

# Versailles & the World

## For Children

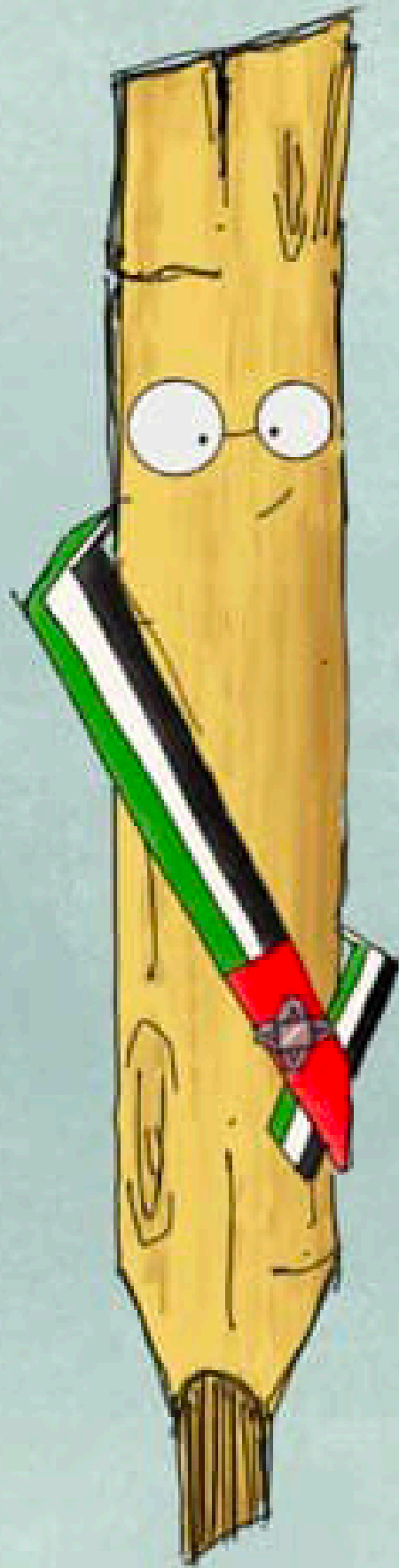


اللوفا أبو ظبي  
LOUVRE ABU DHABI



CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES





Hello, young visitor. I see your curiosity has led you to me again.

My name is Qalam, Ambassador of Louvre Abu Dhabi. Today is a big day for us!

We are invited to meet the King of France and Navarre, Louis XVI, and spend a day discovering the marvels of the Palace of Versailles.

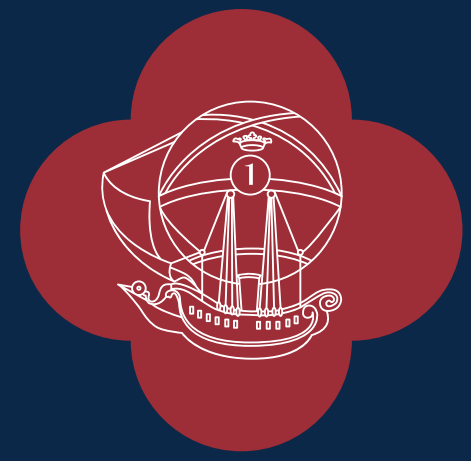
Dear Ambassador Qalam,

You are officially invited to visit the palace with a fellow diplomat. Learn about our daily routines and discover treasures from around the world.

Yours truly,  
King Louis XVI

# Section 1

A Château Open to the World



## Model of the Ambassadors' Staircase

Charles Arquinet (1900-1992)

