

UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK

ASSESSMENT REPORT

LYON

Creative City of Media Arts

2017-2020

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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



VILLE DE LYON

• City of Media Arts
• Designated UNESCO
• Creative City in 2008

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1 / GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of the city: **Lyon**

Country: **France**

Creative field: **Media Arts**

Year of designation: **2008**

Submission date of this periodic progress report: **December 2020**

Entity responsible for compiling this report: **Cultural Affairs Department – City of Lyon**

Submission date of the previous report and the period covered: **January 2017, for 2008-2016**

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2 / CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS MANAGING THE NETWORK

The number of Annual Network Conferences participated in by the city over the previous four years: **3** (in Enghien-Les-Bains in 2017, in Krakow in 2018 and in Fabriano in 2019).

Previous or upcoming years in which the city organized or will organize an Annual Network Conference: **yes, in 2009.**

Organizing work or coordination meetings uniting representatives from one or several creative fields within the network (including subnetwork meetings): **participated in the media arts cluster meeting in October 2020, and 2 meetings for the French Creative Cities Network.**

Organizing international conferences or events concerning issues related to the creative cities, and with significant involvement from network members: **2 (Mirage+ Professional Industry Days, as part of the Mirage Festival in 2019 and 2020 (see Part 3)).**

Giving financial or in-kind support to UNESCO in order to strengthen the network's sustainability in different areas, including management, communications and visibility (dates, type of contribution, actual or estimated amounts, main objectives, etc.): **no**

Participating in the assessment of previous candidate cities: **3 (Guadalajara and Toronto in 2017; Mahdia in 2019)** and in compiling previous new membership follow-up reports: **2 (Sapporo in 2018, Dakar in 2019)**. Hosting the delegations of Changsha (2017) and Casablanca (2019) that were visiting Lyon to prepare their applications.

Other:

- Signing the Cities of Media Arts Memorandum in October 2018.
- Contributing to different collaborative art projects (the Data City exhibition in Enghien in 2017; a video mapping project coordinated by Enghien-les-Bains for the General Assembly in Fabriano).

3 / OVERVIEW OF THE CITY OF LYON'S CULTURAL POLICY

Representing 20% of the municipal budget (110 million euros) and close to 18% of personnel working for the City of Lyon (1,300 public officials) Lyon's cultural objectives are divided into three main approaches: making Lyon a creative city, promoting access to culture for all, accompanying the city as it undergoes transformation and developing its heritage.

A creative city

Lyon is a city where you will find:

- structured networks and programmes, stretching from formal training to professional placements in an array of fields: dance, theatre, visual arts, music, books, skills and knowledge.
- cultural venues throughout the city: the 'Scènes Découvertes' network (showcasing emerging talent in the performing arts), and medium-sized venues.
- Big-name venues and events.

Namely 9 municipal establishments, close to 250 organizations benefiting from grants and 3 art education institutions (ENSBA – fine art school, l'École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Lyon; CRR – music, dance and theatre conservatory, Le Conservatoire à Rayon Regional de Lyon; the École de Cirque – training centre for circus arts).

Creation is at the heart of this cultural policy through the following:

- **Offering sustained support for artists:** a dynamic network of venues devoted to up-and-coming new works (8 venues from the 'Scènes Découvertes' network), a pool of young talent and support for the contemporary music scene.
- **Providing a framework for high-quality art education:** a conservatory, ENSBA, ENSATT (École Nationale Supérieure des Arts et Techniques de Théâtre, a theatre arts school), an architecture school, CNSMD (Conservatoire National Supérieur Musique et Danse de Lyon, a music and dance conservatory), École de Cirque etc. The École nationale des Beaux-arts is recognized as being one of France's leading fine art schools and a conservatory academy has been created.
- **Fostering cooperation between culture, universities and grandes écoles** (France's top-ranking higher education establishments): research programmes, post-grad diplomas in research and artistic creation at ENSBA, CNSMD and ENSATT; CinéFabrique (a film school).
- **Creating workspaces and talent incubators for artists** (Factory, Elac, Adera, the project to set up the Ateliers de la Danse dance workshops in Lyon's 8th arrondissement supported by the European Creative Hub, Friche Lamartine, Grrrnd Zero, supporting mixed and temporary-use spaces, such as the Halles du Faubourg, etc).

A united and inclusive city

In December 2017, Lyon signed the Cultural Cooperation Charter for a Sustainable City, which involves cultural public engagement through 28 establishments, services and cultural events. 293 commitments were made for the period 2017 to 2020.

<https://www.lyon.fr/culture/cooperation-culturelle>

- Commitments to create a balanced city: 79 commitments made to help implement the city's policy of local cultural projects in priority neighbourhoods.
- Commitments to create a united city: 65 commitments made as part of the city's policy for promoting social integration through culture (steered by the Mission Insertion Culture – a commission leading social integration initiatives through culture - 21 establishments involved) for the young, elderly, and potential audiences closed off from culture.
- Commitments to create an equal city: 60 commitments made as part of the city's work in achieving gender equality, accessibility and diversity awareness.
- Commitments to create a city of learning: 44 commitments made as part of the city's work in education and knowledge sharing.
- Commitments to create a participative city: 12
- Commitments to create a green city: 16
- Commitments to create a creative city: 17 commitments made as part of the city's work in culture/sport, new economic models and digital development.

In 2018, the City of Lyon received the UCLG Award – Mexico City - Culture 21, which is awarded every two years to a world city, or regional or local governments, in recognition of a project or cultural policy committed to cultivating local solutions to sustainable development.

The City of Lyon was awarded 25,000 euros, and invested part of that sum in making short educational films in French, English and Spanish (the official languages of the UCLG) presenting the city, explaining sustainable development and how culture contributes to the city's sustainable development goals.

The content was produced by Lyon's Cultural Cooperation Commission, (Mission Coopération Culturelle) in partnership with the UCLG Cultural Commission, and reviewed by different municipal departments.

The film was presented at the UCLG World Congress in Durban (South Africa) on 13 November 2019.

Click here to view the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gfjo34rAfVk&feature=youtu.be>

A city with a global reach

The City of Lyon is a member of numerous other international networks alongside the Creative Cities Network. Some offer cultural commissions or divisions, while others are specifically dedicated to culture.

Lyon's cultural delegation has attended international gatherings, either at forums uniting administrations, or meetings of elected representatives.

Eurocities was founded in 1986 by 6 large cities including Lyon, and today brings together over 140 European cities with a population of over 200,000. The Eurocities Culture Forum meets twice a year (in Tallinn and Gand in 2017), attended by the Cultural Affairs and International Relations Departments of EU cities. Members discuss their practices and share their experiences in cultural policies. Eurocities encourages cities to use culture as an agent for social inclusion, citizen engagement and public participation.

UCLG - United Cities and Local Governments (240,000 member cities): is a global organization for cities aimed at promoting programmes focused on the role of culture in meeting sustainable development goals, by implementing Agenda 21 for culture on a local level, and promoting it on a global scale. A self-assessment guide was produced. The themes outlined in the document 'Culture 21 Actions' closely mirror those featured in Lyon's Cultural Cooperation Charter for a Sustainable City.

