



Press invitation

Accreditation required - Please note that space is limited for this event.

Anne Hidalgo inaugurates the Place du Pont Neuf – Christo and Jeanne-Claude

Friday, October 3 at 10:15AM – Place du Pont Neuf (Paris Centre)

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of *The Pont Neuf Wrapped* by Christo and Jeanne-Claude, the City of Paris has decided to name the Place du Pont Neuf after the famous artist couple. The inauguration, attended by the Mayor of Paris and the family of Christo and Jeanne-Claude, will be followed by several tributes, including an exhibition and an ambitious project wrapping the Pont Neuf again, to be carried out by JR in 2026.

On September 22, 1985, Paris, a pioneering city in terms of contemporary art, became the center of the cultural world when Christo Vladimiroff Javacheff and Jeanne-Claude Denat de Guillebon transformed the capital's oldest bridge into a monumental artwork entitled *The Pont Neuf Wrapped*.

Thanks to the expertise of 12 engineers and 300 specialized workers, the Pont Neuf was wrapped in 41,800 square meters of fabric, secured by 13 kilometers of ropes and 12 tons of steel cables for two weeks.

Christo and Jeanne-Claude, respectively born in Bulgaria and Morocco in 1935, met in Paris in 1958. Christo had already trained in drawing, painting, sculpture, and architecture at the National Academy of Arts in Sofia and went on to form an iconic duo with his future wife, who was the true driving force behind all their artistic projects.

In 1968, they created their first building wrapped in nylon ropes, the Kunsthalle, a Swiss modern and contemporary art center located in Bern. Together, they wrapped a number of monumental artworks such as the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago (1969), the Reichstag in Berlin (1995) or the Pont Neuf (1985).

To mark the 40th anniversary of *The Pont Neuf Wrapped*, [an outdoor exhibition is presented on the banks of the river Seine from September 6 to October 30, while in the summer of 2026, the artist JR will present *Projet Pont Neuf*](#), a monumental work inspired by Christo and Jeanne-Claude, which will once again transform Paris' oldest bridge.

A commemorative plaque will also be affixed to the façade of the building on Île Saint-Louis where the two artists lived.

This new name for the Place du Pont Neuf was voted on by the Paris Council in July 2025.

Attending personalities:

Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris.

Laurence Patrice, Deputy Mayor of Paris in charge of remembrance and veterans' affairs.
Ariel Weil, Mayor of Paris Centre.
Vladimir Yavachev, nephew and director of projects of Christo and Jeanne-Claude.

Schedule and access:

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Place du Pont Neuf, Paris Centre.

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