

JULES VERNE, A NATIVE OF NANTES



Jean Bruneau (1921-2001)

1 - 1828, the Île Feydeau where Jules Verne was born

2 - 1839, at the age of 11, Jules Verne attempts to board a ship sailing to India

3 - Thanks to the speed of the steam ship (pyroscaphe), his father stops him in Paimboeuf

4 - Jules Verne, Place Sainte-Croix, observing passers-by, who would feature in his novels

5 - 1847, Jules Verne, Place Graslin, climbs into the car of the Messageries parisiennes

6 - 1887, Jules Verne, Quai Jean Bart, returns to Nantes one last time

Water colours on paper for *Jules Verne of Nantes* (text by Henri Bouyer and preface by Luce Courville, Pierre Gauthier publisher, 1978)

(Purchased from the artist's family, 2019)

Jean Bruneau, painter, portraitist, draughtsman-illustrator from Nantes, was actively involved in the 1978 celebrations for the 150th anniversary of the birth of Jules Verne and in the creation of the museum dedicated to him. For the occasion, he created Epinal prints, models that could be cut out and assembled, and 15 meticulous watercolours forming a sort of report relating the life of the novelist in his home town.

jeanbruneau.com



JULES VERNE, A NATIVE OF NANTES



View of the port of Nantes and the old railroad from the Butte Sainte-Anne (Sainte-Anne Hill), 19th century.
Photographic reproduction

In the window display

The old and the new church of Saint-Nicolas in Nantes and the Loire-Inférieure. Ancient and modern monuments (...) drawn from nature by Felix Benoist
Nantes, Charpentier, 1850-1851
Photographic reproductions

Jules Verne, *A Priest in 1835*

Autograph manuscript, 1847

MJV B85. Facsimile (Acquired in 1981 with the support of the Pays de la Loire Region, the Loire-Atlantique Département and the Fondation de France)

Jules Verne, *Poems*

MJV B43-44. Facsimile (Acquired in 1981 with the support of the Pays de la Loire Region, the Loire-Atlantique Département and the Fondation de France)

First known letter from Jules Verne, aged eight, written to his aunt, Madame Chateaubourg, dated 30 March 1836

MJV B18. Facsimile (Donation from the Friends of the Nantes Public Library)



JULES VERNE, A NATIVE OF NANTES



Chronology

| Dateline | The life and works of Jules Verne | Details of technological advances and notable events |
|----------|--|--|
| 1828 | 8 th February : birth of Jules Verne, the first of five children, on Feydeau Island, Nantes | First French railway line |
| 1829 | | Discovery of photography |
| 1830 | | Accession of Louis-Philippe and beginning of the July Monarchy |
| 1837 | | <i>Le Sirius</i> makes the first all-steam-powered Atlantic crossing in 18 days and 14 hours |
| 1842 | Jules Verne studies in Nantes (private lessons from Madame Sambin, Collège Saint-Stanislas, Saint-Donatien seminary, Lycée Royal (high school)) | |
| 1847 | Although Verne is studying law in Nantes, he must go to Paris to take his exams. <i>Priest in 1839</i> , a first novel, is left unfinished | |
| 1848 | Jules Verne moves to Paris to finish law school | Proclamation of the 2 nd Republic. Hetzel, Verne's future publisher, is head of staff to Foreign Minister Lamartine |
| 1850 | A first published play, <i>Broken Straw</i> , is performed in Paris, thanks to Alexandre Dumas and later in Nantes | |
| 1851 | Meeting with Jacques Arago, French explorer, writer and playwright. Beginning of his collaboration with the "Musée des Familles" (illustrated magazine): publication of two short stories | Coup d'état of 2 December 1851 led by Louis-Bonaparte Napoleon. Exile of the writer Hetzel and the writer Dumas. The railway arrives in Nantes |

