Established in 1889, the Moulin Rouge opens its doors with an audacious bet, that the Moulin Rouge becomes « The Palace of the dance and women! » and a cabaret «more luxurious, bigger and more elegant» than those that existed at this time.

A successful bet for this famous cabaret which became the Mecca of the party, immortalized by the famous painter Toulouse-Lautrec, birthplace of the Music-Hall and world-famous thanks to its French Cancan, still performed today by the famous Doriss Girls.

A venue decorated in the style “Belle Epoque”, with the authentic mural paintings and the Moriss columns with the original posters of the artists who performed on this mythical stage, opens its doors to an unforgettable evening with family, friends or ... for a romantic rendez-vous !

Our troupe of 60 artists from all around the world perform twice every evening in the show “Féerie”, a spectacular show full of feathers, rhinestones and sequins, with sumptuous settings, unique international attractions and original music in the grand tradition of French Music-Hall.

Since 132 years, the most legendary cabaret in the world welcome millions of spectators who come to admire its famous shows!
The Moulin Rouge’s show, “Féerie”, has been created by Doris Haug and Ruggero Angeletti, who, since 1961, have been the directors of the most famous shows in the world.

Choreographed by Bill Goodson, “Féerie” consists of a troupe of 100 artists, including the 60 Doriss Girls that are recruited world-wide; 1000 costumes of feathers, rhinestones and sequins, designed by Corrado Collabucci, and set up in the most famous Parisian workshops (for example, 800 pairs of hand custom-made shoes of the size 37 to 46 by Maison Clairvoy and feathers by Maison Février, …); sumptuous settings with shining colours and unique designs created by Gaetano Castelli and made by Italian artists; the best international and outstanding acts; and the giant Aquarium… all of that with music by Pierre Porte, using some 80 musicians and 60 members of a choral of 60 members.

2 years and an investment of 8 millions Euros were required for the creation of “Féerie”, 4 main scenes created to fulfill international audiences’ dreams!

“The Moulin Rouge today and yesterday, the Moulin Rouge forever”
The theatre lights switch off, the curtain is raised…and the entire troupe appears on stage, under the admiring gaze of the audience who find themselves entering the “Garden” of the Moulin Rouge to discover the magical atmosphere of the place. A touch of nostalgia!

“The Pirates”
What kind of adventures can happen to a pirate whose boat is anchored in Indonesia? Dreams? A perfect woman’s love? … Once in the land, one meets priestesses, or a Gorgon in her temple surrounded by snakes, women jewels, tigresses, …
Will Sandokan have the opportunity to offer his treasures to the lady of his dreams or will we be witnesses to a sacrifice of love in the pythons’ den?

“The Circus”
The circus comes to town… with its band of clowns, Siamese twins, pierrots, acrobats, jugglers, weird wild animals and six miniature horses! A colourful scene with beautiful music which ends with the great parade of the Doriss Girls and Doriss Dancers.

“The Moulin Rouge from 1900 to…”
The Moulin Rouge pays a tribute to Parisian women throughout the years: on the 14th of July, for the Liberation of Paris … with Java or Boogie music. Time passes and leaves space for new generations of women, more beautiful and free than ever! At the highlight of this tribute, the Doriss Girls dance the world famous French Cancan!
The French Cancan

The 6th of October 1889, the Moulin Rouge opens its doors and welcomes for the first time on stage some young girls who perform a very different dance from the others: the French Cancan, known before as the Quadrille. Revolutionary movements, screams, boisterous rhythm… frills and flowing skirts are lifted to show the young dancers’ legs and reveal their panties.

The Quadrille, fashionable from its origin, spread abroad. In 1862, a British citizen named Charles Morton decided to change the name of the dance and call it “French Cancan”, a funny dance that makes a lot of noise and comes from France!

At the Moulin Rouge, the dancers came from different backgrounds: washerwomen, linen maids, laundresses, seamstresses, and transformed themselves into Cancan dancers at night. Working at the Moulin Rouge enable them to become semi or professional dancers in the world of Parisian shows: they were the new stars of Paris!

