

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE FRESNO

NEWSLETTER

Mars 2011



The Délégation Générale de l'Alliance Française in the U.S., the Alliance Française de Fresno and the Fresno Art Museum are delighted to announce A PRESENTATION IN ENGLISH BY *Philippe Walter*

Beyond the Appearance of Works of Art: The Chemist's View

Wednesday, April 13, Reception at 6:00 PM, Lecture at 7:00 PM

Fresno Art Museum, 2233 N. First St

Free entry to Alliance Française and Fresno Art Museum members, Entry fee of \$10 for all others, *Please note: Space is limited! First come! First served!*

Dr. Philippe Walter is laboratory director of the Center for Research and Restoration of the Museums of France (CNRS-Ministry of Culture), located in Paris in the Louvre. His research is aimed at developing new analytical methods adapted to the study of ancient materials, with the assistance of the AGLAE particle accelerator in his laboratory but also with x-rays from other important scientific installations (synchrotron) and portable analytical instruments. His main research interest is focused on the use of analytical chemistry in order to understand the development of chemistry for health and beauty during Antiquity and the creation of new painting materials, for instance, during the Renaissance period. An alumnus of the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Lyon, he went on to earn a PhD in geochemistry from the Université Paul Sabatier in Toulouse in 1993. He has organized several exhibitions at the Egyptian museum in Cairo (2002) and in Paris (2008) promoting his work. He has been a research scientist at the CNRS (National Center for Scientific Research) since 1995 and received the CNRS silver medal in 2008.

The association between chemistry and art is nothing new. Since Antiquity, new products have been developed to prepare pigments used in the fields of art, cosmetics and health. During the Renaissance, artists looked for optical effects in preparing translucent glazes from complicated recipes. Today, the technical know-how of the ancient chemists and artists can be rediscovered with analytical tools from physical chemistry. The priceless nature of the most famous works of history requires, however, particular precautions and the adjustment of methods providing the maximum amount of information from the minimum sample (if in fact any can be found). We will illustrate these activities with examples concerning ancient Egypt and Leonardo da Vinci.



REMINDER TO TEACHERS OF FRENCH: The deadline for the receipt of applications for the 2011 Alliance Française de Fresno scholarships (\$500 for high schoolers, and \$1,000 for college students) is 16 March. Full details at our website www.affresno.org

FRENCH CLASSES: The Spring Session for adults and children will begin the first week of April. Courses will be offered at all levels and for all ages. Contact School Directress Odette Cohen for adult classes (435-3285) or Micheline Curnyn for Children's classes (435-5532) or email mcohen@fresno.ucsf.edu or mcurnyn@comcast.net.





Congratulations to the Tombola Winners!!

FIRST PRIZE: \$2000 toward a trip to Paris

Two Fresno Philharmonic Concert Tickets, \$138 value
Two Keyboard Concerts Season Tickets, \$100 value
Six Tickets, Fresno Film Works, \$72 value
Two Tickets to *Wicked*, Fresno Grand Opera, \$155 value
Two Season Tickets, Orpheus, \$96 value
Two Season Tickets, Orpheus, \$96 value
Two Dinners, Café Rousseau, \$50 value
Gift Certificate, Ripe Tomato, \$50 value
Gift Basket, Campos Brothers, \$200 value
Gift Basket, Trader Joe's, \$25 value
Gift Basket, University Book Store, \$80 value
Gift Basket, University Book Store, \$65 value
Spa Treatment at Tatiana's, \$155 value
Rebecca Caraveo Print, *Aimer, Manger, Boire et Chanter*, \$95 value
Alliance Française Course Tuition, \$160 value

Joan Rubinstein, Fowler
Juliet & Antonio Campos, Caruthers
Carl & Linda Motschieder, Fresno
Ellen Erganian, Fresno
Catherine Farinelli, Fresno
Joshua Haas, Clovis
Bob Boro, Fresno
Patti Helling, Fresno
Patricia Robillard, Clovis
Jim Curnyn, Fresno
Andrea Mogelof, Fresno
Mort and Donna Rosenstein, Fresno
Becky Harper, Fresno
Constance Reagan, Fresno
Laverne Cottet, Fresno
Gladys Peters, Fresno



Thanks to all who helped at La Boulangerie Galette Sales. With your help and the generosity of Patrick Bourrel, we were able to raise \$1,500 for our Scholarship Fund!
The Alliance also thanks Patrick for hosting our fabulous Chandeleur celebration!

CAFÉS DE L'ALLIANCE

The Cafés de l'Alliance meet for conversation in French every Thursday from 3:30-5:00 PM. On the 2nd Thursday of the month we meet from 3:30-6:00 PM. We meet at La Boulangerie in Fig Garden Village. Please join us.



Coming Events

March 16: Scholarship deadline

April 13: Lecture in English, Philippe Walter, *Beyond the appearance of works of art: the chemist's view*, Fresno Art Museum, reception 6 PM., lecture 7 PM

Date TBA : Anthony Bellanger or Bérangère Cagnat, *La France d'aujourd'hui: débat sur l'identité nationale* (English)

July 10: Bastille Day Festivities, 6:30 PM

September/October TBA: Prudence Zalewski, *French Wine Pairings*