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| | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 1852 | Verne gives up the prospect of practicing law and takes on the position of secretary at the Théâtre Lyrique in Paris | Start of the 2 nd Empire |
| 1854 | | Aluminium reduction process |
| 1855 | | Paris holds its first Exposition Universelle, on the Champs-Élysées |
| 1856 | Jules Verne joins the company Eggly as a stockbroker | End of the Crimean War (1853 - 1856) |
| 1857 | On 10 th January, he marries Honorine de Viane | Grant discovers the great African lakes |
| 1859 | Verne travels to England and Scotland with Hignard | Caselli invents the Pantelegraph, an early facsimile transmission device |
| 1860 | Verne meets Nadar, the photographer who took the first photograph of the earth from a balloon in 1858 | |
| 1861 | He travels to Norway with Hignard. His only child, Michel, is born on 3 rd August | The American Civil War breaks out |
| 1862 | Jules Verne meets Pierre-Jules Hetzel and they sign a first contract | Nadar's ballooning exhibition aboard <i>the Géant</i> |
| 1863 | Verne joins the French Air Locomotion Society and publishes an article in the Musée des Familles. The publication of the novel <i>Five Weeks in a Balloon</i> is an immediate success and launches the Extraordinary Journeys series. Hetzel refuses the manuscript of <i>Paris in the 20th century</i> which remained unpublished until 1994. Jules Verne leaves the stock exchange | |
| 1864 | Hetzel and Jean Macé start the Magasin d'éducation de de récréation, launching four decades of regular contributions by Jules Verne | |

JULES VERNE, A NATIVE OF NANTES



| | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| 1866 | Now living in Le Crotoy, Jules Verne purchases his first boat, the Saint-Michel I | Invention of dynamite. The first transatlantic telegraph cable is laid |
| 1867 | After crossing the Atlantic aboard the Great Eastern, Paul and Jules Verne visit New York City and Niagara Falls | The United States purchase Alaska from Russia |
| 1868 | <i>From the Earth to the Moon</i> and then its sequel <i>Around the Moon</i> anticipate 20 th century space travel | |
| 1869 | The Verne family stays in Nantes, then Paris and, later Le Crotoy. <i>Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Seas</i> <i>All Around the Moon</i> | Opening of the Suez Canal |
| 1870 | Decorated with the Legion of Honour | Franco-Prussian War. Collapse of the French Second Empire |
| 1871 | Death of father of Jules Verne on 3 rd November | Paris commune |
| 1872 | Jules Verne settles permanently in Amiens | The Challenger begins exploring the depths of the ocean |
| 1874 | Publication of <i>The Mysterious Island</i> | |
| 1873 | On 28 th September, Jules Verne enjoys a 30 minutes flight in Eugène Godard's hot air balloon, <i>the Météore</i> | |
| 1874 | Jules Verne purchases the Saint-Michel II. The stage adaptation of <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i> in a huge hit at the Porte Saint-Martin Theater, Paris | |
| 1876 | | Alexander G. Bell invents the telephone |
| 1877 | While the Verne family is staying in Nantes, Jules Verne purchases the Saint-Michel III | First helicopter flight Invention of the cylinder phonograph by Edison |
| 1878 | | The third Paris Universal Exhibition welcomes 16 million visitors |

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| | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 1880 | | Petroleum-powered automobile |
| 1881 | Jules and Paul cruise the North Sea and Baltic Sea, with Paul recording the trip | |
| 1882 | <i>Journey Through the Impossible</i> , a science-fiction fantasy play by Jules Verne and Adolphe D'Ennery, is less successful than the other theatrical adaptations of the Extraordinary Journeys series. | |
| 1883 | Jules Verne makes an unsuccessful attempt to enter the Académie Française | Tissandier's electric airship |
| 1884 | The Saint-Michel goes for a last cruise in the Mediterranean Sea | Firts petrol-powered car |
| 1886 | Publication of <i>Robur the Conqueror</i> : a new Captain Nemo, a pioneer of aviation. Verne is shot by his mentally ill nephew, leaving him lame for life. Death of Hetzel | |
| 1887 | Jules Verne's mother dies on 15 th February | Zamenhof invents the Esperanto language |
| 1888 | Verne successfully stands for election in the Amiens town council as a socialist candidate | |
| 1889 | Literary collaboration with his son Michel for <i>A Day in the Life of an American Journalist in 2889</i> , which was published in English in The forum, testifying to the international success of Jules Verne. Publication of <i>The Earth Turned Upside Down</i> : reflecting the ecological concerns of Jules Verne. | Paris hosts the tenth Universal Exhibition. |
| 1890 | Before the Amiens Academy, Verne gives a reading of Michel's <i>Day in a Journalist's life in 2890</i> , which he personally edited | Discovery of radio-conduction (the forerunner of radio) First flight for Clement Ader's aeroplane |
| 1891 | <i>Adventures of the Rat Family</i> | Construction begins on the Trans Siberian Railway |
| 1894 | | Dreyfus affair |