The City of Lyon has a solid reputation amongst the UCLG umbrella group and its committee on culture, having applied for the 2 previous international awards (see the chapter on the Cultural Cooperation Charter).

The Organization of World Heritage Cities: the OWHC Congress in 2017 was held in South Korea – Lyon’s presidency of the Organization of World Heritage Cities came to an end in November 2017, whereupon it handed over the reins to Quebec City.

ABFPM (Association of French World Heritage Sites): vice-chair and founding member, participating in meetings held by the European group of world heritage properties.

The City of Lyon and the Lyon Metropolitan Area (La Métropole de Lyon) work in cooperation with numerous cities worldwide: in Europe (Barcelona, Birmingham, Frankfurt, Geneva, Gothenburg, Lausanne, Leipzig, Milan, Turin etc.) in America (Boston, Montreal), in sub-Saharan Africa (Porto-Novo in Benin, Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso etc.) in the Maghreb (Rabat in Morocco, Sétif in Algeria) in the Middle East (Beersheba in Israel, Jericho in the State of Palestine) and in Asia (Yerevan in Armenia, Yokohama in Japan, Guangzhou in China, Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam).

Cultural relations with these cities vary in scope depending on the different projects and festivals, historic ties built through time and economic links. Some cities organize regular cultural projects and exchanges, Leipzig being a notable example. Cultural exchanges mainly focus on books and music.

In this context, the City of Lyon took part in the 2017 Leipzig Book Fair, accompanying the Quai du Polar crime fiction festival, which for the first time took its programme of events abroad to organize an investigation in the city of Leipzig, and an evening event with a panel of authors.

In parallel, the City of Lyon continues to develop international projects with artists and institutes in partnership with the International Relations Department and the Institut français, all serving to strengthen Lyon’s world renown. The agreement signed between Lyon and the Institut français celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2018, with a total budget of €190,000 (parity between Lyon and the Institut français). The Lyon Metropolitan Area joined the agreement in 2018, contributing a further €70,000 (parity between the Lyon Metropolitan Area and the Institut français). In other words, an annual sum of €260,000 is made available to support artistic cooperation projects.

From the themes put forward, **the City of Lyon has chosen to focus on digital creation to help artworks and artists transcend borders and reach a worldwide audience. The aim is to foster interrelations, contribute towards exploring new digital practices and launch innovative projects, and forming part the City of Lyon’s involvement in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network.** It was in this context that cities from the network offered support and funding for cooperation projects in the context of the Mirage Festival.

Furthermore, the City of Lyon is strongly involved in the ‘Saisons Croisées’ cultural exchange programme initiative (see below for the cooperation project built between Lyon and Bogotá as part of France Colombia Year 2017).

There was also a wealth of projects in 2019 for the French-Romanian cultural exchange programme, as well as for Africa 2020, which was postponed to 2021. The finishing touches are currently being made to a partnership project between France and Japan, scheduled for 2021.

FOCUS ON THE EUROPEAN ROCK PROJECT

From 2017 to 2020, the City of Lyon was involved in the European ROCK Project - 'Regeneration and Optimisation of Cultural Heritage in Creative and Knowledge Cities'. In 2017, as part of the Horizon 2020 programme known as 'Cultural Heritage as a driver for sustainable growth', the European Commission accepted the application of a consortium led by the City of Bologna and involving 32 partners (including the City of Lyon).

This three-year project involves developing a digital tool – the ROCK Platform - to optimize the expertise of cities in managing their cultural heritage. The project leaders (the City and University of Bologna) wished to join forces with Lyon for its expertise in the following areas:

- Governing the Historic Site of Lyon as a UNESCO world heritage site.
- The Urban Heritage Observatory.
- The use of public lighting and light events as a way to promote heritage and local development.

○ Initiatives in 2017 and 2018:

- Hosting delegations from Skopje (Macedonia), Bologna (Italy) and Lisbon (Portugal) for the cities to share their best practice in heritage management.
- Studying new usages as part of the work carried out by the Urban Heritage Observatory.
- "Sur la Fête des Lumières" (About the Festival of Lights): a study of the history behind organizing Lyon's Festival of Lights, and the mechanisms that shaped it into the event it has become today.
- Work on the notion of 'cacolumie' (luminous cacophony) in relation to Lyon's Lighting Plan (Plan Lumière) and the link between public lighting and private lighting.

○ Initiatives in 2019:

- Work on developing the nocturnal landscape, how lighting and 'cacolumie' are perceived: numerous discussions held with European partners and partners from the LUCI international network; organizing a workshop on governance for lighting with cities including Seoul, Geneva, Bologna and Turin.
- Contributing content to ROCK European publications on different themes: "New governance models for creative, sustainable and circular cities", "Participatory approaches and social inclusion in cultural heritage" and "Technologies and tools for better access to cultural heritage".

○ Initiatives in 2020:

- Continuing work on the notion of the nocturnal landscape and how to link public lighting together with private lighting.
- Working alongside the two Gadagne museums: organizing a conference to present Lyon's Lighting Plan, and the current issues surrounding urban lighting, as well as the night tours included in the Lighting Plan.
- Working in partnership with Lyon's Urban Planning Agency: a study into how the Lyon population perceives commercial lighting.
- Producing a list of recommendations on private lighting aimed at developers, urban planners, architects, retail traders and project initiators with illumination ventures, and presenting the process for the stakeholders concerned.
- Producing a brochure for the general public to present the Lighting Plan and its main concerns.
- Taking part in the project's closing conference and presenting the installations carried out by the City of Lyon for the ROCK project.



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A city designated as a world heritage site

The precise area listed as a UNESCO world heritage site since December 1998 covers the Fourvière hill, the Vieux Lyon (old Lyon) district, the heart of the Presqu'île district and the Croix-Rousse hill.

Being included on the world heritage list is testament to the outstanding quality of the centre of Lyon, and the continual efforts made by its population and local authorities towards its preservation, development and maintaining its central position as a functioning hub. Seeking acknowledgement for this, the City of Lyon and the French state are both committed to maintaining the high quality of this landmark site.

Celebrating 20 years since Lyon was listed as a UNESCO world heritage site in December 2018, in the presence of Jyoti Hosagrahar, Deputy Director of the World Heritage Centre



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It has been two decades now since Lyon, with deserved pride, has enjoyed the status of being a UNESCO world heritage site thanks to its exceptional urban centre. Two decades during which the city and its rich heritage have intertwined and moved in harmony, to transcend the dynamic present, so potentially loaded with history... and the future!

The history behind Lyon's nomination and inscription

The city has come a long way since 1995, when Régis Neyret, former chairman of the association Renaissance du Vieux-Lyon first put forward the idea of submitting a nomination proposal for Lyon as a UNESCO world heritage site. With the support of numerous leading figures, Lyon mobilized a praiseworthy effort to defend the project.

On 5 December 1998, the Historic Site of Lyon, still inhabited and sitting on 2,000 years of history, was unanimously selected for its "outstanding universal value". The whole area that used to lie within the old city ramparts from the year 1000 until the 18th century, and covering a total of 478 hectares, was officially recognized by UNESCO as a world heritage site.

