



Newsletter

Volume 005 issue 12

December 2014

Dear All,

First, a short comment on the suggestion by the author of the website www.michaelrothmann.org to create an ESMA Prize («It is nice to earn a prize. So I would like to encourage ESMA to think about such an activity of the association»). Indeed, we had this idea from the time ESMA was created. But to offer a recognized prize requires money. Without any generous donors, ESMA remains poor. Thus unfortunately, we have to give up the idea at the moment.

As noted in previous Newsletters, reports on math and art activities are encouraged. They can appear on the website in the native language of the writer: looking carefully at the website, at the moment one can find texts written in English, French, Greek and Russian. The diversity of languages in Europe is an asset for that community, the source of very different original creations.

A question : in your own country, how many pupils, students, people have benefited from conferences, activities, works around math and art?

The Poincaré Institute has recently written a book with somewhat humoristic photographs showing how mathematicians work. The book, titled «La Maison des Mathématiques» («The House of Mathematics»), was published by www.cherche-midi.com. A chapter of the book, «L'Art du modèle» («The Art of the model»), is devoted to the presentation by François Apéry of the collection of small mathematical sculptures one can find in the IHP library.

It is well known that these sculptures did inspire the works by Patrice Jeener and, before the last world war, those of Man Ray. It is a pleasure to discover, through the book, a new photographer, Vincent Moncorgé, who gives us quite a new and beautiful life to these venerable models. Some of these photos are presented here, with the permission of the new ESMA member.





European Society for Mathematics and the Arts

Visitors to IHP can now get free postcards at the library which they can send to their friends and relatives. The recto is a photograph of a mathematical sculpture. The mathematical description appears on the verso, written by François.

The fact that one alone object appears is a characteristic of most of the works by recent artists using mathematics. The paintings of the past are infinitely richer and more attractive. It is likely that the new works would be more popular and more easily accepted by galleries and museums if they included a larger diversity of harmoniously arranged objects in a more emotional context, as for instance those which are exposed to Christmas time.

Although our website was visited more than 400 times in November 2014, the financial status of ESMA has not been improved. Certainly, for many people the economical situation is not easy, and many quite valuable associations are asking for donations at this time of the year. But if you would like ESMA to be able to continue bringing you news and furthering the activities of the beautiful world of mathematics in art, please be so kind as to send in your annual 30 euros due now.

Thanking you in advance for your participation, we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year !

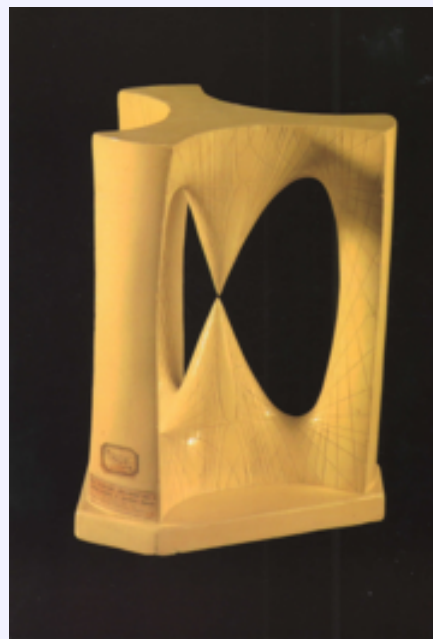
Claude



Two IHP postcards, respectively Polyèdres I and Point conique I with photos by



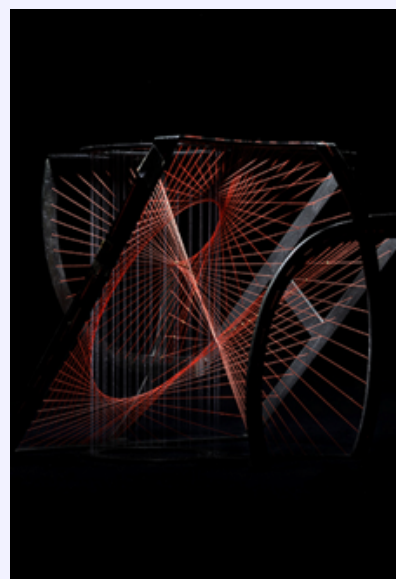
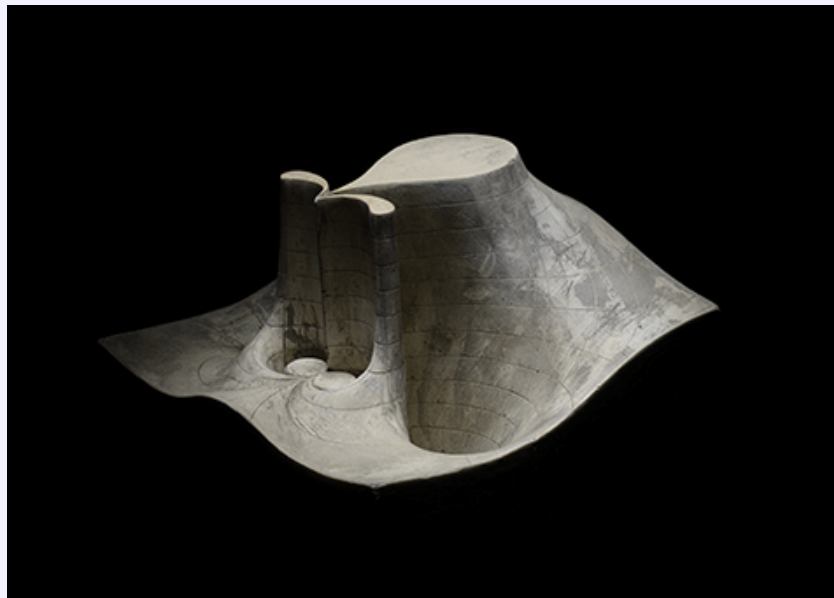
Vincent Moncorgé



François Apéry



CPB's look : a partial view of the previous Point conique I



Vincent Moncorgé
<http://vincentmoncorgé.com>

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