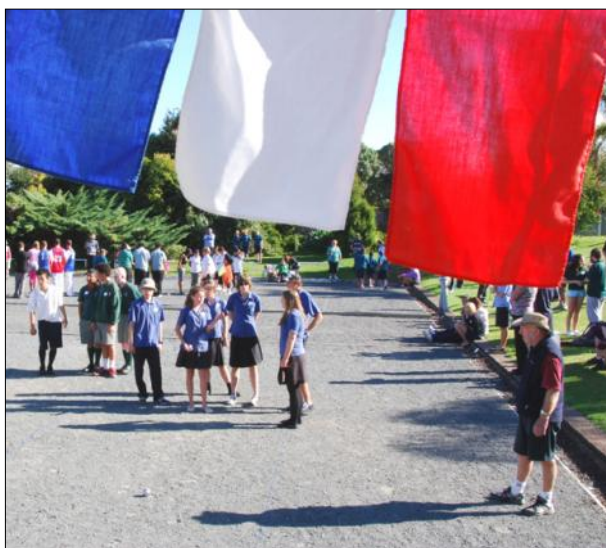




Interschool Pétanque, 2011

Friday 18 March.

Armed with more than 300 sausages, 14 loaves of bread, 15 kilos-plus of different salads, a variety of sauces, (notably Wattie's Tomato Sauce!), Orangina, boxes of paper napkins, plastic plates and a variety of kitchen accoutrements, the volunteers were ready to prepare and serve lunch for 138 secondary school students who took part



in this annual event. As always, the competition was expertly organised by members of the Herne Bay branch of the Auckland Pétanque Club. Somehow they kept track of all the teams and were able to identify the winners!

According to Mary McKendrick, long-time helper at this annual event, it is one of the most enjoyable events on the Alliance social calendar. This year, with 24 *pistes* in action and the constant to-ing and fro-ing of so many participants, for the inexperienced onlooker the progress of the competition was difficult to follow. But it was not difficult to appreciate the enthusiasm of the players and their skill. The students obviously enjoyed the day and some of the teams did indeed show considerable skill.

We are indebted to the volunteers from the

Pétanque Association. It would be impossible for us to hold this event without their participation. Thanks to them we look forward to the competition every year. They make us very welcome, and we feel safe with their efficient organization, for without their expertise I doubt that the Alliance sponsors would have any idea who had won!

We would like to acknowledge our helpers — a special thank you to Paul who manned the barbeque, and our thanks to Marceline, Mary, Michele, John Goodman, John Martins, and our *stagiaires* Pauline, Chloé and Marine, all of whom cheerfully coped with the tasks of spreading mountains of bread, serving the food and tidying up the inevitable clutter in the kitchen. We would particularly like to thank Rosemary Arnoux who, on behalf of the Alliance, opened the event and graciously handed out the prizes at the close of the competition.

Congratulations to the prize-winners:

First Prize: Trophy - Rangitoto Team 2
Plate - St Kentigern Team 4
Bowl - Aorere College Team 2

This competition was sponsored by the Alliance Française and the following companies: DHL Global Forwarding, L'Oréal, Air Tahiti Nui, La Boutique, Frogs-in-NZ.



La Boutique

À carreau: A special feat in which the shooter knocks out the opponent's boule while leaving his boule at or very near the point of impact

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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

From the President

A new Committee was elected by the members of the Alliance Française d'Auckland at the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 19 March.

As the incoming President, I am really looking forward to the challenges which the next twelve months will bring. There is much to be done, but we have a great team in our Committee - administration, teachers, students and members whose enthusiasm and commitment will ensure that the Alliance makes the most of every opportunity.

The Alliance had a stand at the International Festival held recently at the Memorial Park in Mount Roskill. A wide range of different nationalities and cultures was represented there, and there was lots of delicious food and plenty of entertainment. The Festival illustrated what a truly multicultural city Auckland has become, with the Alliance proudly being part of it all. Many thanks to everyone involved.

