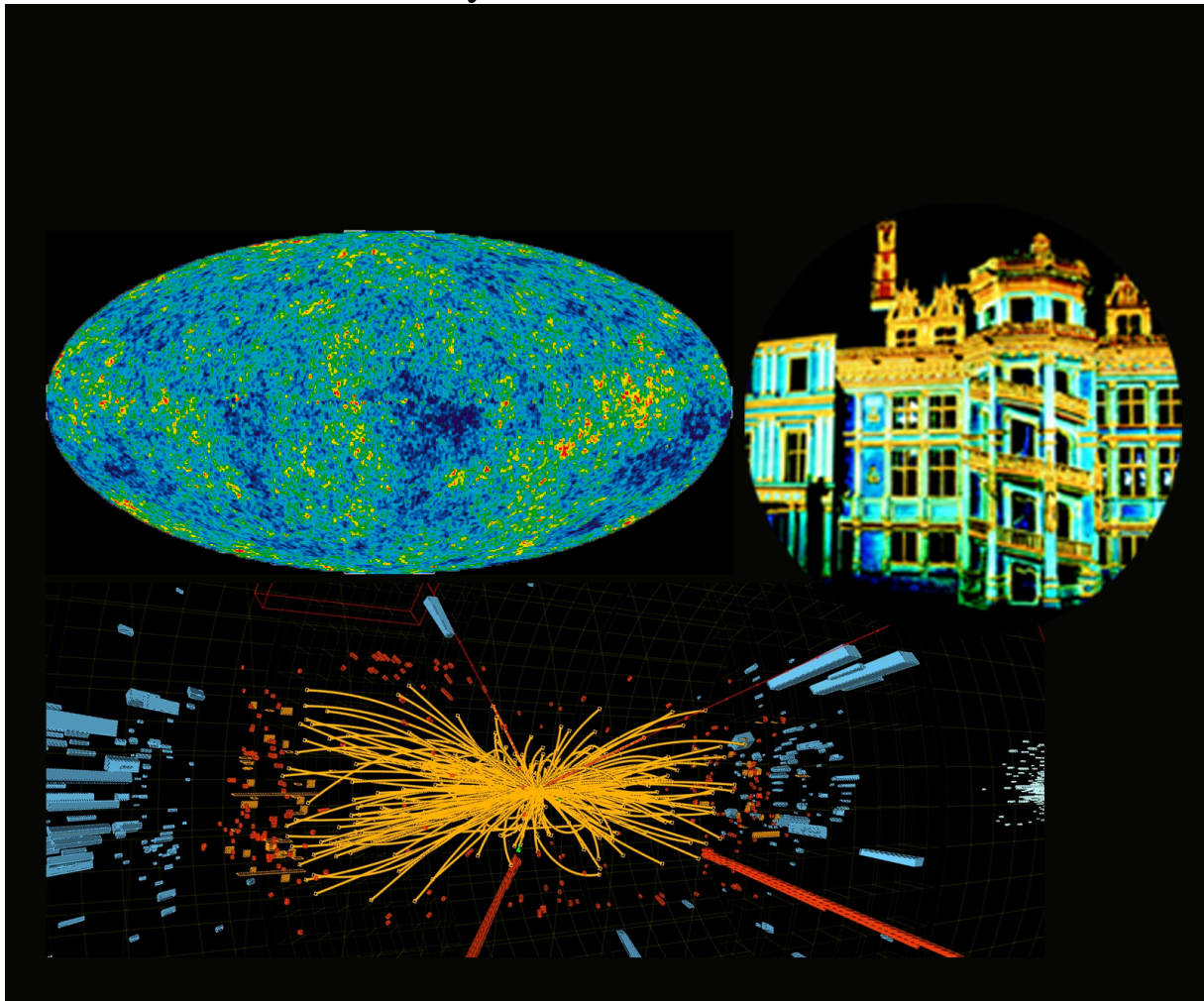


33rd Rencontres de Blois
Exploring
the
Dark Universe

May 22nd - 27th, 2022



First Bulletin

Information Bulletin

1 Place and Date

The 33rd Rencontres de Blois, entitled Exploring the Dark Universe will be held at the Château Royal de Blois, France, from May 22 to 27, 2022.

