



The 17th Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art “Les voix des fleuves *Crossing the water*” ended yesterday after a 107-day exhibition period.

From 21 September 2024 to 5 January 2025, the Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art was held in nine notable venues across Lyon and its metro area:

- Grandes Locos, La Mulatière
- macLYON – Musée d’art contemporain
- Cité Internationale de la Gastronomie de Lyon – Grand Hôtel-Dieu
- IAC – Institut d’art contemporain Villeurbanne/ Rhône-Alpes (Jeune création internationale)
- Jardin du musée des Beaux-Arts de Lyon
- Fondation Bullukian
- Parking LPA Saint Antoine
- Station métro Sytral – Gare Part-Dieu
- Musée gallo-romain de Saint-Romain-en-Gal

**More than 80 artists from many countries
280 artworks, of which more than 100 were on show for the
first time and 70 were produced by the Lyon Biennale**

**Majd Abdel Hamid
Chantal Akerman
Pilar Albarracín
Iván Argote
Andrius Arutiunian
Delphine Balley
Taysir Batniji
Oliver Beer
Joséphine Berthou
Alix Boillot
Christian Boltanski
Aglaré Bory
Michel de Broin
Pavel Büchler
Mona Cara
Malo Chapuy
Nathan Coley
Tohé Commaret
Clément Courgeon
Luo Dan
Jérémie Danon
Bastien David
Jeremy Deller
Hélène Delprat
Julien Discrit
Edi Dubien
Latifa Echakhch
Elsa & Johanna**

**Sylvie Fanchon
Omer Fast
Olivia Funes Lastra
Robert Gabris
Hilary Galbreath
Agnès Gayraud
Ludivine Gonthier
Juliette Green
Tirdad Hashemi
& Soufia Erfanian
Healthy Boy Band
feat P.P.
Vir Andres Hera
Chourouk Hriech
Suzanne Husky
Gözde Ilkin
Victoire Inchauspé
Jesper Just
Nadav Kander
Meri Karapetyan
Ines Katamso
Nadežda Kirćanski
Lina Lapelytė
Ange Leccia
Seulgi Lee
Clara Lemercier
Gemptel
Guadalupe Maravilla**

**Florian Mermin
Annette Messenger
Myriam Mihindou
Sahil Naik
Deimantas Narkevičius
Grace Ndiritu
Bocar Niang
Otobong Nkanga
Jean-Christophe
Norman
Matthias Odin
Nefeli Papadimouli
Lyz Parayzo
Mathieu Pernot
Jennetta Petch
& Szymon Kula
Liesl Raff
Lorraine de Sagazan
& Anouk Maugein
Sofía Salazar Rosales
Hajar Satari
Hans Schabus
Jalal Sepehr
Shivay la Multiple
Anastasia Sosunova
Zuri Camille de Souza
Stéphane Thidet
Feda Wardak**

Artworks took over more than 24,000 sqm of exhibition space, primarily the stunning halls of Les Grandes Locos, making this 17th edition an event of exceptional scope.



17th Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, Grandes Locos. Exhibition view with visitors.
Foreground: Iván Argote, *The Other, Me and the Others*, 2023, courtesy of the artist, Noor et Havas © ADAGP, Paris, 2024
Background: Chourouk Hriech, *L'oasis des oiseaux*, 2024, courtesy of the artist and Galerie Anne-Sarah Bénichou © ADAGP, Paris, 2024
Photo: Blandine Soulage

This edition enjoyed wide-ranging success among the general public, art-world professionals and the media alike.



17th Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, Grandes Locos. Exhibition view with visitors.
Oliver Beer, *Resonance Project (The Cave)*, 2024. Courtesy of the artist and Thaddaeus Ropac and Almine Rech galleries.
Photo: Oliver Beer Studio

285,000 visits to the venues (public space excluded):

- Grandes Locos
- macLYON – Musée d’art contemporain
- Cité Internationale de la Gastronomie de Lyon – Grand Hôtel-Dieu
- IAC – Institut d’art contemporain Villeurbanne/ Rhône-Alpes
- Fondation Bullukian
- Musée gallo-romain de Saint-Romain-en-Gal.

32 percent of visitors were aged under 26 and more than 49,000 people received free admission to the exhibition venues, confirming the Lyon Biennale’s objective of promoting access to culture and today’s artmakers.

2,700,000 people discovered the artworks sited in public space during the Biennale (metro line B station at Gare Part-Dieu, LPA Saint Antoine car park, garden at the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Lyon).

9,000 art professionals and journalists from around the world travelled to Lyon, further consolidating the Biennale of Contemporary Art’s status among the leading international events.

The Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art was also honoured to host in October 2024 the 11th General Assembly of the International Biennial Association (IBA), which brings together the directors of international biennials and triennials.