French culture is alive and well in Auckland and the Alliance is at the heart of the action. We support educational initiatives in schools, events such as the Bastille Day celebrations, programmes for children and young people, visiting artists from francophone countries and much, much more.

If you are new to the Alliance, a great way to get to know people – and, if you are a learner, to build your skills in spoken French - is to come along to our **petit déjeuner** on Saturday morning. And, as an added incentive, we have two Saturday presentations this month: the first, on 9 April by Dr Harold Coop on **translating European art to the New Zealand context**, the second, on 30 April, on the adventures of the French research schooner **Tara in the Arctic ice**.

Another great opportunity to engage in some congenial French conversation is to come along to our monthly **Apéro drinks at the Billfish Café**. Better still, bring a friend!

See you there!

John Martins



The Alliance stand at the Auckland International Festival, last month. Thanks to all volunteers involved, and to our sponsors at the event, Ricard and Akié.



Les Nouvelles de l'Alliance Française d'Auckland

Contributors: Mary McKendrick, Chloé Money. Translations: Rosemary Arnoux, Jean-Claude Ortscheid. Editor: David Elliott.

Petit Déjeuner Speaker: Dr Harold Coop

Saturday, 9 April at 10am

Harold Coop, previously an eye surgeon, is now a landscape painter, exhibiting mainly at the International Art Centre in Parnell. He is included in the book *New Zealand's Favourite Artists*. A book about his painting, *A Vision of New Zealand* was released by Saint Publishing in 2007.

His works hang in many private collections; two in the Governor-General's Auckland residence, and a diptych in the Fisher and Paykel Clinical Education Centre, Auckland City Hospital. His seven-metre illuminated mural is at the entrance to the University of Auckland School of Medicine.

The artist's main interest is in applying the discoveries of previous art movements to New Zealand landscape. He has also painted in France, and will tell some anecdotes about this.

He believes that painters should incorporate into our landscape painting the lessons from mediaeval artists, Impressionists, Fauves, colourists and abstractionists.

He uses 'mediaeval' gold colour to denote how precious is our land, and borrows from modern colourists to create semi-abstract imaginative landscape.

His talk, in English, will have a short introduction, followed by a Power-point presentation, showing paintings of landscape, combined with abstraction.



Summer, Northland (H. Coop)



Flower Sellers, Honfleur (H. Coop)

DELFDALF Award Ceremony

Saturday, 26 March



Congratulations to latest DELFDALF recipients, diplomas presented by Dr Rosemary Arnoux (third from left). The ceremony was held at the Alliance Française d'Auckland.

Saturday mornings = 'Petit déjeuner'

From 10.00 to midday - coffee and pâtisseries \$2.00
Office now open Saturday mornings for course enquiries and registration.



Du 18 au 29 Avril 2011
From 18 to 29 April 2011

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Children holiday programme

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3 to 10 years old

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LA MER / THE SEA
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at
alliance@ihug.co.nz or 09 376 0009



April 2011:

Activities/Cultural Events

Soirée Apéro Friday, 8 April, from 5.00 pm at the **Billfish Café** (Unit 3, Z pier, 31 Westhaven Drive).

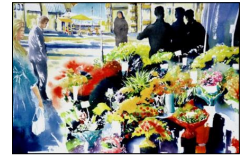
Dr Harold Coop talks about his **second life** as an artist at the *Petit Déjeuner*.

Saturday 9 April, 10am

This talk, in English, will have a short introduction, followed by a Powerpoint presentation, showing paintings of landscape, combined with abstraction.

The artist's main interest is in applying the discoveries of previous art movements to New Zealand landscape. He has also painted in France, and will tell some anecdotes about this. There will be plenty of

visual stimulation, loads of **colour**, and a little **music**.



Chasse aux œufs - Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, 16 April

Ciné Club - *Nannerl, la sœur de Mozart* (2010)

Monday 18 April, 6pm at The Bridgeway

René Feret's vivacious costume drama about Mozart's talented older sister Nannerl is a vivid portrayal of 18th century pre-revolutionary France. This beautifully shot film (the film-makers were allowed to film at Versailles) is further enhanced by stunning set design, costumes, and Marie-Jeanne Serero's musical composition.



