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AVEYRON, FRANCE – Built a thousand years ago on a gigantic rock, this magnificent fortress rises above one of the most beautiful villages in the Aveyron region of France. A self-guided tour, rich with historical information, leads visitors over the moat and throughout the castle and its grounds. This private chateau, with its lush courtyards, medieval chapels, prison and superb views opened to the public in 2006. Fernand Pouillon (1912-1986), renowned visionary and humanist architect, devoted himself completely to the restoration of [Château Belcastel](#) after he discovered it in ruins in 1973. Now, what was once the private residence of Fernand Pouillon offers itself as an architectural gem, a historical landmark, and a living tribute to the late architect. Today, Château Belcastel stands as a successful collaboration between the future and the past where [The Heritage of Fernand Pouillon Association](#) carries forward the legacy of the great French architect.

APRIL 3 - NOVEMBER 8, 2020: FUTUR COMPOSÉ

**Futur
composé
2020**

A multi-faceted event and exhibition exploring the life and heritage of Fernand Pouillon, an architect who made extraordinary contributions both personally and professionally, in spite of being victimized by a sulphurous reputation.

Organized by the Association “L’Heritage de Fernand Pouillon” and [AFA Gallery](#), the project is supported by the [Aveyron Department](#), the Occitanie Région with the [Ministry of Culture](#), [The Village of Belcastel](#), and various corporate sponsors. An immersive experience throughout the chateau consisting of audio recordings, film, artifacts and contemporary artwork will reveal an intimate portrayal of the man and his legacy.

Within [Chateau Belcastel](#), the historic monument that was the home of Fernand Pouillon in the Aveyron region of France, different components of the exhibition, all imbued with the same spirit of Fernand Pouillon’s work will create synergy that pushes beyond established boundaries of history and tradition and, by looking to the past for inspiration, imagine new possibilities for the future.

CHÂTEAU + VILLAGE OF BELCASTEL HOMAGE TO FERNAND POUILLON

FUTUR COMPOSÉ answers the question, who really was this man, Fernand Pouillon, who lived in the limelight, forging a life that impacted generations of people in so many places? Certainly, he was an important architect with a passion for stone who made major contributions in the 20th century, and also a celebrity who rubbed elbows with many important people of the world. And yet here, too, was a man thrown to the dogs, a contemporary martyr, slandered and insulted by public opinion in a baseless scandal. Voices from the past reveal an astonishing story...

What distinguishes Fernand Pouillon from his peers is that he was a humanist architect who held the belief that housing should be accessible to all.

“.. I have always placed the architectural work at the service of the man, the social spirit and the economy.”

-Fernand Pouillon

At the [Chateau of Belcastel](#), the steps of the architect still resonate. The fortress is rich with the spirit of Pouillon because the monumental restoration that he resurrected from a ruin was a work of epic love. The castle stands today as the realization of his life's dream. Fernand Pouillon passed away in his chateau in 1986, and today rests below it, behind the chapel of Belcastel.

Now, looking to the past through the eyes of Fernand Pouillon we can discover solutions for public housing challenges that exist today. Through the grace of one man's vision, we have evidence before our eyes that can provide solutions for tomorrow's overcrowded world.

EXHIBITION STÉPHANE COUTURIER:

French contemporary artist Stéphane Couturier will create a body of work that will occupy one 25-meter high face of the chateau's dungeon as well as an exhibition of film and photographs in the principal gallery. In a singular relationship, the Artist was inspired to use the forms of Pouillon's projects to create something unique for the contemporary art world.

“In 2011, when I first set foot in Algeria, I was shocked by the visual complexity of this unique country, and astonished at the housing projects built by Fernand Pouillon. After immersing myself for nearly six years to explore and photograph the structures and their colorful embellishments, my understanding was quite like a kaleidoscopic vision of the Climate of France and the model Algerian cities where Pouillon built humanist communities. By exploring the different photographs and videos, each spectator has the opportunity to return some moments of these places which Fernand Pouillon said “For the first time perhaps in modern times, human beings were installed in a monument. And those people who were the most poor people in poor Algeria understood it.”

- Stéphane Couturier

On the evening of June 25th a Vernissage will be held at Chateau Belcastel with Stephané Couturier as a guest of honor.

FILM

The 11th century cistern will feature a film of 52 minutes in which his former colleagues and employees, in particular, testify with great emotion to the one they called “the boss.” The film, “Inhabited Architecture” was directed and produced by Marie Claire Rubinstein.

AUDIO

Presented in the gallery of the prison, “The Pouillon Scandal”: visitors will be immersed in the sensational trial through headlines of the time, through original archived interviews and documents. Visitors will have the opportunity to experience first hand the historic trial of Fernand Pouillon and the pandemonium that ensued and enthralled a nation. The outrageous conviction and incredible story that unfolds reveals the intimate life of the insulted man in the face of loneliness, and the prisoner who escaped before being elevated to the rank of Officer of the Legion of Honor.

ORATORIO

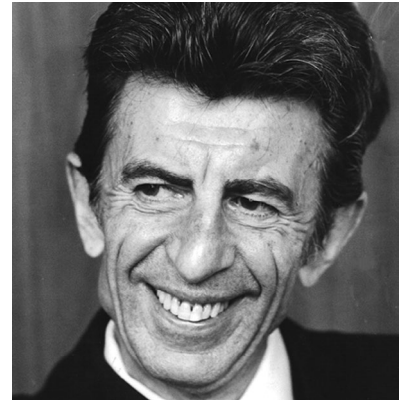
Fernand Pouillon's award winning novel, *The Savage Stones* will be performed and conducted as an oratorio in collaboration with Sylvanès Abbey, Michel Volowitsky, and Jean-Pierre Pottier, the former Regional Director of Cultural Affairs in Poitou-Charente. The production will be staged through a festival in Cistercian Abbeys throughout numerous regions—Sylvanes, Conques, Loc-Dieu, Le Thoronet, (Provance), and St Guilhem Le Desert, (Hérault).

Excerpt from Fernand Pouillon's novel, *The Savage Stones*:

"I was transposing my character as it might have been in a great architectural epoch. This book sketched in prison was going to become my daily struggle. I Thank the day I struggled with words, the construction of sentences, I found emotions that had exalted and supported my existence as a builder, and I invented a plot that often made me cry."

- MEMOIRS OF AN ARCHITECT (page 439)

THE FERNAND POUILLON HERITAGE ASSOCIATION



[The Fernand Pouillon Heritage Association](#) was established on March 30th, 2017 in Belcastel by family, friends, and colleagues of the celebrated architect. The honorary president is the grandson of Fernand Pouillon, Jonathan Pouillon-Kugel. The mission of the Association is to honor the life and legacy of Fernand Pouillon by engaging and inspiring a new generation of creatives through projects and exhibitions that will celebrate the intersection of art and architecture. The Château of Belcastel in the Aveyron region of France was the home of the late, great, architect, after he completely restored the historic monument. Fernand Pouillon helped to restore the village below, which has since been classified as one of France's "Most Beautiful Villages."

Futur Composé is the first project organized by the Association, and will continue to support the legacy of Fernand Pouillon by looking to the future through his vision in the past. For more information about The Heritage, contact Roger FABRY at info@fernandpouillonheritage.org.

2020 VISITOR INFORMATION

3 April – 8 November: Château open

Open all holidays & feast days

High Season: 15 June - 15 September

High Season Hours: Daily 10AM - 7PM

Low Season: 3 April - 14 June & 16 September - 7 November

Low Season Hours: Daily 10AM- 6PM; Closed 1-2PM.

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