

Press release | 25 Nov 21



Launch of Confluence

The French Institute's new campaign for the modernisation of its Language Centre

The French Institute in London, with the support of its Trust, The Friends of the French Institute, has launched **Confluence**, a **new campaign for the modernisation of its Language Centre**, kicked off by the **French Ambassador to the UK, Catherine Colonna**, as part of a special event on Wednesday 24 November 2021.

After a 12-year campaign to renovate its Cultural Centre, the French Institute has started a new chapter with **Confluence, a large-scale modernisation project of its Language Centre**. Its listed building will be revamped and the whole onsite and online learning experience reshaped. More welcoming, attractive, innovative and in line with the latest trends, the new Language Centre will offer a unique immersive journey into French language and culture.

The Language Centre attracts some 7,000 students every year, onsite and online, and has proven its leading position in the teaching of French for more than a century. Under the guidance of 90 highly qualified teachers, it offers a wide array of French courses: standard, intensive or specialised; private or in groups.

The evening also allowed for the unveiling of a unique scarf designed by Hermès in support of the Friends of the French Institute. This special edition, called *La Cité Cavalière*, has been designed by Octave Marsal who, inspired by a 17th century engraving depicting a bird's eye view of Paris, reinvented the French capital's streetscape.

La Cité cavalière scarf can be acquired in Hermès stores in the UK and Ireland and on Hermes.com. For each limited-edition scarf sold, the house will donate 100 to help The Friends of the French Institute continue its mission.

Press contacts:

French Institute, Natacha Antolini: 020 7871 3520 | <u>natacha.antolini@institut-francais.org.uk</u> Hermès UK, Hannah George, Senior Press and Influence Officer | <u>Hannah.George@hermes.com</u>