Tara Arctic: Film screening, followed by a talk and Q&A

Saturday 30 April, 10.30am to 12.30pm



Les Trempeurs, (Alliance Tramping Club) Next outing: **Shakespear Park**.
For details, see: www.lestrempeurs.blogspot.com

AFA Book Club 4.30 to 5.30pm, Tuesday 26 April OR Wednesday 27 April

TERM 1 ENDS Friday 15 April

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

START: Monday, 18 April

Children's Holiday Programme

French Intensive Conversation

New Beginner Intensive Courses

Ask at the Alliance Française Office for details.



DELTA - DALF Next examination sessions

DELTA: 14 May 2011 ♦ DELTA JUNIOR: 7 May 2011

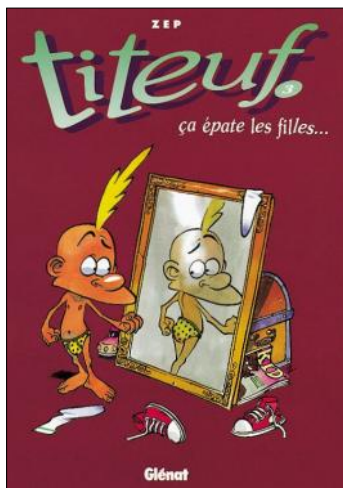
The Alliance Française d'Auckland is closed Saturday, 23 April

Hello everybody!

Just a friendly message to let you know that new comics have arrived at the library!

Four new comics by Zep: *L'amour c'est pô propre*, *Ça épate les filles*, *C'est pô juste* et *Tchô, monde cruel*

Zep is the pseudonym of **Philippe Chappuis**, a comics creator from Switzerland, known for his series *Titeuf*, a popular character in French-speaking countries, and *Tchô!*, the associated comics magazine. Chappuis' pseudonym derives from the first BD magazine he created at age twelve, named "Zep" in honour of Led Zeppelin. His career began with gags published in the magazine *Spirou* in 1987, and the character *Victor* which started appearing in 1988. At first struggling to find publication, the series *Titeuf* was initially published in the fanzine *Sauve qui peut* ("Escape those who can") before it was noticed by Glénat executive Jean-Claude Camano. Zep joined Glénat in 1992, and first



Titeufbook Dieu, le sexe et les bretelles (*God, Sex And Suspenders*) appeared in 1993 and sold only a few thousand copies, but the following books have gradually won over a huge readership, outselling traditional French favorites such as *Astérix* and *Lucky Luke*. Today 11 million copies of the series have been sold, and the series is considered the greatest money-maker in the French comics market. *Titeuf*books have been translated into 15 languages, including Chinese, Italian and German. In the UK, *Titeuf* appeared under the name *Tootuffin The Dandy*. The name "Titeuf" ostensibly derives from French *tête d'oeuf* (egg-head), but it could also be the familiar, contracted and inverted (verlan) form of *petite fête* (little party). While adolescent fans of *Titeuf* are enamoured with the adventures, some parents have raised concerns about his unexpurgated curiosity with all things related to bodily functions.

name *Tootuffin The Dandy*. The name "Titeuf" ostensibly derives from French *tête d'oeuf* (egg-head), but it could also be the familiar, contracted and inverted (verlan) form of *petite fête* (little party). While adolescent fans of *Titeuf* are enamoured with the adventures, some parents have raised concerns about his unexpurgated curiosity with all things related to bodily functions.

Check it out!

See you soon at the library!

Zep, de son vrai nom **Philippe Chappuis** (né le 15 décembre 1967 à Onex, en Suisse) est un auteur suisse de bandes dessinées dont la plus connue est *Titeuf*. Il donne son pseudonyme « Zep » à l'hommage du groupe Led Zeppelin qui est son groupe préféré. Le trait de Zep alterne entre la ligne claire des albums de *Titeuf* et des dessins plus relâchés, notamment des aquarelles comme dans ses carnets de voyage ou son travail de conception graphique et d'illustration du disque *Chansons pour les pieds* de Jean-Jacques Goldman (2001). Zep est également un admirateur des bandes dessinées de Carl Barks et a profité de présider le festival d'Angoulême 2005 pour y inviter Don Rosa, l'un des successeurs de Barks.

