

April 9th, 1917 began the Battle of ARRAS...



PROGRAMME
Date with

HISTORY

COMMEMORATIONS, EXHIBITIONS, SOUND AND LIGHT, PARADES, SHOWS...



**WW100
SCOTLAND**
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM ALL THIS?

Canada



hauts-
de-france

Pas-de-Calais
Le Département



**EXPLORE
ARRAS**
PAR STADES ET PAR VOIES

**ARRAS
14-18**
LE CENTENAIRE





A rendezvous with our History

1914-1918... Two dates that will forever mark the history of the twentieth century, of Europe and of our country. Pitting Germany and its allies against the Triple Entente nations (France, Russia, the United Kingdom and Commonwealth nations), for five long years, the First World War reached a hitherto unimagined scale, intensity and ferocity.

As the economic and commercial capital of the Artois region, Arras was not spared by this human madness. Over 80% destroyed, it suffered inordinately during the conflict, thus joining the ranks of Verdun, Reims and Soissons as one of the martyred towns of that War. Arras and its population emerged from it, with courage, solidarity and hope. On 9 April 2017, we will be commemorating the Centenary of the Battle of Arras. It will be an opportunity for us to pay tribute to the men and women from all walks of life, heroes of the 14-18 War, who came to fight not only in Arras but also the entire length of a front stretching from Vimy in the north to Bullecourt in the south. British, Canadians, New Zealanders, Australians, Indians, South Africans... In 1917, people from the world over congregated to defend freedom on our soil - from Arras to Vimy, from Bullecourt to Monchy-le-Preux.

100 years later, Arras has a rendezvous with its History.

Frédéric LETURQUE

Mayor of Arras
Vice-President of the Urban Community of Arras
Regional Councillor

The Battle of Arras

Launched on 9 April 1917 at 05:30 hours (English time), the Battle of Arras has gone down in history as the greatest surprise attack to be launched during the First World War.

Arras became a pivotal point on a battlefield stretching a full 20 kilometres, from Vimy Ridge to the Bullecourt sector, on which a concentration of British troops were amassed: among them English, Scottish, Irish, Canadians, Australians... and 450 New Zealand tunnellers. In preparation for the assault, the New Zealanders created a remarkable 20-kilometre network of underground tunnels which are commemorated today by the Wellington Tunnels. At the culmination of 39 days of battle, which had ground to a stalemate, British Empire losses stood at 150,000. The Battle of Arras is a key episode in the history of every one of the nations involved.

In 2017, Arras is honouring cultures from all over the world on the occasion of the commemoration of this Centenary.

Find the full programme at arras1418.com



Illustration
Crédit : Holdings of the Arras Tourist Office

Town trail

18 March to 16 May

EYES OF THE BATTLE OF ARRAS

Along a trail running from the Place Foch to Saint-Vaast Abbey, this photographic exhibition presents 120 faces of soldiers who served in the Battle of Arras. It offers the chance to come face to face with the men and women who came from across the world, and to be drawn into their life stories. For a more in-depth discovery, visit the dedicated website by flashing the QR codes on the panels.

> Town Centre

Free exhibition

Information : Arras Tourist Office

on +33 (0)3 21 51 26 95



Illustration
Crédit : Media Library collection

Open-air exhibition

18 March to 11 June

1917 : SAINT-VAAST ABBEY

Organised by the Media Library, this exhibition is installed on the gates leading into Saint-Vaast Abbey : Rue Méaulens, Rue Albert 1^{er} de Belgique, and Rue Doumer.

Comprising photographs and eye-witness accounts, it gives an account - or a reminder - of the role played by the Abbey (Palace and Cathedral) during the First World War, a description of the lives of the Allied troops quartered in these buildings, an account of its destruction and the preservation of the collections saved from the ruins.

> Saint-Vaast Abbey Media Library

Free exhibition

Information : Saint-Vaast Abbey Media Library

on +33 (0)3 21 71 62 91



Illustration
Crédit : Media Library collection

Visit/Exhibition

18 March to 11 June

[RE]TRENCHES

An extension of the exhibition « *Witnesses. Our Battlefields as seen by the Canadians* » hosted by the Museum of Fine Arts, a trench reconstruction will be installed in the courtyard.

This reconstruction has been created by students of the Jacques Le Caron high school. Laid out in the centre of the courtyard, this trench will offer visitors an immersive experience and prepare them for their visit of the Canadian exhibition.

