Plan of the museum

WELCOME dear visitor

You are about to embark on an exploration of the Musée universitaire de Louvain. The Musée L is your museum: a space for encounters, experiences and discoveries!

The permanent exhibition is organised around the five key impulses that drive each and every one of us, all over the world, since the dawn of mankind. It all starts when we look at something with wonder and admiration – **we feel amazement**. Those feelings give rise to the desire to increase our knowledge and understanding – **we start questioning**. The third impulse pushes us to share what we have learned, how we do things, what we have experienced – **we seek to pass on knowledge and information**, which brings us together. In art, this takes us to naive art, which brings us together. In art, this takes us to naive art.

**PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE**

**THE FIVE KEY IMPULSES**

1ST FLOOR

**THIS IS A UNIVERSITY MUSEUM**

Journey of a work of art

Little natural history cabinet

2ND FLOOR

FEELING AMAZEMENT

The world's incredible diversity

Cabinet of curiosities, a place of wonder and amazement. Sundry objects, sometimes mysterious or curious, from both the natural and the cultural world.

- Stuffed animals, minerals, shells, fossils, African masks, ancient objects, globes, and much more.

**QUESTIONING**

The researchers’ passion

From the infinitely small to the infinitely large, from the universe to mankind, everything is a voyage of discovery and research.

- Some important researchers from the Université catholique de Louvain – Various collections that are part of the University’s scientific heritage: clinical anthropology collection, instruments for observation and measurement, entomological, geology, paleontology and archaeology collections.

PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE

**Writing & calculation**

Two inventions for formalizing and passing on knowledge.

- Manuscripts from different periods and regions in the world to illustrate and understand graphical development and the diversity of content and media – Manual and mechanical calculating instruments that pre-date the advent of electricity.

3RD FLOOR

BEING MOVED

Modern art. Creative freedom

Art in the 20th century. An intense period of individual expression and visual quests.

- Works by Mig Quinet, Walter Leblanc, Jo Delahaut, Pierre Alechinsky, Erró

**COLOUR LAB**

- Touching, playing, understanding. The colour.

4TH FLOOR

BEING MOVED

Antiquity: three cradles of ancient civilizations

Free flow of ideas, shapes, techniques and beliefs in the Mediterranean, the Middle East and in ancient Egypt.

- Glass and ceramic vessels, funerary and votive objects, plaster casts, etc.

**PRINT LAB**

- Touching, playing, understanding. The engraving.

5TH FLOOR

BEING MOVED

European folk art

Presentation of objects (19th – 20th century) that gave expression to faith in daily life.

- Crucifixion bottles, reliquaries, show-boxes, holy cards, reverse glass paintings, ex-voto and medallions.

**PRINT LAB**

- Touching, playing, understanding. The engraving.

AFRICAN ART

Collection of African art objects (late 19th – early 20th century), manifestations of the sacred and the invisible.

- Statuettes with magical powers, objects of divination and healing or inhabited by invisible forces, ritual masks and symbols of power.

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6TH FLOOR

CONTEMPLATING

Through the eyes of an amateur

Collection of Dr Charles Delsemme, bequeathed as an ‘ensemble voulu’ to create a dialogue between the works.

- A gallery of heads, a drawing by Dodeigne ‘conversing’ with a statue of Athena, and paintings by Magritte and Delvaux displayed alongside statuettes from near and far are just some of the items on show.

Middle Ages & the early modern period. Western religious expression

Examples of artistic creation inspired by Western Christianity over more than a thousand years, with special emphasis on Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque art.

- Altarpieces, paintings, sculptures and church furniture variously illustrate the themes of the birth and passion of Jesus, other passages from the Bible and the lives of the saints.

**PRINT LAB**

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3D LAB

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