

Cultural Events	The Library	Collections	The Digital Library
Practical information	BnF online Catalogues	Services	Virtual exhibitions

GALLICA 2000

-> [Document resources](#)
-> [A new research tool](#)
-> [Gallica partners](#)
-> [The Gallica web server](#)
-> [Gallica files](#)
-> [Practical information](#)



Introduction

Gallica 2000 is the latest version of the Bibliothèque nationale de France digital library, and contains multimedia documents spanning the entire period from the Middle Ages to the early 20th century. With 35 000 fixed images from different French collections, including those of the Bibliothèque nationale de France itself, 35 000 digitized printed volumes in image mode and one thousand titles in text mode, Gallica 2000 is one of the largest digital collections available free of charge on the worldwide electronic network. The Gallica project began in 1997, and was successively extended to include the *Gallica Classique* collection and the Proust File. The new Gallica 2000 interface has been totally redesigned and now provides access to tens of thousands of previously unpublished documents. The site will soon be expanded further to include some 15000 new out-of-copyright digitised titles. The current three-year plan will be adding *Voyages en France* (5000 titles), *Utopies* and *Voyages en Afrique*.

Document resources

Gallica collections include reference material, rare editions, dictionaries, journals, bibliographies and outstanding images from Bibliothèque nationale de France collections, such as drawings by Louis Boullée and Jean-Jacques Lequeue (Prints and Photographs Department), the Eugène Atget collection (also from Prints and Photographs), the Jean-Baptiste Bourguignon d'Anville collection (Maps and Plans Department), the Music Department's collection of portraits of musicians, the Basile collection (Coins, Medals and Antiquities) or illustrated works from the Rare Books Room.

But users will also find material from external collections, such as illustrated works from the Musée de l'Homme and National Natural History Museum libraries, photographs from the archives of the Heritage and Architecture media library, or photographic material from press agency archives. Gallica covers a wide range of disciplines, including history, literature, science, philosophy, law, economics and political science. Although the main emphasis is on Francophone culture, classic works from other countries are also available, in their original language or in translation. Gallica thus offers a broad selection of essays, guides, novels, poetry, reference material and lesser known works to help everyone, from browsers to book lovers and from college students to academics, to further their knowledge of a historical epoch through contemporary political, philosophical, scientific or literary issues.



A new research tool

Gallica 2000 includes a catalogue listing all digitized documents held by the BnF, whether in copyright or not. However, only documents that are listed as out of copyright may be consulted. The catalogue allows users to navigate through the entire corpus of documents and to consult contents pages and journals in text mode, as well as the legends to pictures. The documents all have accompanying topic-based editorial texts, chronologies and lists of other relevant sites to help you make the most of Gallica's resources.

Gallica partners

The corpus of fixed images has been greatly enriched thanks to cooperative programmes with many different public and private institutions, including the *Musée de l'Homme* library, the central library of the National Natural History Museum, the Heritage and Architecture media library or the library of the Higher School of Civil Engineering (*Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées*). The Orsay University and *Ecole Polytechnique* libraries and the Henri Ey library at the Sainte Anne teaching hospital have also made valuable contributions to Gallica from their science collections. The documents in text mode are contributions from the Frantext database managed by INALF (*Institut national de la langue française*) and from cooperative programmes with the publishers Acamédia, Bibliopolis and Honoré Champion.



The Gallica web server

The new Gallica 2000 version is the product of a major technological advance which has totally integrated the application with the Bibliothèque nationale de France archiving and electronic document searching systems. Not all of the 15 million pages available on line are stored in fast access disks : some of the material is stored in juke-boxes which require longer wait times, while the most frequently requested documents are loaded into fast-access cache memories.

The Gallica web server provides access to the catalogue, which manages access rights and selects documents that are out of copyright. These are called up from the archiving system and presented to the user.

Besides extracting whole documents from storage units, the system will also search for individual page numbers. Documents may also be accessed through the editorial pages providing topic-based information and chronologies.

Text images are displayed in PDF*** through Acrobat Reader software, which users can download free of charge from the Gallica site.

Documents may also be downloaded in full or in part in PDF or TIFF*** formats.

Iconographic material is displayed in JPEG***.



Gallica Files

Gallica classique



Gallica classique provides access to the works of authors who have been consecrated in literary history as " *Great French Writers* ". The *Gallica classique* collection covers one thousand texts - 700 in image mode and 300 in text mode - from Villon to Zola, including nearly one hundred volumes from the celebrated *Classiques Garnier* collection, the complete works of Chateaubriand and the Furne edition of *La Comédie humaine*. Thanks to its search and navigation

tools and accompanying user guide, the site is designed to meet the needs of students, academics, researchers and browsers alike. The newly designed server provides for intuitive access by author or by century, by placing authors and their works within the context of major contemporary events.



Marcel Proust



This file was created to coincide with an exhibition on Marcel Proust organised by the BnF, and allows users to consult the manuscript *Le Temps retrouvé*, the last volume of *La Recherche du temps perdu*. The manuscript, which has been extracted from the library's Proust collection, is made up of six exercise books which take the reader into the heart of the author's creative process, with numerous examples illustrating the atypical composition of the novel. Readers may also consult the text of the original 1927 edition in text mode, a contribution to Gallica from the publisher Honoré Champion. These

precious documents are accompanied by a chronology and descriptions of the memories, places and people making up the author's world.

Voices on Gallica

Recording the spoken word for posterity was one of the major concerns of the inventors of the phonograph in 1877-1878. In this folder, Gallica presents a corpus of acoustic recordings from the time before microphones and "electric" recording equipment came onto the scene in 1925. These recordings include the **Archives de la parole** and an anthology from the *Historical documents* series published by Pathé which reproduces French politicians' speeches during the First World War (*Discours d'hommes politiques français durant la première guerre mondiale*).

Definitions :

* Image mode produces a visual facsimile of the original document.

**Text mode is produced by entering the document in digital form, and allows users to search for individual terms in the text.

***TIFF, PDF and JPEG : document saving formats allowing images to be exported



Practical information

Bibliothèque nationale de France

User services and networks directorate
Digital library department
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75706 Paris Cedex 13

Internet sites :

- <http://www.bnf.fr>
- Gallica : <http://gallica.bnf.fr>
- Gallica " classique " : <http://gallica.bnf.fr/classique>



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