

L'Arc de Triomphe, WRAPPED

Christo and Jeanne-Claude

in partnership with CENTRE DES MONUMENTS NATIONAUX

September 18 - October 3, 2021

PRESS KIT

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PROJECT PRESENTATION

L'Arc de Triomphe, Wrapped will be on view for 16 days, from Saturday, September 18 to Sunday, October 3, 2021. Per Christo's request, the project will be completed by his team in partnership with the Centre des monuments nationaux (CMN), the government institution that manages the Arc de Triomphe, and in coordination with the City of Paris.

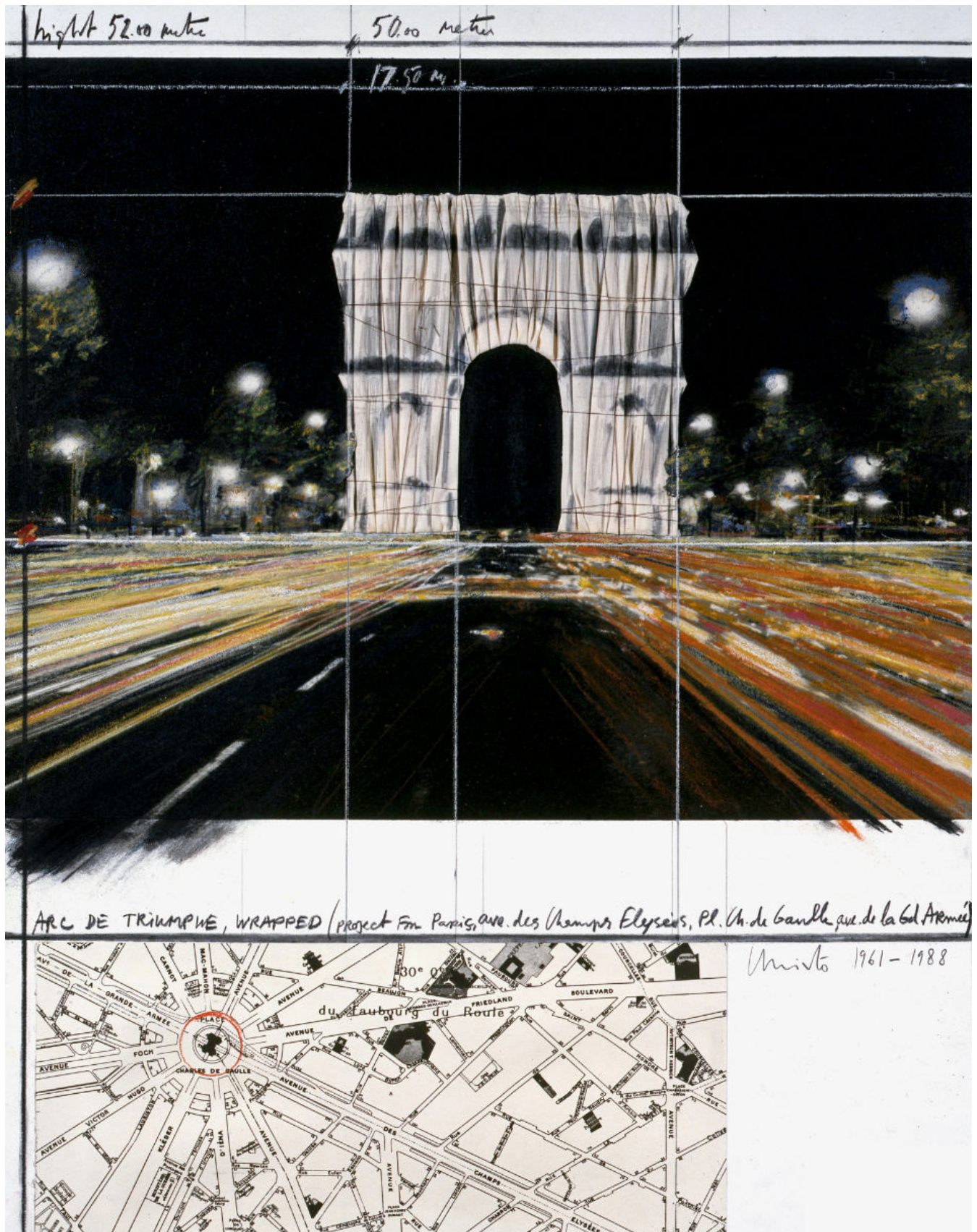
The Arc de Triomphe will be wrapped in 25,000 square meters of recyclable, silvery blue polypropylene fabric and with 3,000 meters of recyclable red polypropylene rope.

