

GALATHEA

PRESS KIT

2025



10^{ÈME}
ÉDITION

Editorial

The Festival evolves and expands its scope. Galathea welcomes nearly **10,000 people, internationally-renowned speakers and national symposia.**

It also hosts screenings and events. The festival also organizes **two international competitions video and photo competitions.**

Galathea looks to the future, **to children, not forgetting the environment.** Sustainability is the continuity of our international outlook in this age of globalization.

We want the festival to be a city teeming with events, exhibitions and visitors.

Our festival is also your showcase to the public!



Le mot du président

The tenth edition of the Galathea Festival in Hyères promises to be **a not-to-be-missed event for lovers of the marine world**. Since its inception, our international festival has captivated an ever-growing audience with its rich and varied program. This year, Galathea celebrates a decade of exploration and celebration of the oceans, offering a unique plunge into the mysteries of the seabed.

From November 20 to 23, 2025, we'll be welcoming, among others, those who have grown up with the festival : the children of the volunteers. Since 2016, they've been running up and down the aisles between stands, screening rooms and exhibitions. They have seen, among other things, the sperm whales followed by **René Heuzey, François and Véronique Sarano**, who no longer hold any secrets for them. **Didier Noiroi**'s secret dives in the Mediterranean revealed the surprises of marine life on their shores. **The Gombessa team**'s deep explorations made them want to know what lives there, just a little deeper than the usual dives.

This Galathea "generation" is an example that I hope will be followed by many others. We continue to strive **to arouse the curiosity of younger people** and, equally, of the general public.

For this tenth edition of Galathea, we're delighted to have crossed paths with a tireless defender of the oceans and their inhabitants: **Captain Paul Watson**. A huge thank you to him for sponsoring our festival.

And is 10 years an age of reason? This year, our association has undergone a profound transformation to welcome more people into the organization and thus offer the best possible exchanges and events over 4 days. Two whole days are once again dedicated entirely to schoolchildren of all ages, from kindergarten to BTS. After that, everyone is welcome to attend **fascinating conferences** led by renowned experts, discover **art and photography exhibitions**, and take part in **documentary film screenings**. These events will raise public awareness of the beauty and fragility of marine ecosystems.

One of the highlights of this year's event will undoubtedly be **the marine photography and video competitions**. These competitions will highlight the talents of artists and explorers, offering an exceptional showcase for their work. The winners will be honored at **a special ceremony** on Saturday evening, in the presence of influential personalities from the marine world.

The Galathea Festival is also a place to meet and exchange ideas. Visitors will have the opportunity to **talk to scientists, adventurers and enthusiasts**, sharing their experience and knowledge. **Interactive workshops** and **fun activities** will also be offered for the youngest visitors, to introduce them to the preservation of the marine environment.

This tenth edition will be marked, once again, by a festive and convivial atmosphere. The Galathea Festival is much more than just an event: **it's a true celebration of marine life, a call to protect our oceans and an invitation to marvel**.

Join us in Hyères for an unforgettable experience at the tenth edition of the Galathea Festival!

Yann Valton - Galathea president

Overall assessment of the ninth edition



10 000

visitors

6

areas

18

conferences

3 000

schoolchildren

7

exhibitions

30

projections

1 300

photographs submitted
for the competition

50

films and clips

Communication report

of the ninth edition

1

new website to
support our digital
development

113k

coverage in one
month on Facebook

40k

coverage in one
month on Instagram

5 200

visitors to the website during
the Festival period

4 900

clicks on the site and over
the same period

What's new in 2024

Increasing numbers of schoolchildren

The number of schoolchildren attending the Festival continues to rise year after year. This year, the Festival welcomed almost **3,000 schoolchildren**, a figure we are truly proud of, as it is part of our drive **to raise awareness of the marine world and its fragility**.

During the Festival, we were able to offer conferences with local players, notably on **Posidonie** for the BTS environment students. There were also shows for younger audiences, including **Bernard Abeille**, our resident artist, and **"Le Monde du Silence Gueule"**, a stand-up comedy written by Julia Duchaussoy.



New spaces

The association was fortunate enough to **expand to six different venues** for the ninth edition: the Forum du Casino, the Casino auditorium, the Médiathèque, the Salle Benoîte Groult, the Théâtre Denis and the Anglican Church.

Arts et Travels Space

A new area has been added to the Galathea Festival this year: the **Arts and Travel area**. A space combining **artists and tour operators** to make our visitors dream and travel.



Previews



During the Festival, we had the pleasure of presenting **four previews**. Our godfather **Greg Lecœur**'s new book on the wonders of the Mediterranean. A book on marine life in artificial environments by **Nicolas Barraqué, Isabelle Croizeau, Hervé Colombini and Dominique Barray**. A comic strip by **Franck Girelli** tracing the history of the Mediterranean, and finally, the new volume of Bulots by **Sébastien Salingue**.

