

# Musée des automates



Situated in Saint Georges, Guignol's area...  
In the Vieux-Lyon, UNESCO's World Heritage

250 automatons to discover  
7 rooms, 20 animated scenes  
A playful and instructive visit

100 rue St Georges - 69005 LYON - FRANCE

# PRESENTATION OF THE SCENES SHOWN IN THE MUSEUM

## ROOM N°1 - ENTRANCE

Discover how we make our automatic puppets, and learn about the story of the museum.

### THE CIRCUS :

Presented in the setting of a big top of circus, the white clown takes photos, the tamer leads a bear, the magician tries to make a parrot disappear, an artist is performing on the trapeze, and the equilibrists and jugglers move, watched by three monkeys. There is even a tiny bear trying to escape without success...



## ROOM N°2

### GUIGNOL MOVING OUT :

Homage to Laurent MOURGUET (1769-1844). Great Lyonnaise creator of a glove puppet looking just like him : Guignol. His friend Gnafron, his wife Madelon and the policeman are common characters of his wonderful theatre. The scene takes place in the genuine Vieux - Lyon. This is a very sensible play !



### FARM LABOUR :

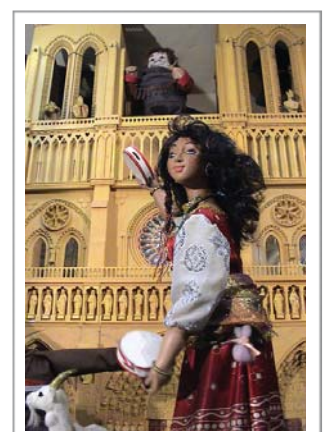
Tribute to the painter Jean-François MILLET (1814-1875) who knew so perfectly how to express the hard work of our farmers. The background paintings are the exact copies of Millet's masterpieces, for we have only animated the characters. We can see the farmers of that period working hard : The ploughman, the sower, the man digging with his hoe, the mowers, the threshers with their flail, the gleaners. Today, because of the agricultural industrialization, farmers do not work that way anymore. In fact, this scene allows us to relate in a most explicit way the story of a grain of corn, and how countrymen used to live.



## ROOM N°3

### NOTRE-DAME DE PARIS :

Homage to Victor HUGO (1802-1885) for his famous novel. The setting of that beautiful love story between Quasimodo, the bellringer, Esmeralda the gipsy dancer, Captain Phoebus and Frollo the archdeacon is the Cathedral. The story takes place at the end of the Middle Ages, on January, 6th, 1482, which is the day of the "Festival of Fools" when Quasimodo is sacred "King of Fools" for making the ugliest face! We can also see Gringoire, the poet, Clopin and his Court of Miracles, Jehan Frollo and the schoolboys, merchants and people from the Middles-Ages. Did you notice that Quasimodo is the only puppet in the museum with eyes moving... ?



## ROOM N°4

### PROVENCIAL VILLAGE :

The game of cards by Marcel Pagnol : At the «bar de la Marine», César, Maître Panisse, Capitaine Escartefigue and Mr Brun the lyonnaise play cards one at a time "If we cannot cheat with friends anymore, what's the point in playing!" - wrote Marcel Pagnol

On the village square, we can meet the priest, and the Arlésienne, characters from the «Lettres de mon moulin» written by Alphonse Daudet. We can see Mr Seguin's goat, watched by the wolf, behind Maître Cornille's mill.



## ROOM N°5

### LYON AND THE SILK :

TRIBUTE to Joseph-Marie JACQUARD (Lyon 1752 - Oullins 1834) : Mechanic and inventor in 1800 of the first automatic device for the weaving loom.

We walk by the Place des Terreaux and start going up the "grande- côte de la Croix Rousse", passing by the working people of Lyon , a manufacturer, the foreman, the grocer, the milkwoman, the laundry woman, the "borriau" (apprentice in Lyonnese language). At mid-coast, let's take a "traboule", and get inside a weaving shed to share a moment of the silk worker's family life.