L'Arc de Triomphe, Wrapped is being entirely funded by the Estate of Christo V. Javacheff through the sale of Christo's original artworks, including preparatory studies, collages, drawings as well as scale models, works from the 1950s and 1960s and lithographs. Like all of Christo and Jeanne-Claude's projects, it will receive no public funds or sponsorships.

The project was originally conceived in 1961 and in 1962, Christo created a photomontage of the wrapping of the Arc de Triomphe. In 1988, he did a collage. He began actively developing this project in 2017. 60 years later, it will finally be realized.

The Eternal Flame, in front of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Arc de Triomphe, will continue to burn throughout the preparation and display of the artwork. The daily ceremony of rekindling the flame will take place with all its usual solemnity.

The monument and its terrace will stay accessible to the public during the installation, exhibition and dismantling of the work.



Arc de Triomphe, Wrapped (Project for Paris)
Collage 1988
Photo: André Grossmann © Christo and Jeanne-Claude Foundation

FACTS & FIGURES

16

days on view

25 000 m²

of recyclable silvery blue
polypropylene fabric

1000

people approximately will
participate in the completion
of the artwork

3 000 m

of recyclable red
polypropylene rope

€14 M

self-funded by the Estate of
Christo V. Javacheff

1 kg

of aluminium pulverised on
the total surface of the fabric

Recycling

All the materials used for
the completion of the work
will be industrially recycled
(fabric, ropes and steel)

