

# The French Will Never Forget

## 20th Anniversary of 9/11, 2001

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# 20 YEARS

## PARIS SEPTEMBER 11 2021



For 17 years now, the “The French Will Never Forget” Association reminds us of the friendly ties that unite both the French and the American people. Several projects have been organized since 2003, such as the event at Omaha Beach, where 2500 volunteers formed a gigantic human chain which took the shape of the words: “France will never forget”.

On september 11 2011 the 10th anniversary of this tragedy, the Association has sent a new and strong message of friendship and gratitude and compassion from the French people to its American allies, with the installation of a special monument in front of the Chaillot Palace (facing the Eiffel Tower) as a tribute to the victims and their families.





The Association “The French Will Never Forget” (TFWNF) was founded in 2003 due to the prevailing resentment a part of the American population held towards the French, following our country’s refusal to join them on the war in Iraq. A recurring leitmotiv in the many of the commentaries published by the American press, and of certain politicians, was that France did not remember what the United States did for her during both World Wars.



Determined to enhance French-American friendship, The French will Never Forget has decided along with four friends – Paul BENSABAT Patrick Du TERTRE Jean-Pierre HEIM, Christian MILLET ( + in memoriam ) – to launch a series of actions that show the gratitude our Country holds for its oldest ally and for its decisive aid it gave us in the former century

-The first event took place on the occasion of the 4th of July, 2003: “The French Will Never Forget” took the initiative to fill the 11 cemeteries of American soldiers who fell in the World Wars with flowers, by decorating each of the 60,511 sepultures with a red rose. The Association came about to convince and to raise the necessary funds for such a grand project.

Thanks to this first success, the Association was able to multiply its symbolic actions. As a reminder, I will only mention a few: in 2003 it played an active and important role in collecting the funds which allowed sending 100 WWII veterans from the United States to Normandy, where they received the Legion of Honor from the French President’s hands.





-In 2005, “The French Will Never Forget” organized and financed the voyage and accommodations of veterans who liberated the Eiffel Tower. Two of them received the Legion of Honor from the hands of Ms Alliot-Marie.

-On July 4th, 2007 it again organized the gigantic 2500-human-volunteer-formed logo “FRANCE WILL NEVER FORET” on the sands of Omaha Beach. A wonderful film of this operation can be seen on Youtube.

