

WHEN FLOWERS ARE AN ART FORM



Far from being a secondary art, floral art, by the very nature of the material used by the artists to devise their pieces, by the fragility of the flowers and their temporary nature, as well as the diversity in shapes and colours, is probably one of the most difficult and subtle arts. Japanese culture was correct in attaching the utmost importance to this art.

Thus, for three days (20, 21 and 22 September), as part of the "When flowers are an art form" event, Chateau of Chaumont-sur-Loire will provide floral designers, of a wide range of ages and cultural backgrounds, with the permanence of its history, walls and scenery for them to design spectacular yet temporary plant artworks.

These extraordinary arrangements will enhance the monument's historical rooms and the Stables, immersing us in the exacting and refined atmosphere of the era of the Prince and Princess de Broglie, who were great lovers of lavish celebrations and excellent plant collections.

From Europe or Japan, in the case of the extraordinary artist Makoto Azuma, who will put on an unprecedented performance in the Council Chamber on the Sunday, they will interact with the spirit of the place, demonstrating exceptional creativity and finesse.

So put the dates in your diary for September to discover the first edition of unique temporary creations, in tune with the poetry of the artwork and gardens of Chaumont-sur-Loire!

Chantal Colleu-Dumond



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In 2019, the Domain of Chaumont-sur-Loire, Centre for Arts and Nature, is creating a new event dedicated to celebrating plants, with the presentation of floral arrangements by major artists and designers from France and abroad.

The Prince and Princess Henri-Amédée de Broglie, the last private owners of Chateau of Chaumont-sur-Loire, up to 1938, had a passion for plants and enjoyed collections of orchids, exotic green plants and flowering plants, which won them a whole host of medals and awards at French horticultural competitions at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

It was important for Domain of Chaumont-sur-Loire to bring this era back to life and enable contemporary artists and florists to present their exceptional talents and knowhow to our visitors.

The rooms of the Chateau and the Stables will be made available to floral artists, who will give free rein to their creativity to make contemporary floral installations that respect the spirit of the location.

As part of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Renaissance, tribute will be paid to Catherine de Medici, the owner of Chateau de Chaumont-sur-Loire from 1550 to 1560, through the choice of light and soft pastel tones for the composition of the floral creations.

#### 2019 CALENDAR

- > Friday 20 September: official opening of the exhibition and press meetings exhibition 2 pm to 7.30 pm.
- > Saturday 21 September: exhibition 10 am to 9 pm.
- > Sunday 22 September: exhibition 10 am to 7.30 pm.

#### THE DOMAIN OF CHAUMONT-SUR-LOIRE

The Domain of Chaumont-sur-Loire, a public institution which has belonged to the Centre-Val de Loire Region since 2008, brings together three entities in a 32-hectare site:

> The Chateau, which used to be the residence of Catherine de Medici and Diane de Poitiers

- > The International Garden Festival, established in 1992, a genuine laboratory and observatory for new garden trends
- > The Centre for Arts and Nature, which commissions nature-themed artwork from about ten contemporary artists from around the world each year.

Located in a landscape listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, the Domain of Chaumont-sur-Loire has a whole host of labels (Outstanding Garden, 3 stars in the Michelin Green Guide, etc.) and offers visitors a comprehensive immersive experience in a cohesive and outstanding location, an example of "French sophistication".

With the goal of offering visitors a reflection of the atmosphere of the Chateau of the Prince and Princess de Broglie, the last private owners of the Chateau [1875-1938], that is as accurate as possible, every effort has been made since 2008 to refurnish the private apartments and the museum part of the residence exactly as they were, evoking Catherine de Medici.

#### PRESENTATION OF THE CHATEAU'S EXHIBITION ROOMS

- > The Council Chamber: the Prince and Princess de Broglie took particular care in fitting out and decorating this vast room, creating fixed benches, a polychrome ceiling and a major work of art history on the floor: Majolica tiling.
- > The Guard Room: in the 16th century, this room enjoyed a strategic position in the Chateau and performed three functions: firstly, you had to pass through it to reach the royal bedchamber, so it was a kind of security entrance watched by the guards, it was also where guards were trained to handle different weapons and, finally, it enabled them to monitor both the outside of the Chateau and the inner courtyard at the same time
- > **The King's Room**: situated in the western entrance tower, this room was so called by the Prince and Princess de Broglie because, in 1503, King Louis XII came here on the invitation of his Prime Minister, Cardinal Georges d'Amboise.

