



*I'm crazy
about botany
Rousseau*



OPEN AIR EXHIBITION
AND PROMENADE



Conservatory
& botanical gardens
City of Geneva

25 May
14 October 2012



GUIDED TOURS, WORKSHOPS, PERFORMANCE – WWW.VILLE-GE.CH/CJB



*I'm crazy
about botany
J. Rousseau*

OPEN AIR EXHIBITION AND PROMENADE

“I'm crazy about botany: it gets worse every day. I no longer have only hay in my head, I'm going to become a plant myself one of these mornings...”

Letter from Rousseau to François-Henri d'Ivernois, 1st August 1765.

Writer, philosopher and musician, Jean-Jacques Rousseau was also an enthusiastic botanist, as illustrated by this passage from a letter addressed to one of his correspondents in Geneva. It was particularly from 1765 onwards that this famous Geneva citizen manifested his growing passion for the study of the plant world.

The exhibition devoted to the “philosopher - botanist” has been devised for you as an open air presentation and promenade. Through the eleven thematic displays, you can learn more about the botanical thinking of Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

Over the course of promenade, as free as Rousseau himself would no doubt have wished it to be, his relationships with gardens, the alpine landscape, exotic botany, Genevan botanists and the practical value of plants are evoked. His training and his legacy to botanical history are also presented, as well as his writings, such as *Elementary letters on botany*.

Through two audio presentations, you can immerse yourself in Rousseau's actual texts. This immersion can be achieved by reading his works yourself, or by listening to some famous passages taken from his writings, accompanied by music.

What an amazing encounter!
Enjoy your walk and visit!

OPENING
TIME SCHEDULE
EXHIBITION

24 May at 18.00 on the esplanade of the Winter Garden
Every day from 8.00 - 19.50
Bilingual French - English
Admission free



Guided Tours Symposium

GUIDED TOURS OF THE EXHIBITION (OUTSIDE)

by Alexandra Cook, exhibition curator

Renowned specialist on Rousseau and botany, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Hong Kong.

25 May at 18.00 - 26 May at 17.00 - 27 & 28 May at 15.00

by Patrick Bungener, exhibition co-curator, research assistant at the CJB

Discover Jean-Jacques Rousseau's passion for gardens, the Alpine landscape, "exotic" botany and useful plants.

20 June at 14.00 - 24 June at 15.00 - 12 September at 14.00 - 16 September at 15.00

Information and advance reservations on +41 22 418 51 00 or by email: visites.cjb@ville-ge.ch

Meeting point: Visitor Reception Pavilion, place Albert-Thomas. Admission free

DISCUSSION ON JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU

with Alexandra Cook, Catherine Larrère, Anne Deney-Tuney and Dong Qiang

Rousseau and Nature ("the nature of Man and Man in nature")

Open debate.

23 May, Uni Bastions, 18.15, auditorium B106

Further informations at: www.unige.ch/public/manifestations/Rousseau/Entretiens.html

ROUSSEAU'S PLACE IN THE GENEVA BOTANICAL TRADITION

by Patrick Bungener, exhibition co-curator

Part of the symposium "Rousseau's Friends and Enemies" 13 - 16 June, organized by the Jean-Jacques Rousseau Society

Palais de l'Athénée, salle des abeilles. 14 June at 9.30. Admission free

Further informations at: www.sjir.ch/societe-jean-jacques-rousseau/actualites/80-lnamis-et-ennemis-de-rousseau-nr-13-au-16-juin-2012n-programme-previsionnel

ROUSSEAU'S BOTANICAL WORK TO THE PRESENT DAY

by Laurent Gautier & Mathieu Perret

Curators at the CJB.

5 June at 12.30

JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU THE BOTANIST (OUTSIDE)

by Patrick Bungener, exhibition co-curator

Research assistant at the CJB.

26 June at 12.30

Part of the *Variations botaniques* series of events, full programme available at: www.ville-ge.ch/cjb/visites_guidees.php

Information and advance reservations on +41 22 418 51 00 or by email: visites.cjb@ville-ge.ch

Meeting point: in front of the Villa Le Chêne. Admission free



Performance

ROUSSEAU, A PROMENADE

By the Théâtre du Saule Rieur

Promenading night show in the Botanical Gardens

14 August - 16 September 2012

Text
Catherine Fuchs

Director
Cyril Kaiser

Assistant director
Kim Crofts
Nicole Bachmann
Vincent Babel

Scenography
Fredy Porras

Lightning
Liliane Tondellier

Sound
Jean-Jacques Ingold

Costumes
Veronica Segovia

Make-up, hairstyling
Katrine Zingg

Actors
Vincent Babel
Nicole Bachmann
Pierandré Boo
Héloïse Chaubert
Kim Crofts
Nathalie Goussaud
Jeremy Perruchoud
Julie-Kazuko Rahir
Joël Waefler

What more beautiful setting to celebrate Rousseau and to relate his life and work than the Botanical Gardens of Geneva?

