesia (Yogyakarta)
- Israel (Jaffa)
- Japan
- Laos (Luang Prabang)
- Lebanon (Beirut)
- Madagascar (Antananarivo)
- Mali (Bamako)
- Morocco
- **Mexico (Mexico City, San Cristobal de las Casas, Oaxaca)**
- Nigeria
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- **Philippines (Manila, Cebu)**
- **Senegal (Dakar, Syntian)**
- Venezuela (Caracas)
- **Vietnam (Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Huê)**
- Zimbabwe

## In France and in Europe

- Ambert (Puy-de-Dôme)
- Aurillac (Cantal)
- Châtel Montagne (Allier)
- Clermont-Ferrand (Puy-de-Dôme)
- Dunière (Haute-Loire)
- Felletin (Creuse)
- Le Puy-en-Velay (Haute-Loire)
- Lyon (Rhône)
- Moulins (Allier)
- Marseille (Bouches-du-Rhône)
- Nîmes (Gard)
- Paris (Paris)
- Retournac (Haute-Loire)
- Saint-Etienne (Loire)
- Valence (Drôme)
- Allemagne (Berlin)
- Belgium (Antwerp, Brussels)
- Spain (Madrid)
- Georgia (Tbilissi)
- Great Britain (London)
- Italy (Milan)
- **Lithuania (Vilnius, Kaunas, Nida)**
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Slovakia (Bratislava)
- **Switzerland (Geneva, Lausanne)**
- **Romania (Baita, Brasov, Sibiu, Bucarest, Constanta)**





# COLLABORATIONS OF THE TEXTILE BIENNIAL

## COLLABORATIONS WITH INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

- Ministère de la culture et de la communication, DRAC Auvergne Rhône-Alpes
- DRAC Limousin
- L'Institut français, Paris, France
- Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes
- DRAAF Auvergne, Direction régionale de l'alimentation de l'agriculture et de la forêt d'Auvergne
- Rectorat de l'Académie de Clermont-Ferrand
- Conseil régional Auvergne Rhône-Alpes
- Conseil départemental du Puy-de-Dôme
- Ville de Riom
- La Mairie du premier arrondissement de Lyon
- Ville de Valence
- Le Syndicat Mixte du projet Chaise-Dieu
- Région Auvergne Rhône-Alpes
- Clermont Auvergne Métropole
- Fondation Bullukian

## INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

- La ville de Hùé, Vietnam
- Le Centre culturel français de Hùé, Vietnam
- L'Université Polytechnique de Hong-Kong, Chine
- L'Ambassade de France à Manille, Philippines
- Le Metropolitan Museum de Manille, Philippines
- Les Instituts français, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh Ville, Vietnam
- La Commission Nationale pour la Culture et les Arts (NCCA), Philippines
- HABI, Philippines
- L'Agence de Développement Mexicaine, Mexique
- L'Ambassade du Mexique, Paris
- Fondation Thread / Annie et Joseph Alberts, Sénégal
- RAW Material Compagny, Sénégal
- Manufactures Sénégalaises des Arts Décoratifs (MSAD)
- Metropolitan museum, Manille, Philippines
- Musée des Civilisations Noires, Dakar, Sénégal
- Musée Théodore Monod, Dakar, Sénégal
- Musée de la Femme, Dakar, Sénégal
- Musée du Textile, Muzeul textilor, Baita, Roumanie
- Scoala Gimnaziala, Baita, Roumanie
- Musée d'art de la Ville de Brasov, Roumanie
- Musée de la Civilisation urbaine de Brasov, Roumanie
- La Filature ROMANOFIR de Talmaci, Roumanie
- Musée du Paysan roumain, Bucarest, Roumanie
- Université nationale d'art de Bucarest, Roumanie
- Palais Brancovan, Roumanie
- NOD, espace de coworking, Roumanie
- Folk Art Museum, Constanta Roumanie
- Contextile, Portugal
- Palais des Ducs de Bragance, Portugal
- House of Histories, Lituanie
- Nida Art Colony, Lituanie

## COLLABORATIONS WITH MUSEUM PARTNERS

- Le musée national des arts asiatiques Guimet à Paris
- Le musée du Quai Branly à Paris
- Le CNCs (Conservatoire National du Costume de Scène) à Moulins
- Le musée des tissus et des arts décoratifs à Lyon
- Le musée des manufactures de dentelles de Retournac

## COLLABORATIONS WITH CULTURAL ACTORS

- Sauve qui peut le court métrage, Clermont-Ferrand
- Les peloteuses, Clermont-Ferrand
- Etude Vassy et Jalenques, Commissaire priseur, Clermont-Ferrand
- France Patchwork, Auvergne
- Les médiathèques de Clermont Auvergne Métropole
- Rust, Salon de coiffure, Clermont-Ferrand
- Fonty, Creuse
- La bambouiserie des Cévennes, Anduze
- Agnès Dominique dit Cabannes à Lyon
- Les petites sœurs des pauvres, Clermont-Ferrand
- Hôtel Fonfreyde centre photographique, Clermont-Ferrand
- Espace Nelson Mandela, le centre Anatole France et le centre Camille Claudel, Clermont-Ferrand
- Le Comité Social et Economique Michelin, Clermont-Ferrand