Versailles, 1958

Wood, board, plaster, plastic

Versailles, Musée National des

Châteaux de Versailles et de Trianon,

inv. V.6251.2

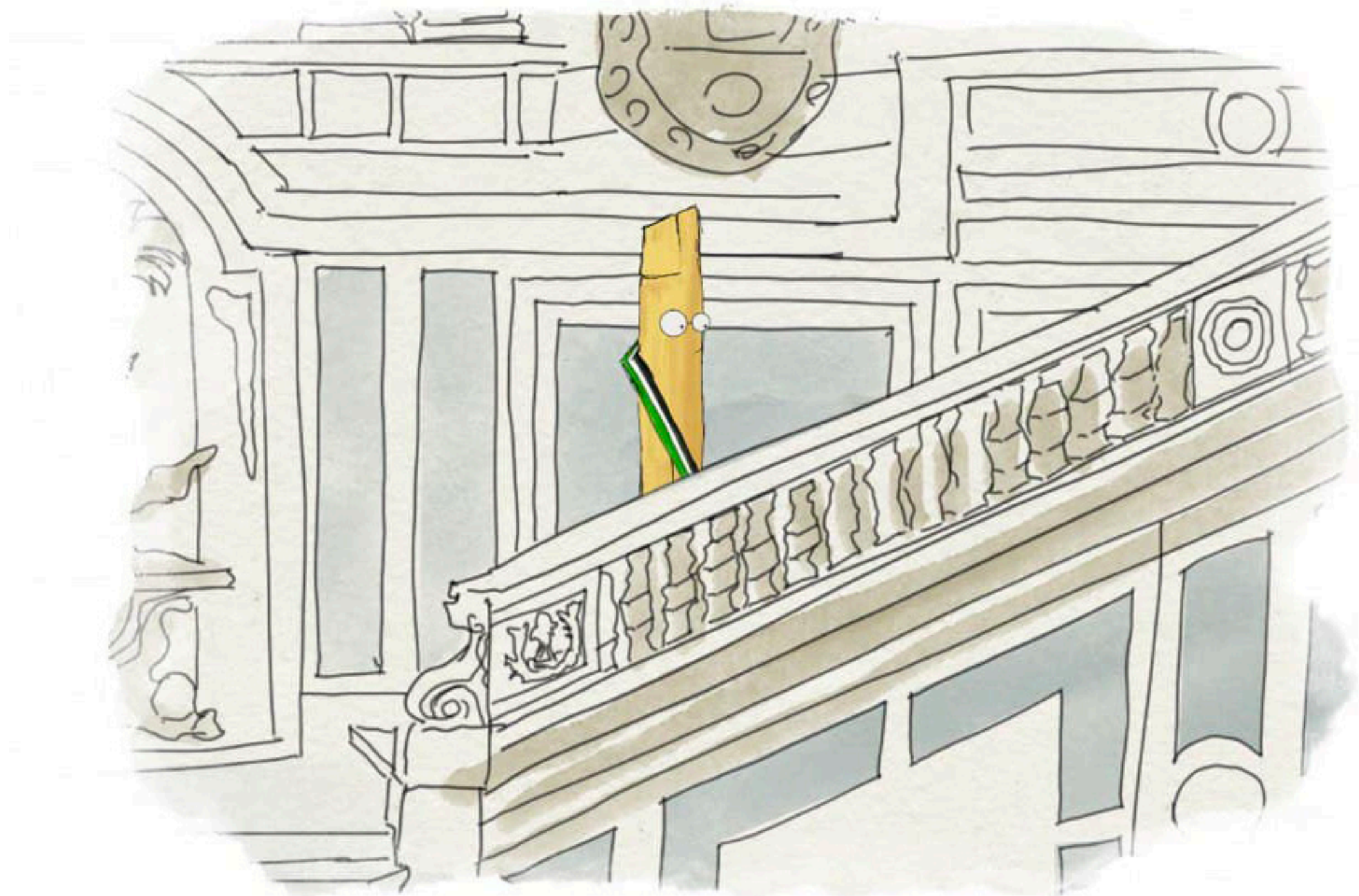
Wow! What a magnificent room.

The Ambassadors' staircase is where diplomats, like us, are invited to wait before meeting the King.

It is a beautiful marble staircase surrounded by paintings and sculptures, with a large window in the ceiling overhead.

**Let's take a closer look at the model.**

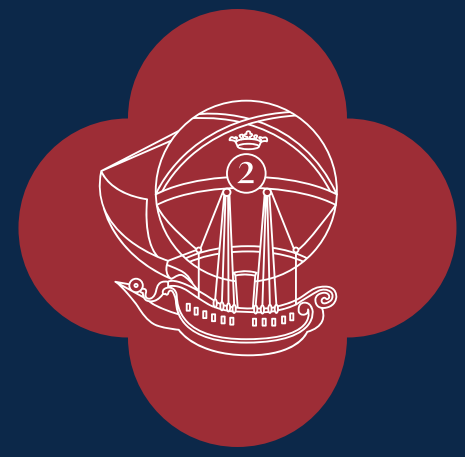
**Use the details below to locate the different decorative elements.**