> **Arras Museum of Fine Arts**
Free exhibition

Information : Event Organisation Office
on +33 (0)3 21 50 69 05



Illustration : A. Y. JACKSON, RIAUMONT, 1918
Credit : © Beaverbrook Collection of War Art, Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, Ontario, 19710261-0173 Beaverbrook Collection of War Art, Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, Ontario, 19710261-0173

Exhibition

18 March to 11 June

WITNESS - FIELDS OF BATTLE THROUGH CANADIEN EYES

For three months, the Museum of Fine Arts will host the exhibition *Witness - Fields of battle through Canadian eyes*, on loan from the Canadian War Museum.

The large majority of the works come from the Beaverbrook Collection, one of the world's biggest collections of military art. This exhibition will present the works of famous Canadian artists such as A.Y. JACKSON, Arthur LISMER, Frederick VARLEY and Franz JOHNSTON, and also works by soldiers in the conflict who were serving in Artois in 1917.

> **Arras Museum of Fine Arts**
Free exhibition

Information : Arras Museum of Fine Arts
on +33 (0)3 21 71 26 43



Canada

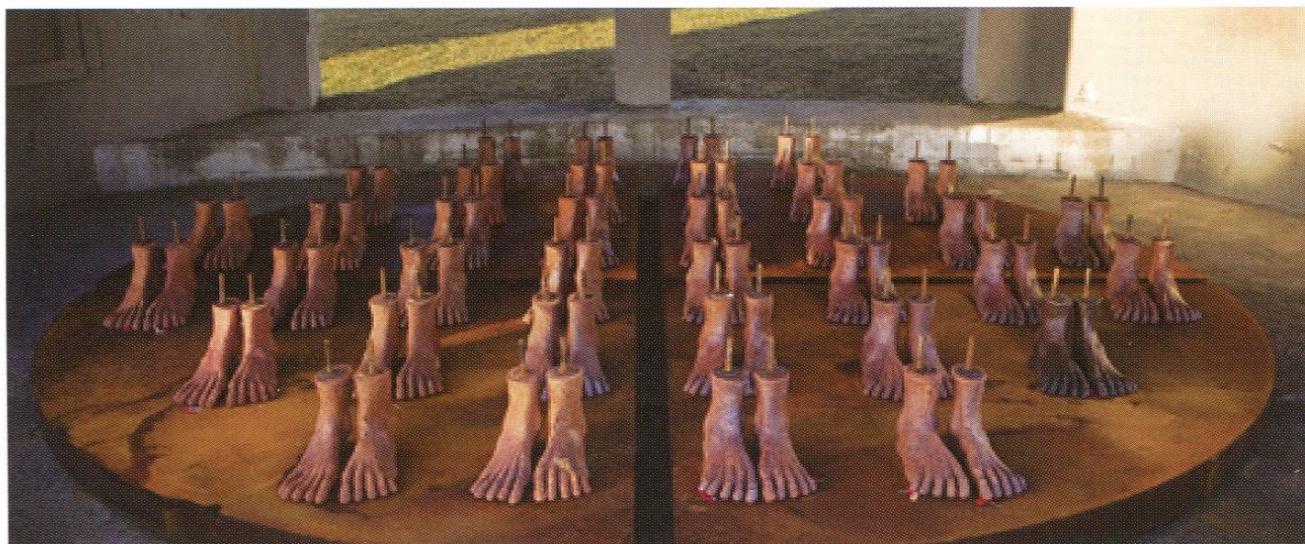


Illustration from the exhibition « Poppy of Peace - Victory Medal »
Photo credit : Helen POLLOCK

Participatory exhibition

2 to 12 April

POPPY OF PEACE – VICTORY MEDAL

The Place des Héros will host the work of New Zealand sculptor, Helen POLLOCK, honouring her New Zealand forbears who saw service in the region during the First World War.

This work will constitute the centre of what will evolve into a giant poppy.

Developed from the original idea by Tony McNeight, the New Zealand artist behind this performance, visitors and local people are invited to visit this participatory work, to reflect and to add their own red disc around the edges of this creation, in the presence of the artist.