Le Livre du mois: *Raga, approche du continent invisible* par **Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clézio**.

Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clézio nous livre dans *Raga* une réflexion sur l'Océanie post-coloniale. Après un voyage effectué en Mélanésie, J.M.G Le Clézio en a rapporté des mythes, des légendes, des rencontres, et lutte contre l'exotisme qui fausse le regard.

Retrouvez d'autres ouvrages de J.M.G Le Clézio dans la sélection du mois, prochainement à la bibliothèque.

April Book Club:

Yasmina Reza



Next Book Club will be on Tuesday 26th April and Wednesday 27th April, from 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm. April Book Club will be dedicated to Yasmina Reza's *Hammerklavier*. This moving collection of short texts is composed of autobiographical pieces, fictional short stories, and reflexions about time and existence. Her changing style explores humour, tenderness, gravity and irony.

Yasmina Reza began her career as an actress, and then as a playwright. She immediately was awarded Best Author for a play *Conversations after a Burial* in 1987. Her plays encountered big success across Europe.

In 1997, she wrote her first novel, *Hammerklavier*, followed by *Une Désolation* in 2001.

Une Désolation is available at the library.

Chloé, Librarian

The Book Club is free. If you want to join, just send me an email letting me know for which session you want to enroll and I'll send you a copy of the text by mail.

Frogs-in-NZ, Agence de Voyages et Guide en français sur la Nouvelle-Zélande

Depuis 2001, début de leur odyssée en Nouvelle-Zélande, les Frogs n'ont cessé de communiquer leur passion pour leur pays d'adoption. Le résultat, c'est une agence de voyage spécialisée reconnue, le site le plus complet sur la destination et des guides pratiques incontournables, dont le dernier né, le Guide des Frogs *Nouvelle-Zélande 2010*, s'est déjà vendu à 5000 exemplaires partout dans le monde francophone !

Pour vos vacances ou pour celles de votre famille en visite, les agents de voyages spécialisés de l'équipe vous concoctent un voyage sur mesure inoubliable, aux petits soins de nos partenaires locaux sélectionnés. Que ce soit en camping-car, en van routard, en bus ou en circuit voiture et hébergements de charme, notre expérience terrain et notre implication dans le secteur touristique local sont la garantie d'un voyage réussi.

Les membres de l'Alliance Française bénéficient de 5% de réduction sur leur voyage + un Guide des Frogs offert pour toute location d'un camping-car ou d'un itinéraire (voiture + hébergement) de plus de 15 jours.*



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Frogs-in-NZ – Online Travel Agency & Guidebooks... in French

Since the start of their odyssey in 2001, the 'Frogs' have been tirelessly promoting New Zealand to the French-speakers around the world through their custom-made Travel packages, but also through the extensive editorial website and the comprehensive guidebook collection. The latest one, *Guide des Frogs Nouvelle-Zélande 2010* having sold 5000 copies in France, New Caledonia, Tahiti, Belgium, Canada... (and counting!)

You can benefit from Frogs knowledge of New Zealand as a destination by booking a car and accommodation package, a camper-van, a bus tour and more through the dedicated Travel team based in Ponsonby, Auckland. Visit www.frogs-in-nz.com

Members of Alliance Française get 5% discount on the total booking + a complimentary Guide des Frogs 2011 for the rental of a campervan or a car/accommodation package (15 days minimum). *

* Guide à retirer à l'agence directement

French Market



Where: French Bay Yacht Club, Corner of Otitori Bay Road & Valley Road, French Bay

When: Sun 10 April, 9:00am–1:00pm

The only indoor market of French food to eat on the spot overlooking the beautiful beach of French Bay, or take back home including cheese, baguettes, pâtisseries, pâtés, savouries, coffee, crêpes, cooked dishes...

