

VICHY CULTURE PRESENTS

RENDEZ-VOUS
PHOTOGRAPHIQUE DE VICHY
20 JUNE > 28 SEPT. 2025

portrait(s)

ISABEL MUÑOZ
GRAND ETABLISSEMENT
THERMAL IN VICHY

THE VICHY CHECK
MEYER
NAMSA LEUBA
VALÉRIE JOUVE
OMAR VICTOR DIOP
& LEE SHULMAN
PORTRAIT(S)
S'INVITE À L'ÉCOLE
PATRICK TOURNEBOEUF



FANY DUPÊCHEZ

Artistic Director

Illuminating Body and Soul

Isabel Muñoz is a major figure in Spanish photography. Her life's work, which is equal parts powerful and necessary, has taken over the walls of Vichy's biggest spa, the Grand Établissement Thermal.

For more than 30 years, the artist's work has tackled contemporary issues such as identity, gender, community and, above all, the permanence and impermanence of the body. She turns the body into a territory that is simultaneously intimate and universal, given over, in all its raw sensuality, to the possibility of profound transformation.

In today's world, it more crucial than ever to embrace and express who we are. In her own way, Isabel Muñoz offers a visual manifesto, a declaration of love for difference, for otherness, for the plural beauty of the human and of the living world. Some of the works - masterpieces in their own right - are printed by the artist herself, using the now-rare artisanal technique of platinum printing. These are works presented in unique formats, much like imprints of the soul itself.

From her first photographic explorations in 1980 to the most recent images of the hybrid, futuristic bodies of cyborgs, each image questions, honours and celebrates humanity in all its diversity and affirmation. The exhibition was produced with guest curator François Cheval.

The retrospective presented in Vichy covers the whole of her life's work, with photographs, films and installations reconstructing a sensitive and vibrant journey through time and perspective.

On the esplanade of the Lac d'Allier, a themed exhibition on the pop and glamour of gingham, also known as the **Vichy Check**, invites visitors to stroll under the open sky and discover the famous pattern first popularised by Empress Eugénie. The exhibition features archive images the press, fashion and film.

The transmission of culture and ideas has been a priority for Portrait(s) since it was founded.

La voix du regard, in which Brigitte Patient is given carte blanche, takes us on a visual and aural journey through the analysis of a photograph. This year, Omar Victor Diop and Lee Shulman are in the spotlight with the project Being There.

Des mots pour voir, with the support of Neuflize OBC, a long-standing partner from whose collection we select works by a different artist each year. For the 2025 exhibition, two works by Valérie Jouve are accompanied by a sound recording in which the people of Vichy provide their takes on the artist's photographs.

Portrait(s) s'invite à l'école, photography in a school setting. Students in their final year at the Lycée Albert Londres have worked on the theme of human relations within their school.

Portrait(s) is also supporting creative expression via three residency commissions.

Meyer transforms the skies above Vichy into spaces for levitation. Some 30 women from Vichy were invited to express their dreams; the result is a moment of suspended, pure poetic flight.

Photographer **Namsa Leuba** has been invited to CAVILAM-Alliance Française, a school renowned for the quality of its French language teaching, to apply her singular, colourful approach to celebrating the cultural diversity of the school's students, who come from all over the world.

Patrick Tournebœuf is delivering a new selection of photographs as part of a commission launched by the city of Vichy and Vichy Culture on the architectural splendours of Europe's great spa towns and UNESCO World Heritage Sites. This year, he has photographed exceptional heritage sites and architecture in Karlovy Vary in the Czech Republic.

Welcome to Vichy for the 13th edition of Portrait(s), celebrating culture and supporting creativity and freedom of expression.

Portrait(s) is a member of the Réseau LUX, a national network of photography fairs and festivals, representing 31 members across France and its overseas territories.

ISABEL MUÑOZ

THE LEFT HAND OF DARKNESS

The Left Hand of Darkness exhibition is the largest retrospective ever devoted to the work of Isabel Muñoz in France. More than 80 works are on show and spanning her entire career, from the first photographs she took in Spain in the 1980s to her recent experiments with cyborgs. Through different series, the exhibition explores the singular relationship the artist nurtures with her subjects, shifting between empathy, power and sensitivity. Borrowing the title of the science-fiction novel *The Left Hand of Darkness*, written by Ursula K. Le Guin in 1969, the exhibition connects with the author's prophetic and visionary creative world. Through her photographs, Isabel Muñoz questions gender identity, desire and pain, and the solitude of the body.

