

← frac  
île-de-france  
→ les réserves  
romainville



## Special opening of the new Frac Île-de-France site Les Réserves

**From 19.05 to 6.06.21**

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# Les Réserves

## Frac Île-de-France, Romainville

### Special opening

From 19.05 to 6.06.21

With the exhibition *Children Power*

### & a concerts and performances programme

Based on works in the collection

### Official inauguration Friday 6.06.21

The new Frac Île-de-France building, "Les Réserves," in Romainville, Seine-Saint-Denis has been officially unveiled on 6th May 2021. Built on the initiative of the Île-de-France Region and co-funded by the Ministry of Culture, this building finally gives a permanent home to the Frac Île-de-France reserve collections, and provides hospitality and exhibition spaces.

Designed by the architecture agency Freaks, it is part of the new contemporary art hub in eastern Paris, also comprising the Fondation Fimenco, several galleries\* grouped under the name 'Komunuma', the Jeune Création association, artisans\*\*, as well as the American art and design school Parsons Paris.

Thus the Frac Île-de-France has new exhibition spaces in a venue that enables the conservation and management of its collection to be improved, and a new cultural and artistic project to be initiated in cooperation with all stakeholders and audiences in the Region.

For the inauguration one of the three parts of *Children Power*\*\*\* will be presented, an ambitious exhibition project based on the theme of childhood, also taking place at Le Plateau in Paris and at the Château in Romainville. This initial hang of artworks selected by children from Romainville from among the artworks in the collection will therefore mark the opening of the building, before the collection is transferred during 2022.

In addition, the 2019 cohort visual arts laureates from the Regional Emerging Talent Fund (FoRTE) of the Île-de-France Region will also exhibit at the opening.

Les Réserves in Romainville, along with Le Plateau in Paris and Le Château in Romainville - a triptych comprising the multi-site project -, will enable the Frac Île-de-France to increase its opportunities for supporting creation, experimentation, presentations, exhibitions, and to more broadly reach the variety of Île-de-France audiences.

\* Air de Paris, In Situ - Fabienne Leclerc, Galerie Sator, Jocelyn Wolff

\*\* Après-Midi Lab, Laurel Parker Book

\*\*\* The other 2 parts of *Children Power* will be exhibited at Le Plateau, from May to December 2021 and at the Château, from May to July 2021.



A new site to make full use of the reserve collection

**2,000 m<sup>2</sup> for the collection**

**2,000 works to discover**

A new art hub at the edge of Paris

**Sors de ta réserve ! (Be exposed!)**

An unprecedented participative project

**400m<sup>2</sup> open to the public**

# Les Réserves, a new site for the Frac Île-de-France

## A contemporary building by Freaks

The entire Frac Île-de-France collection will make its home the new Les Réserves building (unveiled on 6th May 2021), in Romainville: **1,600 m<sup>2</sup> will be devoted to the conservation and management of the works of art**, to optimise their dissemination throughout the Île-de-France area and almost **400 m<sup>2</sup> of the building will be open to the public**, an unprecedented **project to present works of art with a participatory approach**.

This new building will expose and **highlight the activities carried out with and around the collection**, from the constituent works of art to any affiliated professions in terms of conservation, management and dissemination of the collection.

In this respect, **the topic of mediation is at the heart of the strategy of the new reserves**. A specific programme is being designed for this reason, one that is open to all members of the public, individuals and groups, both on and off-site to firmly establish this new venue.

*The new Frac Île-de-France Les Réserves building is completely designed for the storage and movement of the works in the collection. Built over three levels and spanning over 2,000m<sup>2</sup>, the building integrates an interior street on the ground floor that is accessible to lorries for transporting works of art. The loading bay is directly linked to areas for quarantining and storing large format works on either side of a goods lift enabling direct access to the upper floors. The overhead clearance of each floor, 5 metres, 4 metres and 3 metres respectively, enables storage tiering to be implemented according to the various formats of the artworks. The smallest and most fragile formats benefit from optimised climate control on the third floor. The central glazed section of the building is designed to welcome the public and includes spaces for hanging works and mediation regarding the collections and specific conservation professions. The top floor also accommodates office spaces for members of the Frac team configured around a patio at the back of the building. The façade indicates the various functions of the building. The sections of storage that must not be exposed to light have a yellow brick design that communicates with the other existing brick buildings.*

### FREAKS

FREAKS is an architecture and scenography agency that was founded in Paris in 2010 by Guillaume Aubry, Cyril Gauthier and Yves Pasquet. The agency won the AJAP prize 2020, the Europe 40 under 40 prize in 2016 and was nominated for the Equerre d'Argent in 2019. The projects developed are largely public cultural facilities like the MECA Maison de l'Economie créative and Culture en Aquitaine in Bordeaux, including the new Frac Aquitaine (in association with BIG), the renovation/extension of the Centre international d'art verrier in Meisenthal, Lorraine (in association with SO-IL), and the Architectural and museographical renovation of the Zoological Museum of the University of Strasbourg. FREAKS has also produced many layouts for exhibitions in institutions like the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, the Gaîté Lyrique and the Philharmonie de Paris.