JULES VERNE, A NATIVE OF NANTES



| | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 1896 | | Georges Méliès produces his first film |
| 1900 | | Over 50.000.000 people visit the Paris World Fair |
| 1902 | | French director Georges Méliès shoots <i>A Journey to the Moon</i> |
| 1905 | Jules Verne dies on 24 th March, just as <i>The Invasion of the Sea</i> comes out in serial form. He leaves several manuscripts, which are published after his death | Einstein's Theory of Limited Relativity |





Map of sea journeys made by Jules Verne

From 1866, Jules Verne regularly went out to sea and as soon as he had the chance would climb aboard one of his boats, one of the three *Saint-Michel*. All of his sailing trips and cruises were studied by Philippe Valetoux, a first-class marine captain, and described in his book *Jules Verne, en mer et contre tous* (2005) (*Jules Verne, at sea and against everyone*).

The map opposite, drawing on this research, presents a simplified version of the main sea journeys made by Jules Verne.

Alexis Vollon

The Saint-Michel I

Gouache on paper, 1881

Work dedicated by the artist to Jules Verne

MJV C327 (Don Jean Verne, 2005)

Shape plan of the Saint-Michel II, Jules Verne's second boat

Le Havre, Abel Le Marchand shipyard, 1876

MJV C345

Trips and adventures of Captain Hatteras - The English at the North Pole - The Ice Desert

Hetzl, 1866

Illustrations by Édouard Riou

Photographic reproductions

Video room

Jules Verne the novel of the sea

Adapted from the documentary film *Jules Verne et la mer*

(*Jules Verne and the Sea*) by Olivier Sauzereau and Paul Cornet

Production: Odysséus Productions

Date: from 9 March to 31 August 2005

Duration: 13 minutes 40





The *Saint-Michel III* moored in the port of Nantes and in Le Tréport

Photographic reproductions

Great French yachts - The Saint-Michel

Paris, Le Yacht. Leisure boating magazine, 1880

Facsimile

From Rotterdam to Copenhagen aboard the yacht Saint-Michel

Illustrations by Édouard Riou

Paris, Hetzel, 1881

Photographic reproductions

Three members of the crew of the *Saint-Michel III*

Photographic reproductions

The *Saint Michel III* in the bay of Naples

Gouache, 1884

MJV C84. Facsimile (Donation from Madame Rouaud, granddaughter of Charles Ollive, captain of the *Saint Michel III*)

The Saint-Michel, a steam yacht owned by M. Martial Noé. Signed by Gillot

Watercolour etching

MJV C536





In the window display

Jean-Marc Deschamps

The Great Eastern

Model based on the novel *A floating city*

2004

MJV G179 (Purchased from the artist)

Jules Verne

A Floating City

Autograph manuscript, 1869

MJV B97. Facsimile (Acquired in 1981 with the support of the Pays de la Loire Region, the Loire-Atlantique Département and the Fondation de France)

A Floating City

Hetzel, Paris, 1873

MJV A377

The Great Eastern afloat / The Great Eastern afloat

English chromolithography based on a drawing by Edwin Weedon,
circa 1890

MJV C525 (Acquired in 2017 with the support of the State and the Pays de la Loire Region)

Travel trunk that once belonged to Jules Verne

Leather and coated canvas interior

MJV G235 (Purchase at public sale)



THE TRAVELLER



In the central window display

Johann David Wyss

Swiss Family Robinson, 1812

Tours, Mame, 1892

MJV A5020

Set of cubes on the theme of Robinson Crusoe

France, circa 1885

MJV G194

Elie Le Guillou and Jacques Arago

Journey around the world of the Astrolabe and the Zélée, under the command of Rear Admiral Dumont d'Urville during the years 1837, 38, 39 and 40