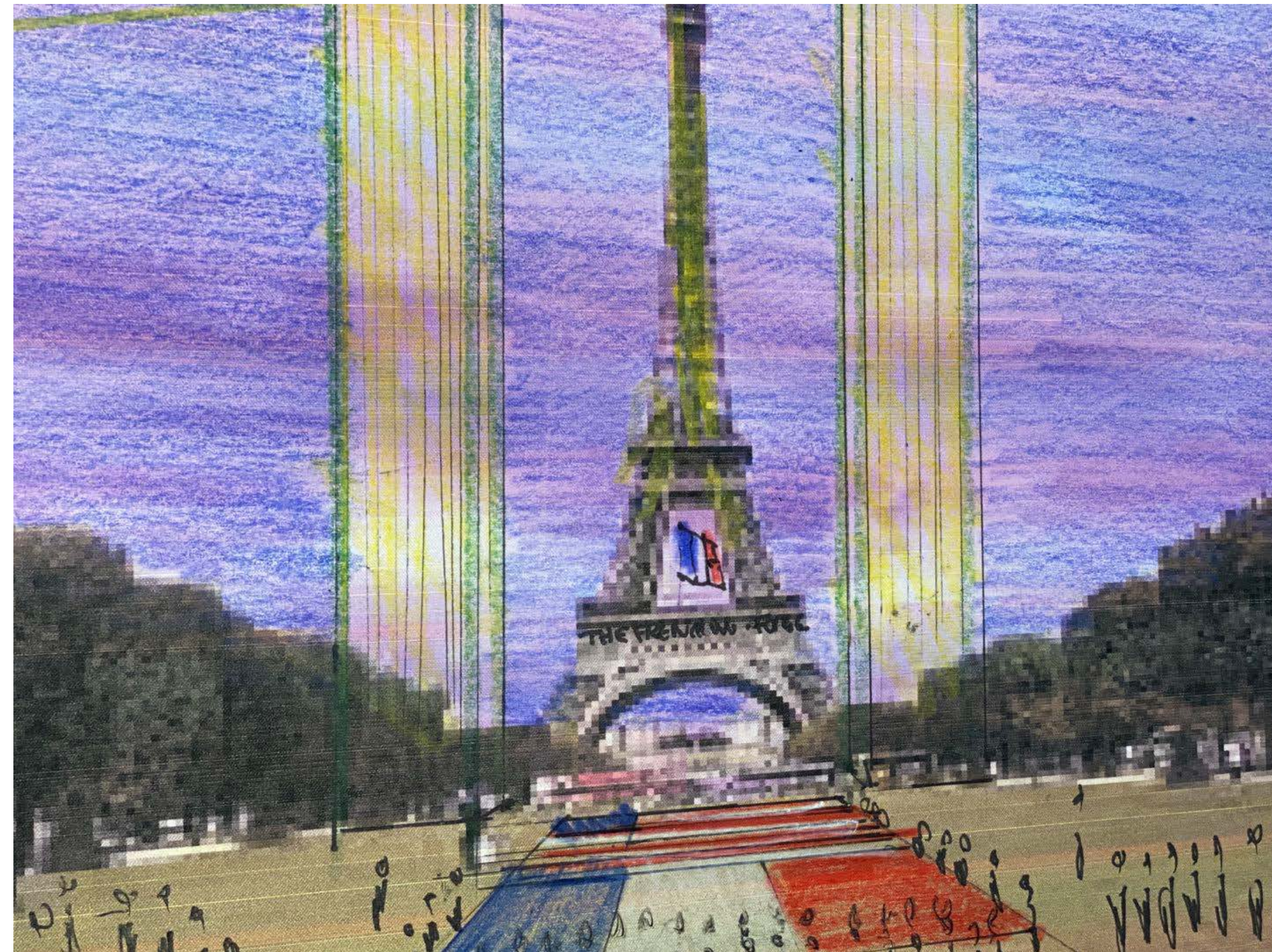
-In 2008, “The French Will Never Forget” continued to participate in hand-outs of the Legion of Honor in the United States, and organized several film screenings of “Omaha Beach 2007” for Patriotic and for Veteran organizations

- June 6 2014 the Committee sent one million of Roses petals on Liberty Statue with 3 helicopter in New York to commemorate the 70 th anniversary of the end of WW 2.