- > **The Dining Room**: located on the ground floor in the south wing, this 17-metre-long room was used as a kitchen and pantry during the first quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Prince and Princess de Broglie converted it into a 15<sup>th</sup>- and 16<sup>th</sup>-century-style dining room and added all the modern conveniences of the era.
- > **The Library**: originally, this room was used as a dining room, but it was transformed into a library during the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- > The Billiards Room: reserved for playing billiards, this room also served as a meeting place for the men, who came there to smoke a cigar after a copious meal, or to talk politics.
- > The Great Salon: largely open onto the River Loire, at the end of the west wing, the Great Salon brings together a wide range of styles of furniture from different eras. In this room, you can appreciate the highly distinctive atmosphere of a certain art of living enjoyed in well-off circles at the end of the 19th century.

- > The Spiral Grand Staircase: reflects the progressive assimilation of the Italian style by French artists circa 1500: three-foiled Gothic motifs make way for Renaissance foliage and Italianising arabesques covering the column shafts. The windows are decorated with stained glass bearing heraldic motifs (coats of arms) representing the different families that have owned Chaumont.
- > The so-called "half-blood" stables: accommodated carriage horses and are made up of stalls in which the animals were tethered when not in harness. The building's interior layout has remained unchanged since 1877: stalls, cartouches inscribed with the horses' names, benches, cast-iron mangers and drinking troughs topped by multicoloured enamelled cast-iron plaques, brass balls and hooks, and arc lamps. Wooden partitions are hung with brush matting to prevent horses from injuring their flanks.



Vue du Château depuis le Parc Historique - © Éric Sander

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# WHEN FLOWERS WERE AN ART FORM DURING THE DE BROGLIES' TIME...

Marie-Charlotte-Constance Say, who through marriage became first Princess Henri-Amédée de Broglie then Princess of Orleans and Bourbon, was born on 25 August 1857 in Verrières-le-Buisson, a municipality in the Paris region known in horticultural and botanical circles as the site that another famous family, the Vilmorins, chose to live and experiment in.

Marie was the daughter and granddaughter of wealthy sugar magnates, Constant [1816-1871] and Louis Say [1774-1840]; the latter, having played a role, along with the Vilmorins, in promoting the sugar beet, established the first sugar beet refinery in 1831 in Paris. An orphan at a young age, Marie Say inherited a vast family fortune. She fell under the Chateau de Chaumont-sur-Loire's charms and decided to buy it using part of her inheritance on 17 March 1875. Three months later, she married Prince Henri-Amédée de Broglie, one of the five sons of Duke Albert de Broglie, a diplomat and statesman.

The Prince and Princess lived at 10 rue de Solférino in Paris and got in the habit of coming down to Chateau of Chaumont-sur-Loire in the summer. They brought in architect Ernest Sanson for the many developments to the chateau and stables, then turned to famous landscaper Henri Duchêne in 1884 to create the ornamental parkland, new vegetable garden, orangery and greenhouses.

Through correspondence with the estate manager and the annual budgets, the Prince and Princess de Broglie are shown to have been great horticultural enthusiasts. They were very fond of growing flowers in their estate, in the ornamental parkland and, above all, in the new vegetable garden created by Henri Duchêne. A sizeable team of gardeners maintained the collections of green, exotic and flowering plants alongside the vegetables and fruit trees. The estate's plants were sometimes even sent by the caror wagonload to Orléans, where the Prince de Broglie had a pied-à-terre, or to Paris, to decorate their townhouse for receptions. The Prince and Princess asked Henri Duchêne to put in, at great expense, greenhouses with a unique heating system and an orangery, where magnificent collections of palm trees, ferns, aloes, chrysanthemums,

carnations and orchids thrived, repeatedly winning awards at horticultural competitions at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The Princess de Broglie's cousin, Léon Say [1826-1896], was named President of the Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France (French National Horticultural Society), from 1885 to 1896, which attests to the interest that politicians and powerful men and women had in plants and horticulture at a time qualified as the "golden age of French horticulture".