Paris, Berquet et Pétion, 1843

MJV A1104

Jules Verne

Around the world in eighty days

Paris, Hetzel, 1872

MJV A415

Jules Verne

Discovery of America, Christopher Columbus (1436-1506)

Paris, Hetzel, 1883 (Petite Bibliothèque blanche (Little white library))

MJV A188

Jules Verne and Théophile Lavallée

Illustrated Geography of France and its colonies

Paris, Hetzel, 1868

MJV A489



THE TRAVELLER



In the central window display

Jules Verne

Drawing of sailing boat

Autograph manuscript, 1848

MJV B58-59. Facsimile (Acquired in 1981 with the support of the Pays de la Loire Region, the Loire-Atlantique Département and the Fondation de France)

Jules Verne

Letter to the Vice-Admiral De La Roncière Le Nourry, President of the Yacht-Club of France, 5 April 1874.

MJV B16. Facsimile

R. Vuillaume and B. Clerc

Annual list of French, Belgian, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Yachts.

Third year: 1884-1885

Paris, Aux Bureaux du Yacht, 1885

MJV A5335

Jules Verne

Mathias Sandorf

Paris, Hetzel, 1885

MJV A2680

Jean-Marc Deschamps

L'Electric 2

Model inspired by the novel *Mathias Sandorf*, 1992

MJV G181 (Purchased from the artist in 2008)

Saint-Michel III. Acts French registration and sale to Martial Noé

Nantes, 2 February 1878 and 15 February 1886

MJV B7. Facsimile



THE MAN AND THE WRITER



Portrait of Jules Verne

circa 1875

Oil on canvas

MJV C530 (Donation from Jean Verne, the writer's grandson)

As in the photograph by Theodore Truchelut made for the "Contemporary Celebrities" series, Jules Verne is portrayed here in his prime (he's about 45 years old) and at the height of his powers when *Around the World in 80 Days* was a major success in the theatre, after being a huge success in book stores, and with the publication of *The Mysterious Island*. It especially shows the blond-red highlights in his hair and beard before they turned grey with old age.

Evocation of Jules Verne's living room

Produced thanks to the generosity of Messrs. Jean Verne, grandson and great-grandson of the writer, who donated the sofa and dishes that belonged to Jules Verne to the City of Nantes.

In this setting, the writer received the many admirers who visited him at the end of his life, such as Raymond Roussel or Edmondo De Amisi.



THE MAN AND THE WRITTER



Salvador Dalí (1904-1989)

L'Intellect jaillissant, portrait of Jules Verne

1966

Etching on vellum

MJV C1

Salvador Dalí engraving on copper: *L'Intellect jaillissant*

Paris, 1966

Photograph

Donation from Mr Ménard (2019)

"Le cabinet des confidences" (The office of confidences)

by Honorine Verne

Design and production: Hervé Tougeron and Catherine Verhelst

Duration : 12 minutes



THE MAN AND THE WRITER



In the window display

Port decanter and glasses once owned by Jules Verne

MJV G107 (Donation from Jean Verne, 2005)

Seal of Pierre Verne, father of Jules

MJV G101 (Donation from Jean Verne, 2005)

Stamp of Jules Verne

Nantes, Charpentier, 1850-1851

(Donation from Jean Verne, 2017)

Jules Verne at his desk

Photograph

MJV E216

Award of the Legion of Honour of Jules Verne (1870)

MJV G146 (Donation from Jean Verne, 1978)

Guy de Maupassant

Une vie (A life)

With a dedication to Jules Verne by the author

Paris, Victor Havard, 1883

MJV A5359





THE COMPOSITION OF THE NOVELS

The Three Novels *From the Earth to the Moon* (1865), *Around the Moon* (1869) and *The Earth Turned Upside Down* (1888) enable us to follow the different stages of the meticulous composition and writing work described by Jules Verne, preceding the three-stage editorial phase (the pre-original edition published in episodes in a magazine, *Magasins d'éducation et de récréation* (*Education and Recreation Stores*) among others; the original edition in "in-18" format without illustrations; and the illustrated "in-4" format edition covered with the famous ornate cardboard covers).

For these three works that form a triptych, all featuring the artillerymen and scientists of the Gun-Club of Baltimore (USA), we have the different handwritten versions, printing proofs and a preparatory file.