François Cheval, guest co-curator.

Exhibition supported by Cinq Étoiles Productions



Untitled. Series Japan , 2017



Untitled. Series Japan , 2017

VICHY

CHEERFUL? CHECK!

The Vichy Check, a Thematic Exhibition.

Whether Brigitte Bardot's puffy skirt, Lauren Bacall's jacket with rolled-up sleeves, Frank Sinatra's casual shirt, Sheila's bikini, Lady Di's pink trousers, or even our grandmothers' kitchen aprons, we can all remember a little piece of Vichy (or gingham) checked fabric, which seems to epitomise the carefree years of our youth. This fashion was first launched in France by Empress Eugenie. The dignitary would vacation in Vichy, where a local spinning mill produced these woven, checked cottons destined for greatness. Through a rich selection of images, dating from the mid-19th century to the present day and sourced from the press, fashion and film, the Vichy Check is enjoying a revival this summer on the esplanade of Lac d'Allier.



Young woman wearing a gingham bathing suit, 1966
© Mirrorpix / Bridgeman Images



Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling in the movie Barbie, 2023
Collection Christophe © Warner Bros Pictures - Heyday Films -
LuckyChap Entertainment - Mattel Films - Mattel

LA VOIX DU REGARD

UNE CARTE BLANCHE À BRIGITTE PATIENT

Each year, Brigitte Patient goes through the decade of Portrait(s) exhibitions. She chooses an artist and an image and takes us on a journey through sight and sound, describing what she perceives, what she imagines, and what she knows about the photographer and their place in the history of photography. Guided by her voice, the viewer follows her gaze through a moving image that gradually reveals itself... This year, visitors will discover a photograph by Lee Shulman and Omar Victor Diop, from the series Being There by The Anonymous Project. Brigitte Patient's unique words are displayed in dialogue with the photograph, inspiring curiosity and a desire to see more.

Lee Shulman is the founder of The Anonymous Project.

Omar Victor Diop is represented by Galerie Magnin-A, Paris.

Sound editing: Félix Fouchet



DES MOTS POUR VOIR

VALÉRIE JOUVE

PRESENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF NEUFLIZE OBC

Neuflize OBC Foundation presents *Des mots pour voir*, an exhibition aiming to highlight the works of the Neuflize OBC photographic and video Collection. *Portrait(s)* and the Neuflize OBC Foundation are pursuing the innovative project launched in 2018. The objective is to introduce the public to the exciting works in the Neuflize OBC Collection, while providing a platform for analysis and exchange about the works to encourage an open, ongoing dialogue between the public, academics, experts, and artists.

This year, two works by Valérie Jouve from the Neuflize OBC Collection are being exhibited for the duration of the festival. Comments by members of the public collected by the mediator before the exhibition will be presented in the exhibition room.

Médiation : Camille Carrias

Montage sonore : Alexis Hamoui



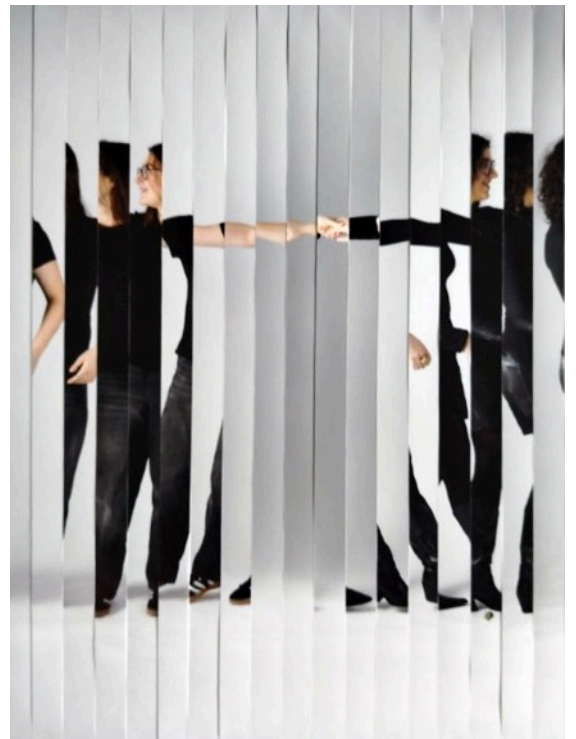
Untitled (*Les personnages*, featuring Ilham Riffi), 2000
© Valérie Jouve. Collection d'entreprise Neuflize OBC

PORTRAIT(S) S'INVITE À L'ÉCOLE

Portrait(s) is continuing its work with schools for this edition with a final year class from the Lycée Général et Technologique Albert Londres. The new photographic workshop focuses on the theme of human relationships within the school.