Date and times for placing red discs :

2 April : 11.00am to 6.00pm

3 and 4 April : noon – 7.00pm

5, 6 and 7 April : noon – 9.00pm

8 April : 2.00pm – 9.00pm

> **Place des Héros**

Information : Event Organisation Office
on +33 (0)3 21 50 69 05

Sound & Light

5 to 12 April

THREE SECONDS OF LIGHT

Come and experience an unforgettable odyssey of sound and light, which will take you on an exploration of Canada's military history and its close links to the town of Arras. Combining digital technology with historical architecture, the show is projected onto the walls of the buildings on the Place des Héros.

> **9.00pm, Place des Héros**
Open access



Flower in the barrel of a gun
Crédit : Frédéric DE ROUGEMONT

Concert

7 April

MILITARY CONCERT

The Band of the Canadian Armed Forces will join its friends and comrades from the Infantry Band of France for a concert organised to highlight 100 years of friendship and shared history between the French, the Canadian Armed Forces and the Town of Arras.

> 8.00pm, Place des Héros
Open access

Theatre

8 April

Canceled

FLOWER IN THE BARREL OF A GUN

François BOURCIER delivers a profound and sensitive interpretation of *La Fleur au Fusil*. Written on the basis of real-life accounts from 14-18, the play touches on the subject of post-traumatic stress disorder, a long unspoken affliction.

> 8.30pm, at Arras Casino

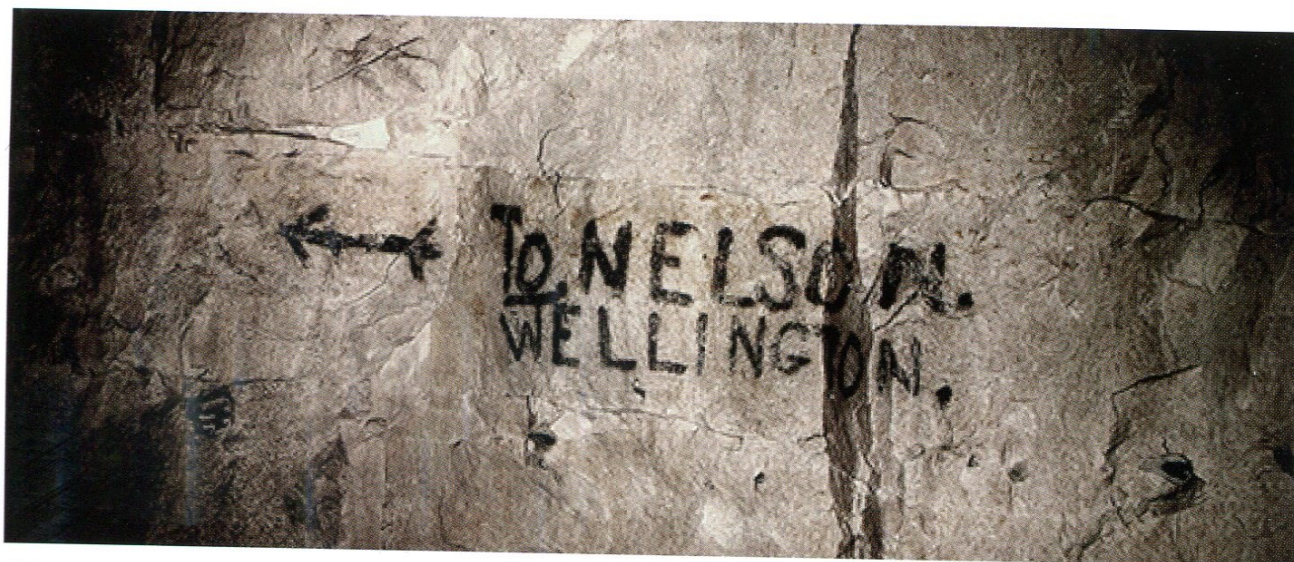
Single admission : €14/€10

No seat reservation

Online ticket office: casino-pharos.tickeasy.com
(+ €0.80 per ticket)

Information and facilities for those with reduced mobility on +33 (0)3 21 16 89 00

📍 CasinoArras



*Kiwis underground
Photo crédit : Brett KILLINGTON*

Ceremony

8 April

INTER-RELIGIOUS CEREMONY

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Arras, this ceremony will honour the men of all faiths who fell during the First World War.

> 6.00pm, Saint-Vaast Cathedral

Ceremony open to all

Exhibition

8 April to 8 June

KIWIS UNDERGROUND

A native of New Zealand, Brett KILLINGTON has dedicated several years to undertaking a documentary project on the underground galleries of Arras. With the support of the municipal Archaeology Department and the Wellington Tunnels, the photographer has explored miles of tunnels in the limestone underground quarries, developed by the New Zealand tunnellers during the First World War. Of this exploration has been born the photographic exhibition « Kiwis Underground » in which Brett takes you into the entrails of the earth where time came to a standstill 100 years ago.

