NEW ARTISTIC JEWELS OF FRANCE
Lille, Metz & Paris

September 25 - October 4, 2015

A tour co-sponsored by
Smith Travel & the Smith College Museum of Art
Dear Smith Alumnae and Friends:

This cultural excursion through largely undiscovered corners of Northern France hinges on two revolutionary museums: the sleek, new Louvre Museum (2013) is reinvigorating the old mining hub of Lens, while the dynamic new Pompidou Centre (2010) has drawn millions of cultural visitors to the post-industrial city of Metz. Visit both museums and learn about the remarkable transformations taking place. In Paris, we will also have the chance to visit the newly reopened Picasso Museum which recently underwent a four-year $70 million renovation and features the world’s largest collection of works by Pablo Picasso.

Gems such as Lille, Reims, Roubaix, Olhain, and Nancy – often overlooked by casual travelers – offer many charms on this artistic tour; from champagne tasting, to a visit with a local artist, to a tour of a private art collection in central Paris. Delicious regional cuisine complements the touring, as do quality four-star hotels, each located in the heart of these elegant European cities.

Enjoy the leadership and camaraderie of Smith host Jessica Nicoll ’83, Director and Louise Ines Doyle ’34 Chief Curator of Smith College Museum of Art.

Join us on this Smith College-exclusive exploration for an unparalleled view of Northern France. Space is limited, so sign up early!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Bigwood

Director for Travel, Office of Alumnae Relations

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Jessica Nicoll ‘83 is Director and Louise Ines Doyle ’34 Chief Curator of the Smith College Museum of Art, a position she has held since 2005. She is also the Director of Smith’s Museums Concentration, established in 2009, advising and instructing students in museum history, theory, and practice. From 1992-2005, Nicoll served as the William and Helen Thon Chief Curator and Curator of American Art at the Portland Museum of Art, Maine. A specialist in American art, she has written and lectured on a wide variety of topics ranging from early American portraits and landscape painting to the work of artists including Will Barnet, Winslow Homer, Robert Henri, and Marguerite and William Zorach. She graduated with a degree in Art History and American Studies from Smith College in 1983 and received a Masters degree from the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture at the University of Delaware in 1986.
Fri. 9/25: Departures for Paris
Take independent flights to Paris.

Sat. 9/26: Arrivals in Paris
Upon arrival at the Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, take a group transfer to the northern city of Lille. After check-in at the Hotel Hermitage Gantois, follow a local guide through the historic district of Lille. Highlights include the Old Stock Exchange, the spacious and elegant Grande Place, and the upscale shops of the Rue de Bethune. This evening, gather for a welcome reception with cocktails and heavy hors d’oeuvres at the hotel.

Hotel Hermitage Gantois, Lille (R)

Sun. 9/27: Lille Art Highlights
Visit the Lille Métropole Museum of Modern Contemporary and Outsider Art (LaM) in the nearby city of Roubaix and explore its textiles, sculptures and paintings in a unique art deco setting of a former public swimming pool. After free time to have a light lunch, experience a special visit inside the prestigious National Studio of Contemporary Arts, Le Fresnoy. In the company of an enrolled art student, see various studios housed in the widely acclaimed contemporary building designed by the Swiss architect Bernard Tschumi. Return to Lille and gather for dinner at a local restaurant.

Hotel Hermitage Gantois, Lille (B, D)

Mon. 9/28: Louvre-Lens Museum
Travel to the former industrial center of Lens, passing the remarkable landscapes of the Nord-Pas de Calais mining basin, a UNESCO world heritage site. Spend much of the day at the Louvre-Lens museum for an in-depth tour with a museum docent and view pieces from the Louvre’s collection spanning 75,000 square feet of galleries and storage areas. After lunch at the museum’s restaurant run by chef Marc Meurin, continue to a nearby village to meet with a local artist, who will present his latest work of art. Return to Lille and enjoy an independent dinner and evening.