Living up to its title

Aware of what is at stake, Lyon has striven ceaselessly to protect, enhance, restore, make accessible and energize Lyon, while boosting its appeal and ensuring that the precious extra-special something that lies in its unrivalled heritage continues to thrive. This winning combination has had a formidable impact on giving Lyon a high-profile image and renown within France and across the world.

The results over the past 20 years are self-evident. Tourist numbers have shot up, there is a wealth of events, and the city oozes appeal at all levels.

The momentum has been built, and the city never ceases to innovate and invent ways to combine history with quality of life on its historic site, and well beyond. The area is dense and dynamic: you find all different ways of using and inhabiting a city that crowns an urban heritage that is suffused with ... humanity. And into the bargain, an anniversary celebrated in style!

A city invested in rising to the challenges of sustainable development

During the period 2017-2020, the City of Lyon defined the notion of building a sustainable city through cultural initiatives as being about moving forward, at times cautiously, but above all about pouring strength and commitment into areas needed for our city's social and urban cohesion, finding ways to respond to the major challenges we all share, and working together:

- **A Balanced City**, with public engagement across the city, especially in Lyon's low-income 'Political Priority' (QPV), 'Actively Monitored' (QVA), low-income districts that represent 17 % of the city's population, and areas undergoing urban renewal.
- **A United and Inclusive City**, with public engagement to support the most vulnerable, those in need of socio-economic integration, our young communities as well as the elderly.
- **A Participative City**, by creating and cultivating collaborative spaces for debate, decision-making and assessment: local cultural committees and committees addressing particular themes, training days, providing information, in association with citizens' councils and neighbourhood councils. Proposing projects where everyone can play their part, if they wish.
- **An Equal City**, that is accessible, committed to awareness of diversity, the fight against discrimination, gender equality, cross-cultural dialogue and working alongside stakeholders involved in civil society by producing and sharing open data.
- **A City of Heritage**, that recognizes and enhances its heritage and memories, building a connection between the two. A city turned towards the future, that creates the right context in which to understand modern-day challenges.
- **A City of Learning**, both inside and outside school institutions, committed to lifelong art education, in association with popular education stakeholders, recognizing and sharing information and knowledge of all people, whether popular know-how, research or everyday expertise ...
- **A Soft City**, that is environmentally responsible and full of plant life.
- **A Creative and Innovative City**, merging digital technology and new media, and forging links between culture and sport.

To demonstrate these commitments, on the anniversary day when Agenda 2030 was adopted, Lyon public library sought to demonstrate how the library plays an active part in implementing sustainable development through the 17 goals set out in Agenda 2030, by showing examples of best practice.

At three cultural events held in 2 establishments, visitors were invited to familiarize themselves with **Agenda 2030** through a presentation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and through examples of good practice.

4 / LYON - CREATIVE CITY OF MEDIA ARTS

New technology now pervades the whole cultural sector, in terms of information tools and common usage and practice (for amateurs and professionals) as well as within the creative arts field for producing, presenting and disseminating work (performing arts, visual arts, places of remembrance).

Our current challenge is to **devise cultural and artistic policies that adequately include this new technology** when making cultural or artistic choices, as a relevant tool and not an end in itself, and which are capable of seeing the inherent changes in new practices and working alongside economic stakeholders and players involved in research.

The City of Lyon has set itself the goal of conducting innovative projects that highlight the impact of digital technology on cultural policy (including the NUMELYO, NUMERIDANSE and the NRV lab projects), creating the right framework for developing major events that incorporate digital culture in all its forms (NUITS SONORES FESTIVAL, FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS and the BIME BIENNALE, the exploratory music festival organized by the GRAME), and helping to develop the local media arts scene (MIRAGE Festival).

Commitment and ambition for Lyon's cultural institutions

A Pioneering Public Library

Numelyo is the City of Lyon's digital library. Opened at the end of 2012, it offers the public access to documents and digital material in all different formats: printed editions of antiquarian books, remarkable manuscripts, local and regional press headlines, a range of iconographic material related to heritage, including prints, posters and illuminations, and also covering contemporary images such as photographs taken in the Rhône-Alpes area. Since 2018, games have been added, as well as digital colouring-in templates and digital creations made by internet users, or by members of the public who have attended one of a range of the digital workshops that are organized.

Since 2015, the focus has been on outreach schemes for the different collections, documentary records and digital creations, to bring them to a diverse, local public audience. The library's success within this population area (which covers the City of Lyon, the Lyon Metropolitan Area, and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region), is clearly visible from analysing web search traffic and the number of people participating in events, and is one of the main singularities that make Numelyo stand out from other digital libraries in France.

Numelyo focuses on the importance of illustration and images, offering a wealth of patterns and techniques for all types of different media and time periods, spanning books, prints, posters, photos, manuscripts and illuminations etc.

To see examples of the digital creations available on the website, go to the '*S'amuser*' tab (GIFs, colouring-in pages, etc.). *Numelyo* offers on-site workshops for Glitch, match-up, augmented reality contemporary books and 3D printing. Here is an example of 'numelior' a board game that promotes heritage: https://numelyo.bm-lyon.fr/f_view/BML:BML_00GOO01001THM0001numelyor.)

Numelyo is also a tool for creating partnerships: it is a member of the City of Lyon's cooperation charter; it is involved in a digital partnership with the Théâtre des Célestins as seen in this example:

https://numelyo.bm-lyon.fr/f_view/BML:CEL_00PTHM01001_FRCEL and it provides a space to support creators and art schools: (only isolated projects to date)

- Epicerie Séquentiel (which publishes the newspaper *Rues de Lyon*) produced a special edition cartoon series based on the theme of the 1914-1918 war collection.
- Sepr vocational training course in industrial screen printing – a workshop on the theme of travel
- Creating DIY jewellery.

As for the future, *numelyo* plans to launch a project with the Emile Cohl art school as well as develop artist-in-residence schemes and new digital content and IA partnerships (requests have already been made by universities, angled mostly towards IT and Lyon’s history, such as its silk trade).

By the end of 2019, more than 40,440 digital objects (38,000 in 2018) and 50 virtual exhibitions were made available online on *numelyo*, with the major innovation being its sound library. The number of search queries on the site continued to grow, up 21% on the previous year.

Counting all different types of digital material as a whole, a total of almost **200,000** items were made available online on *numelyo* in 2018, in other words **33 TB uploaded**. All the OAI sets are fully harvestable. The remaining digitalization volume to be uploaded is **77 TB**.

