

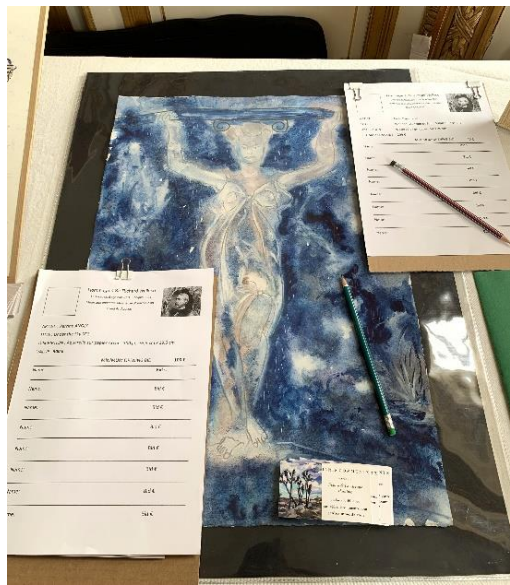
A Tribute to Richard Wallace at Château Bagatelle June 2024



The Society of the Wallace Fountains and Fondation Mansart organized a festive event to celebrate the restoration of Château de Bagatelle and pay tribute to Sir Richard Wallace on 13 June 2024 at the chateau. Wallace was one of Europe's greatest philanthropists. He was the last private owner of Bagatelle, the place where he died. The event was arranged to raise funds for a life-size statue of Richard Wallace to be on permanent display on the grounds of the chateau.



The Society and the Fondation are working to establish Château de Bagatelle as the place where the remarkable story of Richard Wallace will be preserved and told with the hope of inspiring future generations to engage in similar acts of kindness, generosity and humanitarian good works.



Actors posing as Sir Richard and Lady Wallace greeted the 200 guests as they arrived at Château de Bagatelle, while lively period music was played on vintage instruments, including a tune titled "Fontaines Wallace".

An exhibition on the life of Wallace told his story on twelve information panels that featured his remarkable humanitarian and cultural philanthropy in both France and the United Kingdom. The Wallace fountains of Paris, the Wallace Collection in London and a high school and public park in Lisburn, Northern Ireland are among his lasting gifts.



A silent art auction was held with artists from around the world contributing pieces which all had a theme connected to Richard Wallace. Many of the art pieces were inspired by the Wallace fountains. Champagne flowed and presentations were made, all to pay tribute to the extraordinary philanthropy of Richard Wallace and to celebrate the on-going restoration of Château de Bagatelle, which had fallen to ruins after years of neglect.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the maquette of the statue of Wallace. The statue will be installed at the chateau and remain as a lasting memorial to Sir Richard Wallace, the "Benefactor of Paris." The statue is being created by Poppy Field, one of Great Britain's most notable living sculptors. If adequate funding can be secured, the bronze statue will be installed at Bagatelle in the fall of 2025. Donations to the statue fund can be made at :

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