> Arras Museum of Fine Arts

Free exhibition

*Information : Arras Museum of Fine Arts
on +33 (0)3 21 71 26 43*



Photo credit : Cituation et ensemble

Commemoration

9 April

100 YEARS SINCE THE BATTLE OF ARRAS

The Dawn Ceremony :

On 9 April 1917, at 05:30 hours (English time) the Battle of Arras was unleashed. Thousands of soldiers stormed a front stretching 20 kilometres from Vimy to Bullecourt.

9 April 2017, at 06:30 (French time), an international commemorative ceremony is to be held in front of the memorial wall at Wellington Tunnels, in tribute to all the combatant nations participating in the Battle of Arras.

> 6.30am, Wellington Tunnels rue Arthur Delétoille

Access only via the Avenue Lobbedez

Arrival 30 minutes beforehand is recommended

Ceremony open to all

Information on +33 (0)3 21 51 26 95

www.carrierewellington.com

Exhibition

Starting on 9 April

THE EARTH REMEMBERS

At the foot of the memorial wall, this monumental bronze sculpture, designed by New Zealand artist, Marian Fountain, represents a cross section of the Arras underground quarries, dug out by the silhouette of a tunneller. This immersive piece pays tribute to the involvement of the New Zealand Tunnelling Company in Arras' underground quarries during World War I.

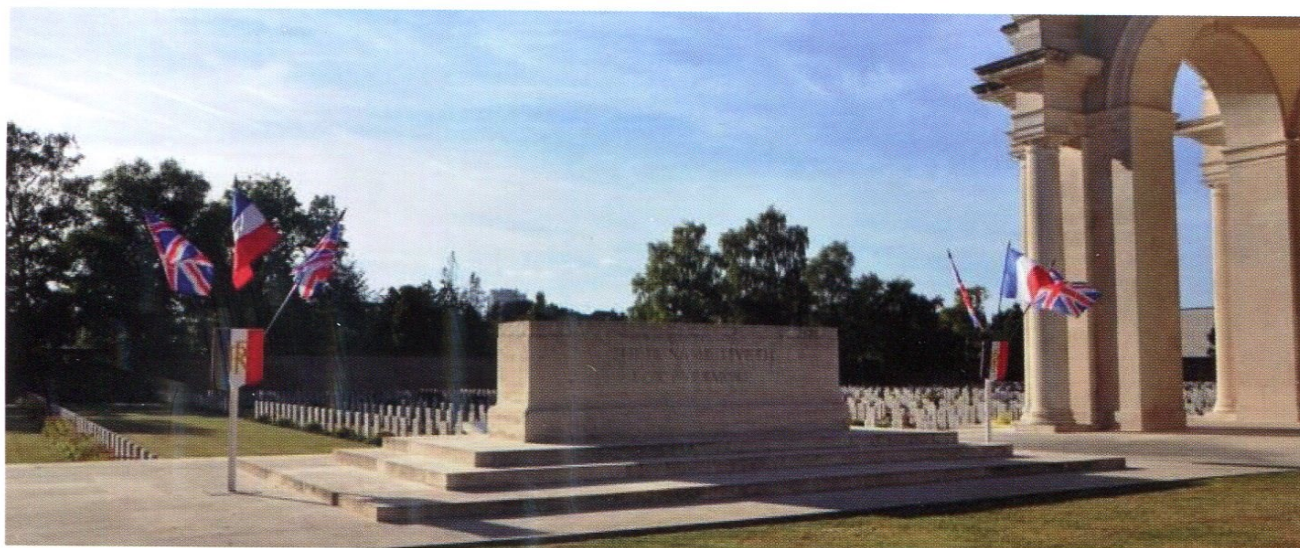
> Daily, 10.00am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 6.00pm,

Wellington Tunnels, rue Arthur Delétoille

Free admission

Information on +33 (0)3 21 51 26 95

www.carrierewellington.com



Scottish commemoration at the Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery, Arras Memorial
Photo credit : WW1 SCOTLAND

Exhibition

Starting on 9 April

MEMORIAL DEDICATED TO THE MEN OF THE NEW ZEALAND TUNNELLING COMPANY

A tribute to the unique work and expertise of these tunnellers, who came from the antipodes, this mosaic of portraits offers a chance for today's visitors to truly connect with these men, who left an indelible mark on the history of Arras. Their voices can still be heard through the letters and eye witness accounts that are played in the background.