## ROOM N°6

### PETER PAN :

Peter Pan and Tinker Bell in Never Land with Wendy and her brothers, John and Michael, and Captain Hook followed by the crocodile. James Matthew Barrie, a writer from Scotland (1860-1937) has written this play in 1904 and the novel in 1911.



### PINOCCHIO :

Homage to the small puppet made of wood and born in Geppetto's workshop. Pinocchio's nose elongates when he tells a lie. This work was written by the italian writer Collodi between 1881 and 1883.



### ZORRO :

Character created in 1919 by the American writer Johnston McCulley in the novel "the Curse of Capistrano". It has inspired the famous TV show produced by Walt Disney Pictures between 1957 and 1961, staging, in the 19th century, in the Spanish California, a man dressed in black and wearing a mask, fighting injustice under the name of Zorro.



## **20 000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA :**

Tribute to Jules Verne (1828-1905) and to its novel written in 1870. On board of the submarine Nautilus navigated by the famous captain Nemo, professor Aronnax, his faithful domestic Conseil, and Ned Land, the harpooner, will spend 10 months to sail the oceans of the planet, and discover some mysterious marine world. We can see Jules Verne in his office, sketching the Nautilus. The rest of the scene is dedicated to the famous submarine : it's big living-room fitted out with portholes behind which there are divers, a spider crab and a giant octopus, and also the engine room...



## **THE MAGIC FLUTE:**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) is playing the harpsichord accompanied by his orchestra of violinists, cellist, flute player and which is lead by the conductor. The scene in the background represents one of the most famous work of Mozart : "The Magic Flute" . This fairy opera was composed in 1791, the year he died.



## **ROOM N°7**

### **TRADITIONAL WINE HARVEST IN BEAUJOLAIS :**

The heavy baskets are carried on man's back towards the ox-driven cart lead by the cowman. The wine press ancestor is the feet crushing of grapes ! In the end, the wine growers can finally taste the "Paradis".



### **GARGANTUA :**

A tribute to François RABELAIS (1483-1553), writer of the Renaissance period. His motto : "Laughter is man's special gift". Gargantua, jolly giant, hero of that glorious tale, is accompanied by Ponocrates, his teacher. The scene takes place in the Thélème Abbey with the Hespérie Tower and its gardens, the Tailor's House and the fabulous kitchen where cooks and kitchen boys bustle about in order to make Gargantua's gigantic feast.



**Don't forget to look for our 7 shop-windows outside the museum...**

**At number 61, 100 and 98 rue St-Georges.**

**Press the buttons next to the shop-windows to make the automatic puppets move !**

This explanation paper is also available in french, spanish, italian, and dutch, and for people with mental or visual handicap. Do not hesitate to ask for them.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

**Address :** 100 rue St Georges - BP 5015  
69245 LYON CEDEX 05 - FRANCE

**Contact us :** Tel : 04.72.77.75.28  
Fax : 04.72.77.75.21  
www.museeautomates.com  
contact@museeautomates.com

**Opening time :** 2.00 pm - 6.00 pm, every day of the year (except on May 1st and December 25th)  
The ticket office closes at 5.15 pm  
For groups, another schedule can be arranged on demand

**Tickets cost :**

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Groups</u> (10 persons minimum)
Adults : 7,50 €	Adults : 6 €
Students & children : 5,50 €	Students & children : 4,50 €
Free for children under 3	

**Visits :** Average time for a visit : one hour  
Guided tour in french or english on demand  
Booking is necessary for groups only

**Payment :** Cheque, card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express...), cash  
Lyon City Card

**Our shop :** We sell music boxes, animated figures, Santa Claus, puppets...  
Schedule of the shop : Monday to Sunday 2.00pm - 6pm

**Automaton :** We sell and rent our automatons. Contact us for mor information.  
Creation of automatons or animated scene on demand.

**Approaches to the museum :** **Underground** : Ligne D - Station «Vieux-Lyon»  
**TCL Bus** : N° C20, C20E, 31 - Stop «St Georges»  
**Parking** : Parc St Georges - Quai Fulchiron  
The museum is near number 25 quai Fulchiron, very close by the garden  
**Tourist Bus** : Stop and park available 24 Quai Fulchiron



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The Museum is adapted for disabled people in wheelchair accompanied