



AMBASSADE
DE FRANCE
AU ROYAUME-UNI

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS

Royaume-Uni

**French Culture
as You Like It**

Key Figures

£6.8M

Budget (including
€1.15 million from
State funding)

14

International festivals

40,000

Resources at
La Médiathèque

11

Accredited
French schools

+1M

Visitors on the website

8,000

Registrations to the
Language Centre

220

French language
assistants

100

Guest authors
per year

62

FLAM
associations

11

Alliances
Françaises

6,300

Pupils in the
French network

Open 7/7

+110,000

Visitors per year

110

Teachers at the
Language Centre

59,000

Patrons at Ciné Lumière

+400

Films per year

2,200

Screenings per year
at Ciné Lumière

50,000

Resources on
Culturethèque

+£6M

of private funds raised
by the Trust in the last
ten years

500

Projects supported by
Fluxus since 2010

7,000

Pupils welcomed
in 2024

150

Publishers, scouts,
agents welcomed at
the London Book Fair

280

Projects supported
by Diaphonique
since 2010

78%

self-funded

140

British schools
hosted in 2024



Part of a worldwide network, the Institut français du Royaume-Uni promotes French language and culture and encourages cross-cultural collaborations. Founded in 1910 and based in South Kensington, London, it comprises a Language Centre, a Cultural Centre, a cinema, Ciné Lumière, and a multi-media library, La Médiathèque.

The Institut welcomes over 100,000 people each year, thanks to its wide range of events, from film screenings, debates and festivals to concerts and workshops. It has also developed a broad offer for children through activities for schools and families, as well as dedicated spaces for younger audiences: the Bibliothèque Quentin Blake and L'Atelier.

In addition, the Institut presents and supports external cultural events, in collaboration with British partners, and fosters creation from both sides of the Channel thanks to its flagship Franco-British programmes.

As part of a UK-wide French network including the Institut français d'Ecosse, la Maison Française d'Oxford and 11 Alliances Françaises, the Institut français du Royaume-Uni develops Franco-British educational and cultural projects throughout the country.

The Institut français du Royaume-Uni benefits from the generous support of its Trust and Patrons' Circle to carry out its missions and wishes to thank all their members wholeheartedly.





Promoting French Language

One of the main missions of the Institut français is teaching French language, carried out by its Language Centre in London as well as a UK-wide French network, including the Institut français d'Ecosse and 11 Alliances Françaises.

Furthermore, the Institut organises training workshops for French language teachers and collaborates with schools throughout the country on educational programmes with the aim of maintaining the position of French language as a top choice for foreign language study in the UK.

The Institut also provides a wide range of free educational resources for primary and secondary teachers and students of French at all levels.

Moreover, the Institut coordinates a network of 11 French schools which are accredited by the French Ministry of Education and 62 FLAM schools.

www.institut-francais.org.uk/education

Francophonie

Every year, the month of March is dedicated to Francophonie with a nationwide series of events promoting the diversity and wealth of the French language.

In addition to a rich programme of films and talks, the Institut has launched two national competitions for students in the UK education system: the finals of the *Joutes oratoires lycéennes*, a French debating competition gathering eloquent sixth formers, and the *French Pop Video Competition*, which allows hundreds of primary and secondary students to compete in a French song competition.

Students from 15 British universities also take part in the celebrations with the *Choix Goncourt UK*. This initiative, launched with the Higher Education, Research and Innovation Department of the French Embassy, invites students to award their own Goncourt prize.

Other highlights include *Francophonie on the Road*, a UK-wide initiative offering students from 20 state schools the opportunity to take part in a series of activities promoting the French language.

www.institut-francais.org.uk/francophonie





Language Centre

Attracting 4,800 students every year, whether onsite or online, the Language Centre of the Institut français has proved its excellence in teaching French since 1910.

It offers general French courses as well as corporate training, business French, and courses on various aspects of French culture and current affairs. It also provides courses catered to young learners.

Under the guidance of 110 highly qualified teachers, who are all native French speakers, students learn in a friendly and stimulating environment.

The Institut français is also a leading official examination centre for a wide range of French language proficiency diplomas and certificates for all ages.

www.institut-francais.org.uk/french-courses

Confluence Modernisation Campaign

The Institut français, with the support of its Trust, has launched a large-scale renovation project, consisting of 3 successive stages to modernise its Language Centre, both onsite and online.

Ideally located in front of the South Kensington tube station, its listed building is currently under refurbishment to continue welcoming people in the best way possible and live up to the excellence of its teaching.