Highlights

The Opening Evening

The opening evening is an important part of the Festival. The various speeches and screenings introduce the event and allow us all to share the same passion, that of the marine world and its preservation. Renowned guests have honored us with their presence this year : **Anne Joncheray, Greg Lecœur, Jean-Marc Barr, the National Parc de Port-Cros and Jean-Pierre Giran, the mayor of Hyères.**



The awards ceremony



The awards ceremony was held on Saturday, November 23, 2024. This year, **1,300 photos and 50 films and video clips** were entered in our photo and video competitions. The presence of Renée Capozzola (USA) and Nicholas Samaras (Greece), two renowned photographers, gave **an international dimension to the event.**



Exclusives 2025

Godfather 2025

Galathea is proud to announce that **Captain Paul Watson, founder of Sea Shepherd**, will be the patron of this tenth edition.

His **fight for the oceans** resonates with us, and we're certain that his commitment, his education and his love for the oceans will make this tenth edition a unique moment.



Paul Watson and Sea Shepherd



Known for his bold, direct actions **against whaling** and marine poaching, he has dedicated his life to **protecting the oceans**. With **Sea Shepherd**, he has led numerous campaigns around the world to **defend marine wildlife**. The organization stands out for its interventions at sea to **stop illegal activities and protect endangered species**.

An international jury !

Those who will have the delicate task of choosing the best photos and videos in the competition come from a variety of backgrounds, but are united by the same passion: **images and the ocean**. This international jury, made up of experts from **Europe and North America**, brings together scientists, filmmakers, photographers and journalists. All combine technical rigor, artistic vision and environmental commitment to evaluate the works presented.



Grand prix Galathea 2024 - Luc Rooman

Exclusives 2025 – photo jury

Steven Weinberg – President



Renowned marine biologist Steven Weinberg is **a must for divers passionate about underwater fauna**. A graduate of the University of Amsterdam and professor in Puerto Rico and Luxembourg, he now devotes his retirement to diving and observing marine ecosystems. He is the **author of numerous guidebooks and coffee-table books**.

Tanya Houppermans

American photographer and videographer Tanya Houppermans specializes in **photographing sharks**, which she actively protects by collaborating with scientists. She has won several awards, including **three World Shootout titles** in the “shark” category.



Denis Baranger

A passionate photographer, Denis Baranger has won the **Coupe de France for wildlife photography**. Between Brittany and his travels, he captures the beauty of the seabed and passes on his passion through his photos... and to his children, all of whom are keen underwater photographers.

Exclusives 2025 – vidéo jury

Didier Noirot – President



A former companion of Cousteau, Didier Noirot is a pioneer of underwater video. An adventurer of images, he has made **numerous documentaries for the BBC** (Blue Planet, Earth, Life...), winning **two Emmy Awards, two Bafta awards and a Panda**. A specialist in extreme environments, he films large marine animals up close.

Juliette Barthaux

An audiovisual professional, Juliette Barthaux spent **22 years with TF1 and helped create Ushuaïa TV**, the first channel entirely dedicated to the planet. An editorial coordinator, she has also **developed a number of documentary festivals**.



Yann Rineau

A director with **a passion for the Mediterranean**, which he has adopted as his playground and field of study, Yann Rineau has produced numerous documentaries and reports, including several in collaboration with **Laurent Ballesta** : Planète Méditerranée, Cap Corse, Mont La Pérouse...

Taking action all year round

Galathea is committed all year round to **raising awareness through exhibitions and displays.**

With 7 exhibitions currently on display, Galathea invites you to escape, and raises awareness of the seabed and its protection.

Vinci Autoroutes

In partnership with Vinci Autoroutes, the Office français de la biodiversité, the DIRM, the Agence de l'eau and the Fédération française d'études et de sports sous-marin région Sud, the Festival **exhibits and raises awareness at numerous freeway rest areas along the Mediterranean.** During a break in these areas, motorists are invited to discover the riches and fragility of the Grande Bleue.



Expositions



The Festival also exhibits **outside its walls in the partner town of Hyères les Palmiers**, introducing a wide audience to the riches of the marine world.



Schoolchildrens

The association also carries out **environmental awareness-raising activities for schoolchildren throughout the year** : discovery of marine flora and fauna, sea outings, etc.



Press and media appearances

Galathea garnered numerous mentions after the close of the festival :

- **National and international press** including Subaqua, Plongez!, Var matin, Figaro Nautisme...
- **Television**, including France 3, TF1, France 2 and BFMTV.
- **Radio, with interviews and web communication** on VarMatin, Plongez, VarActu, TPM, and mentions of the site in various articles by partners and exhibitors.
- **Social networks with nearly 120,000 people reached** via Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn.

Press Appearances



Social networking appearances



Useful links



<https://linktr.ee/galathea.asso>

Our partners

Galathea thanks all its loyal partners!



**We look forward to seeing you again from
November 20 to 23, 2025.**

GALATHEA

GALATHEA



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