Les Substances (SUBS) and the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, a space supporting projects and students to create innovative art

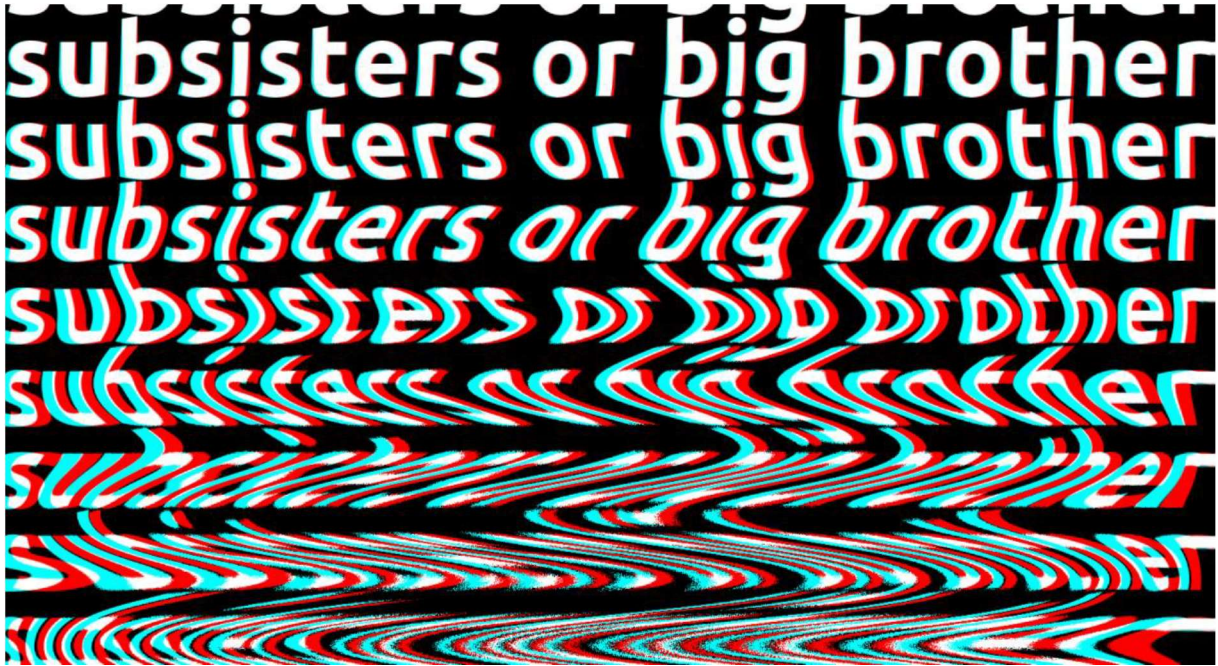
A unique structure in the City of Lyon’s cultural policy, Les Substances is a cultural space that has played a central role since 2001 in terms of support, research, development and showing creative works for theatre, dance, music, circus and media arts. It is both a creative laboratory, and a space for artistic practice and performance. Les Substances offers support to many budding artists, helping them to develop.

Digital creation has been feeding into the SUBS artistic programme for several years now, with interactive performances using augmented reality, virtual set designs, special media artist-in-residence schemes and events, specific outreach programmes, practical workshops for amateurs, initiation sessions, networking and helping to coordinate the sector. Indeed, digital technology schemes are at the heart of a rejuvenation of today’s creative arts scene. They multiply the possibility of audience involvement and interaction with works in the fields of music, theatre, dance and circus.

The SUBS is considered today as being one of the leading players on the Lyon region’s digital stage, thanks partly to its NRV lab (digital virtual reality). Inaugurated in 2017, this “art lab” was co-led by the SUBS and ENSBA up until 2020. As of 2021, the governance model will change, and the NRV lab will be wholly integrated into the ENSBA. The first three years have proven that this space and its resources are in fact better adapted to the students’ needs, than the needs of the artists at the SUBS, who, nonetheless, will continue to have access to the lab’s resources, in a continued spirit of partnership between the two institutions.

In 2020, the SUBS drew up a digital strategy to offer greater support to performing artists seeking to explore interactive innovations in their work through new technology. The strategy is focused on two priority issues:

1. strengthening support for stage projects that address digital issues (co-productions, residencies, presenting, performance, promotion and advice) with the aim of exploring the potential of the most forward-looking forms of the genre.
2. creating a new virtual space for hosting artist residencies - SUBSisters – conceived as being a digital platform to generate original content linked to the processes used for multidisciplinary artistic creation.



From 2017 to 2019, calls for applications for artist residencies in the NRV Lab were issued to the whole Creative Cities Network within the Media Arts Cluster, but the scheme wasn't comprehensive enough to attract sufficient interest from the artists targeted. In the future, the City of Lyon hopes that the new strategies introduced by the SUBS will forge new collaborative projects.

The digital goals set out by the SUBS aim to support the full and diverse scope of staging formats that enable new technology to work together with music, theatre, dance and circus. Transmedia performing arts, computer-generated and 3D images, innovation in the field of kinematics, augmented reality, artificial intelligence, virtual characters, interactive devices: the projects that the SUBS is supporting in 2021 offer an overview of the latest advances in how digital technology can be adapted to the performing arts. All these new stage and performance works provide an insight into the modern-day challenges we face in the digital age, with both an admiring and critical perspective.

Maison de la Danse making steps towards connected dance!

Unique in both France and Europe, the Maison de la Danse is a dance performance venue whose aim is to present dance for all audiences, and embrace all forms and techniques. As a "connected venue", the Maison de la Danse is leading a project called *Numeridanse* giving access to a unique video collection, including filmed performances, documentaries, and interviews. Since June 2016, the Maison de la Danse has been approved as a European Creation Hub by the Ministry of Culture.



©Maison de la danse

The Maison de la Danse considers that the way in which we understand reality has been disrupted: images abound in the world around us, smartphones pace our existence... Virtual reality, augmented reality, motion capture, artificial intelligence and video mapping are all technologies that open up new avenues and change our daily lives. Mainly used in the industrial, medical, military and sports fields, they can also be applied to art. What can these technologies bring to dance? The link between dance and technology goes back a long way. When cinema was only just emerging, the dancer Loïe Fuller was one of the first people to be filmed by the Lumière brothers in 1896, a year after *Workers Leaving the Lumière Factory in Lyon* came out, the first film in cinema history. More recently Merce Cunningham, one of the greatest choreographers of the 20th century, has used video and motion capture software in a groundbreaking way. Continuing the “connected dance” season launched at the last Lyon Dance Biennale, the Maison de la Danse staged highlight events in 2019, blending dance and technology.

The following work was presented:

- *Acqua Alta*, the multifaceted work by Adrien M & Claire B, is all at once a performance suffused with digital effects, a virtual reality experience and an augmented reality book.
- *VR_I*, created by Swiss artists Gilles Jobin and Artanim, is a playful and original virtual reality experience to be shared with family and friends.
- Finally, the first results can be seen from the Dansathon, a large-scale dance and technology lab that took place simultaneously in Lyon, London and Liège in September 2018.

<https://maisondeladanse.com/information/dansathon>

In addition, the Maison de la Danse is leading the Numeridanse project, the biggest multimedia dance platform of its kind. It offers free online access to a unique video collection: including filmed performances, documentaries, interviews, fictional drama and dance videos. It presents the full range of genres, styles and dance forms: butō, classical ballet, neoclassical ballet, baroque, Indian, African, flamenco, contemporary, folk dance, hip-hop, tango, jazz, circus arts, performance, etc.