Ciné Lumière

With its two screens (225 and 34 seats), equipped with digital and 35mm projection facilities, Ciné Lumière is one of the landmark arthouse cinemas in London.

Particularly known for its broad programme and the promotion of French and European films, Ciné Lumière offers daily screenings of new and exclusive releases, UK premieres, classics, documentaries, family and school screenings, as well as series and retrospectives. It is also valued for on-stage debates attended by directors, actors, scholars and film critics.

Often working in collaboration with British partners, Ciné Lumière projects over 400 films a year cumulating in over 2,000 screenings, features more than 100 on-stage discussions, and welcomes more than 50,000 patrons.

It has also established itself as a showcase for world cinema, particularly through the vast array of festivals it collaborates with, highlighting the vitality of French co-productions and attracting international audiences.

An ever-wider audience is attracted thanks to specific schemes and inclusive programmes. The 25 and under membership is a successful way to attract a younger audience, as well as offers for mothers and babies, relaxed screenings for neurodivergent audiences, and screenings for the HoH.

Every year, Ciné Lumière hosts exclusive screenings with international talent during the awards season (César, BAFTAs, Oscars, LUX Prize) and showcases nominated titles to voting members.

www.institut-francais.org.uk/cine-lumiere



Demi Moore & Coralie Fargeat at Ciné Lumière



Ralph Fiennes at Ciné Lumière



- The Count of Monte Cristo, dir.s Matthieu Delaporte & Alexandre de la Patellière

Spotlight on French Cinema

All year long Ciné Lumière highlights the rich production and history of French cinema with a programme featuring classics and new releases, exclusive releases of popular films that have not found a distributor in the UK, curated series as well as retrospectives and film festivals.

These series and retrospectives, often introduced by a presentation from a film scholar, allow audiences to get a deeper insight into the complex and multi-layered history of French and Francophone cinema.

Ciné Lumière is also the main partner of the French Film Festival that takes place in more than 40 cinemas across the UK in November and December, offering a broad panorama of recent film productions and of classic film restorations.

Beyond London, the Institut français advises festivals and cinemas across the UK on French film programmes and history, as well as on how to access French films, notably through the vast IF Cinéma catalogue.



Three Friends, dir. Emmanuel Mouret



Pierrot le Fou, dir. Jean-Luc Godard



La Médiathèque

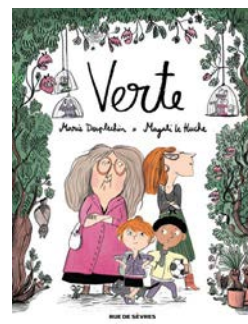
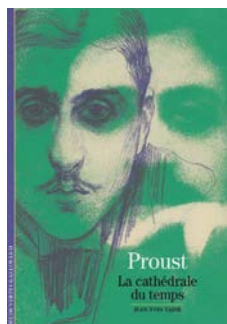
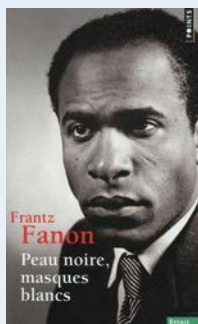
Composed of two spaces, one for children up to 12 years of age – the Bibliothèque Quentin Blake – and another for the general public, La Médiathèque of the Institut français offers the largest free-access collection of French material in the UK, with nearly 40,000 items, completed by an extensive selection of digital resources on the Culturethèque platform, available for free across the country.

Easy to access, interactive and responsive, the library's online catalogue enables readers to explore a rich collection of books, audiobooks, magazines, films and music for all, in just a few clicks. A piano and videogames are also available on site.

The Médiathèque plays an important role in promoting and spreading French and Francophone cultures and values as well as supporting the learning of French.

The stunning Art Deco reading room and the Bibliothèque Quentin Blake host all-year-round events and projects with authors, illustrators, schools and visitors of all ages.

www.institut-francais.org.uk/library



NIGHT OF IDEAS

On Topic

The environment, geopolitical upheavals, the defense of women and minorities' rights, the challenging of democracy, new societal concerns: today's issues are questioned through debates and films as well as various series and seasons all year round, including the Night of Ideas.

Now a worldwide project staged in 190 cities in 104 different countries, the Night of Ideas is a highly anticipated event in London. Crossing French and British perspectives, it convenes debates and performances to challenge our understanding of the world.

Gathering fifty leading figures every year, The Night of Ideas previously featured Thomas Pesquet, Timothy Peake, Thomas Jolly, Pap Ndiaye, Posy Simmonds, Ken Loach, Anthony Grayling, Yinka Shonibare, Leïla Slimani, Zadie Smith, Laure Prouvost, among many others.

www.institut-francais.org.uk

Beyond Words Festival

The Institute celebrates literature in all its guises with the Beyond Words Festival featuring acclaimed authors and new voices as well as the latest publications from both sides of the Channel, with a special focus on French-language writers recently translated into English.