The writer and columnist Gabriel-Louis Pringué [1885-1965], a friend of the de Broglies, evokes the splendour of the flower-filled terraces and the smell of the flowers arranged in Chateau de Chaumont-sur-Loire:

"In her Chateau de Chaumont-sur-Loire, dinner was ordered for a quarter past eight; I rarely saw the Princess come down before a quarter to ten. We waited exquisitely, among carefully dressed and sumptuously bejewelled pretty women, friendly conversations and the musky, sweet scents of the mauve orchids which filled the salons. Mrs de Broglie always had around twenty guests in residence, some of whom were at the pinnacles of intelligence, art, elegance and the elite."

"What then of those dazzling summer days, scented with heliotropes, roses and magnolias, whose cold, sharp odours soothed the terraces, while the salons were filled with the musky aromas spread by the mauve orchids"

"The table in the dining room was covered with dazzling silverware which sparkled in the candlelight from the tall eight- and ten-arm silver candelabras. An epergne featuring green orchids with brown pigments usually decorated the centre of the table. Sometimes, the gardener created an epergne featuring mauve and white orchids, spreading a soft amber-scented perfume; he mixed in these strange anthuriums whose varnished flowers look like bleeding hearts devoured by a sulphur tongue. The effect was impressive and suited the artistic 14th-century tapestries, which adorned the stone walls"

#### Below

Photograph of the dining-room interior. This photograph is of extreme iconographic rarity, being the only image in Domaine de Chaumont-sur-Loire's collection depicting guests in the Château's reception rooms. The table is laid for forty guests. Two maîtres d'hôtel are in attendance, one on the right of the photograph and the other in front of the fireplace, while two footmen can be seen near the archway at the far end of the room. The table is laid with the family's "Russian-style" service, along with large centrepieces decorated with flowers, dumbwaiters laden with fruit, and water carafes and wine decanters. The photograph is of a luncheon given by Prince Henri-Amédée de Broglie on 12 August 1900, on the occasion of the International Press Congress. Journalists were also received at Châteaux de Blois, Cheverny, Amboise and Chambord, as well as at the Saumur Cavalry School.



Photographie, Déjeuner offert par le prince de Broglie, 12 août 1900 - © DR / Collection du Domaine de Chaumont-sur-Loire

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### **CLARISSE BÉRAUD** FRANCE

**BILLIARDS ROOM** 



Clarisse Béraud is an iconic woman in the floristry world and also enjoys international recognition, in particular in Japan where she regularly appears on numerous television shows.

With 24 years of experience under her belt, she has become a reference in bucolic and poetic floral design creation. She owes her success to her sense of elegance, which she highlights simply in her floral creations and also in her choice of unusual and refined flowers, always seeking out rare species.

She is a woman who likes to take the roads less travelled, those that take you to a refined garden where the simplicity of nature expresses the scope of its beauty...

"I stumbled on flowers through the side gate of a garden, in Brittany where a friend of mine, a market florist who is passionate about less conventional flowers, grew agapanthus, zinnias, cosmos, sweet peas and garden roses.

I spent the Easter holidays of my twelfth spring on my knees, sowing the annual plants which would fill her stall that summer. The following summer, I picked and assembled these now large shoots... And fell under the magic spell. My vocation.

I like to find sweet briars, spindles and brambles in the hedgerows, which bring spontaneity and lightness to the bouquet. My society circle is made up of scented roses and peonies, and my more understated friends are called anemone, astilbe, clematis and foxglove.

I also like unloved flowers. As I wander through the countryside and over the seasons, I collect wild radishes, shepherd's purse, dill, mustards, umbellifers and grasses that will create atypical foliage.

Although pansies, forget-me-nots, primroses and ivy-leaved toadflax are my accomplices, I am also fond of flowers found in children's posies... And the nostalgia for short stems that only small fingers know how to find and wheedle out.

My secret? My arrangements create themselves, dictated only by my curiosity.

I cut and pick up almost anything, including raw bark and plants that have been mown. If the wind has bent a stem, I improvise around this accident and, like a story, the bouquet binds together and tells a different tale." Clarisse Béraud



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# JULIAN PARIS FRANCE

**GREAT SALON** 



Julian Paris' world exudes sensitivity and emotion. The language of flowers goes hand in hand with passion. The purple and pink tones caress the gaze, evoking a feeling of rapture that plays with chance.