Hotel Hermitage Gantois, Lille (B, D)

Tue. 9/29: Reims & Metz
Depart Lille and drive east to Reims, France’s historic center for royal coronations and home to the world’s most famous sparkling wines and champagne. Visit the city’s towering cathedral, a gothic masterpiece where the Kings of France were crowned, and walk through the beautiful streets to admire the city’s various Art Deco buildings. Enjoy free time to have lunch at a traditional brasserie of your choice in Metz, then indulge in a guided tour and tasting at one of the city’s most prestigious champagne houses. Continue to Metz and check-in at our centrally located hotel. This evening, gather with the group for dinner at the hotel’s Michelin-starred restaurant, Le Magasin aux Vivres.

Hotel La Citadelle, Metz (B, D)

Itinerary is subject to change to take advantage of unexpected opportunities.
Wed. 9/30: Metz

The entire morning is dedicated to visiting the stunning Centre Pompidou-Metz, designed by Shigeru Ban and Jean de Gastines and opened in 2010. Admire the fine modern and contemporary art works on display. After lunch at a local restaurant, discover the “Garden City” of Metz on a guided walking tour. Stop at the Gothic cathedral of Saint Etienne, which contains the world’s largest expanse of stained glass windows, designed by Marc Chagall and other prominent artists. Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon and evening at your leisure.

Hotel La Citadelle, Metz (B, L)

Thu. 10/1: Nancy

Drive to Nancy, the cosmopolitan capital of the Lorraine region. Famous for its urban elegance, the city features unexpectedly lavish monuments from the stately 18th century as well as the Art Nouveau period. Begin at the Place Stanislas, one of the prettiest town squares in France, laid out in the 1700’s. Enter the Museum of Fine Arts, one of the oldest museums in France created in 1793, and view its permanent collections of the highest caliber. After a light lunch of traditional French fare, continue to the École de Nancy Museum, the only museum in France dedicated to the Art Nouveau movement founded in 1901 by several notable artists including Émile Gallé, Victor Prouvé and Eugène Vallin. Take a guided tour through the garden-townhouse built by Eugene Corbin, an early patron of the School of Nancy, and admire the original works of art by local Art Nouveau glass makers and artisans. Return to Metz for an evening at your leisure.

Hotel La Citadelle, Metz (B, L)

Fri. 10/2: Departures to Paris

Depart Metz and drive to Paris. Upon arrival, take a guided tour at the Pompidou Center, the mother institution of the new museum we visited in Metz. Learn about Renzo Piano’s groundbreaking 1977 building and tour the highlights of the collection. Finish the visit with lunch at the museum’s panoramic French-fusion restaurant, Le Georges. Continue to the historic Marais district for a visit at the newly renovated Musée Picasso, home to the largest collection of works by Pablo Picasso. Later this afternoon, check-in at the Hotel Pont Royal and spend the remainder of the evening and dinner at your leisure. Hotel Pont Royal, Paris (B, L)

Option to attend a musical or dance performance in Paris will be arranged for this evening at an extra cost.

Sat. 10/3: Paris

Embark on an extensive docent-led tour of the Musée d’Orsay, which was reopened in 2011 with completely redesigned galleries and exhibition space. Enjoy a possible behind-the-scenes visit inside the grand auction house at the Hotel Drouot. After free time for lunch, visit a fascinating private art collection in a lovely venue in central Paris followed by a reception. This evening join fellow travelers for a grand farewell dinner at a fine restaurant within walking distance from the hotel.

Hotel Pont Royal, Paris (B, R, D)

Sun. 10/4: Departures for U.S.A.

Following breakfast at the hotel, take independent transfers to the Paris airport for independent flights returning to the United States. (B)
Tour Cost:
Land Only: $5,695
Single Supplement: $1,195
Tour price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 20 paying participants. Land prices are calculated as of October 2014 and are subject to change.

Dates: September 25 - October 4
Activity Level: Moderate

Deposit & Final Payment:
A deposit of $1,000 per paying participant is required to guarantee participation in the program. This deposit may be paid by check or by Visa or MasterCard. Final payment will be invoiced and is due on June 15, 2015 by check only to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrants will be accepted beyond this date on a space-available basis with payment in full by check only.

Flights:
Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for all aspects of their air arrangements round-trip into and out of Paris, France.

