



The old stables, a place for work and exhibitions

CERISY, the Partners

Honor Committee: Gilbert Amy, Michel Arrivé, Henri Atlan, Georges Balandier, Yves Bonnefoy, Barbara Cassin, Hélène Cixous, Anne Clancier, Régis Debray, Philippe Descola, Umberto Eco, Annie Ernaux, Paolo Fabbri, Jean Pierre Faye, Armand Frémont, Lorand Gaspar, Gérard Genette, Sylvie Germain, Anthony Giddens, René Girard, Maurice Godelier, Bruno Latour, Jacques Le Goff, Jacques Lesourne, Albert Memmi, Edgar Morin, Jean Petitot, Jean Ricardou, Bernard Roy, Michel Serres, Salah Stétié, Charles Taylor, Tzvetan Todorov, Alain Touraine, Michel Tournier, Claude Vigée, Jacques Vistel.

Circle of partners: Various businesses, local authorities and other organisations support the action of the CCIC to secure a sustainable development and a future for Cerisy.

The Regional Coordination Committee: Twice a year, this committee gathers together previous key partners and certain towns (Avranches, Coutances, Deauville, Granville, Saint-Lô) to coordinate projects relevant to Normandy.

Institutional partners: The support that the AAPC receives (less than 15% of its budget) comes from the *Centre national du Livre*, and, for Normandy, from the *DRAC*, the regional council, the general council of the Manche, the *Communauté du Bocage Coutançais*, and the *Commune de Cerisy-la-Salle*.

Scientific and cultural partners: The organisation of joint projects is backed by signed agreements with universities (Caen, Rennes 2) and regional organisms (*Institut mémoire de l'édition contemporaine*, *Archives départementales de la Manche*). A number of joint projects have been initiated between CCIC and local secondary schools such as the College Anne Heurgon-Desjardins at Cerisy.



© photo : Michel Saloff

Come to CERISY

Information:

- Website: www.ccic-cerisy.asso.fr
- Email: info.cerisy@ccic-cerisy.asso.fr
- Address: CCIC-Le Château, 50210 CERISY-LA-SALLE
- Telephone: 02 33 46 91 66 / Fax: 02 33 46 11 39

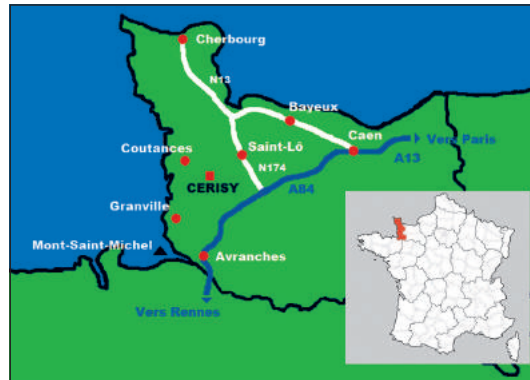
Participation in the conferences:

- pays your membership dues to the AAPC
- register for the conference of your choice (see www.ccic-cerisy.asso.fr/inscription.html)

Meetings in the Laiterie:

- If you wish to use the facilities of the Laiterie for an event, please submit a request to the CCIC specifying the themes and objectives of the proposed conference.

Access:



Guided visits of the historical monument are organised:

- every Thursday: July & August at 3.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. ;
- groups: date according to agreement during the season



The
Centre Culturel
International de
Cerisy-la-Salle

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 CERISY, the Castle

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The sunday buffet on the north terrace

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CERISY, the Castle

The castle was built between 1613 and 1625, after the Edict of Nantes, by the Richiers, a family of protestant nobility. Built to be used both as a stronghold and as a place of leisure, its form follows that of late 16th-century manor houses. The main building is flanked by four corner pavilions, with three sides protected by a dry moat. The north side and the stone bridges date from 1756. The decorative elements of this otherwise austere and monumental castle are limited to the dormers of the pavilions, the stringcourses, and the use of polychromatic stones (red sandstone and granite).

