

Monday, 15 June 2015

Press release



The Fèvres 2015 exhibition is on track !

The seventh occasion of the Fèvres exhibit, organised by IFRAM, will take place on 16,17 and 18 October 2015 in the prestigious enclosure of the château-museum of the town of Eu (76). As it is now the tradition, the exhibition will gathering together around sixty French and foreign exhibitors divided in four areas of exhibition : the « Craftsmen », the « Courses – Institutional Partners », the « Suppliers » and the « Activities »'s area. Even if the programmation is not entirely defined yet, we already know its general outline.

Therefore the metal craftsmen will be back in October, in the valley of the Bresle, to present their latest works to the audience. An audience coming, every two years, in numbers to attend this unique event in France. Ironworkers, cutlers, sculptors, art casters, bronze-workers, jewellers, copperworkers, structural ironworkers, engravers, weathercock-makers, light-creators and many others, will highlight again the metal material, in every shape and form. The visitors will not only have the possibility to purchase exceptional works, but also to see how they come alive. In facts, around twelve workshops will be accessible to the audience for demonstration and, some of them, for initiation. It will be possible to the visitor to practise enamelling on steel, to cast little tin hammers, to assemble his proper knife, to forge himself a candlestick, to attend to horse shoeing, to follow step by step the fabrication of a medieval blade, to see closely the different metals composing a clock, to observe a bronze-worker sculpting his model in wax etc.

Among 2015's novelties, the visitors wishing it can have their portrait done in iron, in the comfort of the rickshaw of Simon Bertin, transformed for the occasion into a « Forgeomaton ». Another innovation : mini-short trainings, provided by Dominique Villiers, will permit to young persons and to adults to discover, during a half-day, the technique of sand smelting by smelting themselves their items in bronze. Besides, the exhibition would not have been what it is today without the traditional collective forge workshops. While farriers will be realising a horse head, the members of the mentoring network, the Union Compagnonnique, always being present, will throw themselves in the fabrication of an arch banner bearing the inscription « Quartier Morris », designed to take place at the entry of the eponymous park, located on the outskirts of the town of Eu. As for French and international ironworkers who will have made the travel, they will realise a collegiale sculpture based on the theme of Arts. It will be installed in the yard of the Jesuit school, which will be

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transformed soon into a cultural center. Different projects have been proposed to the councillors who will make their choice during July. We can notify that among the guests of honour of this seventh occasion, there will be the Czech David Habermann, grandson of the famous metalworker Alfred Habermann, the Spanish Valenti and Enric Marty, the Russian Alexander Sushnikov as well as a delegation of Ukrainian ironworkers. Our Belgian, Dutch and English friends will probably also take part in the festivities. We can bet that they will not miss the occasion to get along around the forges...

Concerning the « exhibition » part, professionals wanting to book a stand can download the application form on the IFRAM website, in the « Events » section. For the ones who are not 35 years old yet and set up for less than 5 years, are invited to apply for the Young Craftsmen plan. This plan has been created to permit these young artisans, thanks to the financial support of the MNRA, to participate freely to the exhibition. However be aware that, in the two cases, the deadline for the return of the application forms has been fixed to the 2 September 2015 (see enclosure). A third application form is available : it is concerning the Grand Prix of the Creation, still sponsored by the MNRA, that will give 3000, 2000 and 1000 euros as a recompense for three works shown during the exhibition. After the copperworker Christophe Desvallées in 2009, the jeweller Sara Bran in 2011 and Caroline Wagenaar and David-Terquem craftsmen in structural metalwork in 2013, who will be the next laureate of this now well-known contest ?

At last but not at least and because the exhibition will welcome many students, the training centers and schools will be present during three days to inform the students on the different possible paths to access to these highlighted professions. In this sense, contacts have been made with the prestigious école Boule, the technical colleges of Le Mont Châtelet of Varzy (58) and Ferdinand Fillod of Saint-Amour (39), the armoury school of Liège, the AFPA (Vocational Training Centers for Adults) of Le Havre, the International School of French Metalwork of Muizon (51), etc. As we are expecting the birth of new vocations, we are now sure that the interested persons will be properly informed.