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Pierre Hermé presents "Planet" macaron A poetic and epicurean tribute to Mother Earth

Press release

The idea for a 'COP21' special macaron is the result of the meeting of French pastry chef Pierre Hermé and CNES, whose programmes are playing a key role in studying our planet and managing its resources. The 'Planet' macaron will be unveiled today at the opening of the COP21 Solutions event at the Grand Palais in Paris.

The macaron, its form and colours inspired by our planet, symbolizes two domains in which France excels: haute cuisine and space technologies.

Its crunchy meringue shell reflecting the green hues of nature is filled with a buttercream flavoured with vanilla, basil and mint. Giving pride of place to simple ingredients, the 'Planet' macaron is intended as a tribute to Mother Earth, the source of all life, and a nod to the universal value of good eating.

To mark the preparation of this COP21 special macaron, CNES has decided to look at ways of flying such products to the International Space Station to add something extra to the crew's meals, especially for end-of-year festivities.

About Pierre Hermé and Maison Pierre Hermé in Paris

Heir to four generations of Alsatian bakery and pastry-making tradition, Pierre Hermé began his career at the age of 14 as an apprentice to Gaston Lenôtre. Famous worldwide, the man that *Vogue* called "the Picasso of Pastry" has revolutionized pastry-making with new tastes and a resolutely modern approach. With "pleasure as his only guide", Pierre Hermé has invented a totally original world of tastes, sensations and pleasures, shaking up even the most firmly entrenched traditions.

In 1997, Pierre Hermé and Charles Znaty created the concept of 'haute pâtisserie' and founded Maison Pierre Hermé Paris. Since 2010, the company has experienced strong growth worldwide, opening several tens of outlets, and today employs more than 500 people. Maison Pierre Hermé Paris is also a member of the Comité Colbert association of luxury brands and a partner of Raffles, Ritz Carlton and Maison Dior.

View its creations in the online shop at www.pierreherme.com

About CNES

Founded in 1961, the Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES) is the government agency responsible for shaping and implementing France's space policy in five strategic domains: Ariane, science, Earth observation, telecommunications and defence.

About COP21

COP21, also known as the 2015 Paris Climate Conference, will, for the first time in over 20 years of UN negotiations, aim to achieve a legally binding and universal agreement on climate, with the aim of keeping global warming below 2°C. http://www.cop21.gouv.fr/

Contacts

Alain Delrieu

Julien Watelet

Pascale Bresson

Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 75 39 Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 74 04 Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 78 37 pascale.bresson@cnes.fr alain.delrieu@cnes.fr julien.watelet@cnes.fr **presse.cnes.fr**