The postal address of the conference when in session is:

Rencontres de Blois
Château de Blois
41000 BLOIS
France

The picturesque old French town of Blois, famous for its XIV-XVIIth century chateau, is about 170 km (100 miles) from Paris in the beautiful region of the “Châteaux de la Loire”.

2 Practical Organization

2.1 Welcome and registration

Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday afternoon, May 22nd. Registration at the conference office in the Château de Blois will start at about 16:00. A welcome cocktail will be offered to the participants and their families at 19:00. It will be followed by dinner at the Château.

2.2 Conference schedule

The conference will start on May 23rd at 9:00 and will end at about 14:00 on May 27th.

The conference room will be located at the Château Royal de Blois itself.

The conference organisers hope and trust that participants will stay for the entire conference. That is the spirit in which this meeting is organised, in order to maximise the opportunities for scientific exchange. We regret, but the conference expenses cannot be reduced for partial attendance.

2.3 Conference facilities

A video projector connected to a dedicated computer will be available for presentations. It is advisable to come with a backup copy of your slides, on a USB stick.

2.4 Registration

If you wish to participate in the conference, you should register as soon as possible using the on-line registration form which is on this web site.

The deadline for registration is May 1st, 2022.

Nevertheless, it is advisable to reserve your hotel accommodation before April 15th, 2022, since hotel rooms in Blois are limited in certain categories.

The registration fee for participants will amount to 390 Euros and Accompanying persons will be charged 160 Euros.

The meal package will amount to 350 Euros; this is independent of the registration fee.

The registration fee covers the programmed conference social activities, i.e. travel to and tours of the Châteaux at Chenonceau, the Clos Lucé (the last residence of Leonardo da Vinci) and of course a guided tour of the Blois Chateau itself . In the case of participants, it also covers a copy of the conference proceedings.

Payment of the registration fee can be made as follows :

- either payment on-line (the preferred way) for Participants and for Accompanying Person is available on the following webpage:
http://blois.in2p3.fr/payment_cm/blois_online_payment.php
- or by personal cheque in euros drawn on a French Bank only to the order of Rencontres de Blois, sent to the conference secretariat (if you wish, but prepayment of the registration fee is not obligatory) or on arrival at the conference. To avoid ruinous bank fees which are beyond our control, we WILL NOT accept foreign currency personal cheques, or any personal cheques drawn on a non-French bank
- or by traveller's checks in euros ONLY on arrival at the conference
- or by cash in euros ONLY on arrival at the conference
- or prepayment (if you wish, but prepayment of the registration fee is not obligatory) by bank transfer (please remember to add 23 Euros for bank fees if transferring from outside the European Union) to the following account:
RENCONTRES DE BLOIS - Crédit Mutuel - Bures sur Yvette, France
IBAN: FR7610278060090002041610550
(Bank Code 10278 Branch No 06009 Account No 00020416105 Key 50)

Full details of our bank account (which you may need if transferring from abroad) and which include de BICS and IBAN numbers, are given in the "Relevé d'Identité Bancaire" below:

Crédit Mutuel					
RELEVÉ D'IDENTITÉ BANCAIRE					
Identifiant national de compte bancaire - RIB					
Banque 10278	Guichet 06009	N° compte 00020416105	Clé 50	Devise EUR	Domiciliation CCM BURES SUR YVETTE
Identifiant international de compte bancaire					
IBAN (International Bank Account Number) FR7610278060090002041610550					BIC (Bank Identifier Code) CMCIFR2A
Domiciliation CCM BURES SUR YVETTE 4 PLACE DE LA POSTE 91440 BURES SUR YVETTE TÉL: 08 20 09 99 10 (Service 0,12 €/min + prix appel)			Titulaire du compte (Account Owner) ASSOCIATION RENCONTRES PLURIEL PALAIS DES CONGRES PLACE DE LA REPUBLIQUE 41000 BLOIS		
Remettez ce relevé à tout autre organisme ayant besoin de connaître vos références bancaires pour la domiciliation de virements ou de prélèvements de votre compte. Vous éviterez ainsi des erreurs ou des retards.			PARTIE RESERVEE AU DESTINATAIRE DU RELEVÉ		

Within the European Union, transfers take just a few days, but can be somewhat longer from outside.