312 tons

of steel

350

monitors to welcome visitors
and distribute free fabric
samples

150

workers for the installation

COMPANIES INVOLVED

AdT WRAPPED COMPAGNIE
prime contractor

ARCELOR MITTAL
steel

BIVOUAC
catering

BÜRO FÜR LEICHTBAU
fabric and ropes engineers

CASSO
fire security expert

CHARPENTIER DE PARIS
builders

CRONOS
security advisor

EVESA
electrical connexion

FREYSSINET
cables

GEO DIE LUFTWERKER
sewing of the fabric

GLEISTEIN
ropes

JADE
rope access

MARIANNE INTERNATIONAL
monitors recruitment

PONTICELLI & FRÈRES
cranes

QUALICONULT
checking office and security coordination

SCHLAICH BERGERMANN PARTNER
conception engineers

SETEX TEXTIL
fabric

RED CROSS
first aid

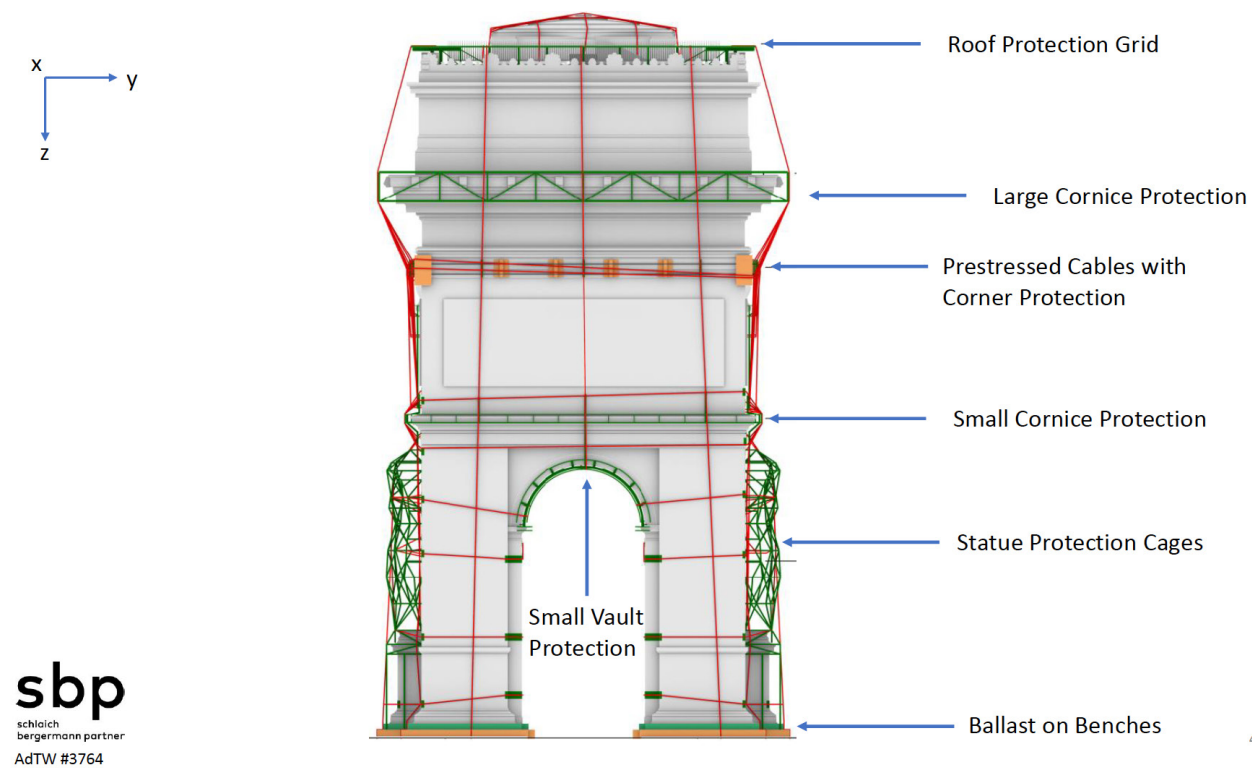
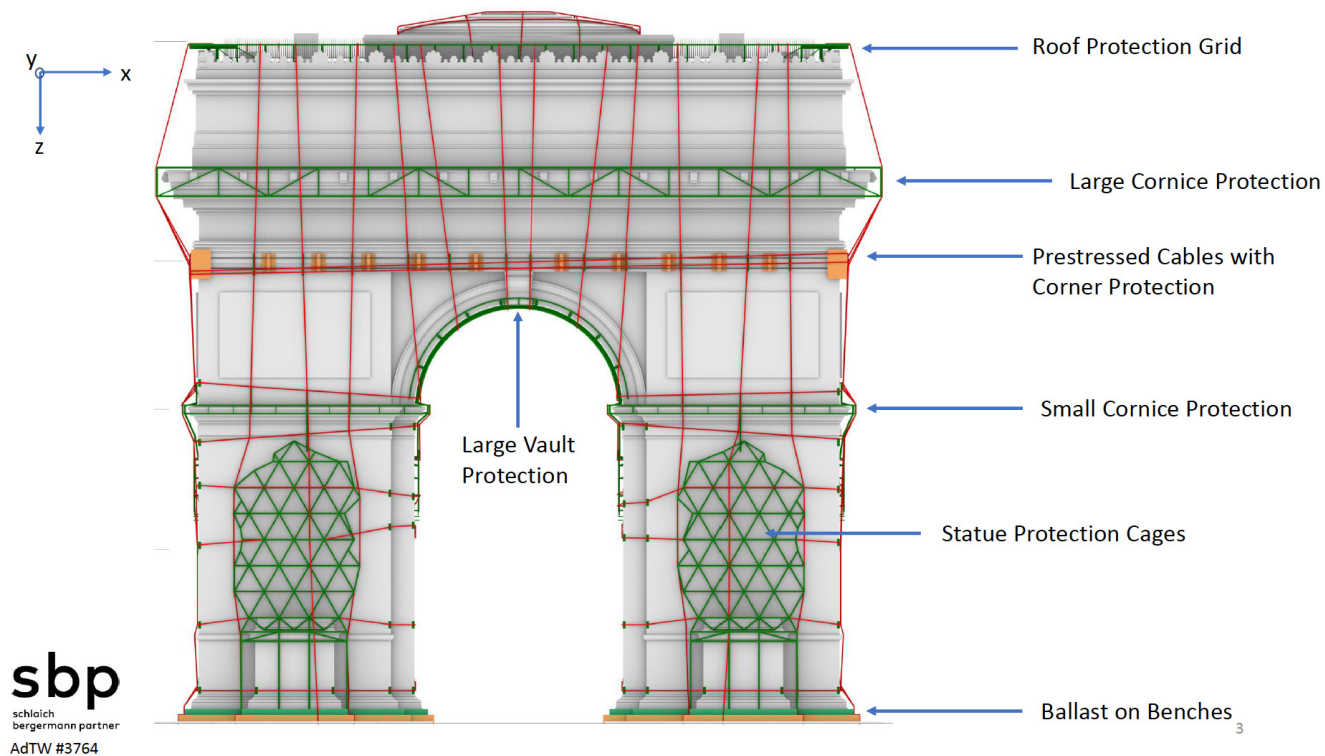
ROWO COATING
fabric silver coating

