

A PORTE OCÉANE TO A WORLD OF FICTION

Queneau, Sartre, Maupassant, Céline, and more recently, Maylis de Kerangal ... many authors have been inspired and influenced by Le Havre. But what makes the city so special ?

Of course, we all know the story of Le Havre, how King François the first built it. how after World War II, it was destroyed and rebuilt. We all learned about Le Volcan, le Monument aux morts et à la victoire and the Perret architecture. Throughout the years, many authors have used Le Havre as a setting

for their stories and Le Havre became a character of its own. In a way, the Porte Océane is like an open door to the world of fiction.



1. Illustration: Isabelle Letélié's work uses Le Havre as its main setting.

We had the chance to meet Isabelle Letélié. She is an author of documentaries and fictions such as "Le Havre, chronique(s) d'une renaissance de 1950 à nos jours" or "Le complot tentaculaire". These books put Le Havre at the center of her productions. We asked her how she saw her role as an author living in the city.

According to her, Le Havre is a real source of inspiration. Being a port, this city allows you to explore the spirits and souls of its inhabitants. In her productions, she speaks a lot about the sea and the port because these are fascinating places. In general authors are marked by the ocean city, which leads them to speak about port zones. To write on le Havre, it is necessary to love the town. Writing on the Havre is to highlight every advantages and the potential of this city.

Unfortunately, being an author in Le Havre has become very difficult because there aren't a lot of editors ready to publish . This is why there are very few authors. The Havre is a beautiful and inspiring city which needs to support its authors and their work.



Martin, Ornela, Leïla, Clara, Matilde.

2. Illustration: We had the chance to interview Isabelle Letélié.