The Théâtre du Saule Rieur will take you on a sumptuous promenade in five parts under the stars. It will transport you to the vortex of a TV programme about Rousseau and the Botanical Gardens, interspersed with several historical interludes. This technique makes it possible to combine historical costume episodes and contemporary scenes. The meeting of characters from the 18th and 21st centuries will also illustrate the modernity of Rousseau's texts and their echo in our society today.

During these enchanted summer evenings, we will glimpse M^{me} de Warens, the young Jean-Jacques, M^{me} de Verdelin, Voltaire, Christophe de Beaumont and hear the voices of Julie d'Étanges, Saint-Preux and Rousseau's finest works (*Reveries, Confessions, Letters*).

The Théâtre du Saule Rieur presented a spectacle devoted to Calvin in 2009 and 2010, which was a huge success in Geneva's Old Town. This feat was repeated in 2011 by the same artists with Molière's The Misanthrope: waiting list every evening, show listed by Le Temps in the top ten for 2011, tour planned for 2013.

Rousseau, a promenade, an event not to be missed in one of the city's most beautiful settings!

Shows every evening Tuesdays to Sundays, no performance on Mondays

21.00 in August and 20.30 in September. Entrance: place Abert-Thomas (opposite the WTO)
Further details available at: www.theatredusaulerieur.ch

Booking (from 1st June): +41 (0)79 300 13 15
Service Culturel Migros, rue du Prince 7, Genève



Workshops Walks Tours

YOUNG VISITORS, SCHOOLS

THE GREEN WORKSHOPS (ATELIERS VERTS) OF THE BOTANICAL GARDENS

23 may and 6 june

30 may

13 june

20 june

Jean-Jacques Rousseau will take us to see the beehive as well as the herbaria, via the rock gardens and useful plants.

My Field Herbarium

A lot on our plate, leaf, stem, root!

Trail game in the rock gardens

the Botanical Gardens' beehive

For children 8-11 years. Cost 12.- / 15.-. Limited number of places available. Advance reservation necessary with our partner UN13, Tuesdays and Fridays 9.00 - 11.00 / +41 22 379 70 68

NEW

The Green Workshops run by the Botanical Gardens are opening their doors to the Maisons de Quartier and Centres de loisirs for the Year of Rousseau 2012. For groups of 15 children maximum who, like Jean-Jacques Rousseau, are crazy about botany.

Information and reservations: +41 22 418 51 55. For children 8-11 years, cost 12.-. Number of groups limited

MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES IN SUMMER – WORKSHOPS

A week of travelling workshops to meet professionals and to discover the collections of the City of Geneva's museums and libraries, including a day at the Botanical Gardens in the footsteps of Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

For children 8-11 years. Monday 20 - Friday 24 August, 9.00 - 16.30.

For details and reservations contact the Service des loisirs de la jeunesse: www.geneve.ch/slj

CLASS VISITS

In May, June and September, schools from Geneva and the surrounding area can discover the Rousseau exhibition "I'm crazy for botany".

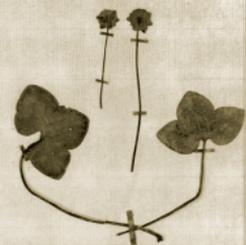
Information and reservations: +41 22 418 51 55, email: visites.cjb@ville-ge.ch mentioning "accueil de classe". Please register at least two weeks prior to the requested date. Free of charge.

EXHIBITION VISITS FOR TEACHERS

On the theme of Rousseau and botany, cultural interpreters will transmit resources and share their experiences with teachers to allow them to organise independent visits of our institution.

Wednesday 13 June and Wednesday 5 September 14.00 - 16.00.

Meeting at the Visitor Reception Pavilion (Pavillon d'accueil), place Albert-Thomas. Information and reservations on +41 22 418 51 55 or email: visites.cjb@ville-ge.ch mentioning "visite pour enseignants". Please register at least two weeks prior to the requested date. Free of charge.



Walks Cours

FOR ALL OUR VISITORS

QUITE SIMPLY ROUSSEAU!

This is a video- and audio-guided tour for the deaf and hard of hearing, blind and partially-sighted, hearing and seeing persons.

Four fundamental themes of Rousseau's thought are tackled in four emblematic places: the Museum of Art and History, the Tavel House, Rousseau Island, and the Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. Each location also offers you an experience to enjoy, in harmony! On your marks!

You can follow the tour at your own pace on one or more visits. At the CJB, in the *Touch and Smell Garden*, discover *Rousseau and the natural and authentic being*.