Numeridance is steered and coordinated by Lyon's Maison de la Danse, and the original concept was devised by the director Charles Picq. Numeridance was created and developed from the outset in association with the Centre National de la Danse (CND, the French national dance centre) and has received continued support from the Fondation BNP Paribas (BNP Paribas Foundation for development initiatives) and the French Ministry of Culture. The platform brings together different choreographic projects that interlink dance and media arts.

<https://www.numeridance.tv/themas/expositions/danse-et-arts-numeriques>

The Théâtre Nouvelle Génération – the Lyon CDN, a theatre turned towards the future

The Théâtre Nouvelle Génération is the only Centre Dramatique National (CDN – a label awarded to French theatres belonging a decentralized national network of centres for dramatic art) in Lyon (there are 38 in France). It is strongly focused on young audiences. Joris Mathieu has shaped an artistic project that leans towards imaginary forms of theatre, open to innovative staging, and ventures out towards other artistic disciplines (including theatre, fine arts, visual arts, immersive arts and digital creation).

An event devoted to media arts

The Mirage Festival puts on an ambitious and multidisciplinary programme of events providing an overview of digital culture. To appreciate the wealth of this contemporary creative field that is fuelled by technology, the festival offers a unique format built around a series of exhibitions and performance and concert evenings. A major event across Lyon, the festival also organizes in parallel a set of discussions and ideas labs as part of Mirage Creative+. An integral and inseparable part of the festival, Mirage Creative+ is a space devoted to networking, group reflection and sharing knowledge about the challenges faced by digital culture. The Mirage Festival is organized by the Lyon performing arts association Dolus & Dolus.

The festival has provided the framework for numerous cooperation projects with creative cities, which have received support thanks to the partnership agreement between the City of Lyon, the Lyon Metropolitan Area and the Institut français.

<https://culturevr.fr/network/mirage-festival-2/>

5 / THE COOPERATION PROJECTS BETWEEN LYON AND OTHER CREATIVE CITIES

Lyon invites creative cities

Mirage Festival 2019

The 2019 festival was an opportunity for the City of Lyon to play a part in cultivating this network and taking concrete steps towards strengthening partnerships between the stakeholders of these cities, all the while showing them the different structures working in the field of digital culture across Lyon.

The cities from within the network were selected based on how closely aligned their events were in relation to the Mirage Festival. From the cities chosen, the Mirage Festival invited a project initiator or an organization representative, and in two cases an artist, so as to give an artistic illustration of the cities' projects and to spark interaction and partnerships with other participants in the festival.

- *Linz (Austria)*

Event invited: Ars Electronica

Since 1978, Ars Electronica has been a trailblazing event on the digital arts and culture scene. It is one of the biggest dates on the international digital event calendar, and considered a world leader in the field.

In addition to the festival, an arts centre as well as numerous other projects have been developed over recent years, blending art, science and design, and involving artists, researchers, designers and businesses.

- *Dakar - (Senegal)*

The first African representative to be invited to the festival, Dakar came to showcase its digital culture initiatives.

Organization invited: Trias Culture

Trias Culture is a Senegalese company focused on culture, and committed to promoting digital creation, plus raising public awareness of ICT in West Africa.

In addition to an industry professional being invited, Linz and Dakar both came with an artist and an installation to be incorporated into the round of exhibitions on show at the festival.

Three other cities from the UNESCO network participated in this delegation, selected due to a certain proximity in their artistic approach:

- *York - (United Kingdom)*

Event invited: York Mediale

York Mediale is a new international media arts festival that brings together major artists, and provides a platform to present work from emerging talent.

- *Kosice - (Slovakia)*

Event or organization invited: Biela noc

Biela noc (White Night all-night arts festival) is an international contemporary art festival covering numerous artistic genres ranging from the visual arts (including media art and lighting design) to the performing arts, music, literature and film.

- *Braga - (Portugal)*

Organization invited: Braga Media Art

Braga Media Art is an ecosystem that brings together in one place all the stakeholders from the digital culture scene, and sets up different projects, including the forthcoming media art biennale.

Other creatives cities invited (Design Cluster):

- *Montreal and Quebec City*

Montreal has been stronghold of digital culture for close to two decades now, thanks to its exuberant and diverse digital culture scene, but also thanks to its world-renowned events such as Mutek and the International Digital Art Biennale.

The Mirage Festival has developed tight links with Montreal for many years. Furthermore, Lyon is a twin city of Montreal, and as such hosts numerous projects from Quebec each year.

For 2019 the festival set up a partnership with Molior, a Quebecois organization specialized in producing exhibitions and artistic projects, to host an exhibition commissioned by the Montreal-based curator Nathalie Bachand.

Called *Dead Web*, this exhibition was co-hosted by Lyon's École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, and was an opportunity to build on the beginnings of a collaboration initiated in 2018.

Exhibition curator Nathalie Bachand alongside other members of the Molior team were therefore invited to take part in this international delegation.



©Kevin Buy

Mirage Festival 2020

The 2020 festival was disrupted and brought to a halt by the health crisis, meaning that all the partners that had committed to take part could no longer do so.

The initial festival programme is presented below:

In 2020, Dolus & Dolus and the City of Lyon chose to continue developing their existing partnerships with certain creative cities, but also open up to collaborating with new cities. Another highlight set for 2020 was that cultural agents were invited to commission certain artists whose work had previously been shown at the Mirage Festival.

- *Linz (Austria)*

Event invited: Ars Electronica

A collaboration project has been initiated based around the festival theme, with a view to inviting two artists whose projects have received support from Ars Electronica.

A member of the festival team was due to come and present the artistic support initiatives led and carried out by the festival throughout the year.

- *York - (United Kingdom)*

Event invited:

York Mediale is a new international media arts festival that brings together major artists, and provides a platform to present work from emerging talent.

- *Toronto - (Canada)*

Organization invited: InterAcces

Other creatives cities invited (Design Cluster):

- *Montreal (Canada)*

Montreal has been stronghold of digital culture for close to two decades now, thanks to its exuberant and diverse digital culture scene, but also thanks to its world-renowned events such as Mutek and the International Digital Art Biennale.

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©Dolus & dolus

French digital arts on the international stage

An event organized by the Institut français – 11 March 2020

The Institut français, the City of Lyon and the Lyon Metropolitan Area joined forces with the Mirage Festival to host a day especially for artists, and more broadly for local players involved on the Lyon digital creative scene, who are seeking to spread their wings outside France and strengthen international partnerships.

The Institut français and the Lyon local authorities began by presenting their strategy and programmes for developing international professional support schemes. In the second part of the morning, contact agencies and relevant stakeholders from the Lyon area were invited to share their experiences with the participants. The afternoon was divided up into 3 workshops to take concrete steps towards addressing international development strategies and cooperation procedures as well as the practical considerations of sending projects abroad.

