



THE MUSEUM OF *LA FONDATION GANDUR POUR L'ART* TO BE ESTABLISHED IN CAEN

Friday, May 24, 2024 – **Jean Claude Gandur, founder and president of *La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art* (FGA), announced today to the mayor, Joël Bruneau, his decision to build the Foundation's museum in Caen. The future building, which will be located near the Caen Memorial, will showcase the works and objects from the collections housed by the FGA since 2010 and will develop an extensive program of cultural mediation and activities, especially aimed at the youth of the city and the region.**

This ambitious museum project aims to fully contribute to the dynamism, influence, and attractiveness of the city of Caen and Normandy.

Through the choice of site, architectural ambition, programming, the use of the latest technologies to create innovative immersive experiences, and the strong social dimension of the project—which will include a set of actions dedicated to young people in distress or difficulty—, the future museum of *La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art* aims to become one of the key centers of cultural and tourist vitality in the city and the region.

The carefully considered choice of Caen owes much to the longstanding relationship between the city and *La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art*.

Thereby, the two major exhibitions, *The Liberation of painting, 1945-1962* in 2020 et *Années Pop Années Choc, 1960-1975* in 2023, presented in the Caen Memorial in partnership with the Foundation, have significantly contributed to establishing the solid trust needed for such a large-scale project.

Moreover, the proposed location, already identified in France and beyond as a place of memory and culture due to its proximity to the Caen Memorial, the quality of the site itself, including the richness and beauty of the surrounding nature—which will be an integral part of the project— and the prospects in terms of access and transport infrastructure, also played a significant role in the choice of Caen-Normandy to host *La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art* museum.

"Since the creation of the Foundation in 2010, I have dreamed of a great museum that would be a place of life and sharing of my collection, a place rooted in its time and open to all audiences, allowing as many people as possible to experience this unique and foundational encounter with art and beauty. Today, this dream is becoming a reality, and I am delighted that it is happening in Caen-Normandy : a city that has always welcomed us warmly and with which I know we will go far because we share the same values and convictions about the role of art and culture in life and the city. I would also like to thank the city of Bordeaux and their

teams for the quality of their proposal and their professionalism" said Jean Claude Gandur, founder and president of *La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art*.

"It is a great day for Caen and the reward of a collective effort that mobilized all the city's stakeholders. Hosting the museum of La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art is an honor and a great opportunity for Caen and Normandy" said Joël Bruneau, mayor of Caen and president of the urban community of Caen la Mer.

About *La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art*

Founded in 2010 by entrepreneur and art collector Jean Claude Gandur, *La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art* is a non-profit organization aimed at contributing to the education and understanding of our cultural heritage by providing public access to its internationally significant collections. Based in Geneva, Switzerland, the Foundation is committed to preserving, enriching, and showcasing the collections it holds.

La Fondation Gandur pour l'Art makes its works available to museums and cultural institutions in Switzerland and abroad through numerous loans, exhibitions, and partnerships, notably with the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (Spain), the Houston Museum of Natural Science (USA), and the Réunion des Musées Métropolitains Rouen Normandie (France).

The Foundation has been a member of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) since 2013 and the Association of Swiss Museums (AMS) since 2019. It strictly adheres to the ICOM code of ethics.

The Foundation's collections are organized into five distinct areas: archaeology with over 1,250 Egyptian, Greek, Roman, and Near Eastern art objects; fine arts with over 1,230 European paintings primarily post-war, making it one of the most important private collections for the period; decorative arts with over 400 works including sculptures, furniture, and art objects from the 12th to the 18th century; ethnology with over 400 objects from Latin America and Oceania; and contemporary African and diaspora art with over 420 works.

www.fg-art.org

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