For Julian Paris, floral art is obvious, seeking truth and the ultimate expression of the senses. Listening to him talk about his job is something to be experienced, time suspended when the florist opens up. Entering his shop is an invitation to travel, in a cosy yet elegant setting, surrounded by flowers and greenery.

In May 2003, at just 27 years old, Julian Paris opened his shop in Paris. From five generations of florists, Julian Paris has his heart set on offering his customers his own know-how and trademark, in a world unlike any other.

Winner of the Coupe de France des Fleurists (French Florist Cup) at the beginning of the 2000s, Meilleur Ouvrier de France (Master Craftsman of France), Julian Paris works with plants, showcasing them in a unique and organic way.

The designer likes to play with the textures and colours of the flowers that make up his bouquets, cultivating tradition and innovation to perfection. Julian Paris likes flowers as much as life itself and has a particular fondness for ranunculus and grasses.



© Clément Reisky

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### MAKOTO AZUMA JAPAN

**GUARD ROOM** 



Born in 1976 in Fukuoka, Makoto Azuma is a Japanese florist turned floral artist.

In 2002, he set himself up as a "haute couture" florist by establishing a shop, Jardins de Fleurs, in the Ginza district of Tokyo. The shop has since moved to the Minami-Aoyama district.

Alongside working as a florist, in 2005 he turned to plant-based artistic expression, creating what he calls "botanical sculptures". His creations quickly began drawing attention, both in Japan and abroad. He was invited to exhibit his work as part of solo exhibitions in New York, Paris and Düsseldorf.

In 2009, he created an experimental collective based on plant creations, AMKK studio, with Shunsuke Shiinoki. Since then, he has had more exhibitions of his work in museums, art galleries and public places in Milan, Belgium, Shanghai, Mexico, etc.

For a few years now, he has been passionately committed to his artistic projects, which enable him to stage flowers in unusual, artificial situations, like the "contemporary herbariums" he creates. His quest: to continue to highlight the beauty of plants in a highly personal way.



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### PASCAL MUTEL

**FRANCE** 

**DINING ROOM** 



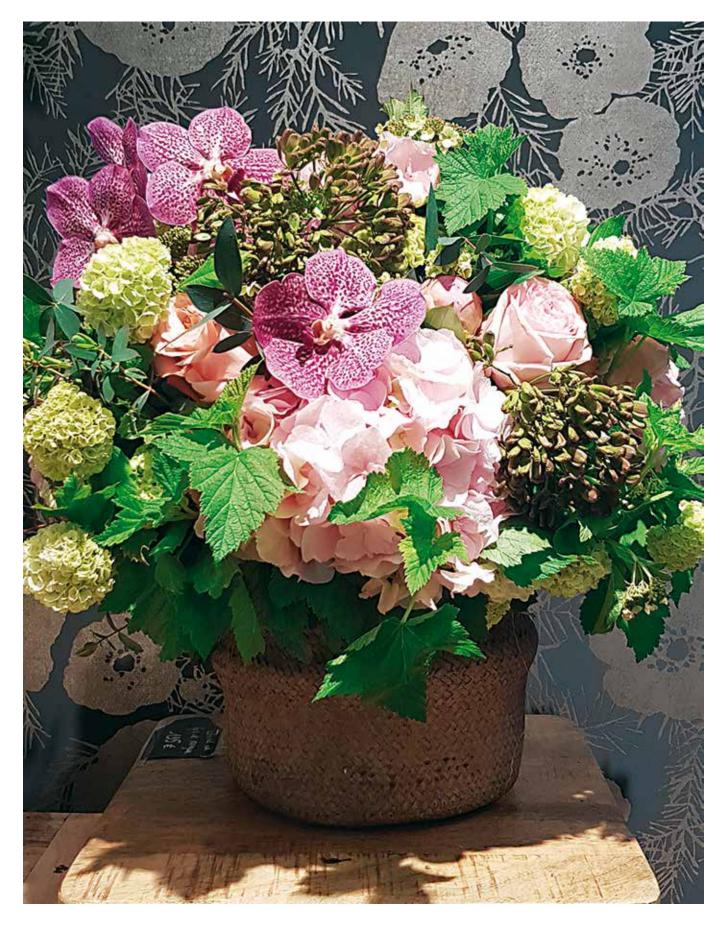
For Pascal Mutel, floral design is above all a living art where the flower, which is constantly moving with the seasons, reflects feelings and our intentions.

