

And Lutetia became Paris... Metamorphoses of a city in the 4th century

Extended to 14 October 2012

This exhibition, a new highlight in the cycle of exhibitions dedicated to the history of the capital presented at the archaeological Crypt over the last 10 years, highlights a pivotal and decisive period for Paris, at the turning point of Antiquity and the Medieval era.

More broadly speaking, it evokes the history of Gaul from the end of the 3rd century and the consequences of the major upheavals affecting Roman cities at the time. This period, now better known thanks to recent archaeological excavations, was marked by changing lifestyles and commercial networks which now included the north of the Empire. Urban organisation was also changing due to the increased number of capitals and the militarisation of sites.

Through the case of Paris, which is given special treatment and compared with other cities in Gaul and the Empire, the visitor can understand the geographical and urban reality of this complex period. Watercolours – most never displayed before - by Jean-Claude Golvin, a specialist in the recreation of ancient cities, include the latest archaeological discoveries and present the enormous urban developments taking place at the time when Lutetia was taking on the name of Paris.



Jean-Claude Golvin, *Île de la Cité from the South*, watercolour, 2010 © Editions Errance, Paris. With the support of Editions Errance.

Exhibition organisers:

Sylvie Robin and Rose-Marie Mousseaux, curators at the Carnavalet Museum and the Department of the History of Architecture and Archaeology of Paris – DAC

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Archaeological crypt of the forecourt of Notre-Dame

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