Call for Projects for the 2019 Festival of Lights

A call for projects and a request for proposals were issued in March to the Media Arts Creative Cities Network. No bids were received from any artists from the creative cities targeted. **We are now**

exploring new methods of approach, as the existing procedure is doubtlessly too burdensome for artists.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FlrA_yt3E6g&feature=youtu.be



©Muriel Chaulet – City of Lyon

Call for Projects for the LIPS (Laboratoire in(ter)disciplinaire de prototypes Scéniques et sonores – interdisciplinary laboratory for stage and sound prototypes) led by the GRAME

A call for projects was launched in May to members of the Media Arts Creative Cities Network. No bids were received from any artists from the creative cities targeted.

Inviting the Media Arts Creative Cities Network to attend the 2020 Festival of Lights forum, organized by LUCI, held from 7 to 9 December

LUCI (Lighting Urban Community International) brings together cities engaged in developing urban lighting strategies.

The initiative was originally launched in 2002 by the City of Lyon, and today LUCI has grown to become an association with more than 70 member cities across the world that use lighting as a social, cultural and economic development tool. It also has 40 associate members from the lighting industry, design agencies and research institutes.

315 participants from 55 countries have signed up (notably from the creative cities of Karlsruhe and Viborg).

<https://www.luciassociation.org/>

Beirut

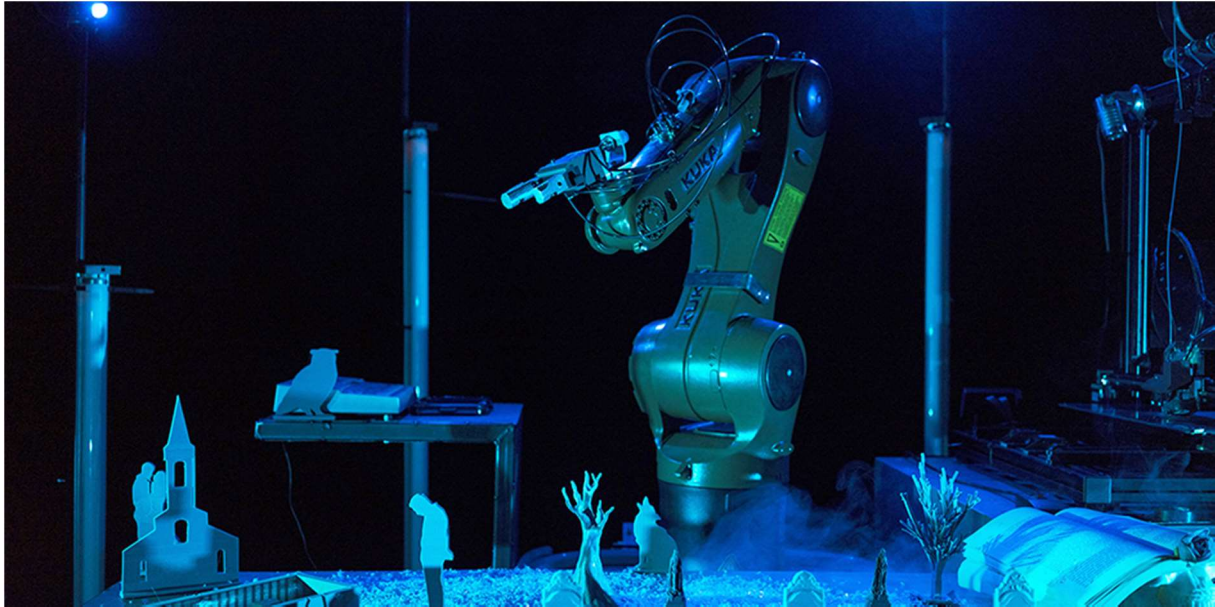
Given the extent of the catastrophe in Beirut, and out of solidarity to the city, the victims and their families, the City of Lyon donated the sum of 50,000 euros to the Red Cross emergency fund.

In 2021, Beirut artist residences are planned for artists with the SUBS, and writers with the Villa Gillet – a writing house and villa haven.

- Valérie Cachard – Lebanon: Born in Beirut in 1979, author, playwright, winner of the RFI-Théâtre radio drama award in 2019 for her play *Victoria K, Delphine Seyrig et moi ou la Petite Chaise jaune*, a fast-paced journey through the history of Lebanon. A literary archaeologist, she searches through the wreckage to bring lost paradises back to life.
- Camille Ammoun – Lebanon: Born in Beirut, and dividing his time between France and Lebanon, he specializes in exploring ecological and urban issues. An ardent literature lover, he combined his two passions in his first novel *Ougarit* (published by Inculte in 2019), an architectural exploration of the Persian Gulf. He has been a member of Beirut International Centre for Writers since 2005.

Lyon artists or organizations in the cities belonging to the network

- The **Mirage Festival** team was invited to take part in the Media Art Festival in **Gwangju** in South Korea in 2017, as well as the Ars Electronica festival in **Linz** in Austria in 2018.
- **Scenocosme** (Gregory Lasserre & Anais Met Den Ancxt) proposed a project that was selected in **Austin** for the South by Southwest festival in 2019.
- **ADDN in Montreal** from 2018 to 2020
 In the spring of 2018, AADN (the Lyon-based third space) teamed up with the Planetarium in Vaulx-en-Velin to launch a call for artists for immersive creation residencies, with artistic support included. The project *Fields* was selected, proposed by Antoine Vanel and Alexis Nemtchenko, who benefited from a two-week residency in a dome to produce their artistic project.
 Two members of the SAT (Société des Arts Technologiques – Society for Arts and Technology in Montreal) helped with the end-of-residency exhibition to give their analysis, and offered a future collaboration residency project. This was the next step, scheduled for spring 2019.
 The challenge was to strengthen ties with cultural stakeholders in Quebec, benefit from the expertise of major creative players in the field, and through that collaboration, build an international co-production network.
Fields is a live audiovisual project based on work in situ that is carried out in the area where the work is set to be shown, and using GPS data converted into sound and visual components.
- **Artefact by Joris Mathieu in Linz** in June 2019
 6 performances as part of the Shäxpir festival.
 With *Artefact*, Joris Mathieu and the Haut et Court collective offer a glimpse of the possible future of humanity: machines have taken over power having used humans to reproduce themselves, leaving men, little by little, to disappear. All that is left is robot bodies and artificial intelligence, trying to act out scenes from classical theatre. The audience members wear headsets over their ears, and are invited to experience three face-to-face situations with an artificial being. This device combines optical theatre with 3D printer and robotic technology. An articulated arm becomes the puppeteer of a little theatre of objects; artificial intelligence reclaims theatre dialogues; a synthesized voice tells the story of this new world. You are plunged into a universe devoid of humans and populated by holograms, and urged to reassess the major questions raised by science fiction: namely, can robots live without us?



© TNG

- **Adrien M & Claire B in Linz, from 24 June 2019 to 2 March 2020, extended to 7 January 2021** with the exhibition *Mirages & miracles*

The temporary exhibition *Mirages & miracles* opened at the same time as the new permanent exhibition in the Ars Electronica art centre, and it will be extended to cover the Ars Electronica festival, providing an ideal opportunity for making business contacts and developing prospects for touring Adrien M & Claire B's exhibitions within Europe and worldwide.