The festival offers a curated programme exploring the crossover between literature and art forms, through discussions, readings, debates, live performances, and screenings of literary adaptations.

Previous editions have featured Faïza Guène, Deborah Levy, Kamel Daoud, Ben Okri, Scholastique Mukasonga, Maylis de Kerangal, Laurent Binet, Eric Vuillard, Anne Berest, Alice Zeniter, among others.

www.institut-francais.org.uk





The 2024 Entente Littéraire Prize Ceremony with Her Majesty the Queen & Brigitte Macron

Entente Littéraire Prize

Launched by Her Majesty The Queen and Mme Brigitte Macron in September 2023, during Their Majesties' State Visit to France, the Entente Littéraire Prize recognised books aimed at teenagers and young adults for its first edition in 2024.

The award ceremony took place during the 120th anniversary year of the Entente Cordiale on 4 December 2024 at the French Residence in London in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen and Mme Brigitte Macron.

Managed by the Institut français du Royaume-Uni and the Royal Society of Literature, the prize illustrates the importance of the close bilateral relationship between the UK and France and celebrates our close cultural ties.

www.institut-francais.org.uk

Burgess Translation Programme

Literary fiction, non-fiction, comics, children's literature: the translation to English of the best books of French literature is supported by the Institut français through the Burgess Programme, to which British publishers can apply once a year for a subsidy towards translation costs.

Nearly 600 titles have been supported since 1993 and many of their authors and translators have featured in our programme of talks.

www.institut-francais.org.uk/burgess





France's stand at the London Book Fair, 2024

Creative & Cultural Industries

With the aim of encouraging new collaborative projects between professionals from the UK and France, the Institut français runs a series of B2B meetings and residencies in the creative and cultural industries.

With the support of the Bureau International de l'Édition Française (BIEF), publishers from both countries can meet at the London Book Fair, or during tailored B2B events throughout the year.

The Institut français organises *Shoot the Book! London*: a unique opportunity for UK-based film producers to meet prestigious French publishers. This initiative is designed to turn top literary works into films.

Networking sessions organised in the framework of key events like the London Film Festival, the French Film Festival and Content London, held in partnership with Unifrance and British partners such as the British Film Institute (BFI), allow professionals in film, TV series and new media to discuss their practices and explore new joint opportunities.

Cross-Channel Theatre

Cross Channel Theatre aims to strengthen ties between Francophone creators and the UK's performing arts sector, and to promote a diverse and dynamic theatrical repertoire.

Cross Channel Theatre was originally created in 2014 as a translation programme led by the Institut to support contemporary Francophone playwrights in the UK. Today, the Cross Channel Theatre programme builds bridges between Francophone performing arts professionals and British stages by supporting not only translation but also the production and the promotion of contemporary French-language theatre.

www.institut-francais.org.uk

Cross-Channel
THEATRE



Oliver Beer, Resonance Project (The Cave), 2024 Installation. Courtesy of the artist and of the Thaddaeus Ropac & Almine Rech galleries
©Oliver Beer. Image Oliver Beer Studio 2

Fluxus Art Projects

Founded by the Institut, Fluxus Art Projects is a France-UK initiative that supports projects of artists at a turning point in their careers and enables them to develop a professional network in the neighbouring country. It promotes active and fruitful collaborations between France and the UK by supporting art institutions of both countries, organising individual and group exhibitions of France-based artists in the UK, as well as UK-based artists in France, and curatorial projects.

In 15 years, Fluxus has supported over 300 institutions and 550 artists, among them Oliver Beer, Barbara Chase-Riboud, R.I.P. Germain, Zoé Williams, Jesse Darling, Bouchra Khalili, Julien Creuzet, Noémie Goudal, Tarik Kiswanson and Josefa Ntjam.

www.fluxusartprojects.com

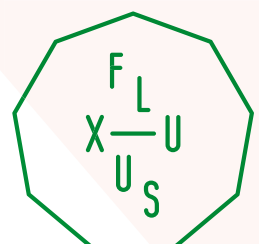
Magnetic Residencies

Under the umbrella of Fluxus Art Projects, Magnetic is a bilateral programme designed to foster artistic development through exchange and to enhance sustainable cooperation between UK and French visual arts scenes.