"I get up every morning before five o'clock - maybe a little later in winter - and at five o'clock I go to my office and work until eleven. I work very slowly and carefully, writing and rewriting each sentence until it takes the form I desire.

I always have at least ten novels in my head in advance, with the subjects and plots prepared so that, if God grants me long health, I will be able to finish the eighty novels I mentioned without difficulty. But I spend the most time on my drafts. I am never satisfied until the seventh or eighth draft. I correct and rectify things until, you could say, the last draft is barely like the initial manuscript. This implies a great sacrifice in terms of money and time, but I have always tweaked the form and the style, although no one has ever told me I was right to do so."



THE NOVELIST AND HIS PUBLISHER



Painted advertisement for the Hetzel publishing house

Oil on canvas
MJV C351

In the window display

Jules Verne

Paris in the 20th century

Autograph manuscript, 1863

MJV B230. Facsimile (Acquired in 2000 with the support of the French State and the Pays de la Loire Region)

Paris in the 20th century

Paris, Hachette, 1995
MJV A2742

Paris in the 20th century - An ideal city

Paris, Hachette, 1998
MJV A2942

Paris in the 20th century

Paris, Club France Loisirs (Leisure Club), 1995
MJV A5066

"Magasin d'éducation et de récréation", a family-oriented magazine, published by Jean Macé, P.J. Stahl, Jules Verne, with the collaboration of our most famous writers and scholars, illustrated with drawings by our best artists.

Paris, Hetzel, 1864-1894
MJV A4844

Selection of various works from the Hetzel publishing house

These gift books are covered in percaline (light cotton fabric) on which engravings were printed with brightly coloured decorations enhanced with gold.





In the window display

Jules Verne

Five weeks in a balloon - Journey to the centre of the earth

Paris, Hetzel, between 1872 and 1874

MJV A302

Five weeks in a balloon, Journey to the centre of the earth

Paris, Hachette, 1916

MJV A193

Five weeks in a balloon - exploration trip to Africa by three Englishmen

Paris, Hetzel, between 1905 and 1914

MJV A389

Five weeks in a balloon - exploration trip to Africa by three Englishmen

Paris, Hetzel, 1897 (Bibliothèque des succès scolaires)

MJV A501

Tribute to Jules Verne : Five weeks in a balloon

Stamp collector card by the "Union des philatélistes des PTT" (Union of Post Office philatelists

Amiens 14 et 15 March 1986 (Jules Verne festival)

MJV CP17

Postcard with an illustration of the novel Five weeks in a balloon by Jules Verne, one-franc stamp with an illustration of the same novel

MJV CP241

Five weeks in a balloon

Producer: Nathan Juran

Lobby card for the film adaptation of the novel

United States, 1961

MJV E466 (Acquired in 2014 with the support of the French State and the Pays de la Loire Region)





Frontispieces of three novels by Jules Verne :

Photographic reproductions

Five weeks in a balloon, 1863

Illustration by Édouard Riou

Robur the conqueror, 1886

Illustration by Léon Benett

Master of the world, 1904

Illustration by Léon Benett

In the window display

Nadar

Photographies, volumes 1

Hubschmind, Paris, 1979

MJV A1610

André Gill [Louis-Alexandre Gosset de Guines]

Caricature by Nadar

Reproduction of an illustration from *La Lune (The Moon)*, 1867

Dinard, 2000

MJV CP39

A. Sircos and Th. Pallier

Histoire des ballons et des ascensions célèbres (History of balloons and famous ascensions)

Paris, Roy, 1875

MJV A877

Nadar

Handwritten letter

MJV B25. Facsimile





In the window display

Jules Verne

Robur the Conqueror

Paris, Hetzel, 1886

MJV A374

Master of the world

Paris, Hetzel, 1904

MJV A437

In 1886, *Robur the Conqueror* pitched two forms of “air transport devices” against each other: light balloons and the somewhat heavier early aircraft. Jules Verne and his hero concluded the story in a rather visionary manner: "*As for the future of air locomotion, it belongs to aircraft, not aerostats (dirigibles)*. Twenty years later, in "*Master of the World*", the engineer Robur is back with a "*universal means of transportation*." that can roll, dive, float and fly, a marvel of ingenuity called the *Terror*.