**Good job! Let's continue.**

## Section 1

### A Château Open to the World



© Missions étrangères de Paris, Paris / IRFA

Prince Nguyen Phuc Canh (1780-1801)

François-Nicolas Maupérin

(active 1766-1806)

1787

Oil on canvas

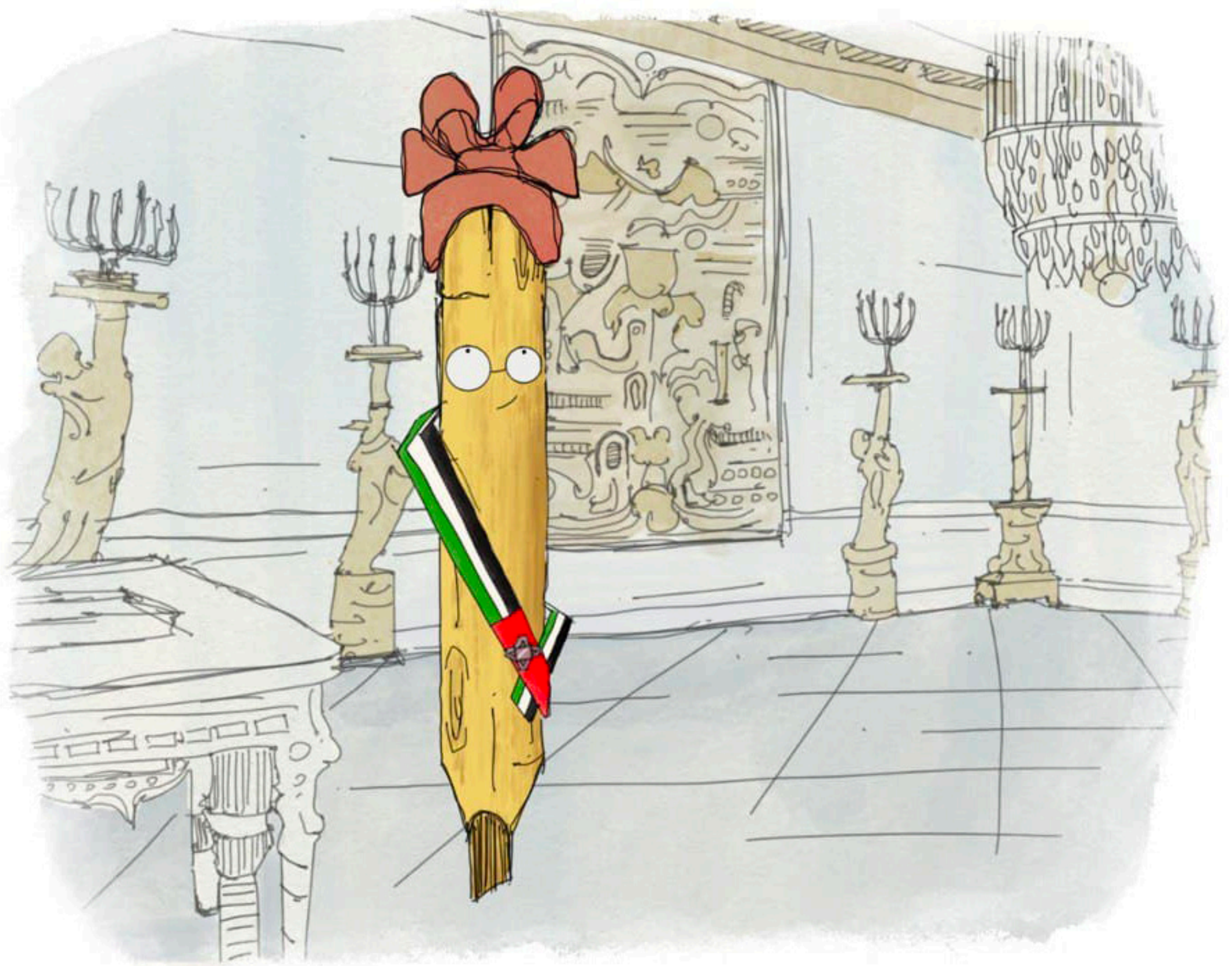
Paris, Missions Étrangères de Paris

Wonderful! The room is filled with international ambassadors of all ages.