Led by Jérôme Schirtzinger, from the Exhibitions Department, and Christophe Darbelet, mediator and photographer, the aim of the workshop was to ask each student to create portraits highlighting the different facets of human relationships, such as friendship, solidarity and respect, but also the tensions and conflicts that can arise.

This workshop has been made possible by the joint efforts of Frédéric Barbecot, art teacher at the Albert Londres Campus, and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region.



MEYER

DREAMS OF FLYING WOMEN

Get ready to take to the skies and admire the landscapes of Vichy with a new, light-hearted, poetic series of images created as part of an artistic residency. Some 30 Vichy women from a wide range of backgrounds shared a dream and took part in a creative thought experiment, imagining themselves flying over the streets, squares and rooftops of their city. Suspended between heaven and earth, they offer an offbeat, tender and dream-like vision of their daily lives. Through this symbolic gesture, they each express a deep-seated desire, a long-buried memory or simply the need for a different perspective on their lives, their home and themselves. An invitation to dream together, to rise above.



NAMSA LEUBA

A SHARED WORLD

In 2025, CAVILAM-Alliance Française is inaugurating a new artistic event with the creation of its first Francophone photographic residency. The institution has invited the Swiss-Guinean photographer Namsa Leuba, renowned for her work combining contemporary aesthetics and the exploration of cultural identities.

Delving into the daily lives of the institution's international community, Namsa Leuba presents a series of brightly coloured, pop-inspired portraits celebrating tradition and cultural complexity.

Through this exhibition, visitors will discover a kaleidoscope of identities, stories and perspectives, united by a common thread: the French language as a space for dialogue and creation.

Exhibition displayed on the façade of CAVILAM alongside an exhibition outside the Pôle Universitaire presenting a selection of the artist's personal work.

Namsa Leuba is represented for her personal work by galerie in camera, Paris.



