

MONTE·CARLO
SOCIÉTÉ DES BAINS DE MER



LE CASINO
MONTE·CARLO

Dîner surréaliste
« L'Art du Jeu, le Jeu de l'Art »

Surrealist Dinner Party
The Art of Gaming – the Game of Art

Press kit
April, 28th 2017

A Surrealist Dinner to Celebrate the Art of Gaming

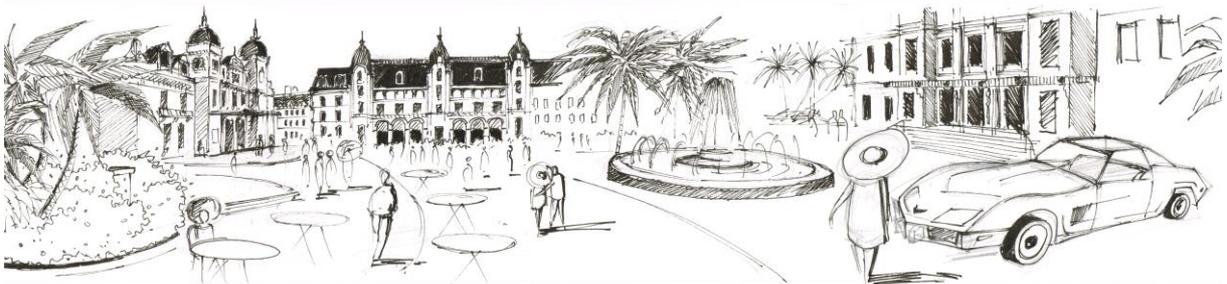
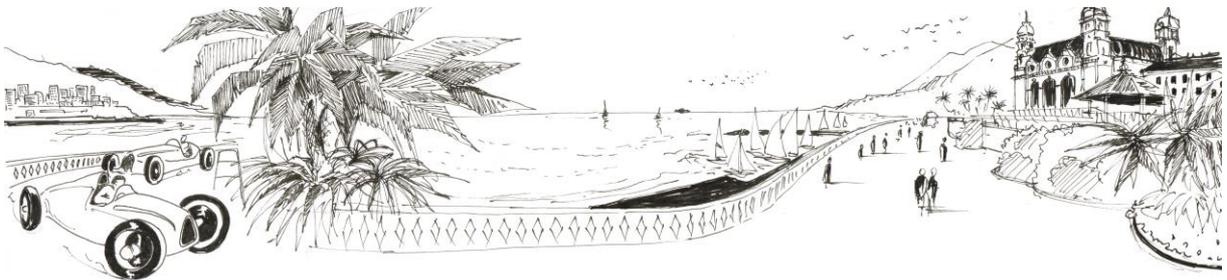
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A surrealist dinner to celebrate the Art of Gaming

Casino de Monte-Carlo provides a very different vision of gaming to that of Las Vegas or Macao: the experience here embodies the *Luxury of Gaming*. In addition to the luxurious palaces, limousines, and black tie dress, there is also the ritual, the theatrics, and the poetry of gaming.

The dinner on 28th April organised for Art Monte-Carlo weekend, the Principality's contemporary art fair, will be a unique and exuberant expression of this *Luxury of Gaming* spirit. Designed by Charles Kaisin, an architect and designer from Brussels who has made his name across Europe and around the world thanks to his surrealist dinners (for himself and with such illustrious brand as Hermès and Rolls Royce, among others), this exclusive dinner will take place inside the famed Casino. Its exuberant scenography will be entirely dedicated to the art of gaming. The dinner, on one long gaming table, will bring together one hundred guests from all over the world: top players, artists, creatives, and collectors. Société des Bains de Mer et du Cercle des Etrangers à Monaco, the Casino owner, is delighted to welcome the major celebrities who will honour this dinner with their presence, while taking advantage of the weekend to visit Art Monte-Carlo and enjoy the pleasures of Monaco in the early spring.

Pascal Camia

Executive Vice President Casinos of Monaco



H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco, H.R.H. Princess of Hanover, Charles Kaisin, Pascal Camia, Executive Vice President Casinos of Monaco, (on the left) Jean-Luc Biamonti, M Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer

An exceptional first at Casino de Monte-Carlo

An architectural jewel in the heart of Monaco, on the famous Place du Casino, Casino de Monte-Carlo has long been a global gaming reference in Europe and the world. Playing at Casino de Monte-Carlo means becoming part of the legend of a mythical venue.

In 2017, Casino de Monte-Carlo is reinventing the Luxury of Gaming and offering the world's top players an enchanting, surprising, and bespoke experience.

