

Press Release

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Nuit des Idées, Thursday 25 January **CNES's Observatoire de l'Espace arts and science laboratory** **explores interrelationships between music and the cosmos** **in partnership with the Médiathèque Musicale de Paris**

Invited by the Médiathèque Musicale de Paris (MMP) music archive, CNES's Observatoire de l'Espace is taking part for the first time in the Nuit des Idées (Night of Ideas) initiated by the Institut français, where it will be exploring the interrelationships between music and the cosmos at an event entitled *Parade cosmico-musicale*.

The theme for this year's Nuit des Idées, "Giving Power to the Imagination", will be the starting point for contributions and discussions focusing on these interrelationships. The event seeks to offer a fertile ground for investigation of how the imagination inspires artistic interpretations of the space adventure and how it relates to the exact sciences that composers over the ages have exploited with varying degrees of licence to compile an extremely rich musical corpus, ranging from opera to pop, electronica and contemporary music, and reflecting humankind's vision of space.

Moderated by musicologist and writer David Christoffel, this "cosmic musical parade" will be punctuated by contributions from Gérard Azoulay, director of the Observatoire de l'Espace, Mathias Auclair, director of the music department at the French National Library, MMP director Marc Crozet and cellist Didier Petit, artistic director of the Les Voyageurs de l'Espace collective. They will be responding to excerpts from musical pieces and space archives, sharing their thoughts with the audience on the importance of creative works inspired by space.

NUIT des IDÉES, Thursday 25 January

Médiathèque Musicale de Paris / **7:30 to 9:00 p.m.** / **Entrance free**
8 Porte Saint-Eustache - Forum des Halles - 75001 Paris

Keep posted and interact live on:

The [Nuit des Idées website](http://www.lanuitdesidees.com): www.lanuitdesidees.com

#lanuitdesidees - Twitter: [@OdE_CNES](https://twitter.com/OdE_CNES) [@MmpParis](https://twitter.com/MmpParis) [@ifparis](https://twitter.com/ifparis)

Facebook: [ObservatoiredeLEspace - Mediatheque.Musicale.Paris](https://www.facebook.com/ObservatoiredeLEspace-Mediatheque.Musicale.Paris)

Since 2000, CNES's Observatoire de l'Espace arts and science laboratory has been striving to bring space to citizens through channels other than science outreach, especially by supporting creations in the plastic, performing and literary arts. By revealing space's place in our history, imagination and daily lives, it casts our contemporary society in a new light.

Learn more at www.cnes-observatoire.fr

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