SECURITAS
security guards

TRACTEL
lifting platforms

TIMELINE

1961	Christo conceives the idea of wrapping the Arc de Triomphe
1962	First photomontage, <i>Wrapped Public Building (Project for Arc de Triomphe, Paris)</i>
1988	Collage, <i>Arc de Triomphe, Wrapped (Project for Paris)</i>
2017	Christo decides to realize this project in parallel with the exhibition <i>Christo et Jeanne-Claude, Paris!</i> scheduled in 2020 at Centre Pompidou
October 2018	Philippe Bélaval (president of CMN) meets Christo and presents the project to the President of France, Emmanuel Macron
January 2019	The President of France agrees the realization of the project
February 2019	Engineering studies led by Schlaich Bergermann Partner begin
June 2019	Initially scheduled for April 2020, the project is postponed to September 2020 in order to safeguard the kestrels falcons in the Arc de Triomphe during their nesting period
October - December 2019	Christo and his team conduct a life-size test with the Charpentiers de Paris in Bagneux
February 2020	Beginning of the production of the fabric by Setex Textil in Germany
April 2020	The project is postponed a second time to September 2021, due to the pandemic
April - November 2020	Sewing of the fabric lays by Geo Die Luftwerker in Germany
May 31 2020	Christo passes away in New York City
July - October 2020	Exhibition <i>Christo et Jeanne-Claude, Paris!</i> at Centre Pompidou
June 2021	Beginning of the production of the ropes by Gleistein in Germany
July 15 2021	First day of set-up. Installation of the metallic structures and ballasts begins.
September 13 - 17 2021	Installation of the fabric and ropes
Sept 18 - Oct 3 2021	<i>L'Arc de Triomphe, Wrapped</i> on view
November 10 2021	End of dismantling



CENTRE DES MONUMENTS NATIONAUX

The archaeological sites of Glanum and Carnac, the abbeys of Montmajour and Mont-Saint-Michel, the Château d'If and the Château d'Azay-le-Rideau, the ramparts of Carcassonne, the Arc de Triomphe, the Villa Savoye and the Villa Cavrois are just some of the 100 national monuments entrusted to the Centre des monuments nationaux by the French State. The Centre des monuments nationaux is the leading public and cultural tourism operator in France, with near 10 million visitors per year. It conserves and opens to the public exceptional sites, whose diversity illustrates the wealth of French heritage.

