

MUSÉE DE LA ROMANITÉ

16 boulevard des Arènes
30000 Nîmes

Tél. : +33 (0)4 48 210 210
www.museedelaromanite.fr

PRESS CONTACTS

Isabelle LÉCAUX

Head of Communication
isabelle.lecaux@spl-culture-patrimoine.com
Tél. : +33 (0)4 48 210 201 / +33 (0)6 64 93 14 82

Charlène CHARROL

Communication Manager
charlene.charrol@spl-culture-patrimoine.com
Tél. : +33 (0)4 48 210 222 / +33 (0)7 60 47 97 93

MUSÉE
DE LA

PRESS RELEASE



© Gallerie degli Uffizi

Temporary exhibition
11 November 2021 - 8 March 2022

“PORTRAITS AND SECRETS OF ROMAN WOMEN Empresses, “matrons” and forsaken slaves”

From the 11 November 2021 to 8 March 2022, the Musée de la Romanité will be hosting the exhibition “Portrait and Secrets of Roman Women”, which was first presented at the Uffizi Galleries in Florence in winter 2020-2021.

Powerful. Determined. Controversial. Independent. Rebellious. And much more. With all their stories, their secrets, their struggle for civil, political and economic emancipation, **Roman women of the first two centuries of the Roman Empire are the protagonists of this exhibition.**

Who are these women? What is their status? How have they redefined their roles in public life? In an attempt to answer these questions, the exhibition has put together **over thirty works of art borrowed from three Florentine institutions: the Uffizi Galleries, the National Archaeological Museum and the National Central Library.**

“Place(s) des Femmes” (Role(s) of women) is a varied cultural programme of events, encouraging the public to consider the theme addressed in the exhibition, through conferences, tours, debates and other events.

ROMANITÉ



© Gallerie degli Uffizi



© Gallerie degli Uffizi

The exhibition is divided into three sections, following the lives of Roman women from different social backgrounds. Some 30 artworks are exhibited, including the magnificent busts of Agrippina the Younger, emperor Nero's famous mother and of Domitia Longina, emperor Domitian's wife.

Besides the idealistic image of the "matron", depicted by the empresses and ladies of the imperial household as a model in terms of morals and style, the visitor's tour also presents the flip side, an alternative model of women with somewhat unconventional lives. Freed slaves or women from the imperial family who were discredited for attacking the dynasty they represented, show visitors a global vision of the role of women and their power during the imperial era.

The last section highlights the significance of including empresses in imperial palace public communication, allowing them to take on a new, more visible role in society. They went on to inspire women of the upper class and allowed them to access roles in society, therefore introducing a progressive but very real revolution in the cities of the Empire.

Coordination

Exhibition curator: Novella Lapini / **Exhibition director:** Fabrizio Paolucci, Head of the Classical Art Department at the Uffizzi Galleries / **Scientific council:** Eike D. Schmidt, Laura Buccino, Giovanni Alberto Cecconi, Idailda Mastroso and Alessandro Muscillo

Organisation and adaptation: SPL Culture & Patrimoine and the Conservation Department at the Musée de la Romanité - Nîmes

Loaning partner museums

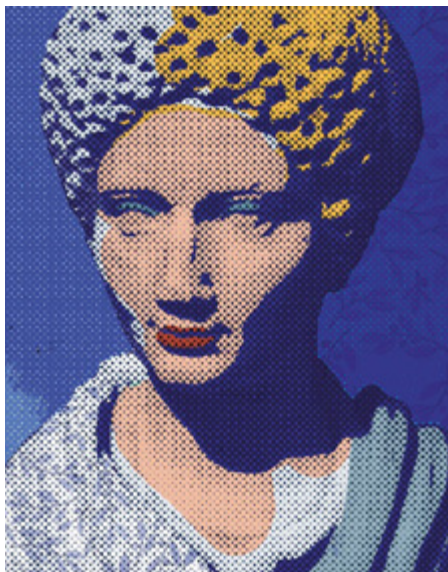
This exhibition devoted to women showcases the vast archaeological heritage of the Uffizzi Galleries in Florence, and the vast majority of the artworks on display come from the rich archaeological collection from the Uffizzi Galleries. Added to this collection are some loans from the National Archaeological Museum of Florence and the National Central Library of Florence.

Related to the exhibition: "Role(s) of women"

How can the role of women in Antiquity shed light on today's society and the society of tomorrow?

The Musée de la Romanité is addressing a current social debate, offering an original perspective on this theme. The museum is a place where a whole variety of eras come together, and a place where discussion and diversity are encouraged, highlighting viewpoints that span several disciplines, including archaeology, philosophy, anthropology, theatre, rap, sociology, etc.

GO
MΛ
PITÉ



© Musée de la Romanité

The public will be encouraged **to consider the role of women, in the past and today, and to address their role in Antiquity as a way of understanding our current society**, through a series of conferences, guided tours and a programme of events outside the museum, in cultural venues across Nîmes.

A number of guests will be participating, including:

- **Olivia Gazalé**, philosophy professor and co-founder of "Les Mardis de la Philo" and author of "Le Mythe de la Virilité";
- **Zoé Royaux**, criminal lawyer and spokesperson for the Fondation des Femmes;
- **Novella Lapini**, exhibition curator, associate at the Department of Archaeology and Art History at the Uffizzi Galleries in Florence, specialised in women's issues in Rome;
- **Violaine Sebillote**, Member of the Scientific board at the Gender Institute (part of the CNRS - French National Centre for Scientific Research);
- **Margarita Moreno Conde**, conservatrice du Département des antiquités classiques du Musée Archéologique National de Madrid, spécialisée dans le rôle de la femme et le discours de genre dans les institutions muséales;
- **Laurent Olivier**, historian and curator at the Department of Celtic and Gallic Archaeology at the National Archaeology Museum in Saint-Germain-en-Laye.

For prices, information & bookings:

www.museedelaromanite.fr

**From April to October, open every day from 10am to 7pm.
From November to March, open every day from 10am to 6pm,
except Tuesdays.**

Closed on 1st January and 25th December

GO
MΛ
PITÉ