## At the heart of an artistic hub on the outskirts of Paris

Les Réserves takes up a modern building within a **new contemporary art hub in eastern Paris** – a former brownfield redeveloped by the architecture agency Freaks – that also accommodates the Fondation Fiminco, the galleries Air de Paris, In Situ- Fabienne Leclerc, Vincent Sator, Jocelyn Wolff, the association Jeune Création united under the label **‘Komunuma’**, and Parsons School Paris.

**Beyond any collaborations** being developed **with cultural actors present on site**, initiatives will be implemented **with local partners in Romainville, in the Est Ensemble urban area** (nine towns) – particularly for regional educational institutions – and more broadly across the Seine-Saint-Denis department and throughout the east of Paris.



# Les Réserves, a new building to accommodate the Frac Île-de-France collection

## The Frac Île-de-France collection, a public collection of international importance, established since 1980 and comprising more than 2,000 artworks

For over thirty years the Frac Île-de-France has carried out key prospecting work to create a collection representative of contemporary creation. **The collection** consists of more than 2,000 artworks. It **incorporates a wide range of creative domains** (drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, installation, video, film, design, etc.), while being particularly focused on the emergence of new generations of artists.

Through this approach that is eminently **open to contemporary artworks**, the Frac Île-de-France has been working on a public collection that is significant as much in terms of its mission to support contemporary creation as in its willingness to make superb heritage accessible to all audiences.



Exhibition L, frac île-de-france, the Château, 2018-2019. In the foreground Paulin/ Planokind, 1992 and On reflexion by Bertrand Lavier, 1984. Photo: Martin Argyroglo



Shot of exhibition *After Dark*, MAMCO, Geneva, 2015 With Nikolai's Sunny 09.02.72 (Krylow) by Tobias Rehberger, 2000

### Among the artists in the collection:

François Morellet  
Ulla von Brandenburg  
Bertrand Lavier  
Art & Language  
Tony Cragg  
Neil Beloufa  
Katinka Bock  
John Coplans  
Miquel Barcelo  
Keren Cytter  
Thomas Ruff  
Tobias Rehberger  
Anthony McCall  
Haris Epaminonda  
Michel François  
Michel Blazy  
Camille Henrot  
Haroon Mirza  
Laurent Grasso  
Wade Guyton  
Aurélien Froment  
Isabelle Cornaro  
Pierre Bismuth & Michel Gondry  
Jean-Luc Moulène  
Guillaume Leblon  
Nashashibi/Skaer  
Philippe Decrauzat  
Dewar & Gicquel  
Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys  
...

### Several pieces acquired in 2018-2019:



Seulgi Lee, *Kundari araignée*, 2019



Simon Starling, *Talking, Computing*, 2018-2019



Mélanie Bonajo, *Night Soil – Nocturnal Gardening*, 2016

# ‘Sors de ta réserve !’ (Be exposed!) unique and unprecedented access to a large collection of contemporary art

With ‘Sors de ta réserve !’ (Be exposed!) everybody can choose a work of art from the collection and request for it to be presented to them in the exhibition areas at Les Réserves

