



PARIS

The art of Sufism

Paris welcomes the world's first museum dedicated to Sufi art and culture Last September saw the opening of the Musée d'Art et de Culture Soufis MTO® (MACS MTO®) in the Parisian suburb of Chatou. It is the first museum globally dedicated to the rich artistic and cultural heritage of Sufism.

Housed in a beautifully restored 19th-century mansion on the banks of the Seine, facing the Île des Impressionnistes, MACS MTO® offers 600 square metres of exhibition space, a tranquil garden and an archival research library. Its collection spans from the Achaemenid Empire to the present day, encompassing diverse art forms such as sculpture, textiles, calligraphy and intricate mosaics, all reflecting core Sufi themes and symbolism.

Notable pieces include a kashkūl sculpture, symbolising spiritual

emptiness, and a collection of khirqa, the symbolic wool cloaks of Sufi masters.

Beyond its permanent collection, the museum hosts a dynamic programme of contemporary art exhibitions, talks and workshops, highlighting Sufism's influence on global art and culture, from musical traditions inspired by Rumi to its impact on architecture.

The upcoming exhibition, "Resonant: Bodies, Songs, and Strings," opening 6 June, is an immersive experience exploring the transmission of knowledge through sound, vibration and listening. It features works by fourteen international contemporary artists, inviting visitors on a journey through installations, sound works, and ritual objects across three floors.