Look! It's Prince Nguyen Phuc Canh, the youngest ambassador, he is only 7 years old. Vietnam has sent him to request military aid for his country.

His headdress inspired Queen Marie Antoinette's Stylist - Leonard to recreate a version for her.

**Imagine, what type of headdress would you wear to visit royalty?**



**Splendid! Queen Marie Antoinette herself wants to receive us in her royal quarters. Let's go.**

## Section 2

The Orient revealed and the Orient as reverie: exoticism in Versailles

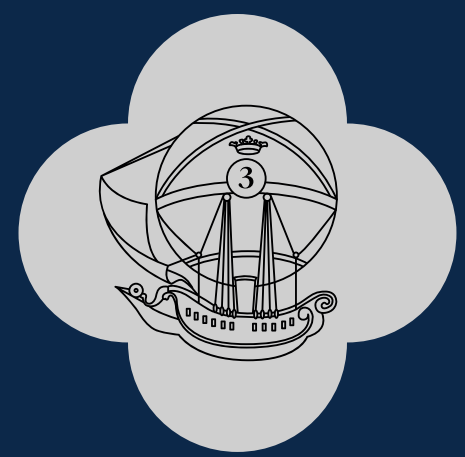


Photo © RMN-Grand Palais (musée du Louvre) / Martine Beck-Coppola

**"Reclining camel" fire dog from a pair in the Turkish cabinet of Marie-Antoinette at the Château of Fontainebleau**

Pierre Gouthière (1732-1813), bronzesmith

C. 1777

Chased and gilt bronze

Paris, Musée du Louvre, inv. OA 5260



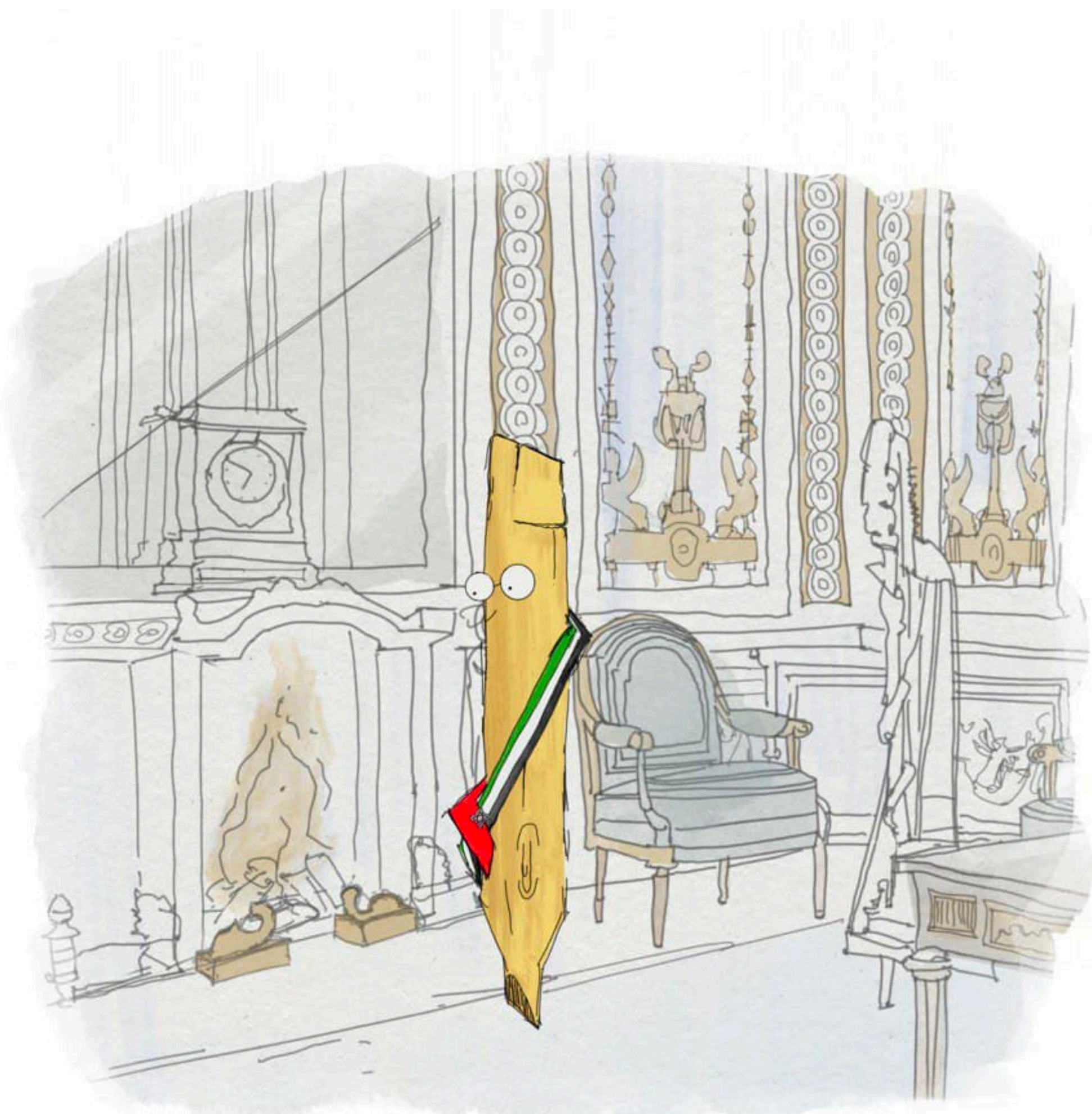
I'm feeling a bit cold. Let's move towards the fireplace.