The pieces range from small scale to large scale installations, and are all delicately arranged to show the virtual world coinciding with the material world through the use of augmented drawings, holographic illusion devices, virtual reality headsets and projecting large-scale images. They bring to life a set of improbable scenarios that are rooted in both mirages and miracles, and which play with the boundaries between reality and fantasy, animate and inanimate, genuine and fake, magic, wonderment and the uncanny.

Video : www.vimeo.com/amcb/mm



© Marion Bornaz

- **The INVIVO collective featured in the programme at the Centre des Arts (arts centre) in Enghien-Les-Bains** scheduled to perform its work *Céto* on 6 December 2020 (discussions are underway about rescheduling the date – no commissioning contract made with the arts centre). An immersive show for toddlers, aged 18 months and upwards.



Céto © Nicolas Richard

- **Simon Parlange (Dolus & Dolus) organized the Mirage Festival in Toronto in November 2019**
- **Scénocosme on show at ZKM - Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe (Germany) Summer 2020 - 28 March 2021**
Writing the History of the Future. Curator: Peter Weibel & Margit Rosen
<https://zkm.de/en/exhibition/2019/02/writing-the-history-of-the-future>
- **Lyon BD Festival (Lyon comics festival) participates every year in the Festival d'Angoulême (Angoulême international comics festival)**

Contributing to the debate and challenges surrounding media arts

In October 2018, the Media Arts Cluster was sent an issue of Pop'Sciences Mag (Lyon University's digital portal) that focuses on artificial intelligence, and featuring contributions from different university laboratories across Lyon, to shed light on the debate around artificial intelligence:

What does artificial intelligence dream about? This question presupposes that so-called intelligent machines have a proper human faculty, namely the faculty that enables us to project ourselves into a desirable reality. In short, to hope.



© Julien Richetti

<https://popsciences.universite-lyon.fr/ressources/a-quoi-revent-les-intelligences-artificielles-popsciences-mag/?cn-reloaded=1>

Two-way exchange projects

Bogotá (Creative City of Music) - Lyon / France-Colombia 'Année croisée' cultural exchange programme year

- **Nuits sonores festival in Bogotá.** 1st festival held in June 2017, the 4th year in June 2020. Three days of concerts, discussions, exchanges and events, showcasing the best of the electronic indie music scene ins Lyon and across France.
- **The project 'Músicas Híbridas: Bogotá – Lyon'** aims to act as a bridge to create a link between two "artistic scenes", to provide a launching pad for future creative projects, and work towards multiple future partnerships.
Le Périscope - Association RESEAU – a key venue on Lyon's contemporary innovative music scene – has joined forces with IDARTES, the Bogotá cultural affairs department, with the shared aim of fostering exchange between Bogotá and Lyon in the professional, artistic, educational and academic research fields, and focusing specifically on "hybrid music".
By building a multidisciplinary dialogue separated into four distinct categories (professional, artistic, education and research), the numerous stakeholders from the music networks in both cities had the opportunity to discuss the challenges they face, and work together to develop their methods and practices, and begin a concrete collaboration project for the future.
April 2017 – the Lyon delegation visited Bogotá.
October 2017 – the Bogotá delegation visited Lyon.



20 octobre 2017 - Marché Gare - Première partie avec le groupe français Direction Survet



20 octobre 2017 - Marché Gare - Concert de Curupira



20 octobre 2017 - Marché Gare - Le public est enthousiaste



Toronto

In 2020, work began on setting up a new cooperative project between the Nuit Blanche team in Toronto, the French Embassy, Dolus & Dolus and the Lyon Festival of Lights, with Julie Nagam as Artistic Director, acting alongside the artist Caroline Monnet. A project for Lyon and Toronto to co-produce a work is being considered for 2021.

6 / LYON AND MANAGING THE COVID CRISIS

The health crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic has had a severe and lasting effect on the cultural sector in France.

An estimated 20,000 employees work in the cultural and creative sector in the Lyon Metropolitan Area. According to the 2012 INSEE census led by the French Ministry of Culture (published in 2017), there are 60,870 people working in the cultural sector in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region.

In the wake of the lockdown, the City of Lyon made a committed to be in contact with all the different cultural organizations that it supports, and beyond, stretching to include private and independent structures. Therefore, a questionnaire was sent out to 124 cultural organizations across Lyon to find out how they were managing, and get a snapshot of their cultural and financial situation. In cases where organizations received grants from several different departments, the City has also taken part in specific monitoring committees via videoconference with the other public sector partners concerned.

To mitigate the effects of the crisis across the local area, the City of Lyon has adopted a set of support measures to help cultural organizations affected by the crisis.

1- Annual operating grants already allocated by the City of Lyon

Ahead of the municipal elections in March 2020, the City awarded a certain number of annual operating grants to nonprofits regularly involved in supporting Lyon's various public policies. In total, as from 27 January last year, over €14 M of grant funds had already been approved for the cultural sector for the accounting period of 2020. The actual distribution of these grants at the start of the accounting period meant that security was provided for a significant proportion of Lyon's partner organizations.

2- Annual operating grants allocated by mayoral decision

The City of Lyon built further on its efforts to implement different development plans aimed at ensuring that action campaigns put in place by the local authorities and their affiliated groups could continue to operate.

In order to maintain its support initiatives for the community network, and safeguard the structures it has ties with, the City allocated a second wave of grants, by mayoral decision, thanks to the French emergency law n° 2020-290 that was passed on 23 March 2020 to face the Covid-19 pandemic, and its resulting decrees.

First priority went to organizations regularly supported by the City, and severely affected by the health crisis. In this context, 103 grants were allocated to the cultural sector.

3 - Suspending rent fees due from associations holding public domain occupation permits

The City of Lyon makes municipal premises available to a certain number of partner associations as part of temporary occupation agreements in return for an annual rent fee.

The financial situation of each such agreement holder was studied on a case-by-case basis, and more widely, the impact of the administrative police measures on the sector concerned.

In this context, four organizations were exonerated from their rent obligations over the period of 15 March to 15 July, representing a total of €60,336.

4- Actions by cultural organizations under direct state control and theatres benefiting from significant public funding

Finally, in 2020 the City of Lyon maintained its public cultural funding budget (covering pay for artists, as well as public sector employees working in museums, libraries, the Lyon Opera House, the ONL (the Lyon-based orchestra - Orchestre National de Lyon) and the Théâtre des Célestins), and thus saving those working in the culture sector from experiencing hardship.

Out of solidarity, cultural institutions such as the city library, the performance venue l'Auditorium-Orchestre national de Lyon and again the Théâtre des Célestins all honoured the assignment agreements they held with arts companies, even though the performances had been cancelled, or had only partially taken place. The total cost of this amounted to around €1.3 M for twenty or so companies.

5- Culture Recovery Fund

Given the urgency of the situation, and in line with commitments made during the electoral campaign, when the new mayoral executive took office, one of the first steps it carried out was to set up a support fund for the culture sector worth 4 million euros. This was approved by the City Council on 30 July 2020.

By 10 September, the deadline for applications, the City of Lyon had received a regular stream of some 359 applications for a total of €8,672,413: 225 requests came from organizations (legal entities) and 134 requests from private individuals working in the artistic profession.