> **Daily, 10.00am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 6.00pm,**
Wellington Tunnels, rue Arthur Delétoille
Free admission

Information on +33 (0)3 21 51 26 95
www.carrierewellington.com

Commemoration

9 April

WW100
SCOTLAND

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM ALL THIS?

SCOTTISH COMMEMORATION AT THE CWGC ARRAS MEMORIAL AND FAUBOURG D'AMIENS CEMETERY

This Scottish commemoration will be held in the presence of the Right Reverend Dr. Russell BARR, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Come and join 100 school pupils and representatives of the Scottish local authorities for this ceremony paying tribute to the 44 Scottish battalions and 7 Scottish Canadian battalions who fought in the Battle of Arras.

> **At 9.30am, at the CWGC Arras Memorial
and Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery**
Boulevard du Général de Gaulle, 62000 Arras
Ceremony open to all



Official ceremony

9 April

UNVEILING OF THE POPPY OF PEACE

Witness the laying of the last discs around the poppy reconstructed on the Place des Héros. In the presence of officials and representatives of several nations, share in this solemn moment of tribute to all those who fell during the Battle of Arras.

> 11.00am, Place des Héros
Ceremony open to all

*Information : Event Organisation Office
on +33 (0)3 21 50 69 05*

Vimy commemoration

9 April

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF VIMY RIDGE - COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY AT THE CANADIAN NATIONAL VIMY MEMORIAL

The Government of Canada is organising a ceremony to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

The ceremony will pay tribute to the sacrifices and accomplishments of all those who fought during that battle in 1917. It will highlight the importance of passing on remembrance to today's young people.

The ceremony will offer an artistic interpretation of Canada's commitment during the First World War, with the participation of well-known actors and musicians and in the presence of numerous representatives of the Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and thousands of young Canadians.

Visit the official website : canada.ca/vimy-100



Beating Retreat and the Sunset Ceremony – Cérémonie du coucher du soleil
Photo credit : WW1 SCOTLAND

Commemoration

9 April

WW100
SCOTLAND
WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM ALL THIS?

BEATING RETREAT AND THE SUNSET CEREMONY – CÉRÉMONIE DU COUCHER DU SOLEIL

The musicians of the Royal Regiment of Scotland, accompanied by bagpipers and drummers of the 3rd Battalion, the Royal Regiment, will share with us a Scottish parade called the Beating Retreat Ceremony.

Traditionally, this ceremony marked the end of days of fighting or the end of a battle. It is presented by WW100 Scotland for the people of Arras and its visitors during the commemorations.

> 7.30pm, Place des Héros
Ceremony open to all



Also...

International symposium

4 and 5 April

AROUND THE BATTLE OF ARRAS (9 APRIL - 16 MAY 1917). THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL EVOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN A PIVOTAL YEAR

The anniversary of the Battle of Arras will be commemorated alongside Ipswich, a town twinned with Arras, through their respective universities.

The year 1917 is also regarded as a « pivotal year » : the entry into the War by the USA, the Russian Revolution, mutinies in the French Army, change of government in Berlin, the advent of « total war ». The symposium aims to place the accent on the economics of war. The greater north-west (Nord-Pas-de-Calais-Picardie-Normandie) occupied an essential place in the conflict : the main zone of battles between France, Great Britain (encompassing the Empire and the Anglo-Saxon world) and Germany. Divided between the belligerent nations and forming a highly disrupted industrial centre, it constitutes a convenient observatory for examining what was an economic mobilisation that became intensified during the conflict.

> 9.30am to 5.00pm, University of Artois
Maison de la recherche, 9 rue du Temple, 62000 Arras

*Information : History and Societies Research
and Studies Centre, Mrs Cabiran
on +33(0)3 21 60 38 21.*

Exhibition

4 to 23 April

ARRAS AND IPSWICH [GREAT-BRITAIN], 1917-2017

The students of the University of Suffolk Art Department are organising an exhibition looking back at the role played in Artois by the soldiers of their region.

Using personal accounts, a historical and sociological framing will be offered. This exhibition will examine the British commitment and the figures who marked the conflict, such as the war poet Edward THOMAS.