This dance was immediately a success and attracted a disparate crowds: middle-class people, princes, artists, writers…they all came to loose themselves up!

Many lady dancers with suggestive names became famous: la Goulue (the glutton) - the Toulouse-Lautrec’s muse - Jane Avril, Nini Pattes-en-l’Air (a leg-over), Grille d’Egout (drain cover), la Môme Fromage (kid cheese)…

Today, some 130 years after its first steps were made, the French Cancan is still presented every night on the Moulin Rouge stage, and has been in every show since then.

And dancing the French Cancan is not easy for everyone! For this dance requires specific qualities both artistic and physical. A training period of five weeks is necessary for every new dancer and the rehearsals are very frequent.

The Moulin Rouge’s French Cancan is famous and reclaimed world-wide. Be it for the Cannes Festival, Hollywood or even Hong Kong, the Carnival of Rio, Sydney, New York, Singapour, …the troupe of Cancan dancers never hesitates to cross the frontiers to represent the Moulin Rouge and Paris.

The one and only original French Cancan is, and will always be, the one performed at the Moulin Rouge.
The Doriss Girls

This is a beautiful story that of a little girl from Germany who was taking dancing lessons without her parents’ knowledge and who became Miss Doris, the Moulin Rouge’s famous ballet mistress…

Between the Karlsruhe Opera and the Conservatory, she passes her diploma as a dance teacher and arrives in Paris in 1954. The cabarets attract her and she joined the Moulin Rouge in 1957.

Miss Doris creates her own troupe of dancers, named the “Doriss Girls”. From 4 in 1957, they are now a troupe of 60.

From 1961, Jacki Clerico, the owner of the Moulin Rouge, quickly recognizes the qualities in Miss Doris and Ruggero Angeletti to be the two choreographers that will be able to create great revues.

The Doriss Girls have always been recruited from all over the world. Since 1997, Janet Pharaoh, the new ballet mistress auditions from Las Vegas to London and from Sydney to Paris to recruit dancers of both sexes who are able to join the show and perform on the Moulin Rouge stage. Amongst the 14 represented nationalities, main origins are Australia, Great Britain and ... France!

Some criteria are compulsory : a good base of classical ballet training for all of them, the girls have to measure at least 1.75 m (5’8’’ ), the boys must be more than 1.85 m (6’3”’), and have astounding figures that will leave the spectators spellbound.

The artistic directors pay particular attention to the aesthetics and the physical condition of the troupe : losing or gaining weight is controled (+ or - 2 kilos), cutting or dying one’s hair is strictly monitored… As well as regular rehearsals and dance classes the troupe, male dancers in particular, work out everyday with the Moulin Rouge fitness facilities in order to keep their bodies looking good for the Clients appreciation.

In addition to the 2 shows performed every night, the artists train regularly and continue taking dance lessons to remain at the height of perfection.

And every week, under the watchful eyes of the ballet mistress and Artistic Director, Janet Pharaoh and her team (resident choreographer assistant, Cancan teacher, captains, ...), the Doriss Girls and the Doriss Dancers rehearse the show’s different scenes.

The show must be perfect every night!
The Moulin Rouge’s Brigade, which consists of 120 maître-d’s, headwaiters and waiters, works every night in the legendary hall which accommodates up to 900 guests.

A team of 25 cooks prepare the meals served to our Clients.

Executice Chef Arnaud Demerville proposes a traditional homemade cooking, a production based on the quality and freshness of the food products.

A new guarantee of creativity and quality to serve the Moulin Rouge customers.

Our wines and champagnes are selected by our wine cellarman among the famous french best growths. The Champagne is the official drink of the Moulin Rouge with 240 000 bottles opened a year!

We propose 3 different menus : Toulouse-Lautrec, Belle Epoque and VIP, plus “A la Carte”, and Pesco-Vegetarian and Vegan menus.