What is this interesting object?

I have been told that during the 1700's, Europeans were fascinated by animals from the East. Animals would be brought to the palace to be admired.

Artists started to create artworks inspired by animals such as the camel.

**What animal would you select to create a decorative object for your home?**



**Let's explore further and see what we can find.**

## Section 2

The Orient revealed and the Orient as reverie: exoticism in Versailles



Photo © Château de Versailles, Dist. RMN-Grand Palais / Christophe Fouin



Box in Japanese lacquer from the collections of Queen Marie-Antoinette taking the shape of a go game

Japan, 18th century

Wood, lacquer

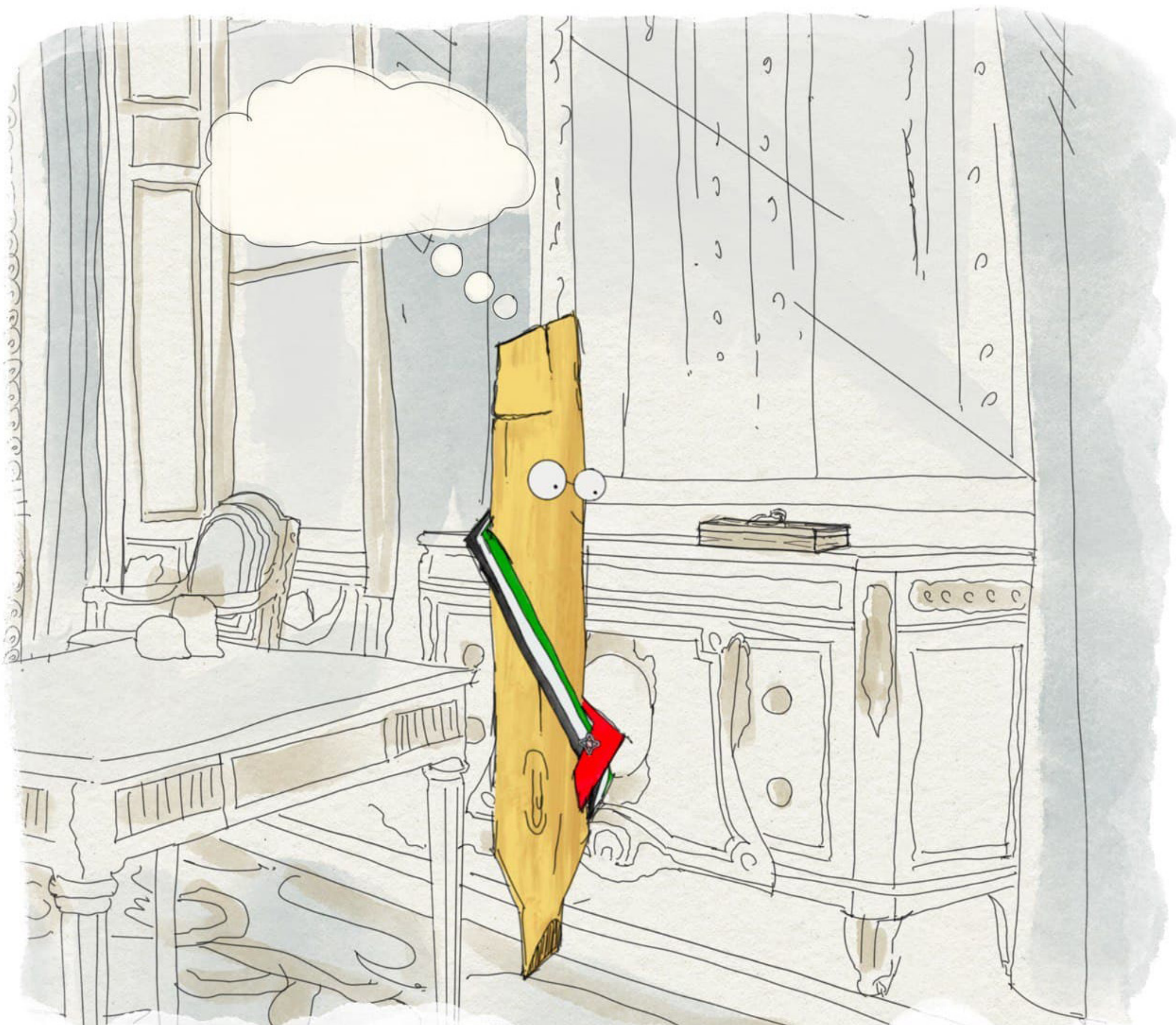
Paris, Musée National des Arts Asiatiques – Guimet, on loan at the Musée National des châteaux de Versailles et de Trianon, inv. MR 380.78

