The Society of the Wallace Fountains was honored to receive a mention Coup de Cœur (honorable mention) from the Stéphane Bern Foundation for History and Heritage and the Institute of France for its efforts to preserve and protect the Wallace Fountains of Paris.

The ceremony to award the 2022 Prize for History and the Prize for Heritage was held on the evening of 16 May 2023 in the Great Meeting Room of the Institute of France. The ceremony was presided over by Xavier Darcos, President of the Foundation and Chancellor of the Institute and Stéphane Bern, founder of the Foundation.

The announcement and presentation of the 2022 laureates of the Prize for Heritage and the special mention Coup de cœur was made by Monsieur Adrien Goetz. Madame Brigitte Macron bestowed the certificates and the engraved medallions. Eglises Ouvertes, Nord de la France won the prize and in addition to a certificate and medallion they also received a grant of 25,000 euros.

Barbara Lambesis, president, and Hannah-Marie Seidl, a member of the board of directors, accepted the mention Coup de cœur on behalf of the Society of the Wallace Fountains.

Also in attendance at the ceremony were members of the board of directors of Fondation Stéphane Bern, the jury, members of the Institut de France, Minister of Culture, Rima Abdul Malak, Cultural Advisor to President Macron, Philippe Belaval, Minister Delegate for Transportation in France, Clément Beaune and many other distinguished guests.

Receiving the Prize for History was author Clément Oury for his biography, Le Duc de Marlborough, John Churchill, le plus redoutable ennemi de Louis XIV. The prize was awarded by Prince Michael of Greece followed by remarks from the current Duke of Marlborough, James Spencer-Churchill.

A photo session followed the ceremony along with a cocktail reception in the salons of the court of honor.

To know more, discover the press release of the Institut de France, click here.

The Society of the Wallace Fountains wishes to acknowledge and thank GHM-Eclatec, Eau de Paris, Paris City Hall, Museum Carnavalet and the British Embassy for supporting its work and for their participation in the 150th anniversary celebration of the Wallace Fountains which took place in 2022.