



CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES

SOLUTIONS TO THE GAME « GUESS THE SEASONS, IMITATE THE STATUES »

All of the subjects in the photos below **are located in the gardens of Versailles**. Each one represents a season, as indicated by their name.



Winter, sculpted by François Girardon, clad in a heavy coat.

Summer, by Pierre Hutinot, carrying a wheat sheaf.

Autumn, also known as Bacchus, by Thomas Regnaudin, with a goblet and grapes.

Spring, by Laurent Magnier, wearing a floral crown.

They are all part of the **Great Commission of 1674**, the pinnacle of marble and allegorical works at Versailles, which also includes works depicting the four elements (Water, Earth, Air and Fire), parts of the world, human temperaments, etc.

In total, **32 statues were designed by Charles Le Brun and, over the course of almost 20 years, were sculpted by such renowned artists** as Girardon, Guérin, Desjardins, the Marsy brothers and Tuby. The use of allegory and the correlations between the seasons, time, etc. and the king served to **establish the monarch as the great controller of world order**.

The Great Commission is therefore a celebration of both French sculpture and the glory of the Sun King.

FIND OUT MORE:

- The [sculptures and Great Commission of 1674](#)
- The [Gardens of the palace of Versailles](#)