What an interesting object displayed on Marie Antoinette's grand cabinet. Is it a game or a musical object?

I was told that the Queen's late mother Empress Marie-Thérèse of Austria gave this collection of Japanese lacquered objects to her daughter.

Do any special memories come to mind when you look at this object?

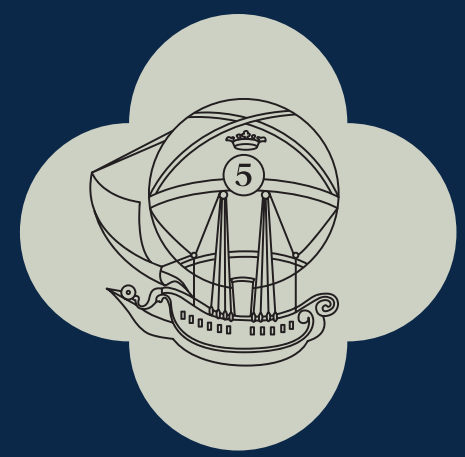
**What objects would you chose from the collection to remember a special time or person?**



**Let's walk towards the Hall of Mirrors.**

## Section 3

Between earth and sky: discovering the world



François Doury / Issy-les-Moulineaux



### Card games for learning geography

Author: Delaistre, king's engineer

Engraver: Nicolas-Jean-Baptiste de Poilly (1707-1780)

Card-maker: Jean-Baptiste Mitoire (?-1770)

Paris, 1751

Etching, heightening in brush on paper, walnut box, silk ribbons

Issy-les-Moulineaux, Musée Français de la Carte à Jouer, inv.

IS.2005.2.1.1 à 1044

Someone has lost their box in the hallway. It might belong to one of the little Princes. What's inside?

Hmm, this box contains 18 card games that explore the geographical regions of France and the world. Let's learn together!

The maps on the cards look fascinating. They seem to represent the world known to the European's in around the 1750's.

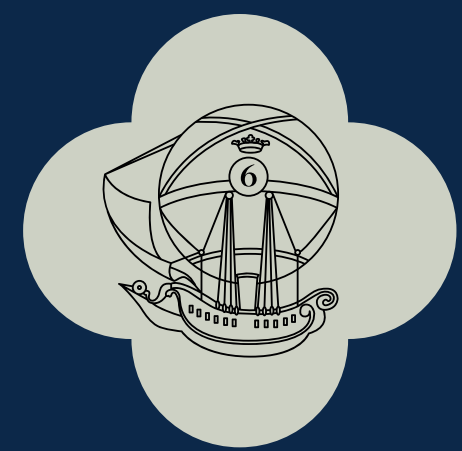
**What about you, young visitor, what is your favourite subject? How would you turn it into a game?**



