

Maria Callas Foundation

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The Maria Callas Foundation (Fonds de Dotation Maria Callas), established in Paris in 2017 by Tom Volf together with those close to the artist, preserves the world's most significant private collection devoted to Maria Callas — photographs, unreleased recordings, letters, stage costumes — and brings it to life through exhibitions, films, books and concerts, working towards the opening of the **Maria Callas Museum in Paris**, planned for the fiftieth anniversary of her death, on **16 September 2027**.

6,000+

objects — the collection belongs entirely to the Foundation

200 h

of original recordings, many unreleased

5,000

original photographs, public and private

150

original handwritten letters

The Foundation

An endowment fund under French law of 4 August 2008 (SIREN 877 558 965, registered office in Neuilly-sur-Seine), the Maria Callas Foundation was created in 2017 under the honorary presidency of conductor **Georges Prêtre**, with those who mattered in the artist's life — her pianist Robert Sutherland, her faithful companions Ferruccio Mezzadri and Bruna Lupoli. The founding support committee brought together Franco Zeffirelli, Alain Delon, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and Pierre Bergé.

Its mission holds in three verbs: **preserve** (assemble, conserve, restore and document the collection), **transmit** (exhibitions, films, books, education — up to the museum) and **champion** (the bel canto and the lyric tradition Maria Callas revived).

Ten years of achievements

2017 Creation of the Foundation. Release of Tom Volf's documentary *Maria by Callas*, distributed in more than 40 countries. "Maria by Callas" exhibition at La Seine Musicale, Paris (over 30,000 visitors). Two books (Assouline, La Martinière).

2018 The exhibition travels to the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco, inaugurated by H.S.H. Prince Albert II.

2019 *Maria Callas: Letters & Memoirs* (Albin Michel), drawn from 350 unpublished letters in the collection; the stage show based on it, starring Monica Bellucci, tours worldwide (2019-2023).

2021 Rediscovery of the 16 mm reels of her Paris debut recital (19 December 1958, Palais Garnier).

2023 Centenary: *Callas – Paris, 1958*, the recital restored in 4K and colour, released in cinemas worldwide.

2025 Creation of the Société des Amis de Maria Callas. Anniversary screening on 16 September. First Paris presentation of archives from the collection: costume of her last Tosca (1965), crown of Turandot.

2027 Fiftieth anniversary of her death — goal: opening of the Maria Callas Museum in Paris.

The Maria Callas Museum, Paris

The world's first reference museum devoted to Maria Callas, founded on an authentic collection, in the city where she lived her last twelve years. A journey of some 800 square metres in three movements — *The Diva* (the stage, the roles), *The Woman* (letters, objects, costumes), *The Legend* (immersive projections) — built on the proven scenography of the Paris and Monaco exhibitions. **Planned opening: 16 September 2027.**

Press visuals

Ten high-definition photographs from the collection are available to newsrooms to illustrate any article devoted to the Foundation, its projects or Maria Callas, with the mandatory credit © **Fonds de Dotation Maria Callas**. Download at **www.mariacallas.fr/press** — logotype included (black, white, vector).

1947 Verona — the year of her Italian debut, at the Arena.

1954 With Luchino Visconti at La Scala.

1955 Madama Butterfly in Chicago — one of her only three evenings in the role.

1957 Medea at La Scala.

1958 Rome, press conference, five days after the evening of 2 January · Portrait, New York.

1963 In concert with Georges Prêtre.

1965 Last Norma in Paris · "Les Grands Interprètes", Paris.

1974 Tokyo, the farewell tour.

Spokespeople

Tom Volf, founding president — director of *Maria by Callas* and *Callas – Paris, 1958*, curator of the Paris and Monaco exhibitions, author of three books devoted to Maria Callas. Available for interviews (French, English).

Press contact — contact form at www.mariacallas.fr/contact-us, subject "Press & media". The Foundation answers every request for interviews, visuals or documentation.