To avoid disappointment, please come as early as possible if you want French bread and patisseries, as the baker is very popular.

Also exclusive French designed clothing accessories, table sets, brocante, artwork, toys, pétanque sets.

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For more details contact Catherine on 816 92 24.



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Grâce à nos sponsors, l'association organise la 20^{ème} édition de la « TRANSCALÉDONNIENNE » en province Nord et Sud. Cette année, une attention particulière sera apportée sur les distances, et la qualité de l'accueil.

Les inscriptions se feront à partir du 9 mai au siège social, toujours par équipes de trois (3) personnes, mixtes ou non, en fonction de l'option choisie.

INSCRIPTIONS :

TRANSCAL MIXTE ou UNISEXE : 10.000F par personne (les équipes s'inscrivant avant le 28 mai bénéficieront d'un tarif à 8.000F par personne).

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Logement

Nous sommes un couple de jeunes Français de Caen et nous serons stagiaires en biostatistique et en informatique à Auckland du 1er mai au 31 juillet 2011. Nous sommes présentement à la recherche d'hébergement pour cette période.

Si vous avez un logement disponible, contactez-nous par courriel ou contactez notre directeur de stage, M. Alain Vandal, à 022.670.9500 ou à alain.vandal@aut.ac.nz.

Nous serons heureux de défrayer des coûts selon nos moyens et d'entreprendre diverses tâches si vous le désirez. Merci !

We are a young couple from Caen in France who will undertake internships in biostatistics and computer science in Auckland from May 1st to July 31st 2011. We are currently looking for accommodation for this period. If you have accommodation available, please contact us by email or contact our supervisor in Auckland, Dr. Alain Vandal, at 0 2 2 . 6 7 0 . 9 5 0 0 or alain.vandal@aut.ac.nz.

We'll gladly pay for rent within our means and are happy to undertake any chore should you so wish. Thank you!

Joséphine Bryère
(josephine.bryere@gmail.com)
Martin Théault
(martin.theault@gmail.com)



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Un roi et son château (2) : L'affaire Fouquet

Une autre stimulation dans la décision de Louis XIV de faire construire un palais aussi grand que Versailles était la présence de Nicolas Fouquet. Fouquet devint surintendant des finances en 1653. Son charme personnel (plus fort, apparemment, que son apparence physique) était très apprécié par les Dames de la Cour. Il se servit de sa grande richesse pour soutenir des artistes et des écrivains (y compris La Fontaine). Son palais à Vaux-le-Vicomte était bien plus splendide que toute autre résidence royale de l'époque. Louis en voulait à Fouquet pour son opulence visible. Comme pour retourner le couteau dans la plaie, en août 1661, il reçut le Roi à son palais de façon extravagante. Des centaines de fontaines jouaient dans les jardins et les invités dînaient dans des assiettes en or et en argent. Molière écrivit *Les Fâcheux* à cette occasion.

C'en était trop. Peu de temps après, Louis fit arrêter Fouquet par un certain d'Artagnon – de son vrai nom Charles de Batz, qui avait pris le nom de sa mère, de Montesquiou Artagnan. Il entra au service de Mazarin après avoir servi chez les mousquetaires. Plus tard, il devint Capitaine-Lieutenant des mousquetaires. Dumas a basé son personnage sur les *Mémoires d'Artagnon*, écrites en 1700 par Courtilz de Sandras, sur des actes d'accusation de détournement de fonds, une proposition assez plausible, vu que, au cours de son travail de collecte et de transfert de fonds pour la Trésorerie, sa propre fortune et les fonds

publics s'étaient inextricablement confondus.