Based on an adapted tariff policy, the CMN facilitates the discovery of monumental heritage for the widest possible public. With a self-financing level of more than 85%, the Centre des Monuments Nationaux's system of equalization of resources enables it to promote solidarity between different regional territories. The monuments that benefit from this system enable cultural and scientific initiatives to be conducted within the entire network of the CMN. Moreover, the CMN is currently conducting restoration projects with the aim of opening the Hôtel de la Marine to the public in June 2021 and the Château de Villers-Cotterêts by 2022.

The CMN is also asserting itself as a leader in the application of digital technology to the world of heritage. It reasserted its determination to be part of innovation through the creation of the Heritage Incubator in 2018, bringing cultural public services ever closer to different audiences' expectations.

For further information, visit the website of the Centre des monuments nationaux (CMN): www.monuments-nationaux.fr

FUNÉRAILLES DE VICTOR HUGO



A. NEURDEIN, Phot.

EXPOSITION du CORPS SOUS l'ARC de TRIOMPHE

31 Mai 1885

Funeral of Victor Hugo under the Arc de Triomphe : exhibition of the catafalque
May 31st 1885

Photo: Antonin Louis Neurdein © Paris Musées / Maisons de Victor Hugo Paris-Guernesey

ARC DE TRIOMPHE

The Arc de triomphe is located at the junction of 8th, 16th and 17th Parisian districts, on the round-about of Place de l'Étoile - Charles de Gaulle. Rallying point of 12 avenues pierced by Hausmann in the 19th century, it is located in the heart of the historic axis of western Paris from the Louvre to La Défense. The Centre des monuments nationaux is the beneficiary of the monument on behalf of the French State.

It was built upon request of Napoleon I in order to celebrate the victory of the French armies, according to plans made by the architect Jean-François-Thérèse Chalgrin. Its construction lasted 30 years, from 1806 to 1836. The Arc is 50m high, 45m long and 22m wide.

After his arrival on November 11th 1920 in the Hall of Palms of the Arc de triomphe, the Unknown Soldier was buried at the bottom of the Arc on January 28th, 1921.

Since November 11th 1923, the ceremony to rekindle the Flame of the Nation takes place daily, in memory of the French soldiers who lost their lives fighting for France. The association The Flame Committee, responsible for organizing the ceremonies, brings together some 500 memorial associations. The ceremony regularly welcomes guests, among whom the schools represent some 8,000 participants per year.

For further informations, visit the website of the Arc de triomphe:
www.paris-arc-de-triomphe.fr

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Christo (Christo Vladimirov Javacheff) was born in 1935 in Gabrovo, Bulgaria and died in 2020 in New York City, USA and Jeanne-Claude (Jeanne-Claude Marie Denat-de Guillebon) was born in 1935 in Casablanca, Morocco and died in 2009 in New York City, USA.

After studying at the Fine Arts Academy in Sofia, Christo decided to leave communist Bulgaria in 1957 and settled in Paris in 1958, attracted to the city's aura and its dynamic art scene. A few months after his arrival, he met Jeanne-Claude, the adopted daughter of French General Jacques de Guillebon. They began their collaboration in 1961 and settled in New York in 1964.

From Christo's first wrapped objects to monumental outdoor temporary projects of the artists' duo, Christo and Jeanne-Claude's artworks transcend the traditional bounds of painting, sculpture, and architecture.



Christo and Jeanne-Claude at *The Pont-Neuf Wrapped*
Paris, 1985
Photo: Wolfgang Volz © Christo and Jeanne-Claude Foundation

PRESS CONTACTS

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SOCIAL MEDIA

#ChristoParis

Christo and Jeanne-Claude

Twitter: @ChristoandJC
Instagram: @ChristoJeanneClaude
Facebook: @ChristoandJC

Centre des monuments nationaux & Arc de Triomphe

Twitter: @leCMN / @ArcdeTriomphe
Instagram: @leCMN / @arcdetriomphe_paris
Facebook: @leCMN
Youtube: www.youtube.com/c/lecmn
Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/company/centre-des-monuments-nationaux
TikTok: @le_cmn