In the 18th century, the practice of aerostation (the use of balloons that were lighter than air) paved the way for the conquest of air. At a time when transport means were still limited, balloons were the only way to cross mountains or water and reach remote areas. Used for military purposes, they also captured the imagination of the general public at numerous "aerostat" (balloon) festivals and other sports or scientific events. But they were difficult and dangerous to operate, as the Zeppelins would dramatically and tragically demonstrate. Also, at the beginning of the 19th century, research was turning towards the "*airborne locomotion using vehicles that were heavier than air, which gave birth to aviation*."

With Félix Tournachon, known as Nadar, Gustave Ponton d'Amécourt and Gabriel de La Landelle, Jules Verne took part in this adventure by creating the fabulous flying machines named the *Victoria* in *Five Weeks in a Balloon* (1863) and the "Albatross" in *Robur the Conqueror* (1886). Drawing on the same visionary spirit, he used aluminium, recently discovered by Henri Sainte-Claire Deville, as the basic construction material for his submarine *Nautilus* (1869), his lunar projectile (1865) and the '*Terror*, an all-purpose vehicle in "Master of the World" (1904).





Gaëlle Compozia

To the ends of the world, an illustration of Jules Verne's novels

2019

Drawing on paper

In the central window display

The Terror

Model by Jean-Marc Deschamps inspired by the novel

Master of the world (1904)

2003

MJV G172 (Purchased from the artist)

The projectile train

Model by Jean-Marc Deschamps inspired by the novel *From the Earth to the Moon (1865)*

MJV G171 (Purchased from the artist)

Jame's Prunier

Around the Moon

Gouache and watercolour on paper

MJV C355 (Acquired with the support of the French State and the Pays de la Loire Region)





Jean Bonichon

The Selenite

2017

Video 16/9, loop of 2min42

As an artist with diverse skills, Jean Bonichon produced sculptures, installations, videos, photography, artistic performances and writing, in an offbeat style that drew on the absurd, with unlikely associations, and often scathing humour, all driven by a strong poetic undercurrent. In this way, he imagined the video of **the Selenite** that fed exclusively on strawberries, evoking the lunar expedition of Jules Verne and the remark made by Camille Flammarion: *"More recently still, Jules Verne launched a wagon projectile to the Moon; however, it is regrettable that his celestial travellers did not even catch a glimpse of the Selenites"* (*Popular Astronomy, 1880*). The novelist would have appreciated this humour, which acts as an extension to his work, and which, like his book, evokes the long tradition of writers and artists that have been fascinated by the "empires of the Moon" and "the idea that there are many inhabited worlds".

Letter from Frank Borman to Jean Jules-Verne, grandson of the writer

A framed letter accompanied by two photographs depicting the water landing in the novel *Around the Moon* and the return of the Apollo 8 mission.

MJVC533 (Jean Verne donation, 2005-2018)

From 21 to 27 December 1968, Apollo 8 was the first mission to leave the Earth's orbit and take humans to the vicinity of the Moon, where they saw the dark side of the moon for the very first time. The conditions of this trip were very similar to those imagined by Jules Verne in his novels *From the Earth to the Moon* and *Around the Moon*. So when Frank Borman, the commander of Apollo 8, made an official visit to France in 1969, he presented the writer's grandson with a frame containing a letter paying tribute to "the genius of his visionary mind" and two photographs showing how the landing had been identical in reality and in fiction.





In the window display

The Columbiad

Model by Jean-Marc Deschamps inspired by the novel *From the Earth to the Moon* (1865)

2002

MJV G174 (Purchased from the artist)

Newsreel of Frank Borman's official trip to France, 1969

Accompanied by his wife and sons, Frank Borman is received at the Élysée Palace by the President of the Republic, Charles de Gaulle, then at the Paris City Hall where he meets Jean Jules-Verne, grandson of the writer, and visits the Centre National d'Études Spatiales at Brétigny-sur-Orge.