La Couronne mit plusieurs années à préparer son procès qui ne commença qu'en novembre 1664. Mme de Sévigné, une amie de Fouquet, assista au jugement et en parla dans des lettres, surtout à Simon Arnauld, Marquis de Pomponne, un autre ami de Fouquet. Sa première lettre à ce sujet décrit la deuxième journée au tribunal:

de grands discours, pour faire voir le pouvoir légitime de la chambre ; que le Roi l'avait établie, et que les commissions avaient été vérifiées par les compagnies souveraines. M. Fouquet a répondu que souvent on faisait des choses par autorité, que quelquefois on ne trouvait pas justes quand on y avait fait réflexion. M. le chancelier a interrompu : « Comment ! Vous dites donc que le Roi abuse de sa puissance ? » M. Fouquet a répondu : « C'est

vous qui le dites, Monsieur, et non pas moi : ce n'est point ma pensée, et j'admire [Je suis surpris] qu'en l'état où je suis, vous me vouliez faire une affaire avec le Roi ; mais Monsieur, vous savez bien vous-même qu'on peut être surpris. Quand vous signez un arrêt, vous le croyez juste : le lende-

main vous le cassez : vous voyez qu'on peut changer d'avis et d'opinion. Mais cependant, a dit M. le chancelier, quoique vous ne reconnaissiez pas la chambre, vous lui répondez, vous présentez des requêtes, et vous voilà sur la sellette. Il est vrai, Monsieur, a-t-il répondu, j'y suis ; mais je n'y suis pas par ma volonté ; on m'y mène ; il y a une puissance à laquelle il faut obéir, et c'est une mortification que Dieu me fait souffrir, et que je reçois sa main. Peut-être pouvait-on bien me l'épargner, après les services que j'ai rendus, et les charges que j'ai l'honneur d'exercer. » Après cela, M. le chancelier a continué l'interrogation de la pension des gabelles [impôt sur le sel –



Châteaux de Vaux-le-Vicomte

Eric Pouhier

Aujourd'hui lundi 17 novembre, M. Fouquet a été pour la seconde fois sur la sellette. Il s'est assis sans façon comme l'autre fois. M. le Chancelier [Pierre Ségier, Chancelier de France de 1635 jusqu'à sa mort en 1672 : il était l'un des fondateurs de l'Académie française, qui tenait ses réunions dans sa maison de 1643 à 1672] a recommencé à lui dire de lever la main : il a répondu qu'il avait déjà dit les raisons [Fouquet a argumenté que le tribunal n'avait pas juridiction pour juger l'affaire, et a alors refusé de reconnaître la validité de la procédure] qui l'empêchaient de prêter le serment ; qu'il n'était pas nécessaire de les redire. Là-dessus M. le Chancelier s'est jeté dans

(Continued from page 8)

Fouquet a été accusé d'avoir reçu une commission de 120 000 livres des receveurs des impôts, les Fermiers-Généraux, qu'il avait contractés], où M. Fouquet a très bien répondu. Les interrogations continueront, et je continuerai à vous les mander fidèlement. Je voudrais seulement savoir si mes lettres vous sont rendues sûrement...

Finalement, la condamnation à mort lui fut épargnée – par treize voix contre neuf. Néanmoins, Louis voulait absolument que la punition soit sévère pour quelqu'un qui avait de manière si insigne paradé sa fortune. Il fut condamné à la prison à vie dans la forteresse de Pignerol, dans les Alpes. Mme de Sévigné écrivit :

Samedi 20 décembre 1664

Louez Dieu, Monsieur, et le remerciez : notre pauvre ami est sauvé. Il a passé de treize à l'avis de M. d'Ormeson, et neuf à celui de Sainte-Hélène. Je suis si aise que je suis hors de moi.

Et le lundi soir suivant :

...À onze heures, il y avait un carrosse prêt, où M. Fouquet est entré avec quatre hommes ; M. d'Artagnan à cheval avec cinquante mousquetaires. Il le conduira jusques à Pignerol où il le laissera en prison sous la conduite d'un nommé Saint-Mars, qui est fort honnête homme, et qui prendra cinquante soldats pour le garder...

Et ainsi incarcéré, il y passa le restant de ses jours. Mme de Sévigné à sa fille, Mme de Grignan (le mercredi 3 avril 1680) :

Ma chère enfant, le pauvre M. Fouquet est mort, j'en suis touchée : je n'ai jamais vu perdre tant d'amis ; cela donne de la tristesse, de voir tant de morts autour de soi...