Since September 2017, the influential and demanding Gault&Millau guide, which has been selecting the best addresses from 1972, has selected the Moulin Rouge restaurant as one of the not-to-be-missed dining experience in Paris. This first challenges conventional wisdom about cooking offered in cabarets.

The dinner is accompanied by the Moulin Rouge Orchestra and allows people to enjoy the dance floor until the show begins, at 9pm.
The Artisans of the Moulin Rouge

The Moulin Rouge has purchased in recent years three workshops specialized in shoes, feathers and embroidery to preserve the French know-how and thus continue to present on stage costumes and shoes of exceptional quality.

**Clairvoy**

Since 1945, the Maison Clairvoy creates, makes and sells hand-made shoes for the Entertainment industry with a unique “savoir-faire” of the French Cancan boots.
The Maison Clairvoy also proposes a hand-made range of town shoes for men and women.
Shop and workshop just a step from Montmartre in the 9th district.

*Maison CLAIRVOY - 17, rue Fontaine - 75009 Paris - Tél. 01.48.74.44.03 - www.clairvoy.fr*

**Maison Février**

Since 1929, the Maison Février is specialized in feathers in all circumstances! From the Music-Hall with Mistinguett to the “Grandes Revues” of today, from Josephine Baker, Zizi Jeanmaire to Dita Von Teese... the Maison Février dresses all the stars! The workshop also collaborates with the biggest fashion designers Yves Saint Laurent, Lacroix, Givenchy, Galliano, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Louis Vuitton... Special artistic collaborations which make the Maison Février the worldwide leader of the feather makers!

*Maison FEVRIER - 11, rue Lepic - 75018 Paris - Tél. 01.42.33.73.47 - www.maisonfevrier.fr*

**Atelier Valentin**

Atelier VALENTIN, embroiderer since 2003, exclusively produce beauty and decorate costumes of artists for theatre, opera, cinema, circus, cabaret and the world of luxury... so that once on stage, magic happens. Embroidery adds elegance, refinement and finesse to costumes...
True craftsmanship! Popular for centuries, needle work (the oldest), crochet and more recently machine embroidery has never become outdated, on the contrary!

*Atelier VALENTIN
18 rue Notre Dame de Lorette - 75009 Paris
Tél. 01.49.70.00.49*
The Costumes

Feathers, rhinestones and sequins… Since the grand era of Mistinguett, costumes always had a prominent place in Moulin Rouge shows. They form an integral part in the creation of a show alongside the staging, choreography, stage sets and lights; the costumes, designed by Corrado Colabucci, required an extraordinary budget of 4 million euros which allows all extravagances, notably for the creation of head pieces, shoes, jewels, backpacks, …

• 1000 costumes and accessories

• 12 costumes per artist

• Tailor-made in the Moulin Rouge workshops: La Maison Fevrier (feathers), la Maison Clairvoy (shoes), l’Atelier Valentin (embroidery), l’Atelier Couture and l’Atelier de Creation (costumes)

• 33 persons work every day in the Moulin Rouge workshops (costumes, tailors, shoemakers, feathermakers, embroiderer…)

• Materials used: Leather, Swarovski rhinestones, pearls, hand embroideries, sequins, satin….. feathers used: Ostrich, Goose, Rooster, Red Paradise, Rhea, Heron, Guinea Fowl, Golden Pheasant, Goose wing…

• 5 shoemakers personalise and create the 800 pairs of shoes out of finest leather: lamb, goat, calf skin, box-cals…

• Each costume requires between 10 and 280 hours to make

• Each night, 23 dressers help the 60 dancers to get changed backstage

Did you know?