Under the aegis of the brilliant Belgian designer, Charles Kaisin, and with the collaboration of star-awarded chef Marcel Ravin, Casino de Monte-Carlo is celebrating 'the Art of Gaming and the Game of Art' with a surrealist dinner organised on the 28 of April, 2017 in the prestigious Médecin Room of Casino de Monte-Carlo. Organised during Art Monte-Carlo weekend, the Principality's contemporary art fair, this dinner will bring together more than one hundred celebrities from the world of Gaming, the arts, architecture, cinema, and sport around H.S.H Prince Albert II and H.R.H Princess of Hanover.

Charles Kaisin, a world-famous architect and designer, has built his success on his fantasy imagery and his unforgettable scenographies, combining gastronomy, song, choreography, fashion, and sport. He makes these magical experiences suspended in time; moments of grace, where excellence resides not only in the plate, but also in the decoration, in the ballet of the dishes, and in the service, which becomes an essential element of the production, blending emotions, chance, poetry and art. Just like the image of Gaming celebrated at Casino de Monte-Carlo.

Michelin Starred chef of Blue Bay, the signature restaurant of Monte-Carlo Bay Hotel & Resort, Marcel Ravin proposes an inventive cuisine, an invitation to a sensorial journey, mixing the culinary style of his Caribbean origins with the gifts of the land and sea of the south of France, a creative fusion highly appreciated by the people of Monaco. Inspired by a grand banquet from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, the surrealist dinner dreamed up for Casino de Monte-Carlo is, in addition to the stylistic performance, a unique culinary experience at the precipice between two worlds - one real, the other imaginary - where the spectacular flirts with humour, emotion, seduction, and the art of gaming.

This exceptional dinner also involves leading characters from Monaco's artistic, cultural, and sporting life, the Opéra de Monte-Carlo, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte-Carlo, the Monte-Carlo Country Club, in a subtle play of connections between the spirit of the Casino and the spirit of the Principality.

A dinner based on the love of Gaming, blending a sense of the spectacular, humour and theatrics

The Art of Gaming, the Game of Art

The journey begins in the Casino's atrium, with a first brush with the unexpected embodied by geishas who welcome each guest, then lead them, with a glass of champagne in hand, to the stage of the Opéra Garnier next to the Casino, where they will discover the new décor of *Il trovatore*, the opera by Giuseppe Verdi. The geishas then disappear and are replaced by the evening's guides, Pascal Camia, Director of Casino de Monte-Carlo, and Charles Kaisin, who will provide guest with tantalizing tales and anecdotes to build excitement for the evening ahead.



H.R.H. Princess of Hanover

The excitement of discovery

The experience continues inside the gaming rooms, in the Médecin Room, where two large black tables have been set in the middle of the gaming tables. Also dressed in black, waiters

bring in the first delights created by Marcel Ravin: a black bundle enclosing a citron fruit, inside of which is a culinary delight. On one of the walls in the room, thanks to a domino effect, a huge hand-painted fresco is revealed, telling the story of Monaco.

A timeless interlude

Suddenly, the sound of hoofs can be heard. As if emerging from an enchanted tale, evoking the splendour of Casino de Monte-Carlo at the time of its creation, an authentic 19th-century carriage drawn by a brown horse sets down two young sopranos in the middle of the room who perform *Les Bacchantales* by Villa Lobos, before then taking off for other horizons once their performance is over.



Passion grows

A change of tone from black to red, the two emblematic colours of casino games. The dark table cloths disappear in favour of flamboyant ones. Passion takes over the room with, a second gastronomic experience, this time red, brought in by waiters dressed in spectacular red capes. In the interlude, Raphaël Enthoven shares his thoughts on the meaning of "playing" with the guests: what are we playing at when we play? Between the player who plays at believing it's true, the actor on stage, the spectator watching, the child and their doll, the player who plays at believing it's a bluff, and the roulette player who plays with real money, albeit in the form of tokens, who is really playing? By making life a game, is the casino the ultimate game?



The Gaming spirit

A new colour change. The red tables become green, the colour of the gaming table, and that of a grass tennis court, evoking one of the flagship events of the Principality, the Monte-Carlo Rolex Masters. The evening continues in the same festive spirit with tennis players taking over the room and passing the ball to and fro under the astonished and amused glances of the guests.

The adrenalin of roulette

An amusing interpretation of the Gaming is then spotlighted in the main course, which waiters hidden behind black and white chequered masks bring out under domes that look like roulette wheels, delicately spinning the dish before serving.



Words to say

Back to black as the room is once more shrouded in mystery. Elaborate costumes reflect the mood. With emblematic gaming cards as headpieces (spade, diamond, club, heart), the waiters bring in a dessert by Pierre Marcolini, famous chocolate-maker from Brussels. Each plate has a tiny light and a twisted iron wire which, once lit up, reveals a word. Each word is read one by one by the guests, forming a passage by François Blanc on the Passion of Gaming.



