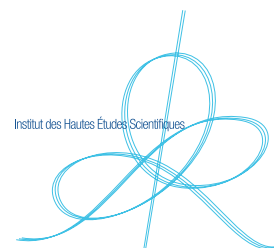


Press Release — November 15th, 2023
Friends of IHES "Jazz and Physics" Gala in NYC



On November 3rd, 2023, the "Jazz and Physics" gala hosted by Friends of IHES brought together over 220 people at the Rainbow Room of the Rockefeller Center in New York. Thanks to the generosity of the sponsors and gala guests, over \$1.22 million dollars were raised during the event, setting a new record in the history of Friends of IHES galas.

Between 2012 and 2021, Friends of IHES organized seven galas in New York City featuring distinguished speakers and renowned IHES faculty members. The Friends of IHES galas are a unique blend of science and entertainment, combining inspiring scientific presentations with the enjoyable moments of a social event. Each gala features luminaries from around the world, the finest French cuisine, and an exceptional level of conversation.

Under the high patronage of Laurent Bili, Ambassador of France to the United States, and Jérémie Robert, Consul General of France in New York, Damien Laban, Deputy Consul General of France in New York, delivered the opening speech of the 2023 gala.

After the cocktail reception, guests were welcomed by Marcus Miller, the master of ceremonies, who ensured that every moment of the evening remained unforgettable. Professional saxophonist and cosmologist Stephon Alexander delivered a captivating speech on jazz and musical spheres before treating the audience to a unique musical performance alongside honored guests Will Calhoun, Santi Debriano, and Hector Martignon. Marcus Miller joined them for a few songs.

Jim and Marilyn Simons, co-chairs of Friends of IHES, encouraged guests to contribute to Friends of IHES's endowment fund by offering to match all donations made during the fundraising call made by auctioneer Lydia Fenet. Following great excitement around the exclusive items offered for auction, over \$450,000 were raised for this purpose alone.

Friends of IHES and IHES extend their gratitude to all the gala donors who made this event exceptional: the Simons Foundation International, the gala underwriter, Société Générale, Premier Sponsor, as well as other gala sponsors, including Jump Trading, David Faucon, XTX Markets, BNP Paribas, Bristol Assurances, Michael R. & Nina Douglas, Ross Garon, Kavita Shah & Benjamin Servenay, Bloomberg, Ipsos, as well as Farida Khelfa & Henri Seydoux. Friends of IHES and IHES also wish to thank gala benefactor, William R. Hearst III, for his support.

[Friends of IHES, Inc.](#)

Friends of IHES, Inc. is a tax-exempt charity organized in the United States. It was created in 1999 with the primary goals to increase the visibility of IHES (Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques) in the United States, to coordinate the network of current and former American visiting scholars to the Institute, and to raise funds for IHES. Friends of IHES, Inc. is a Public Charity under Section 170 (b) (1) (A) (vi) of the Internal Revenue Code and exempt from Federal Tax under Section 501 (c) (3).

[Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques \(IHES\)](#)

A founding member of Université Paris-Saclay, and a foundation in the public interest, IHES is a private research center in mathematics, theoretical physics and all related disciplines. A private foundation recognized in the public interest, the Institute has a restricted number of permanent professors, mathematicians and theoretical physicists. Each year, it welcomes about 200 visitors from all over the world for research visits. Freedom of

research, independence and interdisciplinarity are the values of the IHES, which is also committed to promoting the diversity of talent in fundamental research.

Université Paris-Saclay

Université Paris-Saclay brings together ten constituent faculties and institutes, four Grandes Écoles, the Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques, two associate institutions and shared laboratories with national research organisations. With 48,000 students, 8,100 lecturers and 8,500 administrative and technical staff members, Université Paris-Saclay offers a comprehensive and varied range of undergraduate to doctorate level programmes and engineering degrees, renowned for their quality thanks to the reputation and commitment of the University's academic staff. Located in the south of Paris on vast sites that stretch across Paris, Orsay, Évry and Versailles, Université Paris-Saclay benefits from a strategic geographical and socio-economic position that is strengthened by its international visibility. A leading University, Université Paris-Saclay is recognised for its excellent Mathematics and Physics programmes but also for Biological and Medical Sciences, Agriculture, Engineering, and its extensive Humanities and Social Sciences courses. Close to Paris, Université Paris-Saclay is nested in a protected natural area, at the very heart of a dynamic economic hub.