Creation of one French Cancan costume
- 200 meters of frills per underskirt
- 32 meters of frills per pair of knickers
- 5kg in weight
- 5,000 €

Creation of one Grand Final costume
- 280 hours of work go into the making of one costume
- 77 meters of Marabou feathers
- 6kg in weight
- 12,000 €
More Information

- 6 October 1889, the Moulin Rouge opens its doors
- 600,000 spectators per year
- 50% French Customers, 50% International Customers
- 900 seats
- 2 shows a night, 365 days a year
- 80 dancers: 60 Doriss Girls and 20 Doriss Dancers
- 14 different nationalities on stage
- 8 millions Euro investment for the creation of “Féerie”
- 1000 costumes of feathers, rhinestones and sequins. Feathers from Maison Février
- 800 pairs of shoes from size 38 to 46, hand-made by Maison Clairvoy
- 1 aquarium of 40 tons of water
- 120 maître-d’s, headwaiters and waiters (the biggest “Brigade” in France)
- 240,000 bottles of champagne per year (first consumer in the world, off Retail)
- 700 silver champagne buckets
- 400 employees
The Event at The Moulin Rouge

The Belle Epoque-styled cabaret room, designed by Henri Mahé in 1951, also welcomes private events which give the opportunity to Companies to take advantage of the notoriety of the Moulin Rouge to welcome their Clients in this legendary Music-Hall.

The main venue (900 seats), the Toulouse-Lautrec lounge (50 persons), the VIP Imperial Balcony (30 persons) and the Mezzanine (20 persons) : different possibilities to personalize the events.

Prestigious Companies like Sonia Rykiel, Yamamoto, France Télécom, Cégétel, Paco Rabanne, Le Comité du Second Marché, Yves Saint-Laurent, Schneider, Dassault Aviation, Cartier, Disney, France 2, Peugeot, Relais & Châteaux, Hermès … to name but a few have chosen the Moulin Rouge!

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Information …

Dinner & Show
7PM

Menu Toulouse-Lautrec & Show “Féerie”
+ 1/2 bouteille de Champagne

Menu Belle Epoque & Revue “Féerie”
+ 1/2 bottle of Champagne

Show
Show “Féerie” & 1/2 bottle of Champagne at 9PM & 11PM
Show “Féerie” without beverages at 9PM & 11PM

Soirée VIP
7PM: Imperial Balcony, VIP menu, Show “Féerie”, Champagne & Wines,
Programme of the show, Gift, Priority access, Cloackroom

9PM: Imperial Balcony, Show “Féerie”, Champagne,
Programme of the show, Gift, Priority access, Cloackroom

Reservation:
Reservation desk opens from 9 am to 11 pm
Tel. 33 (0)1 53 09 82 82
www.moulin-rouge.com
reservation@moulinrouge.fr
IN THE BEGINNING

6 October 1889  Mr Oller and Mr Zidler open the Moulin Rouge to the whole of Paris, and inaugurate the first “QUADRILLE REALISTE”. The English immortalized it as the FRENCH CANCAN.

26 October 1890  On a private visit to Paris, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the future Edward VII, reserves a table to watch this quadrille, the reputation of which had already crossed the Channel. Recognizing him, la Goulue, leg in the air and head in her skirts, calls out « Hey, Wales, the champagne’s on you !».

1891  La Goulue. Toulouse-Lautrec’s first poster for the Moulin Rouge.

12 November 1897  The Moulin Rouge closes its doors under exceptional circumstances, the funeral of Charles Zidler.

29 November 1902  Last ball at the Moulin Rouge, which is transformed into a concert theatre. It is planned to reopen in January 1903.

THE SHOWS

3 January 1907  «Rêve d’Egypte», with Colette.

29 July 1907  «La Revue de la Femme», the first performance by Mistinguett.

9 April 1910  A former lady-in-waiting to the Empress Eugenie is present at the Moulin Rouge, for a showing of the «Revue Amoureuse». She is so charmed by the faithful reconstruction of the ceremony given for troops returning from Italy, that she is unable to keep from crying «Long live the Empress !»

THE GREAT « MISTINGUETT » SUCCESS

1925  The «Mistinguett» show
1927  «Ca, c’est Paris»
1928  «Paris qui tourne»

At the Moulin Rouge, Mistinguett creates numerous songs which become all-time classics, such as «Valencia», «Ça, c’est Paris», «Il m’a vue nue» and «On m’suit», the latter with Jean GABIN.