Portrait de Nicolas Fouquet par Édouard Lacroix

Versailles website, 'Grand Versailles Numérique

<http://www.gvn.chateauversailles.fr/en/index.html>



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A King and His Castle Part 2: The Fouquet Affair

A further spur to Louis XIV in his decision to build such a grand palace as Versailles was the presence of Nicolas Fouquet. Fouquet was made Superintendent of finances in 1653. His personal charm (rather than his physical appearance) was much appreciated by the ladies of the Court. He used his great wealth to support artists and writers (including La Fontaine). His palace at Vaux-le-Vicomte was much more splendid than any of the royal residences at the time. Louis resented Fouquet for his overt opulence. As if to rub salt into the wound, in August 1661, he entertained the King at his palace, on a lavish scale. Hundreds of fountains played in the gardens and the guests ate from gold and silver dishes. Molière wrote *Les Fâcheux* (*The Bores*) for the occasion.

It was all too much. Shortly afterwards, Louis had Fouquet arrested (by a certain d'Artagnon¹ (Dumas based his character on the *Memoirs of d'Artagnon*, written in 1700 by Courtilz de Sandras) on charges of embezzlement, not an unlikely proposition, given that, in the course of his work gathering and transferring funds for the Treasury, his own fortune and public funds had become inextricably mixed.

The Crown took several years to prepare its case, and the trial began only in November 1664. Madame de Sévigné, a friend of Fouquet's, watched the trial and wrote about it in letters, mostly to Simon Arnauld, Marquis de Pomponne, another friend of Fouquet's. Her first letter on the subject described the second day of the trial:

Today, Monday the 17th of November, Mr Fouquet was on the hot seat for the second time. He sat down without any fuss as he did the time before. The Chancellor [Pierre Ségier, Chancellor of France from 1635 until his death in 1672: one of the founders of the Académie française, which held its meetings in his house from 1643 to 1672] began to tell him again to raise his hand: he replied that he had already given the reasons [Fouquet had argued that the Court was not qualified to try the case, and he therefore refused to recognise the validity of the proceedings] preventing him from swearing the oath; that it was not necessary to repeat it. At this point, the Chancellor launched into a long discourse, to show the Chamber's lawful powers; that the King had set it up, and that the commissions had been checked by the sovereign companies. Mr Fouquet replied that people often did things they were authorised to do, but that sometimes second thoughts showed them to be unjust. The Chancellor interrupted: 'What! So, you're saying that the King abuses his power?' Mr Fouquet replied: 'Those are your words, Sir, not mine: that

is not what I think, and I am amazed that given my current state, you want to get me into trouble with the King; but Monsieur, you yourself know very well that one may be surprised. When you sign a judgement, you think it correct: the next day you stop it: so, you see that one may change one's advice and opinion. 'Nevertheless, said the Chancellor, 'although you do not acknowledge the Chamber, you reply to it, you present requests, and now you are in the hot seat.' 'It is true, Sir', he replied, 'I am here; but



Marquise de Sévigné by Lefebvre (1665)

not of my free will; I was brought here; there is a power that must be obeyed, and it is a mortification that God makes me suffer and that I receive from his hand. Perhaps I could have been spared after the services that I have rendered and the responsibilities that I have the honour to carry out.'

After that, the Chancellor continued the questioning on the tax on salt, [Fouquet was charged with receiving a commission of 120,000 pounds from the tax collectors, the Farmers-General, whom he had contracted] and M. Fouquet replied very well. The interrogation will continue, and I will keep on reporting it faithfully to you. I would just like to know

whether my letters are safely delivered to you.

In the end, Fouquet was spared the death sentence – by thirteen votes to nine. However, Louis was determined that punishment be severe for someone who had so egregiously flaunted his wealth. He was condemned to life imprisonment in the fortress of Pignerol, in the Alps. Mme de Sévigné writes:

Saturday, 20 December, 1664

Praise God, Sir, and thank Him: our poor friend is saved. He passed with thirteen votes on the advice of M. d'Ormesson, and nine on that of Sainte-Hélène. I am so delighted that I am beside myself.