- Librairie Les Volcans, Clermont-Ferrand
- Le café textile Flax, Clermont-Ferrand
- La Comédie Scène Nationale, Clermont-Ferrand
- Inextenso Artistes en résidence, Clermont-Ferrand
- La Basilique Notre Dame du Port, Clermont-Ferrand
- La Route des villes d'eau du Massif Central
- La régie de territoire des deux rives, Billom
- L'ESACM, Ecole Supérieure d'Art de Clermont

## COLLABORATIONS WITH SOCIAL ACTORS

- CHU (Centre hospitalier universitaire) d'Estaing, Clermont-Ferrand
- Directions SPIP (Service Pénitentiaire d'Insertion et de Probation) Auvergne et Rhône-Alpes, Direction Interrégionale des Services Pénitentiaires Rhône-Alpes Auvergne
- La Direction Service Pénitentiaire d'Insertion et de Probation Puy-de-Dôme et Cantal
- Centres pénitentiaires de Riom et de Valence
- Centre d'Accueil et de Demandeurs d'asile, Forum Réfugiés, Bron, Giat, Saint Eloy-les-Mines, Clermont-Ferrand
- Le Centre Pénitentiaire de Riom
- IME Maurice Chantelauze
- MAPA Marc Rocher, EHPAD de la Chaise-Dieu
- Résidence des deux volcans, EHPAD d'Allègre
- ALSH La Chaise-Dieu

## COLLABORATIONS WITH SCHOOLS

- Le conservatoire de musique et danse Emmanuel Chabrier, Clermont-Ferrand
- L'ENSA (Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture) de Clermont-Ferrand
- L'ASACM, Ecole Supérieure d'Art de Clermont Métropole
- Le collège Charles Baudelaire à Clermont-Ferrand
- Le Lycée Marie Laurencin à Riom
- L'EPL du Bourbonnais, Neuvy, Allier
- L'ESADSE (Ecole Supérieure d'Art et Design) de Saint-Etienne
- Le CCSTI (Centre de médiation de culture scientifique technique et industrielle - Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines) de Saint-Etienne
- L'ENSATT (Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts et Techniques du Théâtre) à Lyon
- L'ENSBA (Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts) de Lyon
- L'Ecole Supérieure d'Arts Appliqués, La Martinière-Diderot à Lyon
- Lycées professionnels publics Amédée Gasquet, Jean Baptiste de la Salle à Clermont-Ferrand
- Lycées professionnels privés sous contrat avec l'état, Saint Géraud à Aurillac
- Academy of Fine Arts and Design, Bratislava, Slovaquie
- L'école supérieure Design et métiers d'Art d'Auvergne, Yzeure
- L'Académie royale des Beaux-Arts de Bruxelles - Ecole supérieure des Arts (ArBA-EsA)
- L'Ecole Romain Rolland, Clermont-Ferrand
- L'école primaire Mercoeur, Clermont-Ferrand
- L'école Charles Perrault, quartier de La Gauthière, Clermont-Ferrand
- l'Université Minho, Portugal
- L'ESMAE, Porto, Portugal
- L'académie des Arts de Vilnius, Lituanie
- ESDMAA, Yzeure

## OUR PATRONS

- Fondation des Textiles Extra ordinaires, sous égide de la Fondation Bullukian
- Mediafix, Clermont-Ferrand, Puy-de-Dôme
- Véolia
- Gares et Connexions, Rhône Alpes Auvergne
- GDAO, Romagnat, Puy-de-Dôme
- Maison Walder, Lyon
- Hôtel Kyriad Centre, Clermont-Ferrand, Puy-de-Dôme
- Galeries Lafayette, Clermont-Ferrand
- Texprotec, Ambert
- Moulinage du Solier, Dunières
- SATAB, Saint Just Malmont, Haute-Loire

- Fonty, Rougnat, Creuse
- Phildar, France
- Tissages Joubert, Ambert, Loire
- Tricotage MCF, Roanne
- Picto Rhône-Alpes, Vénissieux
- HTH/Bucol, Lyon
- Scop Fontanille au Puy en Velay
- La Ciergerie du Sud Est, le Puy-en-Velay
- Tissage Denis et Fils, La Bourg Montchal
- Côtélac, Ambérieu-en-Bugey, Rhône-Alpes
- Grain de couleur, Valsonne, Rhône-Alpes
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- Elite Services et Transports, Suisse
- DMC, Asie
- SM Aura Premier, Manille, Philippines
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- JCDecaux
- Hôtel Littéraire Alexandre Vialatte

## COMMUNICATION PARTNERS

- Gares et Connexions SNCF

## MEDIA PARTNERS

- La Montagne / Le ZAP / L'Eveil de la Haute Loire / Le Progrès / France 3 Auvergne / TF1 / Europe 1

## NETWORKS

- Réseau Anna Lindh pour le dialogue interculturel
- Réseau Textile Rhône Alpes, Auvergne, Limousin / European Textile Network (ETN) / Centre international d'étude des textiles anciens (CIETA) Association française d'étude des textiles (AFET)





*"The Textile Biennial is not only a multi-ethnic melting pot of textile practices, it is even more so a cauldron where cultures from all walks of life rub shoulders to the point of creating sparks."*

**VINCENT LERMARCHANDS**  
President of the Extraordinary Textiles Foundation

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