British Pathé Archives

Duration: 2 minutes 23 seconds

From the Earth to the Moon

Éditions Hetzel, 1865

Illustration by Henri de Montaut

Photographic reproduction

Around the Moon

Éditions Hetzel, 1870

Illustration by Émile-Antoine Bayard

Photographic reproduction

In the window display

Barbican Convoy

Model by Jean-Marc Deschamps

Inspired by the novel *From the Earth to the Moon* (1865)

2004

MJV G176 (Purchased from the artist, 2008)





In the window display

Herbert George Wells

The First Men in the Moon

Translated from the English by Henry-D. D'Avray

Paris, Mercure de France, 1901

The volume that belonged to Jules Verne, with the translator's dedication MJV A3281 (Donation from Jean Verne, 2005)

Jules Verne had stopped "around the Moon". A few years later, with Wells, a few explorers landed on our satellite only to discover that it was colonised by a society of insects commanded by *The Prime Lunar*. The works of Verne and Wells were extensively compared. But that was not the opinion of the two writers: "My tales have been compared to the work of Jules Verne and there was a disposition on the part of literary journalists at one time to call me *the English Jules Verne*. As a matter of fact, there is no literary resemblance whatever between the anticipatory inventions of the great Frenchman and these fantasies." (H.G. Wells, *Jules Verne and me*, cited by Peter Haining, *The Jules Companion*, 1978).

Henri Garcet

Leçons nouvelles de Cosmographie (New Lessons in Cosmography)

Paris, Delagrave, 1892

MJV A3850

Jules Verne

From the Earth to the Moon and Around the Moon

Paris, Hetzel, between 1872 and 1874

MJV A311

Jules Verne

From the Earth to the Moon

Paris, Hetzel, 1865

Original edition with a dedication from Jules Verne at the Municipal Library of Nantes

MJV A5356





Plan and section diagram of the *Nautilus*

Name-plate of the *Nautilus*, former American submarine, fitted out by the Australian George Hubert Wilkins for an Arctic expedition in 1931.

Bronze

MJV G103 (Donation from Jean Verne, 2005)

Jean Gagneux

Model of the *Nautilus*, 1980

MJV G55 (Donated by the artist, 1981)

Officier de Marine, Jean Gagneux a participé à l'armement du *Redoutable*, premier sous-marin nucléaire français. Passionné par les oeuvres de Jules Verne, il a consacré plus d'un an à la création de la maquette du *Nautilus* après en avoir établi la notice technique et le plan à partir des descriptions données par Jules Verne.

Diving suit with helmet, 20th century

A helmet with "3-bolt lock", German H.A.G. model

Copper, bronze, brass and glass

MJV G74

"Pieds en peau de bouc" rubber-foot suit

Canvas, rubber

MJV G183

Ballasts and lead-soled shoes, made by Piel

Copper, bronze and lead

MJV G185/186

Belt and pipe

Copper, bronze

MJV G184/187

Jean-Marc Deschamps

Diving suit design inspired on the novel *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, 2003

MJV G178 (Purchased from the artist, 2008)





Verne-style diving suits

Through reading and by visiting the Universal Exhibition in Paris in 1867, Jules Verne learnt about diving equipment when he was writing *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* (1869-1870): he equipped Captain Nemo and his companions with the diving suit with a helmet, also called "heavy footers", made up of a closed watertight suit with ballast, topped with a screw-on metal helmet. The diver was usually supplied with air via a pipe connected to a surface-operated pump, as is the case with the model shown here. But Jules Verne added to the suit by including the Rouquayrol-Denayrouze compressed air tank equipped with a demand-valve regulator that supplied air to the diver on demand, at the pressure corresponding to the diver's depth. He even adapted it to the objectives of his heroes by increasing its autonomy (up to 10 hours). A diving suit also plays a part in the plot of another novel by Jules Verne, *Eight Hundred Leagues on the Amazon*.





In the stairs

The Trip to the Moon

Producer: Georges Méliès

Paris, 1903

Poster by Louis Galicia for the great American cinematographer
MJV D886 (Photographic reproduction)

Journey to the centre of the Earth

20th Century Fox, 1959

MJV D321

Rocket to the moon (Le grand départ vers la Lune)

Producer: Don Sharp

Warner Pathé, 1967

Poster

MJV D785 (Purchased from Philippe Burgaud with the support of the French State
and the Pays de la Loire Region, 2014)