And on the following Monday evening:

...At eleven o'clock, there was a coach waiting, and Mr Fouquet climbed into it with four men; Mr d'Artagnan was on horseback with fifty musketeers. He will take him right to Pignerol where he will leave him in prison under the supervision of Mr Saint-Mars, who is a very honest man, and who will have fifty soldiers to guard him...

And thus incarcerated, he spent the rest of his days. Mme de Sévigné wrote to her daughter, Mme de Grignan (Wednesday 3 April 1680):

My dear child, poor Mr Fouquet is dead, I am much moved: I have never before lost so many friends; it makes one sad to see so many deaths, of those one knows...

Versailles website, 'Grand Versailles Numérique

<http://www.gvn.chateauversailles.fr/en/index.html>

¹His real name, Charles de Batz, he took his mother's name - de Montesquiou Artagnan. He entered Mazarin's service after serving in the musketeers. Later, he became a Captain-Lieutenant of the musketeers.



La radio francophone d'Auckland
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Crème brûlée

La version originale de la recette, prise du livre de recettes de François Massialot

Le Cuisinier roïal et bourgeois, qui apprend à ordonner toute forte de Repas en gras & en maigre, & la meilleure maniere des Ragoûts les plus delicats & les plus à la mode. Ouvrage tres-utile dans les Familles, & singulierement necellaire à tous Maîtres d'Hôtels, & Ecuiers de Cuifine, Paris, Claude Prudhomme, 1705.

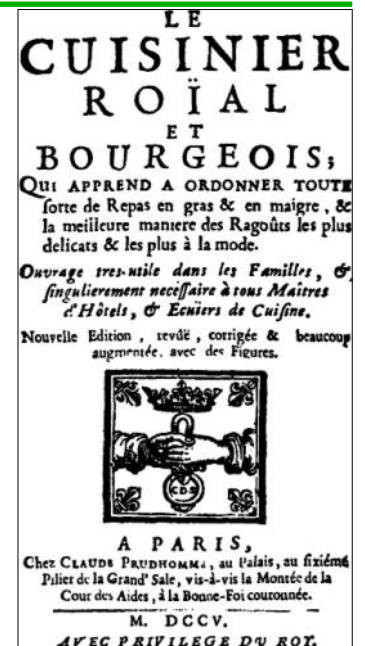
Massialot (Limoges 1660 - Paris 1733) est un officier de bouche qui a travaillé comme chef cuisinier pour diverses cours et qui a laissé plusieurs livres auxquels se sont référés d'autres chefs et les historiens de la cuisine.

La recette:

Il faut prendre quatre ou cinq jaunes d'œufs, selon la grandeur de votre plat ou assiette. Vous les délayerez bien dans une casserole, avec bonne pincée de farine; & peu à peu vous y verserez du lait, environ une chopine. Il y faut mettre un peu de cannelle en bâton, & de l'écorce de citron vert haché, & d'autre confit. On y peut aussi hacher de l'écorce d'orange comme celle de citron; & alors on l'appelle

Crème brûlée à l'orange.

Pour la faire plus délicate, on y peut mêler des pistaches pilées, ou des amandes, avec une goutte d'eau de fleur d'orange. Il faut aller sur le fourneau allumé, & la toujours remuer, prenant garde que votre crème ne s'attache pas au fond. Quand elle sera bien cuite, mettez un plat ou une assiette sur un fourneau allumé; & ayant versé la crème dedans, faites-la cuire encore, jusqu'à ce que vous voyez qu'elle s'attache au bord du plat. Alors il la faut tirer en arrière, & la bien sucrer par-dessus, outre le sucre que l'on y met dedans: on prend la pelle du feu, bien rouge; & du même temps on en brûle la crème, afin qu'elle prenne une belle couleur d'or.



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