THE REBIRTH

1937  Robert Hartman transforms the ballroom into a night-club, which was ultra-modern for the time.

4 June 1937  The COTTON CLUB at the Moulin Rouge.
1939  Mistinguett’s last show.

July 1944  Edith Piaf is on the bill, with Yves Montand in the first half.

1951  George France, known as Jo France, founder of the Balajo, buys the Moulin Rouge and undertakes major renovation. He gives Henri Mahe, one of the most fashionable architects, the task of designing the new Moulin Rouge.

22 June 1951  The new Moulin Rouge opens its doors. The programme includes dancing and acts, and of course the famous FRENCH CANCAN.

From 1951 to 1960  Famous contemporary artistes follow: Luis Mariano, Charles Trénet, Charles Aznavour, Line Renaud, Bourvil, Fernand Raynaud, Lena Horne. The famous French Cancan is still performed, staged firstly by Pierre Bergé and then Ruggero Angeletti.

19 May 1953  25th anniversary of the «Bal des Petits Lits Blancs», organised by Guy des Cars, and attended by the French President, Mr. Vincent Auriol. The show includes, for the first time on an European stage, the appearance of Bing Crosby.

1957  Doris Haug creates the « DORISS GIRLS » at the Moulin Rouge. From 4 in the beginning, they are now a troupe of 60.

1959  The Moulin Rouge is transformed: new kitchens are designed and installed to offer an even greater international clientele a «dinner and show», with an «à la carte» menu and shows which will gain a world-wide reputation.

1962  Jacki Clerico becomes manager at the Moulin Rouge. It is the beginning of a new era: the auditorium is enlarged, a giant aquarium is installed and the first nautical ballet is staged with topless dancers.

1963  The first success for « Frou Frou ». From that moment on, Jacki Clerico, a superstitious man, chooses show titles which only begin with the letter “F”. And of course, for each show, the legendary French Cancan is still performed.

7 September 1979  The Moulin Rouge celebrates its 90th birthday.

Ginger ROGERS appears for the first time on a Parisian stage, accompanied by numerous stars, including Thierry Le Luron, Dalida, Charles Aznavour, Jean-Claude Brialy, Georges Chakiris, Village People and Zizi Jeanmaire.
23 November 1981 The Moulin Rouge closes its doors under exceptional circumstances to perform for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, in London.

4 February 1982 A one-off show by Liza Minnelli.

3 Juillet 1984 Dean Martin Gala.

25 September 1984 Frank Sinatra Gala.

1 December 1986 The world’s most famous classical dancer, Mikhail Barishnikoff, performs an original ballet by Maurice Béjart at the Moulin Rouge.

20 February 1988 Dazzling at 90 years old, the Moulin Rouge is even more stunning at 100. The Première of «Formidable» is a «Royal Performance in Paris», one of Britain’s most prestigious official events, attended each year in London by a member of the Royal Family. It takes place twice in France, both times at the Moulin Rouge. The first is attended in 1983 by H.R.H. Princess Anne, and for the 20 February 1988, H.R.H. Prince Edward is the guest of honour.

Spring 1989 Exceptional performance of the Moulin Rouge show before Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

6 October 1989 Centenary Gala with, amongst others, Charles Aznavour, Tony Curtis, Ella Fitzgerald, Gipsy Kings, Margaux Hemingway, Barbara Hendricks, Dorothy Lamour, Jerry Lewis, Jane Russel, Charles Trénet and Esther Williams.

1994 Cartier Charity Gala, raising money towards the Artists Against AIDS Foundation with a private concert by Elton John.


14 November 1999 Last performance of “Formidable”, the show of the centenary, which welcomed, between 1988 and 1999, more than 4.5 million spectators.

23 December 1999 First performance of the new show “Féerie”.

2009 The Moulin Rouge celebrates its 120th anniversary.


2014 The Moulin Rouge celebrates its 125th anniversary!

2019 The Moulin Rouge celebrates its 130th anniversary!
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