17th Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, Grandes Locos. Exhibition view with visitors.
Mona Cara, *Le Cactus*, 2024, courtesy of the artist © ADAGP, Paris, 2024.
Photo: Blandine Soulage

For this 17th edition, nine artists were central to 15 territorial projects in greater Lyon and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region.

The artists were thus able to co-produce their works with voluntary residents and users of the municipalities of Charlieu, Brioude, Vaulx-en-Velin, La Mulatière, Vénissieux, La Roche-sur-Foron, Écully, Givors, Sainte-Colombe, Saint-Flour, Le Grand Parc Miribel Jonage; and also in the Lyon districts of Moncey-Voltaire, Guillotière and La Duchère Sauvegarde.

More than 400 Résonance events around the Biennale's theme were held across the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region.

This success would not have been possible without the commitment of the artists, our teams, our public partners — the Ministry of Culture, the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Regional Council, Lyon Métropole and the City of Lyon — and of our 40 private-sector partners.

A big thank you to them all for their vital support, but also to the public for their enthusiasm!



**17th Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art. Opening at Grandes Locos.
Photo: Blandine Soulage**

Some extra stats



17th Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, Cité Internationale de la Gastronomie. Exhibition view with visitors.
General view of Guadalupe Maravilla's artworks.
Photo: Blandine Soulage

**32,500 schoolchildren
hosted**

**2,105 professionals
accredited**

3,096 guided tours

**930 users on
accessibility app
EZYMOB**

**14,459 passes at
sustainable-mobility
rate**

**More than 100 events
including:**

**4 lates
2 XXL nights
1 Christmas market**

Press cuttings

“The result is clear: you sense the artists have gone the extra mile to surpass themselves. The duo formed by [Alexia Fabre] and Isabelle Bertolotti, director of the Lyon Museum of Contemporary Art, has evidently been fruitful.”

Le Figaro
Valérie Duponchelle

“Beautiful aural artworks, a queer Iranian journal, a huge tapestry... This eclectic Biennale is a success, existing in harmony with its territory.”

Télérama
Charlotte Fauve

“A new wind is blowing through this cultural event, a mixture of emerging artists and contemporary-art personalities in several Lyon venues and especially Les Grandes Locos, a former SNCF railway maintenance centre.”

France Culture
Soft Power

“Contemporary art is roaring in Lyon. It has taken over the city, but new exhibition venue Les Grandes Locos is the main showcase for the striking panorama of today’s art served up in a biennial informed by otherness.”

Beaux Arts Magazine
Emmanuelle Lequeux

“This Lyon Biennale is underpinned by the ideal of attentiveness to others and by the dream of a pacified world, yet is also aware of its own violence. It is dotted with several compelling artworks and instances of ‘curatorial’ magic that renew how we look at the objects.”

The Art Newspaper
Anaël Pigeat

“Through the gazes of 78 artists, Lyon’s big contemporary art gathering magnificently tells how it is possible to reach beyond the world’s violence.”

Transfuge
Aude de Bourbon Parme

“The event – a high point in the cultural life of greater Lyon, the region and beyond – has established itself as an unmissable attraction.”

Le Progrès

“The Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art encourages us to pay attention to others through the perspectives of artists from around the world, creating across various venues in the Lyon metropolitan area. A vibrant edition that is remarkably accessible.”

Grains de sel
Clarisse Bioud



17th Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, Musée d' art contemporain. Exhibition view with visitors. Lorraine de Sagazan and Anouk Maugein, *Monte di Pietà*, 2023, courtesy of the artist. Photo: Blandine Soulage

La Biennale de Lyon



17th Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, Grandes Locos. Exhibition view with visitors (guided tour).
Jean-Christophe Normand, « *Le fleuve sans rives* » Hans Henny Jahnn, 2024, courtesy of the artist and Galerie C Neuchâtel /Paris.
Photo: Blandine Soulage

La Biennale de Lyon devises, produces and alternatively holds two major events: the Biennale de la danse and the Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art.

These events foster a beneficial synergy between artistic disciplines and cultural institutions, enrich audiences' experience, and enhance the reputation of Lyon and the wider region on the international scene.

Within its remit, La Biennale de Lyon dedicates a significant part of its action to the making and production of new work. It plays an important role in supporting arts circulation and outreach actions tailored to a wide range of audiences. La Biennale de Lyon also helps to energise the region by promoting the creation of work in conjunction with businesses, craftspeople and communities.

La Biennale de Lyon looks forward to seeing you

Between 6 and 28 September 2025 for the 21st Biennale de la danse, on Sunday 7 September for the Défilé, and between 16 and 21 September for Focus Pro!

And then in September 2026 for the 18th Biennale of Contemporary Art!

Our Thanks!

Public partners



Historical partner



Major partner



Official partners



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Partners



In-kind partners



Institutional partners



Communication partners



Media partners



National and international media

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