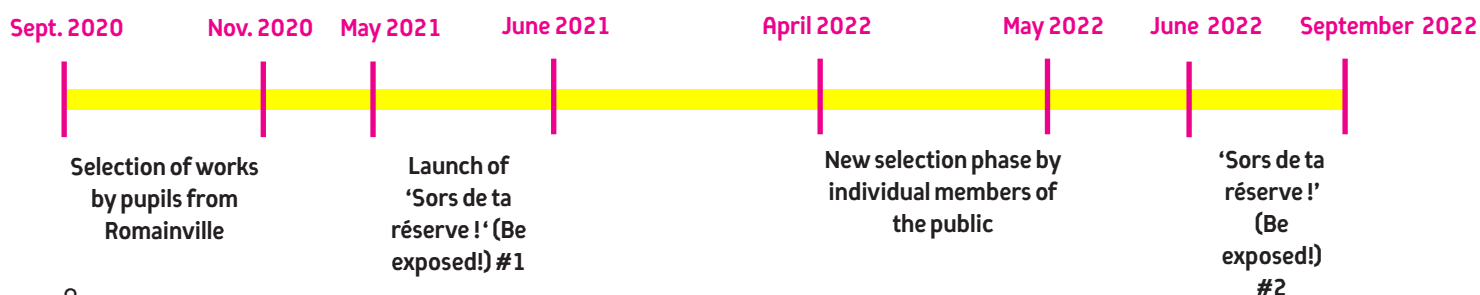
At a time when it seems more than ever necessary to further promote public collections, to ensure that the widest possible audience has access and to truly benefit from works by today’s artists, the Frac Île-de-France is launching a project that is completely unprecedented on this scale: **the public themselves will choose works from the collection that will be presented to them in specially dedicated areas within the reserve collection itself.**

The areas where works of art will be exhibited will accommodate collections of works that will be renewed in response to choices made by the public, alternating the selections of works made by groups (established and future partnerships in academic, social spheres, etc.) and those proposed by individuals. 5 hangings are planned per year (for about 2 months each time). A **local and online communication campaign** will accompany the launch of each new selection period.



Exposition *Toute la collection du Frac Île-de-France (ou presque)*, Mac Val, 2008

## The timeline



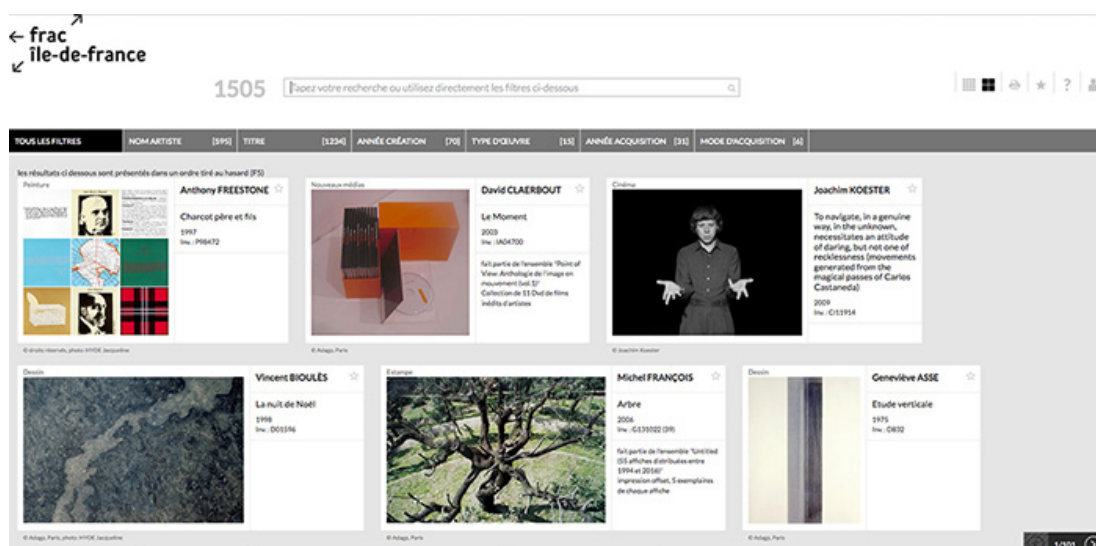


# A digital and innovative project: an accessible and fun app

In this context, the Frac is **developing an app (available March 2022) from the collection database** accessible via the Frac website to enable all audiences to take over the collection and choose works of art - by reservation -, that will be presented to them by the mediation team. For Sors de ta réserve ! (Be exposed!) all members of the public will be invited to select works from the collection (individuals, groups, academic, social spheres, public figures, etc.), either on site, on a digital terminal installed in the reception **to discover the collection**, or remotely, via the future app.

From the collection database, Videomuseum / Gcoll2, the Frac Île-de-France would like to develop a new **ergonomic, interactive and educational** consulting tool.

Visitors can therefore visit the collection via various means, including through **certain themes** (eg: landscape, memory, language, childhood, etc.), promoting everyone's ownership of the collection and its educational use.



# 400 m<sup>2</sup> open to the public and more than 2,000 artworks to discover: the collection is for everyone

With a view to making the collection accessible with *Sors de ta réserve!* (Be exposed!) **almost 400m<sup>2</sup> spanning three levels will be open to the public** for a programme to present works chosen by the public resulting in mediation sessions, meetings and art workshops.