**Look, I see people rushing towards the window... What's going on?**

# Section 3

Between earth and sky: discovering the world



Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris

This Globe will soon be departing for Ports of Call in the Levant ... "

Colour print

H. 31.5; W. 26 cm

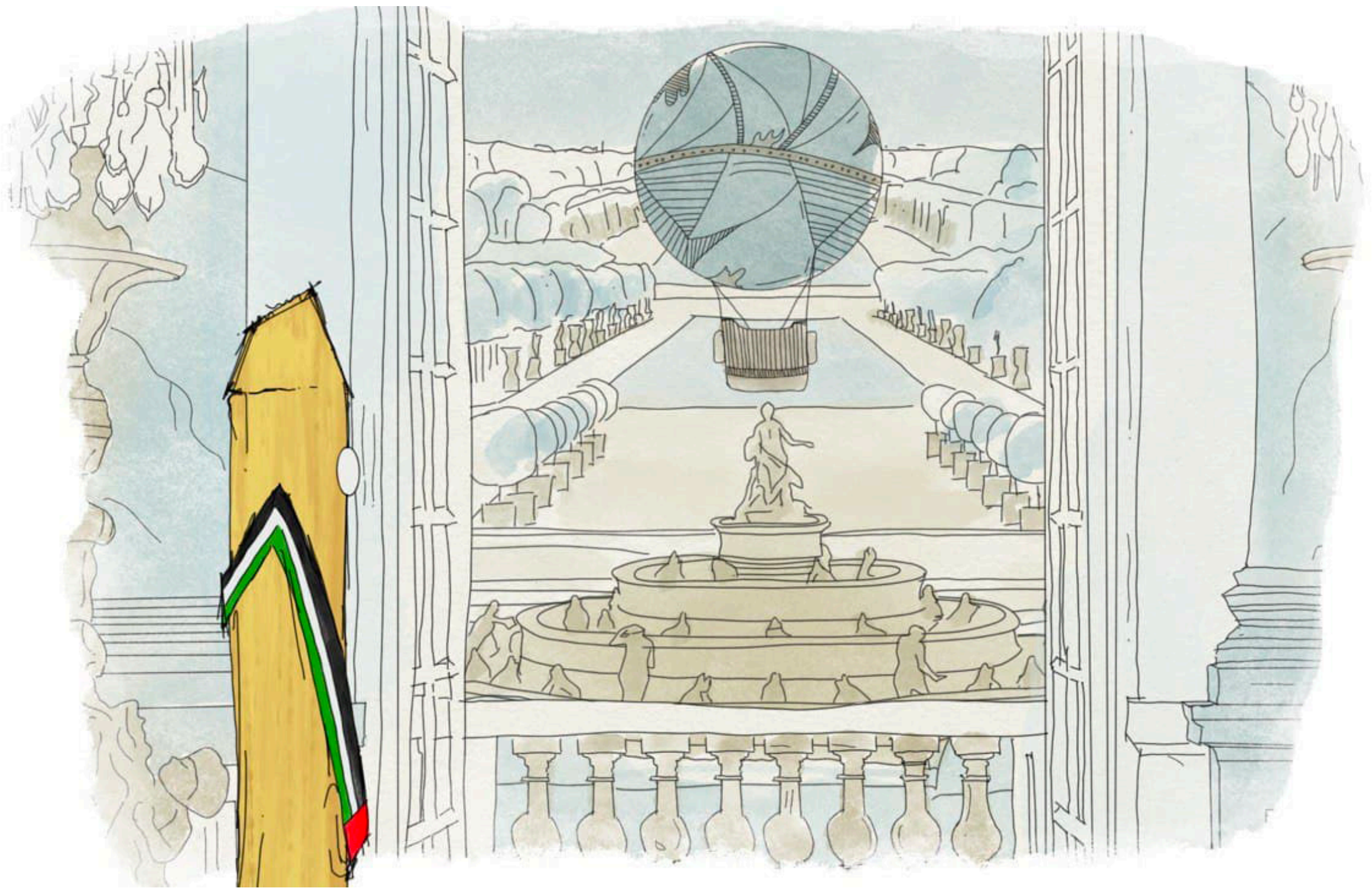
Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Department of Prints and Photography, FOL-IB-4 (1)