On 19th November, the City Council agreed to allocate €2,432,500 to 180 organizations and €290,147 to 97 private individuals. Further support was added in an amending decision to the Théâtre des Célestins (€100,000) and the ONL-Auditorium de Lyon (€100,000), making an accumulated total of €2,922 647.

A second phase of aid will be allocated during 2021 on the remainder of the recovery funds set aside.

7 / ACTION PLAN FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS

The City of Lyon is fully committed to better implementing the goals outlined in the Creative Cities Network Mission Statement, and helping to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular objective 11 *“Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.”*

Presentation of 2 initiatives for achieving the network’s objectives on a local scale

Implementing the Climate, Air and Energy Action Plan 2020-2026

Initiated in 2018 as the result of a broad-based citizen consultation process, and approved by the City Council at the end of 2019, this new Climate, Air and Energy Action Plan (PACAE - Plan d'Actions Climat, Air, Énergie) entered its implementation phase in 2020. Projects review. **The new City Council team, which is led by France’s Green party, has made the climate crisis its key priority**, and the Climate, Air and Energy Action Plan will be implemented in this context. However, the measures are currently not tough enough to meet the necessary challenges, and are soon to be strengthened. This extra investment will be funded by the upcoming Multi-annual Investment Plan for the sum of **1 billion euros for the current mandate**. The following provides an overview:

Initial measures

In terms of the City’s built heritage, a first wave of new and model building projects will be constructed, notably including three new energy-positive school complexes, three childcare centres for toddlers, and pool facilities. A systematic and global approach will be taken to upgrading the energy efficiency of existing public buildings to maintain the pace of completing 10 new renovation projects per year by the end of the mandate, so as to renovate all of the buildings concerned by 2050. The first phase will notably include three schools, crèches, a gymnasium, an old people’s home, a cultural institution and a district town hall. A first series of 10 photovoltaic roofs will be installed, half of which in partnership with a citizens’ association.

Five new parks

Two other objectives include generalizing the inclusion of social and environmental clauses in public procurement projects and developing a sustainable and social economy.

In addition, enhanced support will be given to shared garden schemes, and other sustainable nutrition stakeholders. A new public contract for school catering is currently being prepared to be effective for 2022, and set to include 100% organic meals that are predominantly locally sourced, and more vegetarian in content.

Lyon’s landscape will be made greener, starting with the creation of five new parks.

Projects for creating parking areas for bikes on public space, including secure bike boxes, and the first new pedestrianised zones are currently all under development.

Hundreds of council houses belonging to the City will be renovated to make them more high-performance in terms of energy efficiency.

Participation of local communities

As of 2021, the men and women living in Lyon will become partners in helping to co-steer this Climate, Air and Energy Plan. Each city district will be allocated a participation budget, enabling Lyon residents to build local solutions together, the aim being to ensure that everyone is able to play a full part in the ecological transition.

2020-2026 Climate Plan: <https://fr.calameo.com/read/0000418972588a3afce90>

The environmental cross-compliance of public aid awarded by the City of Lyon

Awarding public grants can provide strong impetus for action, and this is especially true in the cultural domain. In this light, Lyon's cultural commission supported close to 200 cultural associations in 2020.

As for grant schemes beyond 2022, the City of Lyon is thinking of introducing environmental cross-compliance in its grants, as a way of encouraging Lyon's cultural fabric in pursuing all possible environmental cross-compliance initiatives that may be taken in the future, and those already underway.

Similarly, for many years now the City of Lyon has been engaged in inclusion policies, especially in terms of gender equality, and it is also considering incorporating into its public grant schemes cross-compliance conditions in terms of equality.

Working groups are currently exploring these possibilities in partnership with our colleagues from the Lyon Metropolitan Area.

Presentation of 3 initiatives for achieving the network's objectives on an international scale

Artistic projects with the network's partner cities: the example of the INVIVO collective in Montreal

The INVIVO collective was founded in 2011. It receives support from the City of Lyon through an annual operating grant, and its work is co-produced by the Théâtre Nouvelle Génération, the CDN theatre in Lyon. It brings together numerous artists who confront their different visions and practices regarding stage and performance space, with the aim of creating original objects that explore the limits of immersive art, media arts and theatre.

The work is focused around the question of how audience perception and feelings can create a new form of narrative. Projects are divided into two main approaches: creating new work, and collaborating with other artistic groups. The collective leaves its unique stamp on each new project, always seeking to explore the notion of the viewer's place and perceptions.

For the period 2021-2023, INVIVO will be involved in a cooperation project that will further strengthen the close links that have already been developed between Lyon and Montreal for many years now. During that period, the collective plans to tour its work in Canada, but also develop a co-creation project between France and Canada, in partnership with organizations in Quebec, and mainly with the artistic team behind the Youtheatre in Montreal.

Project to create a new space dedicated to digital creation: Le Lavoir Public

What used to be the old public wash-house (lavoir public) was built in 1934. Made up of a laundry area, with adjoining public baths, it went out of use in 2016. The building has since been reconverted into a cultural space. Managed by Olivier Rey up until 2020, the space was focused on the concept of the shifting forms of new writing and creation, inspired by the culture scene in Berlin. The programme is multidisciplinary and contemporary, seeking to provide a platform to promote emerging talent.

In 2021, the City of Lyon and the Mayor of the 1st arrondissement plan to launch a call for candidates to dedicate this space to digital creation, especially young digital creation. In addition to providing the building to house the project, there will also be a support grant awarded by the cultural commission, for a sum yet to be defined.

All the cities belonging to the Media Arts Cluster will be kept informed about the project, and also involved, based on the programming choices for potential future collaboration projects (including artist residencies).



©Mirage Festival – Scénocosme 2016

Lyon – Braga: what's on the horizon for collaboration projects for the France-Portugal Season in 2022?

The City of Lyon is strongly invested in different collaboration projects with the Institut français, and every year devotes €95,000 (€75,000 from the Cultural Affairs Department, and €20,000 from the International Relations Department) to projects that fall within the framework of its partnership agreement with the l'Institut français.

The 'Saisons Croisées' cultural exchange programme is one of the key focal points. In addition, Lyon hopes to further develop its ties with Braga (invited to take part in the 2019 Mirage Festival) on future collaborations yet to be devised.

CLOSING REMARKS

In four years, the City of Lyon has committed itself to developing links with the Creative Cities Network by building cooperation projects that are meaningful to its cultural institutions and associations. The recently-elected City Council has already announced that it is ring-fencing the funding budget for culture, which it considers to be a common asset. The City also openly wishes to develop support for artistic projects in the interest of achieving both excellence and empowerment.

New collaboration projects are currently under discussion, notably for the Lyon Festival of Lights, whose format calls for a change, but also in response to a host of new initiatives launched by cultural stakeholders.

Despite the unprecedented crisis being faced by the cultural sector today, Lyon will be there to work alongside cultural stakeholders, and together create a policy approach that ensures that cooperation – and notably cooperation with the Creative Cities Network – occupies its rightful place.