This presentation programme will consist of presenting **works from the collection as they are, just out of the adjacent storage areas**, so as to offer a real, direct relationship with the work of art and thus promote a **straightforward relationship with art**. Certain workspaces will also be accessible upon appointment, enabling the public in particular to discover investigations, restoration, etc.

The other spaces for conservation and storage will be made visible thanks to **architectural transparency** so that **visitors gain** an overall grasp of the activities taking place in the building.



Les Réserves, a special opening with one part of *Children Power*, a triptych of exhibitions around childhood

**children  
power**

19 May - 6 June 2021

## Opening programme

**A selection of works by children &  
a programme of concerts and performances  
from works in the collection**

## → A selection of artworks from the collection by children:

*With works from Alex Ayed, John Baldessari, Jean-Luc Blanc, Bruno Botella, Stéphane Calais, Bady Dalloul, Jean Daviot, Florence Doléac, Richard Fauguet, Candida Höfer, Kapwani Kíwanga, Marie Lund, Jürgen Nefzger, Bill Owens, Florence Paradeis, Daniel Schilier, Dana Wyse*

With a view to the inauguration of Les Réserves of the Frac in Romainville – part of which will be open to the public to regularly present works of art – the Frac Île-de-France **invites children to take over the collection by choosing a variety of works intended to be presented during the first hang to mark the opening of the building.**

Children from a year six primary school class and year seven secondary school class in Romainville will curate this initial presentation of works in areas of Les Réserves that are open to the public. Both classes are working with the Frac public engagement team who are assisting them in selecting the works – around the theme of portrait – and considering how to link the pieces together.

## → Activation of all exhibition modules in the collection

The Frac Île-de-France collection boasts several exhibition devices designed by artists that enable other works to be presented and to take over any type of space.

These modules have been particularly acquired to facilitate presenting works in places that are not devoted to contemporary art. This group, somewhat unique in a public collection, **will be presented for the first time in the empty spaces of the future reserve collection of art** and activated with works related to the theme of childhood.



Year 6 primary class, Henri Barbusse School, © Photo: Erwan Fichou



School class rehearsal from collège G. Courbet with *Extra Muros*, Didier Trenet, 2007. Collection Frac Île-de-France



**These devices will be taken over by children,** in the context of the work implemented with the public engagement team at the Frac: *La Vidéothèque Mobile*, Fabrice Gygi (1998), *Extra Muros*, Didier Trénet (2007), *Project 4 Brane*, Laurent Grasso (2007).

## → Musical performances from artworks in the collection

Musical works and scores from the collection will be activated by groups of children and adolescents from 7 conservatoires in the Est-ensemble area of Greater Paris: Pantin, Bondy, Montreuil, Bagnolet, Noisy-Le-Sec, Le Pré-Saint-Gervais, Romainville : *Cocktail Designer*, *Kiosque Electronique* (2004), Pierre Huyghe, *Silence Score* (1997), Anri Sala, *A Spurious Emission* (2007), Thu Van Tran, *Arirang Partition* (2009)



Thu Van Tran, *Arirang Partition*, 2009



## Programme in the 3 Frac Île-de-France sites

**le plateau**  
an exhibition **for**  
children  
19 May - 19 December

**les réserves**  
a selection of works  
**by** children  
19 May - 6 June

**le château**  
an exhibition  
**about** childhood  
19 May - 18 July

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To mark the opening of Les Réserves one part of a triptych of exhibitions, *Children Power*, will be launched. Around the theme of childhood, they will be held in the 3 Frac Île-de-France sites: **Les Réserves in Romainville**, **Le Plateau in Paris** and **Le Château de Rantilly**, between May and December 2021.

Press contact for *Children Power*:

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# Press images



Les Réserves, Frac Île-de-France  
© Photo : Federico Mannella



Les Réserves, Frac Île-de-France  
© Photo : Federico Mannella



Les Réserves, Frac Île-de-France  
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Les Réserves, Frac Île-de-France  
© Photo : Martin Argyroglo

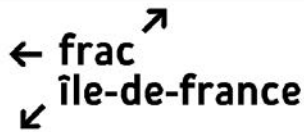


Les Réserves, Frac Île-de-France  
© Photo : Martin Argyroglo



# Partners

Frac Île-de-France Les Réserves receives support from Région Île-de-France and Ministry of Culture – Île-de-France Regional Cultural Affairs Directorate.



# Practical information

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## **Access**

Metro line 5, metro Raymond Queneau (5 min walking from metro)

## **Opening times**

- Wednesday to Sunday from 2pm to 7pm.