Pascal Mutel has established his style over more than twenty years, becoming a reference in the creation of bouquets and flower arrangements. He has successfully reinvigorated a profession that had become slightly complacent to make each arrangement a special moment in everyday life, "a moment of enchantment".

In 2005, Pascal Mutel created his own concept of floral design, considering the container and contents of equal importance. He invites all bouquet lovers to discover a new floral language where colours, textures and forms join forces to create new totally unprecedented floral objects.

Thanks to his high-end approach and know-how, Pascal Mutel supports his customers with putting together events, and, on a daily basis, decorates the most intimate to the most spectacular reception areas worldwide. Pascal Mutel also offers floral design lessons for private individuals and professionals.

He is Chair of the Chambre Syndicale des Fleuristes d'Îlede-France (Île-de-France Florists Association) and the École des Fleuristes de Paris (Paris Floristry School).



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# **SÉBASTIEN DOSSIN**BELGIUM

**LIBRARY** 



Sébastien Dossin is a landscape architect who is fascinated by historical gardens and passionate about flowers. Initially a self-taught florist, he wanted to improve his technical skills and gained his floristry diploma a few years later.

A flower lover, Sébastien Dossin does not back down from a challenge and has already participated in various floral competitions and major events. These have enabled him to give free rein to his imagination and to take visitors on an emotional journey.

Sébastien Dossin's driving forces are his respect for and love of flowers as well as the eternal quest for beauty. He is inspired by nature, garden architecture and life's little pleasures. Also passionate about painting, he is particularly aware of colour shades, which is reflected in his arrangements.

Boasting a Belgian Artisan Certifié (Certified Craftsman) label, he makes a unique tailor-made creation for each request and project. As a freelancer, he also offers demonstrations and workshops and shares his passion and vision with other enthusiasts, whether professionals or flower lovers.



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# TIMO BOLTE GERMANY

**STABLES** 

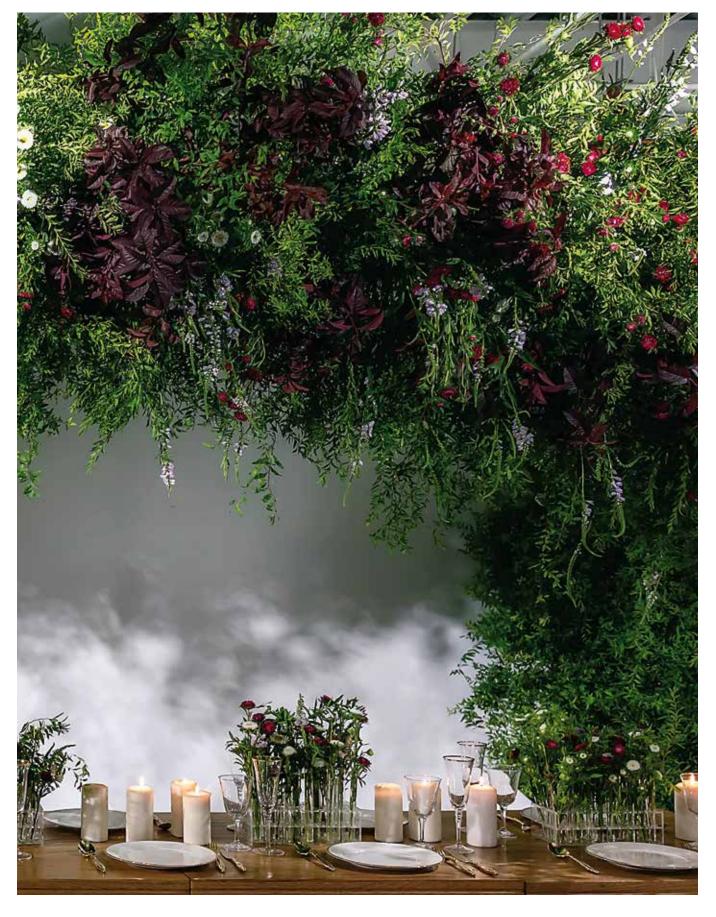


Timo Bolte is a talented German floral designer based in London. His art has won legions of awards, in particular, a Special Prize in Japan and a gold medal at the Marriott Black Box competition. He has taken part in the qualifying rounds for the Fleurop-Interflora World Cup to represent Germany, won an award at the Austrian Cup and the Alpe Adria Cup and won a bronze medal at the Singapore Garden Festival in 2018.

