



Copyright: David Hockney - A Year in Normandie (Detail) Composite Ipad painting ©David Hockney

Bayeux, 13 June 2022

ARTIST DAVID HOCKNEY PRESENTS « HIS » NORMANDY  
AT THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY MUSEUM

*A YEAR IN NORMANDIE*  
*FROM 22 SEPTEMBER 2022 TO 23 APRIL 2023*  
*(WINTER CLOSURE IN JANUARY 2023)*

An exhibition of David Hockney's famous work "A Year in Normandie" will begin at the Bayeux Tapestry Museum this autumn. The original work, recently presented in the main gallery of the Musée de l'Orangerie in Paris, takes the form of a 90 meter long frieze celebrating the arrival of spring in the Normandy countryside. Painted on an iPad, it was greatly inspired by the thousand-year-old narrative embroidery. From September, the Bayeux exhibition will bring Hockney's frieze and its muse together in an unprecedented face-à-face, in the form of half scale reproductions of the monumental works shown on the second floor of the museum.

When British artist David Hockney arrived in Normandy in 2019, he became fascinated by the unfolding scenes of the Bayeux Tapestry, and resolved to draw from this inspiration in order to create a large scale narrative, depicting the cycle of seasons. As the world stood still during the successive lockdowns, Hockney depicted in the manner of the Impressionists the effects of light in the Norman skies and the arrival of spring around him. Confined in his typical half-timbered house of the Pays d'Auge, he captured the blossoming of nature and painted its variations with bright and colourful hues using the digital brushes of his iPad - a technology he has been using for the past twelve decade.



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A formidable ambassador for Normandy, David Hockney conveys his attachment for the region in the landscapes he draws on the digital canvas, seizing the variations of light and colour over the months. "We have welcomed David Hockney several times in the Bayeux Tapestry Museum since 2019, and have built with him a relationship of trust. One day, during an informal conversation, we offered to host in Bayeux, a city close to his heart, an exhibition of his work, bringing it as close as possible to his source of inspiration. Out of friendship for the museum staff, he accepted this invitation and suggested reducing the print of his frieze to half scale, so that our exhibition space could accommodate an encounter between the two narratives, created nearly 1000 years apart" comments Loïc Jamin, deputy mayor in charge of museums, tourism and heritage development.



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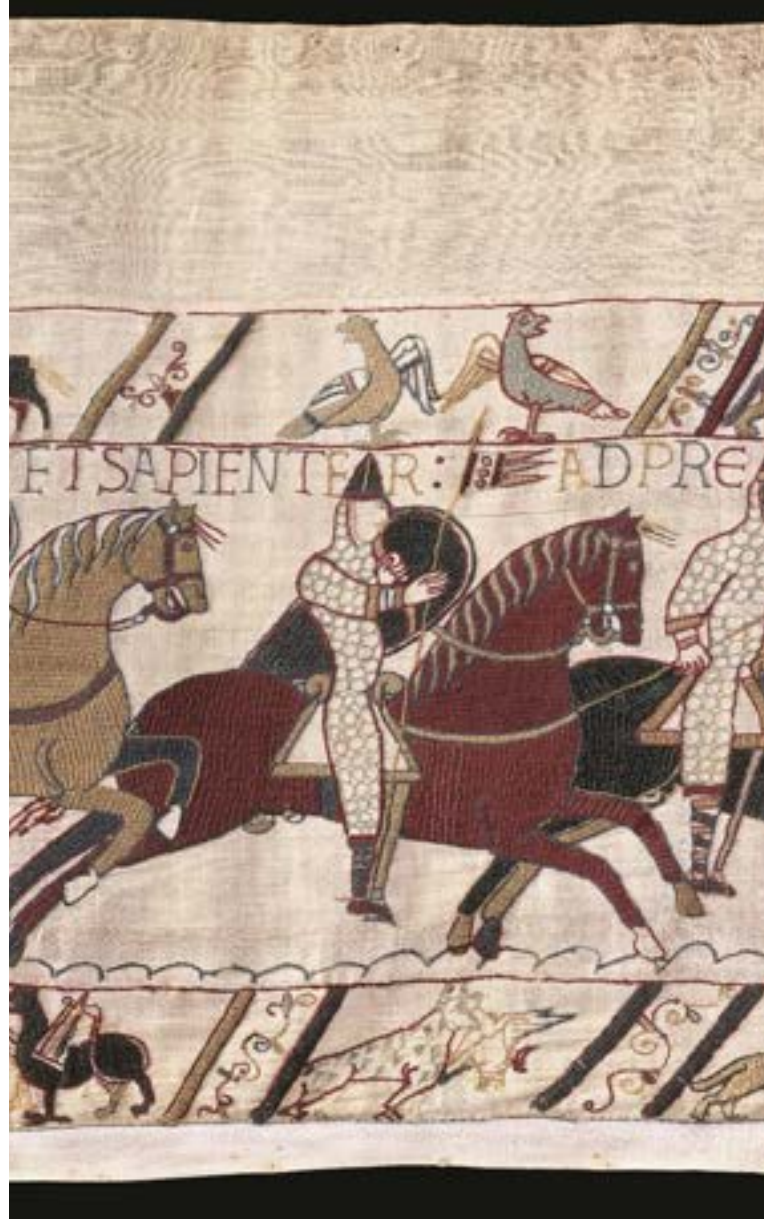
This dialogue between the famous embroidery (11th century) and David Hockney's imposing frieze will allow visitors to immerse themselves in the two narratives simultaneously. Visitors will thus be able to observe and compare the stylised representations of trees in the Tapestry with the fruit trees in the artist's orchard. "If you look closely, the two masterpieces, with admittedly very different artistic techniques, immortalise a specific moment in time. Both freeze-frame a conquest: that of a Norman Duke in England in the 11th century for one, and that of nature in Normandy and its constant renewal regardless of human turmoil for the other," explains Antoine Verney, curator of the Museums of Bayeux.

**USEFUL INFORMATION :**

Exhibition included in the museum tour - Full price 11€ (Free for children under 10)

Museum opening hours: 01/03 to 31/10 09:00am > 06:30pm and 01/11 to 28/02 09:30am > 12:30pm / 02:00pm > 06:00pm (closed in January)

More info: [www.bayeuxmuseum.com](http://www.bayeuxmuseum.com)



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Press Contact  
Bayeux Museum

Fanny Garbe  
+33 (0)2.31.51.20.49  
[fgarbe@mairie-bayeux.fr](mailto:fgarbe@mairie-bayeux.fr)