In any case, bring proof of the transfer and give it to the conference secretariat during registration in Blois.

2.5 Meals (other than the conference banquet, which is covered by the registration fee)

In order to enhance the interaction and exchange between participants, all participants are requested to have lunch and dinner together. The conference has arranged with a caterer to serve lunch and dinner in the Château Royal de Blois.

For participants, the package cost for 5 days will be 350 euros and should be paid to the caterer upon arrival at the conference site; since this is a specially negotiated "package deal" for the conference, it cannot be reduced for partial attendance

For accompanying persons, there are two possibilities only (in either case, payment should be made to the caterer upon arrival at the conference site):

- either: lunch and dinner at the castle, with the participants - the package cost for 5 days will be 350 euros,
- or: just dinner at the castle - after some negotiation, the caterer has agreed that accompanying persons (only) need not return to the castle for lunch; in this case the package cost for 5 dinners will be 150 euros.

2.6 Accommodation

Hotel accommodation will be available in 3 categories :

one star (*), two stars (**) and three stars (***), all rooms having either a shower or a bath.

Participants are asked to arrange their accommodation themselves, in order to reduce the workload on the conference secretary. A certain number of hotels have agreed to hold rooms for the conference until September 15th, 2021; the list, together with a link to an interactive map, can be found by clicking on the hotel list link on the conference website.

Only if for some reason you are unable to do this, should you indicate on the registration form that you would like the conference secretary to do this for you, indicating your requirements. In any case, if you prefer to stay in a three star hotel, you must make the reservation yourself, since those hotels require a credit card number to guarantee payment.

2.7 Social program

Various social activities are planned during the conference for participants, their families and guests : this will include tours of the Châteaux of Blois and Chenonceau, the Clos Lucé (last home of Leonardo da Vinci) and a “Son et Lumière” show at the Château de Blois (please bring your own headset for the audio guide). An additional program for the accompanying persons (cost not included in the above) will be organized in collaboration with the tourist office of Blois.

2.8 Travel

The most convenient way to reach Blois is to arrive in Paris and take a train (SNCF) from the Austerlitz or from Montparnasse railway stations to Blois. There are frequent trains from Paris to Blois; the following schedule (just a few particularly convenient trains are indicated) is, for the time being, only indicative, being based on last year’s schedule. A valid time-table will be put up when available. In any case you are strongly advised to check with your travel agency!

Sunday May 22nd, 2022 (to be confirmed)		Friday May 27th, 2022 (to be confirmed)	
Departure from Paris-Austerlitz	Arrival in Blois	Departure from Blois	Arrival in Paris-Austerlitz
10:37	12:01	10:41*	12:46
11:26*	13:17	12:14	13:53
13:26*	15:17	14:43*	16:46
15:26*	17:17	15:55	17:30
17:37	19:02	16:41*	18:46
18:26*	20:17	17:56	19:34

* indirect train

Blois can also easily be reached by car. Take the exit “Blois” on the Motorway (“autoroute”) A10 connecting Paris to the Châteaux de la Loire area (about 2 hours drive). Once in Blois, follow the signs “Centre”.

3 SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION

The conference will consist of plenary sessions for invited talks and parallel sessions for short presentations

There will be a coffee break in the middle of the morning and afternoon; lunch and dinner will be served at the Chateau to all participants in order to enhance opportunities for contact and exchange of ideas.

The organisers hope and trust that participants stay for the entire meeting, in order to benefit fully from the multidisciplinary nature of the conference.

The scientific program is currently being developed: it can be consulted on the conference website.

Abstracts for the papers to be read at this conference (invited and contributed) will be posted up on the conference website as they are received (deadline April 15th, 2022).

Proceedings

The proceedings will be edited and published.

Deadline for submitting the manuscript: October 1st, 2022.