> Town Hall, Place des Héros
Garden Room

Show

7 April

DAILY LIFE BEHIND THE FRONT ON BOTH SIDES OF THE OCEAN

An Arras family and a Canadian family tell the story of the Battle of Arras in April 1917, through letters sent from the front by their loved ones. They also make reference to the everyday difficulties relating to their absence and the consequences of the fighting.

Play written and performed by students of Saint-Joseph high school.

> Theatre of Arras

*Information : Education Office
on +33 (0)3.21.50.50.26*



Courtyard of the Museum of Fine Arts, Arras
Photo credit : DR

Reconstitution

8 and 9 April

DIVISIONAL DRESSING STATION DURING THE GREAT WAR

The Local Red Cross Unit of Arras will re-construct a divisional dressing station of the period in the Courtyard of Saint Vaast Abbey. For 152 years, the Red Cross has worked every day to reduce suffering and was closely involved in assisting the war wounded during the Great War. A branch of the Defence Health Service, it mobilised more than 68,000 nurses, creating almost 1,500 auxiliary hospitals and providing nurses and station canteens to tend sick and injured soldiers. With almost 192,000 members, almost 900 local committees and enjoying the full confidence of the Army, the French Red Cross entered the War ready to receive an influx of wounded soldiers. This reconstruction of a divisional dressing station will offer an insight into the history of the Red Cross and the techniques employed during the conflict.

> 9.00am to 6.00pm, Courtyard of Saint Vaast Abbey
Rue Paul Doumer
Free admission

Information : Local Red Cross Unit,
Damien PATOU Vice-President
17, rue du Général Barbot, 62000 Arras
On +33 (0)6 47 30 42 88 or patou.damien@orange.fr

Show

9 April

MEMORY OF A CANADIAN SOLDIER

Thanks to clues discovered in a chest in France, a young man retraces the life of his great-grandfather, a Canadian soldier who served in the First World War. 45-minute performance. Play written and performed by students of Marie Curie high school..

> Theatre of Arras
Information : Education Office
on +33 (0)3.21.50.50.26

— And after 9 April...

Staged performance

18 May

THEY WERE THERE... WE REMEMBER

April 1917, ordinary foot soldiers, *the soldiers*, fought and died for our freedom. In the Wellington Tunnels, men of different nationalities prepared themselves on the eve of the Battle of Arras.

April 2017, in this same place, young people from the François Mitterrand high school remember them. They have read letters written by those soldiers and have written and composed their thoughts on these texts. They give voice to those words, in the tunnels, to music which they have composed.

They are accompanied by Fabrice BIHAN, a cellist and artistic director of the « Musique en Roue Libre » association, which has partnered the high school for this performance project.

> **Starting at 6.00pm, Wellington Tunnels,**
rue Arthur Delétoille
Price : €3.30

Booking required : Arras Tourist Office
on +33 (0)3 21 51 26 95

Concert

21 May

HOMAGE TO MAURICE MARÉCHAL, « A CELLO IN THE GREAT WAR »

In tribute to the musicians of the Great War, and with a particular focus on the exceptional figure of the musician, Maurice Maréchal, a soldier cellist in the trenches of Vimy, this exceptional concert will present an innovative programme. The artistic director, Arras-born Fabrice BIHAN, will offer a unique moment of musical contemplation. For this occasion, he will dialogue with the Concert Band of the Republican Guard. A programme around Debussy will be offered, together with brand new works commissioned for the occasion from two composers, one French, the other Canadian. Built for this event, a replica of the famous « poilu » trench-made cello will be presented..

> **4.00pm Arras Citadel, Arsenal Courtyard**
Organised by the Musique en Roue Libre association
Prices :
Full price : €30
Group rate (15 people) : €25
Concessionary price (Musique en Roue Libre members/students/jobseekers) : €20
Uner-18s: €5

Information and bookings on +33 (0)3 21 15 32 40
or musiqueenrouelibre@orange.fr

— Location map



- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Town Hall | 6 Arras Casino |
| 2 Saint-Vaast Abbey | 7 Faubourg d'Amiens cemetery |
| 3 Arras Museum of Fine Arts | 8 Arras Citadel |
| 4 Media Library of Saint-Vaast Abbey | 9 Wellington Tunnels |
| 5 Theatre of Arras | 10 University of Artois |

P Paying car park



arras1418.com
#Arras100