17 April - end 2012

Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Terre de Pregny – Touch and Smell Garden

Further information at www.rousseau2012.ch

Partners Exhibitions - Excursion Readings

"I'M GOING TO BECOME A PLANT MYSELF" ROUSSEAU THE BOTANIST

Did you know that Rousseau botanized, that he made a rich herbarium or that he communicated with the greatest naturalists of his day? In the light of original and often unpublished documents, the exhibition highlights the literary and scientific as well as the social and educational dimensions of Rousseau the botanist.

12 May - 30 September 2012 – NEUCHÂTEL BOTANICAL GARDENS

ROUSSEAU FROM THE LETTER TO THE FLOWER

Why not take Jean-Jacques Rousseau literally when he presents botany as an observational study, as an outdoor activity? In various plots of a thematic garden, the plants themselves illustrate Rousseau's botanical activities.

12 May - 7 October 2012 – NEUCHÂTEL BOTANICAL GARDENS



Partners Exhibitions - Excursion Readings

SPOTLIGHT ON NATURE: IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ROUSSEAU IN THE NEUCHÂTEL REGION

What nature did Jean-Jacques Rousseau actually observe during his two stays in the principality of Neuchâtel? This exhibition invites you to explore certain leads based on descriptions given by the philosopher of the different sites he visited.

13 May - 24 June 2012 – NEUCHÂTEL BOTANICAL GARDENS – Infos: www.rousseau300.ch

ROUSSEAU AND THE GENEVA SCHOLARS

What was Jean-Jacques Rousseau's relationship with the sciences? We can surmise the complexity of this connection through his virulent Discourse on the Arts and Sciences, while he himself practised certain scientific disciplines. Was this ambivalence linked to his Genevan upbringing? These considerations provide an opportunity to reflect on the scientific milieu of his native city and on its development and structure at the end of the 17th century and the beginning of the 19th century.

4 June - 30 September 2012 – HISTORY OF SCIENCE MUSEUM – Infos: www.ville-ge.ch/mhs/

"AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE BOTANIST" – BOTANICAL EXCURSION

The Aubonne Valley National Arboretum is organising a one-day excursion to the Neuchâtel region.

Led by Rousseau specialists and botanists, the excursion will travel to St. Peter's Island on Lake Biel/Bienne and the village of Môtiers in the Val de Travers. The day will end with a visit to the Rousseau exhibition at the Neuchâtel Natural History Museum.

Saturday 2 June - Infos: creymond@arboretum.ch & www.arboretum.ch

READINGS

The Arboretum invites Jean-Jacques Rousseau to the Aubonne Valley for two readings of extracts from his *Letters on the Elements of Botany*. A botanist will discuss plants similar to common species identified on St. Peter's Island.

Sundays 17 & 24 June at 14.00 - AUBONNE VALLEY NATIONAL ARBORETUM
Infos: www.arboretum.ch

AAJB

The Association of Friends of the Botanical Gardens celebrates its 30th anniversary!

View the programme of activities at www.aajb-ge.ch



Credits

Director of the Conservatory and Botanical Gardens (CJB) Pierre-André Loizeau

Curator Alexandra Cook,
Philosophy Department, University of Hong-Kong

Co-curator Patrick Bungener, CJB

Project director Didier Roguet, CJB

Steering committee Danièle Fischer Huelin, Nicolas Freyre, Patrick Perret,
Pascale Steinmann, Magali Stitelmann, Gisèle Visinand, CJB

Graphic designer Matthieu Berthod, CJB

CJB collaborators Paola Adoboli, Christelle Bacquet, Agnès Bourqui,
Céline Buchschacher, Véronique Compagnon, Enrico Corbetta, Gregor Dalliard, Patrick Dubacher, Sylvie Dunant, Cédric Fawer, Alexi Franch, Nicolas Fumeaux, Fabrice Golay, Patricia Lepori, Françoise Junod-Ochsner, Pierre Mattille,
Jean-Pierre Morier, Christian Nasel, Michelle Price, Macarena Ramos-Lopez, Bernard Renaud, Jean-Marie Robert-Nicoud, Angela Wangeler, Audrey Wyss, Esther Zwanger and the gardeners staff.