# DESCRIPTION OF SEPTEMBER 11 2021 EVENT

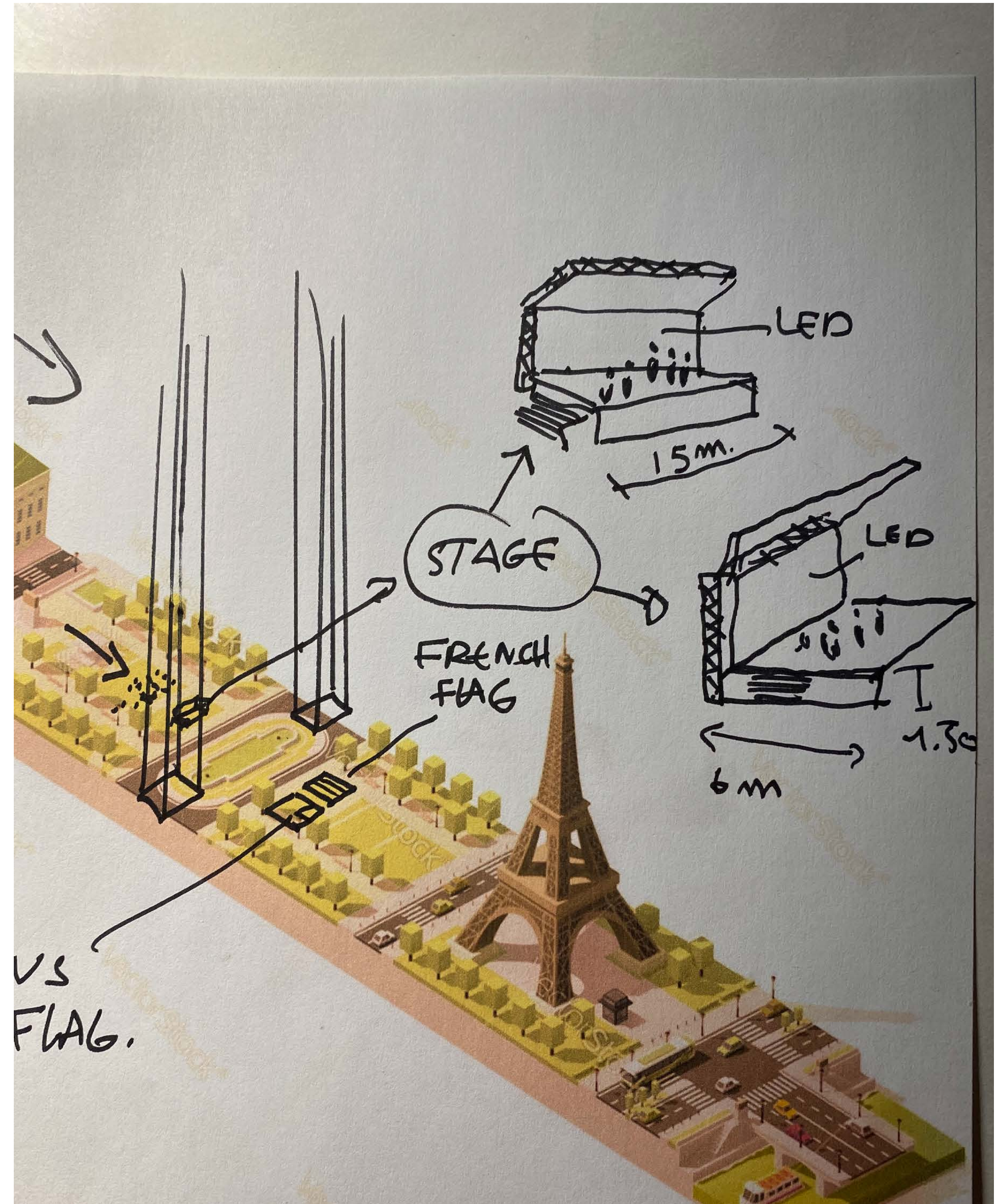
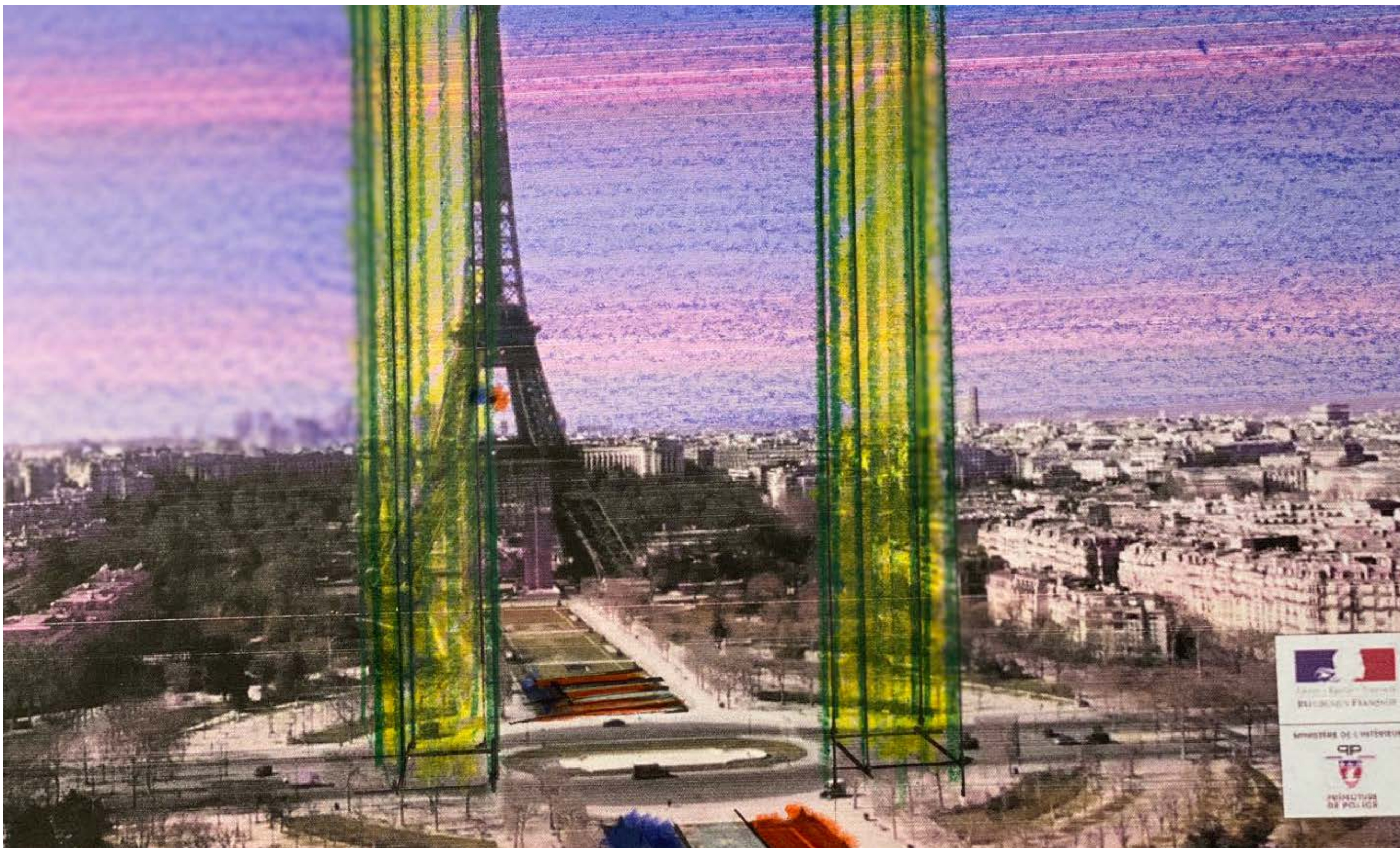
This coming year for the 20th anniversary 2021 of the World Trade Center, the Committee intends to put up a large-scale project again, in honor of the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the tragedy of 9/11, and, by doing so, to resend our message of friendship, respect, gratitude and compassion from the French people to its American allies.

