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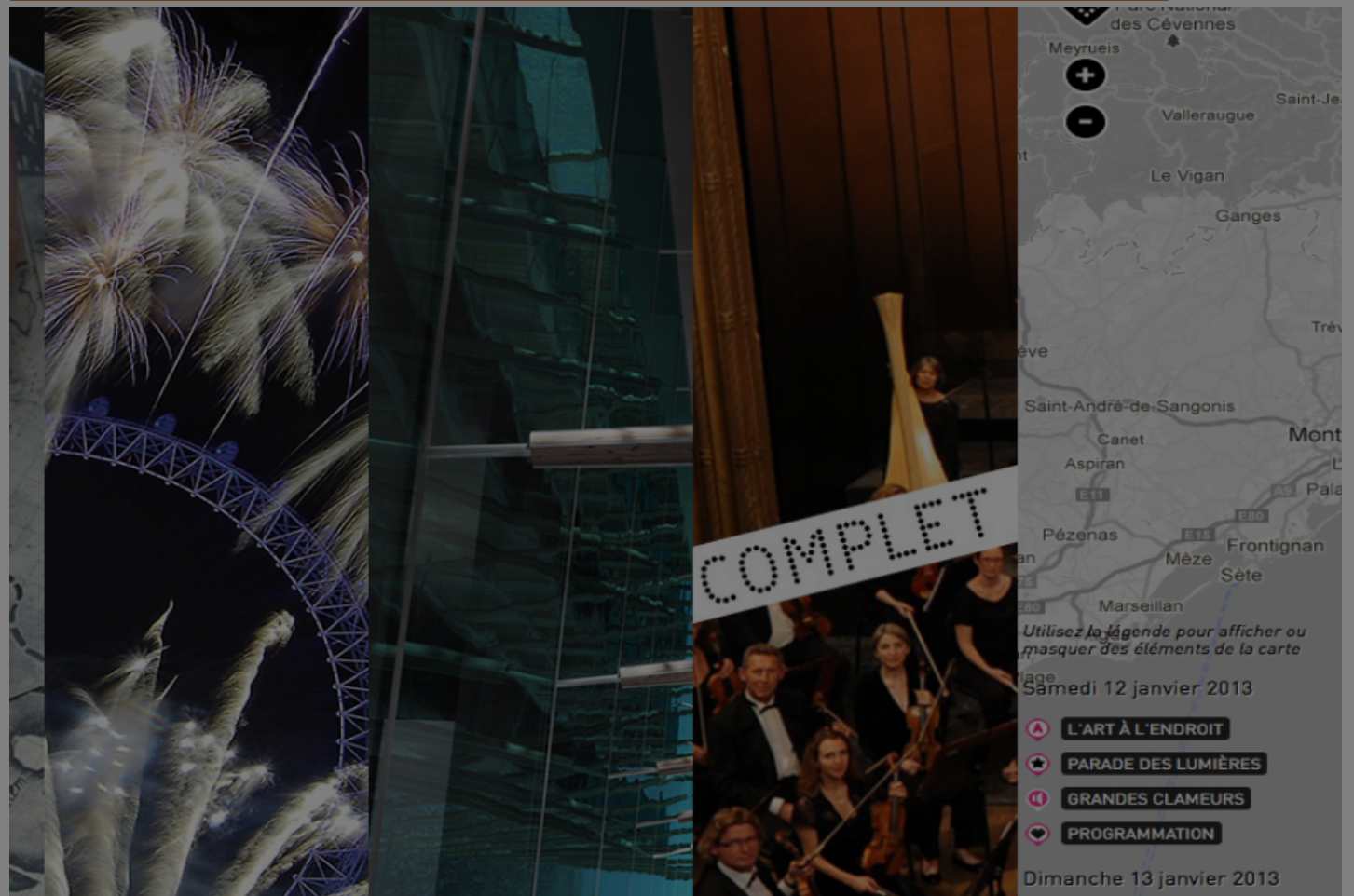
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# European Capitals of Culture 2013



New Year 2013 brings two new European Capitals of Culture. [Marseille-Provence](#) in France and [Košice](#) in Slovakia. The opening celebrations take place in each city in mid-January when the year's programme is launched.



In Marseille the MP2013 Year is launched on 12-13 January. See what's on in the full [programme](#).



In Košice the European Capital of Culture Year is launched on 19-20 January with an [invitation to Planet Košice](#)

Each year, cities chosen as [European Capitals of Culture](#) provide living proof of the richness and diversity of European cultures. Started in 1985, the initiative has become one of the most prestigious and high-profile cultural events in Europe. More than 40 cities have been designated European Capitals of Culture so far, from Stockholm to Genoa, Athens to Glasgow, and Cracow to Porto.

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