

THE MARAIS AND ITS LEGACY

50 YEARS OF PROTECTION, SINCE THE MALRAUX LAW



Louis XIV courtyard, Carnavalet Museum
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CARNAVALET
MUSEUM –
HISTORY OF
PARIS

EXHIBITION
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INFORMATION
www.carnavalet.paris.fr

"Most of the quays beyond Notre-Dame do not feature any illustrious monuments [...]. They make up the honoured scenery of the dream that Paris offers to the world, and we want to protect this scenery as much as our monuments."

André Malraux, speech at the National Assembly, 23rd July 1962.

40 years after the death of André Malraux, and on the 50th anniversary of the delineation of the first protected Parisian sector, the Carnavalet Museum is holding an exhibition dedicated to the Marais, a district that has a special place in the hearts of Parisians.

Following the Law of 4th August 1962, which established protected sectors whose historic nature justified "conservation, restoration and promotion", this district has benefited from specific heritage protection measures, following the example of the historic centres of cities such as Lyon, Chartres, Clermont-Ferrand and Aix-en-Provence.

The protection of the Marais has led to exceptional individual and collective people-driven ventures. Different perspectives and controversies have been raised through events that brought together decision-makers, developers, elected authorities, social housing providers, architects, town planners and residents.

What were the challenges, successes and pitfalls of the promotion work? What do they reveal? What type of renewal was being sought? This retrospective looks at the heritage-related and aesthetic questions raised by the conservation project, as well as the sociological, economic and human dimensions of the plan. **Boasting nearly 300 works of art, it takes a look at 50 years of development of a district whose abundance of private mansions built in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, rubbing shoulders with modern architecture, make it exceptional, and at the heart of which is the Carnavalet Museum.**

Testimonies, photographs, films, cards, models, instruments, samples, posters, *in situ* drawings, samples and architectural elements tell the story of a district that is alive and constantly evolving. Visitors are invited into a "sensory immersion" through the colours and materials of the Marais.

Through the many original pieces from private mansions, apartment buildings or places of worship that have been saved from being destroyed, as well as from recent archaeological excavations, a secret Marais is revealed to the public who can thus rediscover the expertise, way of life and aesthetic that are so specific to this district. Exceptional loans from monuments closed to the public, such as Hôtel Amelot de Bisseuil, currently being restored, will be shown for the first time.

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CURATOR

Valérie Guillaume, Director of the Carnavalet Museum – History of Paris

TICKETS

Full price: €9
Reduced price: €6

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Closed on Mondays and certain holidays



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