

RAVEL BOLÉRO EXPOSITION

TOURING EXHIBITION PRESENTATION



PHILHARMONIE
DE PARIS
MUSÉE DE LA MUSIQUE

GENERAL PRESENTATION



PROJET INTRODUCTION

Boléro embodies nearly all the characteristics of Ravel's production and personality. In the form of an exhibition dedicated to the study of his most famous composition, the **Philharmonie de Paris celebrates the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth** and presents a kaleidoscopic portrait of the artist.

Screenshot from the movie



THE EXHIBITION

The exhibition at the Philharmonie de Paris tells the story of the ***Boléro* as a universal masterpiece** while revealing the singular and fascinating personality of Maurice Ravel.

The visit begins with a **striking audiovisual installation** of *Boléro*, performed by the Orchestre de Paris, allowing visitors to experience the **full dramatic intensity** of the orchestral version of *Boléro*. The rest of the exhibition delves into the intimate life and personality of the composer and the longevity of his most important work.

Maurice Ravel was a free spirit who stood apart from the stylistic trends of his time and distinguished himself through an **unwavering perfectionism** in his work. Drawing inspiration from his passions—Spain, the poetry of childhood, and machines—Ravel developed a **unique and sensitive body of work**.

The many **choreographic and cinematic reinterpretations** of the work—including those by Maurice Béjart and Thierry Malandain—are showcased as an **audiovisual score in the exhibition**, demonstrating that since 1928, *Boléro* has continually fascinated performers, filmmakers, and choreographers.

TOURING DETAILS

On display in Paris
from Dec. 3, 2024
to June 25, 2025

Availability
from September 2025

Surface
400m², adjustable

Available format:
Light version or
audiovisual version can
be discussed

Price on demand

EXHIBITION VIEWS



(c) GILLEFAUCONNIER



(c) Nicolas Lascourrèges

THE EXHIBITION CIRCUIT

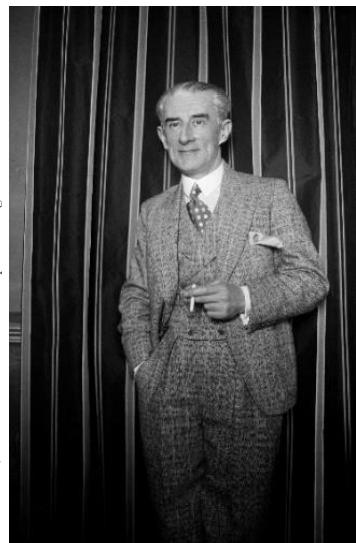


1 – IMMERSIVE PROJECTION OF THE BOLÉRO

From the very first room, visitors experience the physical sensation of this captivating **orchestral crescendo** through a unique cinematic setup dedicated to the performance of *Boléro* by the Orchestre de Paris, conducted by Klaus Mäkelä. This film, shot and projected in 32:9 ratio, was created by François-René Martin & Gordon, and co-produced by Camera Lucida and the Philharmonie de Paris.



Maurice Ravel between 1925 & 1930 © Boris Lipnitzki / Roger-Viollet



2 – WHO IS MAURICE RAVEL ?

Maurice Ravel received a classical musical education during which his **attention to detail** and talent for composition were noted. Quickly gaining recognition both in France and across the Atlantic during the Belle Époque and the post-war period, he became known for the same pointillism that characterized both his music and the decoration of his home. **The Belvédère**, which Ravel acquired in 1921 and which soon **became his haven of peace, encapsulates many aspects of the composer's personality**: his inspirations, his perfectionism and his elegance. It was in 1928, on the eve of composing *Boléro*, that he was at the height of his fame, celebrated by a successful American tour.

3 – BOLÉRO' S INSPIRATIONS

The exhibition finally explores **Maurice Ravel's various inspirations**. First, it examines his **connection to Spain** through his Basque mother and his passion for this country, which permeates his entire work. The carefree boldness of Ravel's music is also explained by his **unique relationship with childhood**, which he captures in a poetic, sometimes almost nostalgic way in several of his compositions. Finally, inspired by his father, an engineer, Ravel developed a **passion for machines of all kinds**. For Ravel, each composition is like a perfectly tuned machine, which is particularly true for *Boléro* and its impeccable mechanics.



Paul Colin, *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, costumes' sketches, 1939, BnF



Metropolis de Fritz Lang, 1927

EXHIBITION VIEWS



(c) Nicolas Lascourrèges



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