

The Château de Montsoreau - Museum of Contemporary Art joins the Great Heritage Sites of the Loire Valley.

Five years after its opening to the public, the Château de Montsoreau- Museum of contemporary art has become the 23rd site to join the network of the UNESCO Great Heritage Sites of the Loire Valley, alongside the châteaux of Chenonceau, Chambord, Cheverny and Blois, Chaumont-sur-Loire, Villandry, Langeais, Chinon, Sully-sur-Loire, Brissac, Brézé, Valençay, Loches, Saumur, Angers, Amboise, Azay-le-Rideau, Dukes of Brittany, Rivau, Clos Lucé, the Royal Abbey of Fontevraud and the Cadre Noir of Saumur.

Founded in 2016 by the collector Philippe Méaille, the Château de Montsoreau - Museum of Contemporary Art is located in one of the jewels of French architecture: the only Château of the Loire Valley built in the Loire riverbed, made famous by many artists including J.M.W Turner and Alexandre Dumas.

The Château de Montsoreau - Museum of Contemporary Art relies on a permanent collection which includes the world's largest collection of artworks by the artists of Art & Language.

"Since its opening, the Château de Montsoreau - Museum of Contemporary Art has taken on the radical nature of its positioning within the Châteaux of the Loire Valley, the polemical and corrosive nature of contemporary art making it a laboratory of modernity from the outset," declares Marie-Caroline Chaudruc, Vice-President.

Attendance at the Museum of Contemporary Art has increased steadily and in 2019 reached 52,000 visitors.

Driven by a desire for international development and networking, the Château de Montsoreau - Museum of Contemporary Art shares the approach of excellence that has characterized the network of the Great Heritage Sites of the Loire Valley since 2008. The objective of this common approach to tourism development and promotion is to position the Châteaux of the Loire Valley among the world's must-see tourist sites, with the support of the Pays de la Loire and Centre-Val de Loire regions, around the UNESCO Loire Valley Mission.

"It is not a question of applying the rules of tourism to contemporary art, nor even of doing the opposite, it is a question of mutual enrichment through our experiences and positionings," declares Philippe Méaille, President of the Château de Montsoreau - Museum of Contemporary Art.