Terms & Conditions:
International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services relating to this tour. ISDI, Smith College, and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity, which may be caused by any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of the tour. ISDI and Smith College reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason including insufficient numbers of participants, as well as the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time. If bookings fall below the minimum required, passengers will be advised of additional costs or itinerary alterations before departure date.

Cancellations & Refunds:
All cancellations must be received in writing by ISDI, and are subject to a non-refundable administrative fee of $500 per person. Written cancellation received by ISDI on or before June 18, 2015: full refund minus $500 per person administrative fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI on or between June 19 and August 11, 2015: 50% of tour cost per person. Cancellations received on or after August 12, 2015: no refund. After the tour has commenced, it is not possible to issue any refunds. No refunds can be issued for occasional missed meals or sightseeing tours. No refunds for any unused portion of the tour. It is strongly recommended that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Travel insurance information will be provided by Smith Travel upon registration. For additional information, please contact Smith Travel at 800-225-2029.

Travel Insurance:
Smith Travel and ISDI strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Travel insurance information will be provided by Smith Travel upon registration. For additional information, please contact Smith Travel at 800-225-2029.

Tour Price Inclusions:
8 nights accommodations as outlined in the itinerary; breakfast daily, 4 lunches, 3 dinners, 2 receptions: water, soft drinks, coffee and tea included with each lunch and dinner, 2 glasses of wine per person at the welcome and farewell meals; one group airport transfer on arrival in Paris; land transportation by private motor coach as outlined; bottled water on private motor coach; entrance fees to all sites listed in the itinerary; expert local English speaking guides to accompany sightseeing tours; services of an ISDI Tour Manager; gratuities to local guides and drivers; taxes, services and porterage fees.

Tour Price Exclusions:
Airfare, airline taxes, and fuel surcharges; airport transfer upon departure from Paris; airport portage; excursions, activities, or meals during traveler’s free time; personal items; personal services; travel extensions; personal insurance for health, baggage cancellation; passport fees; gratuities for chambermaids.

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New Artistic Jewels of France
Lille, Metz & Paris
September 25 - October 4, 2015
Reserve my spot!

Name (as listed on passport) Affiliation with Smith College
Name (as listed on passport) Affiliation with Smith College
Address
City State Zip
Daytime Telephone / Cell Phone
E-mail Address
Number of Persons Amount Enclosed

DEPOSIT BY: VISA or MASTERCARD CHECK
(checks payable to International Seminar Design, Inc.)

Card Number / Exp. (mm/yy)
Billing Zip Code (if different from above)

ROOMING OPTIONS: (please select)
Double Occupancy (We prefer separate beds)
Single Supplement ($1,195)
I will share a room with
I would like a roommate but will pay the price of the single supplement if one cannot be found.

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risks therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assignees, in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless Smith College and International Seminar Design, Inc (ISDI) and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licenses, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of and/or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion or in relation to this tour.

EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN
Registration invalid without signature

SIGNATURE DATE
SIGNATURE DATE

Complete and return by mail or fax to:
Smith Travel – Office of Alumnae Relations
33 Elm Street | Northampton, MA 01063
tel: 800-225-2029 | fax: 413-585-2015
email: alumtrav@smith.edu
New Artistic Jewels of France: Lille, Metz & Paris
September 25 - October 4, 2015

Tour Highlights

• Visit the brand-new Louvre-Lens and Centre Pompidou-Metz museums, with their pioneering displays of treasures from parent collections in Paris.

• Discover the Ecole de Nancy Museum, the only museum in France dedicated to the Art Nouveau movement.

• Tour the recently reopened and renovated Picasso Museum in Paris, home to the largest collection of works by Pablo Picasso.

• Enjoy a special visit inside the prestigious National Studio of Contemporary Art, Le Fresnoy in the company of an enrolled art student.

For additional information please contact Elizabeth Bigwood at Smith Travel
Call 800-225-2029 | email: alumtrav@smith.edu | fax: 413-585-2015
Or contact our tour operator, International Seminar Design, Inc.
Call 202-244-1448 | email: info@isditravel.com | fax: 202-244-1808

Cover Photo: Centre Pompidou Metz by Alexandre Prévot, Reims Cathedral Smiling Angel by Carullmare Flickr, Musee Ecole Nancy by Alexandre Prevot