Shin. CAVILAM Alliance Française, Vichy, 2025

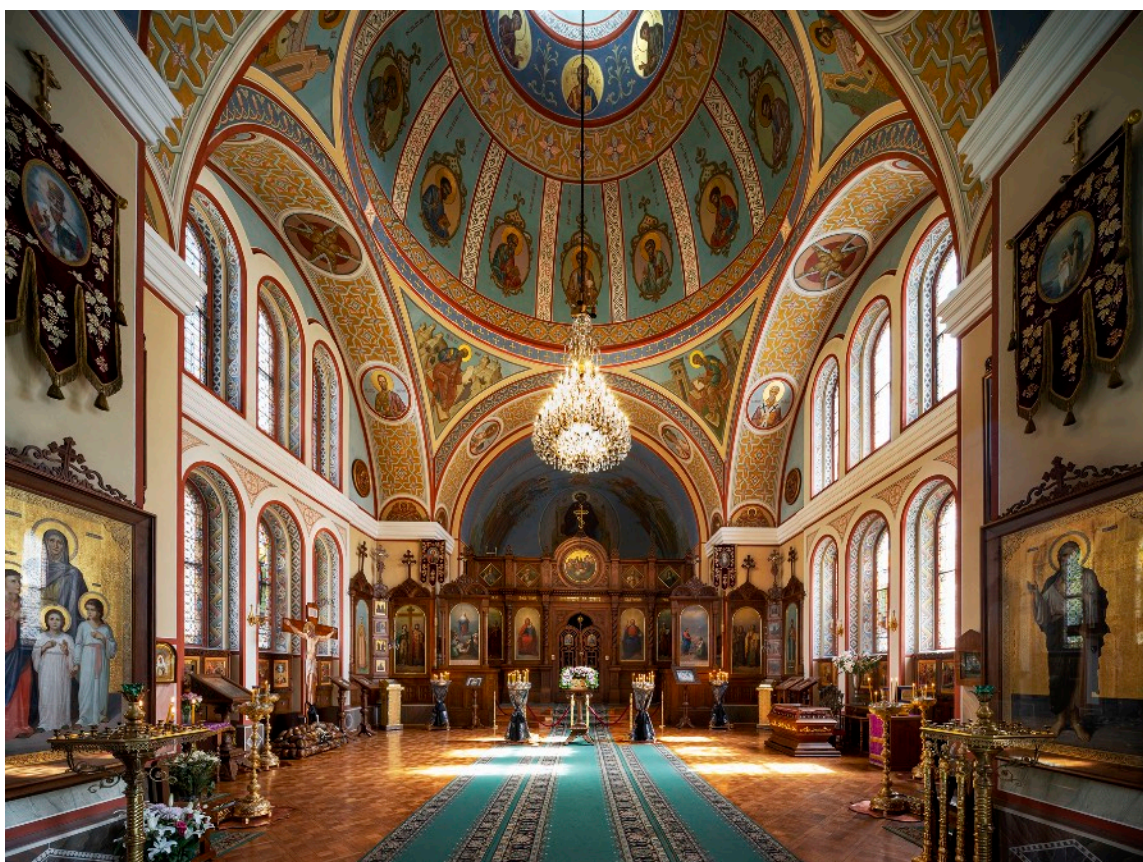


Florence. CAVILAM Alliance Française, Vichy, 2025

PATRICK TOURNEBOEUF

EUROPE'S GREAT WATER CITIES
UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Patrick Tournebœuf is interested in changes to Europe's monumental heritage, and his work on architecture combines documentary and visual approaches. After juxtaposing Vichy and Baden-Baden last year, he is continuing his exploration of major European spa towns listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. This year, he is presenting images produced in Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic. Much like Vichy, this thermal destination developed from the mid-18th century onwards, when the fashion for spa treatments led to a rise in luxurious buildings along with leisure architecture such as theatres and casinos.



Pierre-et-Paul Orthodox Cathedral. Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic, 2025
Patrick Tourneboeuf is a member of Tendence Floue Collective

AGENDA

FRIDAY JUNE 20

6 p.m.: Opening of the 13th edition of *Portrait(s)*

at the Grand établissement thermal

SATURDAY JUNE 21

Outdoor exhibitions visit

The opening programme is under development

Portrait(s), Rendez-vous photographique de Vichy

JUNE 20 TO SEPTEMBER 28, 2025



1 GRAND ÉTABLISSEMENT THERMAL

AVENUE DU GÉNÉRAL DWIGHT EISENHOWER
ENTRÉE PARVIS

ISABEL MUÑOZ

THE LEFT HAND OF DARKNESS

DES MOTS POUR VOIR

VALÉRIE JOUVE

NEUFLIZE OBC ENTERPRISE COLLECTION

4 PARC DES SOURCES

PARC DES SOURCES

PATRICK TOURNEBOEUF

EUROPE'S GREAT WATER CITIES

MEYER

DREAMS OF FLYING WOMEN

2 ESPLANADE DU LAC D'ALLIER

BD DU MARÉCHAL DE LATTRE DE TASSIGNY

VICHY. CHEERFUL? CHECK!

5 PÔLE UNIVERSITAIRE

1, AVENUE DES CÉLESTINS

NAMSA LEUBA

A SHARED WORLD

3 HALL DES SOURCES

7 AVENUE DU GÉNÉRAL DWIGHT EISENHOWER

LA VOIX DU REGARD

BRIGITTE PATIENT - LEE SHULMAN & OMAR

VICTOR DIOP, *BEING THERE*

PORTRAIT(S) S'INVITE À L'ÉCOLE

6 PARVIS DE LA GARE

ART EN GARE

WITH THE SUPPORT OF

SNCF GARES & CONNEXIONS

By sponsoring the Vichy Portrait(s) Photography Encounter, the Neuflize OBC Enterprise Foundation is upholding its commitment to contemporary photography.

As the only international event to be centered exclusively on the art of portraiture, the Vichy Portrait(s) Photography Encounter brings together not only a wide variety of Exhibitions, but also a program of educational activities which Neuflize OBC is delighted to support.

Portrait(s) and the Foundation are pursuing the innovative project originally launched in 2018. Our shared goal has always been to display the exceptional pieces held within Neuflize OBC Enterprise Collection to the general public, and to offer a platform for analysis and debate focused on the works. In doing so, we hope to encourage an open, ongoing dialogue between members of the public, academics, experts, and artists.