He was artistic director at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Vienna for over four years, where he had extraordinary experiences and created elegant floral arrangements choosing the best materials with painstaking care to lead the hotel guests into a unique dramatized world that stimulated the imagination.

He is known as the event florist because he has demonstrated his tenacity and determination and doesn't compromise when his artistic integrity is at stake. He travels worldwide to produce the most luxurious events and deck them with flowers, and he also judges international competitions. As a result, he has acquired an international reputation and works with the most prestigious companies in the world. Daring but simple, enhanced by a unique twist in the colour or form, his floral creations have touched the hearts of a whole host of guests, celebrities, critics and even royal families, making him a key player on the international scene.

He lived in Tokyo, which enabled him to develop strong links with neighbouring Asian countries, particularly Taiwan, China and South Korea. He also played a role in setting up a floristry school in Mexico, Beijing and Shanghai and organises seminars throughout Europe, Russia and the Middle East.



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#### PARIS FLORISTRY SCHOOL

FRANCE

SPIRAL GRAND STAIRCASE AND GUARD ROOM

Established in 1950, the Paris Floristry School was the first school in France to train young people for the *CAP de Fleuriste* (Florist Vocational Training Certificate) under an apprenticeship contract.

With these decades of experience under its belt and over 400 students trained each year, the Paris Floristry School can present itself as the most significant European training centre for floral art.

It is a founding member of the FLORNET European floristry school network, which is made up of 23 floral art schools spread across 13 countries in the European Union. Thanks to this network, professional trips abroad are organised each year for over 100 apprentices.

Directed by Vincent Dinet, the Paris Floristry School offers a comprehensive curriculum from the *CAP* to the *Brevet de Maîtrise* (Advanced Diploma) and conversion courses for all. It also regularly hosts international students. The fact that *Meilleurs Ouvriers de France* contribute to the floral art lessons attests to the quality of the training.



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### **USEFUL INFORMATION**

	DAY TICKET		TICKET FOR 2 CONSECUTIVE DAYS (WITH GARDENS OF LIGHT)	
	25/04 - 03/11/2019	02/01 - 24/04/2019 04/11 - 31/12/2019	25/04 - 03/11/2019	02/01 - 24/04/2019 04/11 - 31/12/2019
Full price	€18.00	€14.00	€30.00	N/A
Reduced fee <sup>1</sup>	€12.00	€8.00	€20.00	N/A
Child (6-11)	€6.00	€4.00	€10.00	N/A
Family ticket <sup>2</sup>	€36.00	€28.00	N/A	N/A

Free entrance: children under 6's, visitors with disabilities (reduced rate for their minder) and press card holders.

#### **OPENING HOURS**

The Domain of Chaumont-sur-Loire is open from 10 a.m. every day including public holidays (except 1 January and 25 December).

#### **ACCESS**

Chaumont-sur-Loire lies between Blois and Tours, 185 km from Paris.

#### ACCESS BY CAR

You can get to Chaumont-sur-Loire along the D 952 (on the right bank) and D 751 subsidiary roads.

- A10 motorway, towards Bordeaux: exit 17 (Blois) 30 mins.
- A10 motorway, towards Paris: exit 18 (Amboise) 30 mins.
- A85 motorway: exit 12 Saint Aignan 30mins.

#### **ACCESS BY TRAIN**

- From Gare Paris-Austerlitz arriving at Onzain / Chaumont-sur-Loire railway station, journey time: about 1 hour 40 minutes. Direct rail link from 1 April 2019.
- From Saint-Pierre-des-Corps station arriving at Onzain / Chaumont-sur-Loire railway station, journey time: 20 minutes. Every weekend from April to October, including all public holidays except 1 May, and daily in July and August, the Domain is served by a [return] shuttle service departing from Blois/Chambord and Onzain / Chaumont-sur-Loire railway stations.

#### LA LOIRE À VÉLO

Take the "Loire à Vélo" cycle path and call in at the Domain of Chaumont-sur-Loire. Free bike racks and lockers are available at each of the Domain's entrances.











### Domain of Chaumont-sur-Loire

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Property of the Centre-Loire Valley Region