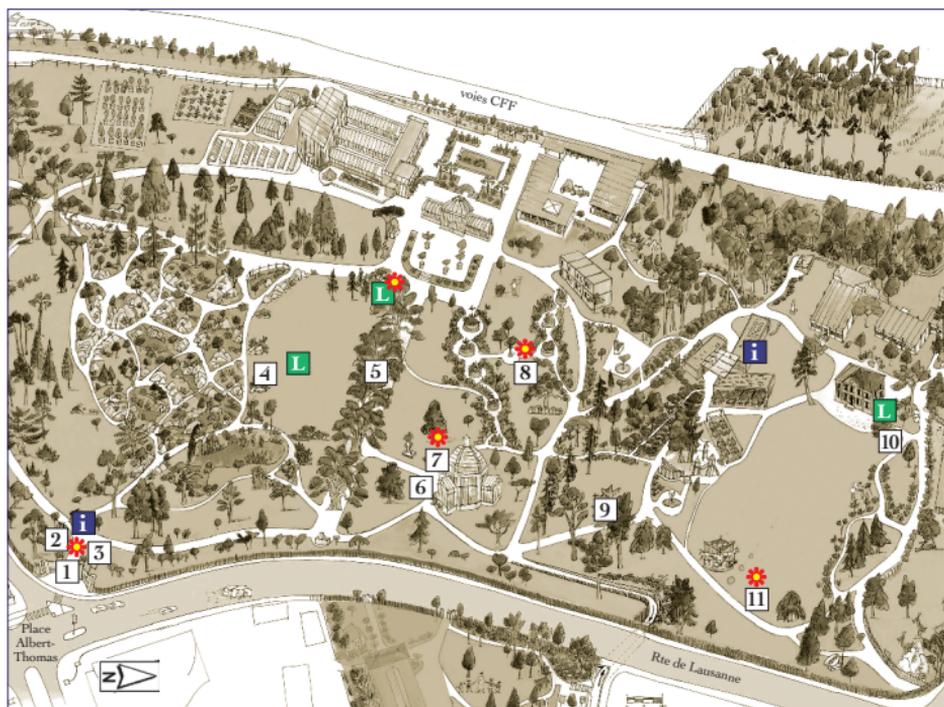
External collaborators Gilles Attinger (Hauterive, Switzerland), Jean-Pierre Babelon (Institut de France, Paris), Jacques Bungener (Geneva), Gérard Fabre (Ziem Museum, Martigues, France), Christine Falcombello Hildebrand (Geneva Iconographic Collection, BGE), Eric Fauchère (actor, soundtracks), Laurence Feo-Robin (J. J. Rousseau Museum, Montmorency, France), Paul Kristof (Music Library of Vieuxseux, City of Geneva), Béatrice Mawjee (Cultural Service /Musical Art, City of Geneva), Nicolas Neumann (Somogy Editions, Paris), Maryse Schmidt-Surdez (Public and University Library of Neuchâtel), Geetu Vaswani, Rinske Kuiper, Kenneth Yung Kai Chung (University of Hong-Kong).

The curator Dr Alexandra Cook and her team on this exhibit were partially supported by a grant from the Research Grants Council of the Hong-Kong Special Administrative Region, China (Project No. HKU 743711H), by a Small Project Funding research grant (Project No. 201007176310) from the University of Hong-Kong and by the HKU SPACE Research Fund.

Partners Saule Rieur Theater, The Aubonne Valley National Arboretum, Natural History Museum of Neuchâtel, Botanical Garden of Neuchâtel, Association of Friends of the Geneva Botanical Garden, History of Science Museum of Geneva.



Further informations



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| 1 <i>«I'm crazy about botany»</i> | 6 <i>Genevan friends and enemies of Jean-Jacques</i> | 10 <i>Lake view</i> |
| 2 <i>Jean-Jacques and the gardens</i> | 7 <i>Jean-Jacques confronts exotic botany</i> | 11 <i>Botanical leg of Jean-Jacques to posterity</i> |
| 3 <i>Botany by the letters: The "Elementary letters on botany"</i> | 8 <i>Jean-Jacques and the utility of plants for human beings</i> | L <i>Readings</i> |
| 4 <i>Jean-Jacques and the Mountains</i> | 9 <i>Jean-Jacques and his tutors in botany</i> | i <i>Information</i> |
| 5 <i>Jean-Jacques and his main steps in botany</i> | | 🌸 <i>Clumps</i> |

TIME SCHEDULES

THE GARDENS are open in summer: 8.00 - 19.30

THE RECEPTION is open Monday - Friday 8.00 - 12.00 and 13.00 - 16.45
Tel: +41 22 418 51 00, fax: +41 22 418 51 01, Villa le Chêne

THE VISITOR RECEPTION PAVILION is open Saturdays 14.00 - 18.00
and Sundays 12.00 - 18.00

Main entrance to the Botanical Gardens, place Albert-Thomas (opposite the WTO)

THE BOTANIC SHOP is open 10.30 - 12.00 and 13.00 - 18.30 every day
Tel: +41 22 418 51 14, Villa le Chêne

THE GREENHOUSES are open every day 9.30 - 16.30

HOW TO GET HERE

Bus 1, 11, 28 terminus "Jardin botanique"
Tram 13, 15, "Sismondi" or "Nations" stop
From Cornavin station: regional trains "Sécheron" stop