A Sincere, Sustainable Partnership

As a pioneer in making patronage policy a cornerstone of its business strategy, Neuflize OBC Bank has been strongly engaged in promoting the visual arts (photography, videography, and cinema) for over 20 years. From the very beginning, this commitment, which is pursued through its corporate Foundation, has been supported alongside heritage bodies and educational programs. What's more, the Neuflize OBC Collection now contains more than 1,000 works of photography and videography. These two pillars are in complete harmony with the values and skills of Neuflize OBC, whose mission is to preserve, develop, and pass on our heritage, while also promoting the emergence of future talents.

DUPON

The directors of the DUPON laboratory would like to warmly thank Fany Dupêchez and Pascal Michaut, as well as the cultural and technical teams of the city of Vichy, for their invaluable trust which has been renewed consistently since 2013. DUPON's technical team would also like to applaud the exceptional quality of the photographers selected each year, and is delighted with the cooperation and complicity, the technical exchanges, and the trust established with each of artist through using printing and framing to showcase the full aesthetics of their portraiture.

The program for this 12th edition promises to be a feast for expert eyes and an invitation for the general public to reflect and embark upon on a remarkable photographic journey.

CINQ ÉTOILES PRODUCTIONS

Cinq Étoiles Productions, a long-standing partner of Portrait(s) since it was founded, is particularly proud to showcase its support for the festival and for contemporary art by supporting this year's exhibition devoted to Isabel Muñoz, a leading Spanish photographer, at the Grand Établissement Thermal in Vichy.

Our experience on the international level as a production company in the fields of photography, publishing and business leads us to meet many emerging and established photographers, as seen in the *Portrait(s)* festival. The richness of the festival's program and the energy mobilized to bring this encounter into existence resonate with us deeply.

We feel so close to the values upheld by Fany Dupêchez and the festival's teams. It is therefore completely natural for us and a source of great pleasure to provide our support to this incredible photographic festival.

Charly Forin
David Moreillon
Lucas Lechevalier

SNCF GARES & CONNEXIONS

A partner of Vichy *Portrait(s)* for the ninth consecutive year, SNCF Gares & Connexions renews its support for this compelling cultural event here in France.

Once again this year, Vichy train station will be transformed into an extension of the festival, a prelude to the exhibition that taking place on the station square. The Paris Bercy Bourgogne - Pays d'Auvergne train station in Paris, where trains depart for Vichy, will also be supporting the event, inviting passengers to come and discover it for themselves.

As an organization specializing in the design and operation of stations through their commercial use, SNCF Gares & Connexions is a key player in the field of durable mobility, involved in ecological and social transition for the benefit of all parts of France. With 3,000 stations and ten million travellers and visitors per day, it is committed to the constant improvement of its quality of operation, the invention of new services and the modernization of its heritage. Its strategic ambition is to create a connection with stations through a connection with trains. As a partner of major national and local cultural institutions, it organizes over 130 art exhibitions, activities and shows each year. These cultural events are tailored for the stations individually throughout the whole of France.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
FANY DUPÊCHEZ
fdupechez@artphotoprojects.com

DIRECTOR, VICHY CULTURE
MARTIN KUBICH

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, VICHY CULTURE
KARIM BOULHAYA
k.boulhaya@vichyculture.fr

PRODUCTION MANAGER
AGATHE MARGOTTAT
a.margottat@vichyculture.fr

PROJECT MANAGER
PASCAL MICHAUT
pmichaut@artphotoprojects.com

EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS
PORTRAIT(S) S'INVITE À L'ÉCOLE
CHRISTOPHE DARBELET and JÉRÔME SCHIRTZINGER

DES MOTS POUR VOIR
CAMILLE CARRIAS, ZOE MAZEL and ALEXIS HAMOUI

SCENOGRAPHY
SYLVIE MEUNIER

TECHNICAL SCENOGRAPHY
JEAN-MICHEL FIORI

TRANSLATION
ALEXANDER UFF

PRESS RELATIONS
2E BUREAU - SYLVIE GRUMBACH, MARTIAL HOBENICHE and MATHILDE SANDLARZ
portraits@2e-bureau.com / 01 42 33 93 18 - 06 08 82 95 33

PORTRAIT(S) IS A MEMBER OF RESEAU **L U X** www.reseau-lux.com/

Plateau national du Festival
officiel de photographie

PUBLIC SPONSORS



PRIVATE SPONSORS

Avec le soutien de la Fondation
d'Entreprise Neuflyze OBC



MEDIA - PRESS

