LOCALS INSIDER

CITY GUIDE



MUSIC

The concert hall where his couture takes the stage

SECRET

A village hidden in the 20th

TASTE

Lunch, Lebanese-style, by the atelier

Paris

by Julien Fournié

Parisian couturier and founder of Maison Julien Fournié, one of the few houses with the official Haute Couture label.



MEET JULIEN FOURNIÉ

The couturier who *studied medicine*

Julien Fournié went to university to become a doctor, until his anatomy drawings, which classmates called real art, sent him to the École de la Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisienne. He learned his craft alongside Jean Paul Gaultier and Claude Montana, and in 2009 opened his own house in Paris.

Since 2017, Maison Julien Fournié has held the official Haute Couture label. He still works like a doctor: listening first, then reading the body.

Follow @julienfournie on Instagram →

“Haute Couture heals!”

JULIEN FOURNIÉ





HIS SECRET

A village atmosphere, far from the tourists

“Three authentic streets of Paris, far from touristic spots, where you can escape the city for a village atmosphere.”

“Just for a refreshing stroll in the summer, for a feel of what Montmartre must have been like at the end of the 19th century, with flights of stairs, street lamps and small houses... at the corner of rue Irénée Blanc and rue Jules Siegfried in the 20th arrondissement, close to Porte de Bagnolet.”

La Campagne à Paris · Photo: Simon Mullen / Unsplash



“Some fabrics need to be tamed, other fabrics need to be obeyed.”

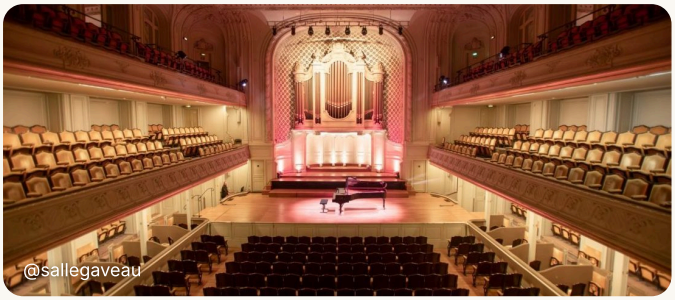
JULIEN FOURNIÉ



JULIEN'S PARIS

Music and art

Concert halls with perfect acoustics, and a museum he calls very inspiring.



Salle Gaveau

8th arrondissement · 45 rue La Boétie · Metro Miromesnil

Built by the piano maker Gaveau and opened in 1907, a concert hall of around 1,000 seats devoted to classical and chamber music. A listed historic monument, restored and reopened in 2001.

"One of the favorite places where I can stage my runway shows."



Philharmonie de Paris

19th arrondissement · 221 avenue Jean Jaurès · Metro Porte de Pantin

Jean Nouvel's concert hall at Parc de la Villette, opened in 2015. Its main hall seats around 2,400, and the building also houses the Musée de la Musique.

"A wonderful concert hall with amazing acoustics."

Musée Cernuschi

8th arrondissement · 7 avenue Vélasquez · Tue–Sun 10am–6pm

The City of Paris museum of Asian art, in banker Henri Cernuschi's former mansion by Parc Monceau, with Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese collections. The permanent collection is free.

"Very inspiring."

JULIEN'S PARIS

Eat and drink

A palace café off Place Vendôme, a Shandong canteen and lunch by the atelier.



Café Jeanne at the Park Hyatt

2nd arrondissement · 5 rue de la Paix · daily 7am–midnight

The all-day restaurant of the Park Hyatt Paris-Vendôme, between Place Vendôme and the Opéra, serving from breakfast to late dinner.

"For a break in the middle of the city."



La Sésalette

10th arrondissement · 70–72 rue du Faubourg Poissonnière · Tue–Sun

Opened in 2025 by Wassim Tawbo and his nephew Samer Mansour around kaaké, the sesame flatbread of Lebanese street food. The name blends “sésame” and “galette”.

“This has become our place for lunch.”

Délices de Shandong

13th arrondissement · 88 boulevard de l’Hôpital · closed Wednesdays

A family canteen near the Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital, long known for the cooking of China’s Shandong province. It now trades as L’Empire du Ravioli, with dumplings made by hand on site.

“For the best Chinese food (including tripe).”

JULIEN'S PARIS

Wander and shop

Cobbled lanes in the 20th and streetwear in the 10th.

La Campagne à Paris

20th arrondissement · Rue Irénée-Blanc & rue Jules-Siegfried · Metro Porte de Bagnolet

Around 90 brick and millstone houses with gardens, built from 1907 for working-class families on a former quarry site. Cobbled lanes and steps lead to its heart, where the two streets meet.

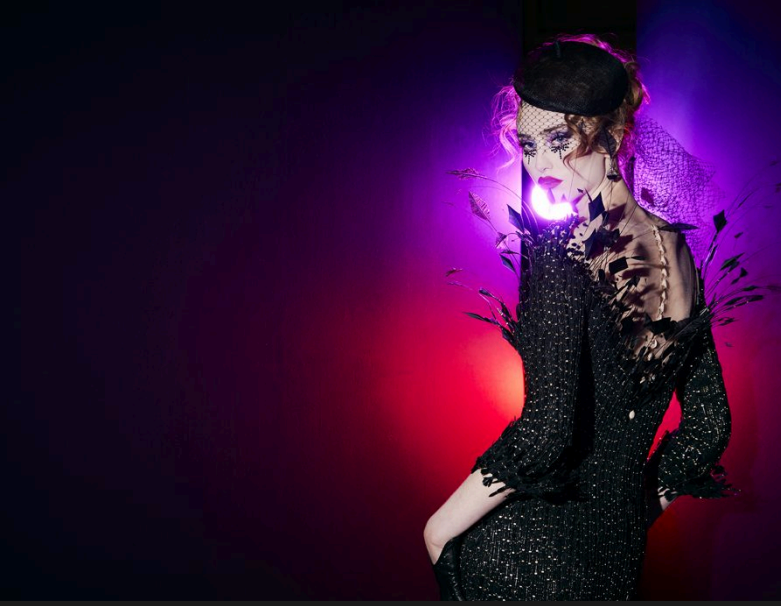
"Three authentic streets of Paris, far from touristic spots."

Smugglers Society

10th arrondissement · 14 rue d'Hauteville · daily from 10:30am

A legal CBD shop with its own streetwear line, plus a coffee bar and a lounge at the back.

"A completely legal CBD store with a nice line of streetwear."



“They actually stand out because they have found their own legend.”

JULIEN FOURNIÉ





...AND OF COURSE

His atelier on rue de Paradis

Where every Maison Julien Fournié piece is made to order, by hand.

Julien Fournié Haute Couture

10th arrondissement · 47 rue de Paradis · Mon–Fri

The atelier of Maison Julien Fournié, one of the houses holding the official Haute Couture label. Contact the house to arrange a visit.

julienfournie.com →

LOCALS
INSIDER

Read Julien's full story

Why haute couture heals, what Gaultier and Montana taught him about frustration, and why he refuses to make uniforms.

READ ON LOCALS INSIDER →

Opening hours change, so check with each place before you go. Tap an address to open it in Maps.

localsinsider.com · @locals_insider