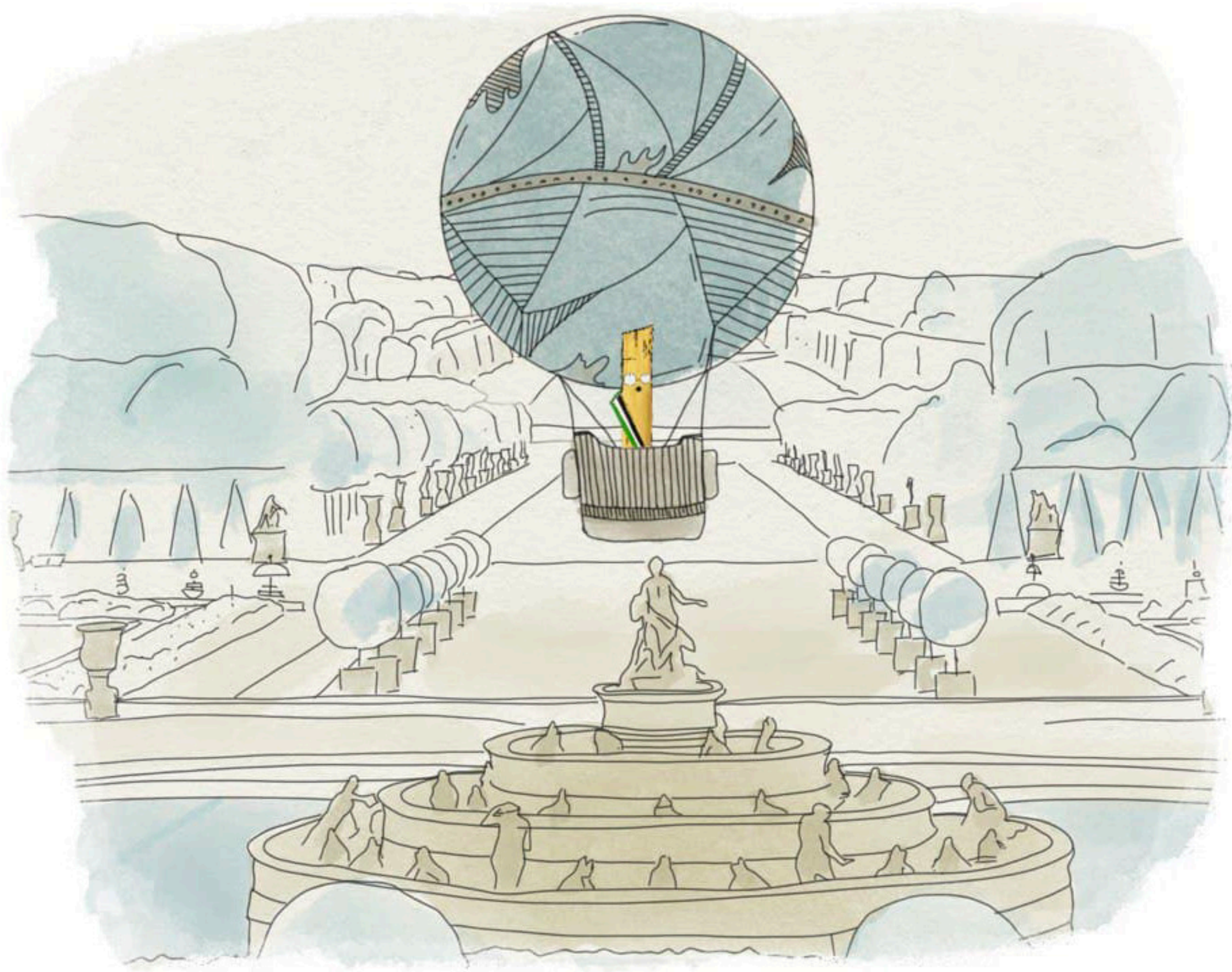
What is that? It's a balloon floating above the courtyard. I can't believe my eyes!

Flying hot-air balloons were revolutionary. They inspired fantastic stories, such as this illustration of the flying boat.

**Imagine you are the Captain of this vessel, welcoming all the passengers on board.**

**Share the travel itinerary, trip duration, weather forecast and what they can discover on board.**





## **Hold on tight! Bon Voyage!**

There is a lot going on in Versailles. I hope you had as much fun as I did. What was your favorite part of your visit?

Share your stories with us.

Tag us online @louvreabudhabi

See you soon for our next adventure.