Launched by the Institut français du Royaume-Uni and the four UK arts funding agencies, it brings together ten leading arts venues across the UK (Wysing Arts Centre/England, Gasworks/England, Flax Art Studios/Northern Ireland, Cove Park/Scotland and Aberystwyth Arts Centre/Wales) and France (Capc/Bordeaux, Frac Bretagne/Rennes, Frac Grand Large/Dunkerque, Villa Arson/Nice and Bétonsalon/Paris) to create a programme of artists' residencies.

www.fluxusartprojects.com/magnetic-residencies

Fluxus Art Projects and its residencies programme are supported by the Institut français du Royaume-Uni, the Institut français in Paris, the French Ministry of Culture, the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Arts Council England, Creative Scotland, Arts Council of Wales/Wales Arts International, Arts Council of Northern Ireland and the British Council. They also benefit from the valuable and unwavering commitment of their patrons and friends.





Hirundo ©Sean Punser

Diaphonique

Created by the Institut français in 2010, Diaphonique is the Franco-British-Irish fund dedicated to supporting contemporary classical music collaborations between France, Ireland and the UK. From commissions and tours to residencies and educational initiatives, the programme fosters meaningful artistic exchange across the Channel.

Over the years, Diaphonique has accompanied over 120 projects, more than 160 composers and ensembles, including some of the most prominent voices in contemporary music.

The fund is supported by a strong network of institutional partners including the Institut français du Royaume-Uni, the Sacem, the Centre National de la Musique, the British Council, the Institut français de Paris, Culture Ireland and the Fondation Francis and Mica Salabert.

www.diaphonique.org

DIAPHONIQUE

Les Salons en Musique

Launched in 2018 following the renovation of the Institut français' historic Salons and its 1907 Pleyel Grand Piano, Les Salons en Musique is a concert series showcasing exceptional and emerging talent from the French classical scene. It has featured artists such as Axelle Saint-Cirel, Héroïse Luzzati, Jean-Paul Gasparian, Louise Akili, and the Trio Zeliha, offering a refined and intimate setting for musical discovery of chamber music.

www.institut-francais.org.uk



Axelle Saint-Cirel at the French Institute



Bibliothèque Quentin Blake

Named after its beloved patron, the renowned illustrator Sir Quentin Blake, the children's library of the Institut is rich of a catalogue including thousands of books and material for children up to 12 years old and offers a wide range of activities for kids and families, ranging from workshops to storytelling sessions and VR activities.

www.institut-francais.org.uk/library

L'Atelier

L'Atelier is a multifunctional space dedicated to young audiences. This step-free access room allows classes, children, teenagers and the whole family to enjoy, discover and learn more about the art of cinema. Flexible and interactive, hands-on activities, digital experiences and discussions are offered in L'Atelier making it a bubbling discovery space.

Youth Programme

All year round, the Institut français offers an extensive programme for children and the whole family. Kids can immerse themselves in French language and culture through creative activities at the Bibliothèque Quentin Blake, and screenings catering to toddlers, children and teenagers at Ciné Lumière.

The South Ken Kids Festival celebrates children's literature during a week of live drawing events, workshops, films and performances at the Institut, as well as in schools and, for the first time in 2022, in hospitals in Greater London.

The Institut reaches out to teachers and pupils with free resources offered online and a wide range of educational activities run in its premises or in schools, throughout the year.

www.institut-francais.org.uk



Flow, dir. Gints Zilbalodis



French Institute Trust

Founded in 1998, the French Institute Trust supports the Institut français in promoting French language, education and culture in the UK.

Since its creation, its board of trustees has supported several key investment projects such as the renovation of Ciné Lumière I and the creation of Ciné Lumière II. It has also been a major actor in the renovation of La Médiathèque, both the Adult's Library and the Bibliothèque Quentin Blake, as well as the launch of a digital library, Culturethèque.

Additionally, the Trust supported the restoration of the Institut's piano's - a Steinway Grand and 1907 Pleyel – and the renovation of the reception rooms, known as Les Salons, which now accommodate concerts, talks and exhibitions. The Trust has also supported the renovation of the Foyer and the creation of l'Atelier, a dedicated space for school activities and has achieved the major fundraising campaign of Confluence for the modernisation of the Language Centre.

The Trust has also given its support to the Diaphonique fund and to several key cultural events over the years, such as the UK-wide festival FranceDance, the performance of *The Damned* by la Comédie-Française at the Barbican, the Beyond Words Festival and the South Ken Kids Festival.

Patrons' Circle

The Patrons' Circle is an active group of Patrons who generously support the annual cultural programme of the Institut français.

They contribute to the diversity and quality of our artistic and educational initiatives and help us complete our mission in promoting French culture through the development of cultural projects.





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