The Gaming table, the height of this enchanted dinner!

The dinner is over; the lights come back up. Men in frock coats perched on stilts reveal the gaming tables: two French Roulette tables, three Punto Banco tables, two Black Jack tables and one Ultimate Texas Hold'em Poker table.

François Blanc, founder of Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer and maestro of the success of Casino de Monte-Carlo, and his brother Louis invented French Roulette by removing the double zero ball slot from traditional roulette. The game became emblematic of Casino de Monte-Carlo when it opened in 1863 and its codes and rules reflect the image of elegance of the Casino.

A variant of traditional Baccarat, Punto Banco is part of the legend of Casino de Monte-Carlo. Very popular in Italy and across Asia, each player bets on the player (punto) or the bank (banco) to get close to nine points, with a maximum of three cards.

Black Jack is the most popular card game in the world and holds an important place in Monaco's casinos. Playing against the bank, the player must get as close as possible to 21 with his cards, without exceeding this number and getting a higher score than the croupier.

Lastly, Ultimate Texas Hold'em Poker has been enjoying growing popularity since the early 2000s. The player has to get the best combination of five cards using the two cards in his hand and three cards shared by the other seated players.

Place your bets... all bets are off!



The luxury of Gaming, a blend of tradition and reinvention



The most prestigious venue in Europe

The Casino lies at the origin of the extraordinary human, industrial, artistic, and urban adventure of Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer and its "resort" concept. From 1863, the state of Monaco asserted itself and developed around one area, Monte-Carlo, with the architectural jewel at its centre that would make it world famous: Casino de Monte-Carlo. For over 150 years it has been welcoming people from all over the world to its seven sumptuous gaming rooms, created by the architects of the golden ages of Monte-Carlo, and is one of the most prestigious and sought-after venues in the world. Casino de Monte-Carlo invites the world's top players to experience the excitement of the game in the most exclusive and prestigious setting. The allure of gaming is magnified by iconic establishments nearby, from the mythical Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo to the incomparable Louis XV-Alain Ducasse restaurant; from the historic Opéra Garnier to the state-of-the-art Thermes Marins Monte-Carlo spa. An experience that changes and adjusts constantly to offer Casino guests the game they want, just the way they want it, with new games in line with new gaming habits, with digital uses (e.g. electronic games, e-sports) and with cultural specifics (e.g. rolling system for Asian customers). The number four, which is unlucky in China, no longer appears on some tables to suit the needs of this clientèle!

2017 under the sign of celebration

Throughout the year, exclusive evenings, exceptional shows, and tournaments are organised. In October 2016, Casino de Monte-Carlo proposed a new ultra-exclusive experience by hosting Big One for One Drop, the charity tournament with the highest entry fee in history: €1,000,000. In 2017, gaming will be celebrated here throughout the year with regular creative events and exceptional dinners. The 2017 year-end festivities will also be under the sign of gaming and casinos; the theme chosen this year to bring Place du Casino to life!

Monaco, the most beautiful Gaming destination in Europe

Monaco offers a unique gaming experience in an exceptional setting, a blend of tradition and innovation. For over 150 years, Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer has created an image of excellence in the universe of luxury tourism, unrivalled in Europe, with high-end hotels, gastronomy, entertainment, shopping, and well-being. The Gaming business, which forms the company's identity since its founding, today asserts itself as the standard-bearer of the group's offer, thanks to the worldwide reputation of Monte-Carlo and its Casinos in the field of Gaming due to its unique expertise, which is continually enhanced with international best practices.

The Gaming business today revolves around four casinos with specific identities and offers:

- Luxury gaming at Casino de Monte-Carlo, the most prestigious venue in Europe, for an international clientèle of high-rollers seeking excellence and personal service;
- The new, modern, and welcoming Casino Café de Paris, with 480 latest-generation slot machines, a new offering of gaming tables, and two outdoor terraces to win over local clientèle, from Cannes to San Remo;
- Sun Casino, a friendly and festive "American-style" venue, for international customers visiting Monaco; a "casino-destination" within a hotel with 600 rooms, which unveiled its new face at the end of 2016;
- Monte-Carlo Bay, which is making a new start by connecting the Casino experience to the Resort experience in Monte-Carlo Bay Hotel & Resort, a high-end establishment with an exceptional Mediterranean location, outdoor areas without comparison in the Principality, and inventive and daring cuisine thanks to the talents of Marcel Ravin.

When Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo's metamorphosis is complete and One Monte-Carlo has been completed in 2019, Monaco will truly be the most beautiful Gaming destination in Europe!

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