Inside, the most interesting features are the monumental staircase, the granite chimneys, the old parlour with its Louis XIII painted ceiling, the panelled sitting room, the large reception room, the old kitchen and the attics.

The L-shaped farm which also dates from the 17th century, incorporates elements from earlier buildings. Other buildings (the stables, the orangery, the green houses) were constructed later. To the west and the north are the ruins of the 16th century castle and its lookout tower, along with a 200-year old plane tree, which overhangs an old fish pond that was formerly used as a millpond.

During the Revolution, the last of the Richier family emigrated and the castle was declared "national property". It was then bought in 1819 by Joseph Savary (born in Notre Dame de Cenilly and the ancestor of the castle's current owners) and has been the site of the International Cultural Centre since 1952.

The site is classified as a historic monument (Monument historique) «because of its architectural quality and its overall great consistency as the centre of culture and history, as well as that of modern thought».



The castle library, where some sessions take place

© photo : Archives Pontigny-Cerisy

CERISY, the Cultural Adventure

☛ *Three generations of the same family have contributed to make Cerisy what it is to day*

- From **1910 to 1939**, **Paul Desjardins** organized the still famous "**Décades**" at the **Pontigny Abbey** in Burgundy, where leading figures of the time would gather to discuss art, literature, philosophy, politics and society.

- In **1952**, his daughter **Anne Heurgon-Desjardins** founded the Centre of Cerisy. With the support of the *Amis de Pontigny-Cerisy*, she worked hard to restore the castle and its outbuildings, while pursuing the cultural mission outlined by her father.

- From **1977 to 2006**, her daughters, **Edith Heurgon** and **Catherine Peyrou**, carried on the tradition while expanding the scope of their activities. A substantial overhaul of both the facilities and the organization of conferences was completed.

- **Since** the death of Catherine Peyrou, **Edith Heurgon** has carried on the task with the help of her brother-in-law Jacques Peyrou and his children (*Société civile du château de Cerisy*), as well as of Jean Ricardou (as cultural advisor) and of a dedicated local team led by Philippe Kister.

☛ *What the future holds:*

- With the conferences still typically from one week to ten days, like the original meetings in Pontigny, the Centre offers conference guests a rare opportunity to have extended discussion in a warm environment conducive to building lasting friendships and blazing new trails.oute indépendance, de "penser avec ensemble".



The "Laiterie", where some sessions take place

© photo : Archives Pontigny-Cerisy

CERISY, the Activities

☛ *The Association of the Amis de Pontigny-Cerisy (AAPC):*
- Created in 1952, it was recognised as promoting the public interest in 1972.

- Its meetings take place in a location, the castle itself, made available to its members by the *Société civile du château de Cerisy*.

- Its core mission is to further advances in the social sciences and the liberal arts through the organization of an annual roster of conferences in the fields of literature, philosophy, history and anthropology.

- Its management is entrusted to a **committee**, currently chaired by J.-B. de Foucauld, with the following board : S. Allemand, P. Bouet, M. Calle-Gruber, A. Clancier, J.-P. Dupuy, F. Gaillard, C. Halbecq, A. Hatchuel, L. Martin, J.-P. Montier, D. Peyrou, J. Peyrou, I. Stengers, J. Vistel, M. Wiewiorka.

☛ *The International Cultural Centre of Cerisy (CCIC):*

- The Activities of the Association take place on the Cerisy estate, which offers residential and dining services as well spaces to convene meetings, hang exhibitions, and relax.

☛ *By now, Cerisy has hosted some 700 conferences* on topics ranging from canonical authors to the most up-to-date trends and developments. The warm welcome of our enthusiastic and knowledgeable team fosters a special atmosphere leading to fruitful exchanges and discussions over the course of the 7 to 10 days residency

⇒ <http://www.ccic-cerisy.asso.fr/programme.html>

☛ *Meetings in the "Laiterie"*: The conversion of the old dairy building into a state-of-the-art conference room now enables Cerisy to welcome any partner institution in search of an adequate venue for a conference. Subject to the agreement with CCIC, these groups or institutions get to use some of the services and facilities available on the estate.