

ÉCOLE DU LOUVRE
MUSÉE DU LOUVRE

2026.2027

DOCTORAL WORKSHOP
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

MUSEUMS AND TEMPORALITY:
ARCHAEOLOGY, HISTORY OF ART

MUSEUMS AND TEMPORALITY: ARCHAEOLOGY, HISTORY OF ART

École du Louvre doctoral seminar in partnership with the Dominique-Vivant Denon Centre of the Louvre Museum.

For the eleventh year, the Louvre Museum (Department of Museum Studies and Research Support) and the École du Louvre are jointly organising a young researchers' workshop, to be held in six sessions from January to May 2027 at the École du Louvre (Jan. 12th, Feb. 2nd, March 2nd and 16th, May 18th and 25th, 2-6 pm). The 2027 workshop invites participants to consider museums of all types through the lens of temporality, i.e. the multiple connections between museum practices and temporal regimes.

How can the objects of the past be shown nowadays and in the future? How can the traces of time that has passed be exhibited in space? The museum, since its origins, through its operations of collecting, preserving, organising and displaying, is paradoxically caught between a desire for historicism and a proposal for anachronism. The contradiction between the sensory and fleeting experience of reality and the desire to impose permanent order upon this same reality, is intrinsic to the museum. One of the museum's functions is to enable encounters between heterogeneous temporalities: it provides the setting for them.

The following topics may be discussed:
– the history of museum displays, exhibitions, architecture and decor. The visitor trails, the period room, the diorama, the reconstruction, the 'site museum'
– the temporal structures that underlie them: chronological, evolutionary, anachronistic. Temporality in national, regional, global, individual, institutional narratives. The assertion of origins, the claim of permanence, the hope of renewal, the modernity of rupture, the presence of the contemporary
– the appropriation, transformation, and representation of temporalities in museums: the time of others, inherited time. The temporal genealogies of museums: what they borrow from the temporal practices and concepts of hoarding, collecting, ornamentation and display (ecclesiastical, princely and other) of objects; also what they borrow from the practices and concepts of archaeology, ethnology, and commerce
– conversely, the appropriation of museum time, be it in artistic, cultural, political or commercial contexts
– objects in time, time in objects. The processes of temporalisation. The material history of time, its sensory and cognitive experience, the temporal imagination. The times of the visit, the aesthetic experience, events, and tourism

Participants in the workshop will present their work in art history, archaeology, museology and other social sciences in French or English. It is primarily aimed at PhD students from all institutions, but applications related to post-doctoral projects that fit the theme will also be considered.

Lectures and visits will complement the programme, with the involvement of members of the Louvre's scientific staff, from both an academic and professional perspective. There will be ample opportunity for discussion.

Travel costs for participants living outside the Île-de-France region may be covered in some cases: please indicate your needs in your application.

Please send your applications (cover letter, CV, one-page project description) as a single PDF document to troisiemecycle@ecoledulouvre.fr and recherche@louvre.fr with the subject line 'Atelier jeunes chercheur.e.s Louvre' **before November 30th 2026**.

Scientific directors
Philippe Cordez,
PhD, Deputy Director of Museum Studies and Research Support, Head of the Research Support Department, Louvre Museum
Cecilia Hurley Griener, PhD, researcher at the École du Louvre Research Centre

Suggested reading:

- Boltanski, Luc, Esquerre, Arnaud, *Enrichissement. Une critique de la marchandise*, Paris 2017
- Didi-Huberman, Georges, *Devant le Temps. Histoire de l'art et anachronisme des images*, Paris 2000
- Hartog, François, « The Museum and Temporalization », in *Time & Society*, 30/4, 2021-11, p. 462-476
- Labrusse, Rémi, « Condition moderne et renversements du temps », in *Textes et contextes*, 17/1, 2022 (Anachronismes, dir. par Anne Deffarges et Hélène Valance), et d'autres articles dans ce volume : https://preo.ube.fr/textesetcontextes/index.php?id=3376
- Modest, Wayne, Pels, Peter (dir.), *Museum Temporalities: Time, History and the Future of the (Ethnographic) Museum*, Londres 2026
- Walklate, Jen A., *Time and the Museum. Literature, Phenomenology, and the Production of Radical Temporality*, Londres 2023
- Several articles in *Perspectives*, 2/2025 (Anachronismes, dir. par Hélène Leroy et Hélène Valance), https://journals.openedition.org/perspective/31654

École du Louvre
Palais du Louvre

LOUVRE

Jean Baptiste Mauzaisse (1784-1844), *Le Temps montrant les ruines qu'il amène, et les chefs-d'oeuvre qu'il laisse ensuite découvrir*, peinture, 1822, Musée du Louvre, Département des Peintures, INV 6538 © 2021 GrandPalaisRmn (musée du Louvre) / Stéphane Maréchalle