The idea consists of setting up – on September 11, 2021 – a visual reproduction of the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in Lights right in front of the Eiffel Tower on Le Champs de Mars, by showing laser beam and lights on all four sides of each print of the World Trade Center tower; each laser will have a foot print of 20 meters between them representing the 2 twin towers.



The Eiffel Tower, centered in perspective between the two laser beam towers, will associate our Nation in a very strong and symbolic fashion to the American pain. The message of sympathy and of friendship will clearly be made.

The Eiffel tower will be illuminate simultaneously with the image of the French and American Flags .

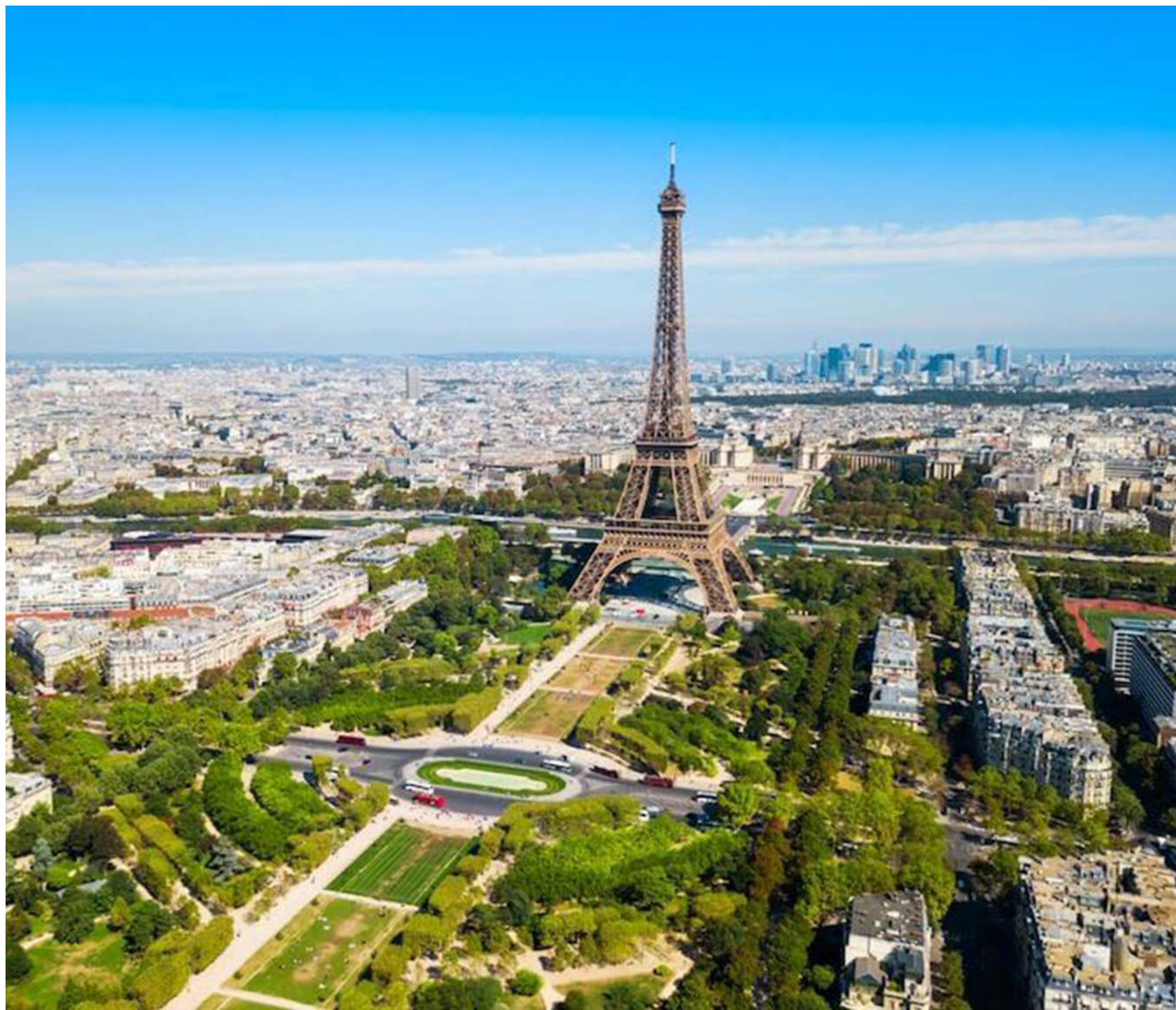




Finally, a big French flag and a big American one will be hold on the grass of Le Champs de Mars between the lazer beam and the Eiffel Tower.

Right before the official commemoration, several children will solemnly march from the Ecole Militaire to the location , holding the two largest French and American flags ever designed in the world (18m x 9m) (which our Association possesses since it is we who have made them for the 2007 human-chain in Omaha Beach).

We thus wish to transmit a double message: “that we haven’t forgotten the drama experienced by the United States exactly 20 years ago, nor have we forgotten the sacrifices made by it during World War II in helping us regaining our freedom”. This is also our Association’s name and the initial message our Association wants to send since it was created in 2003.



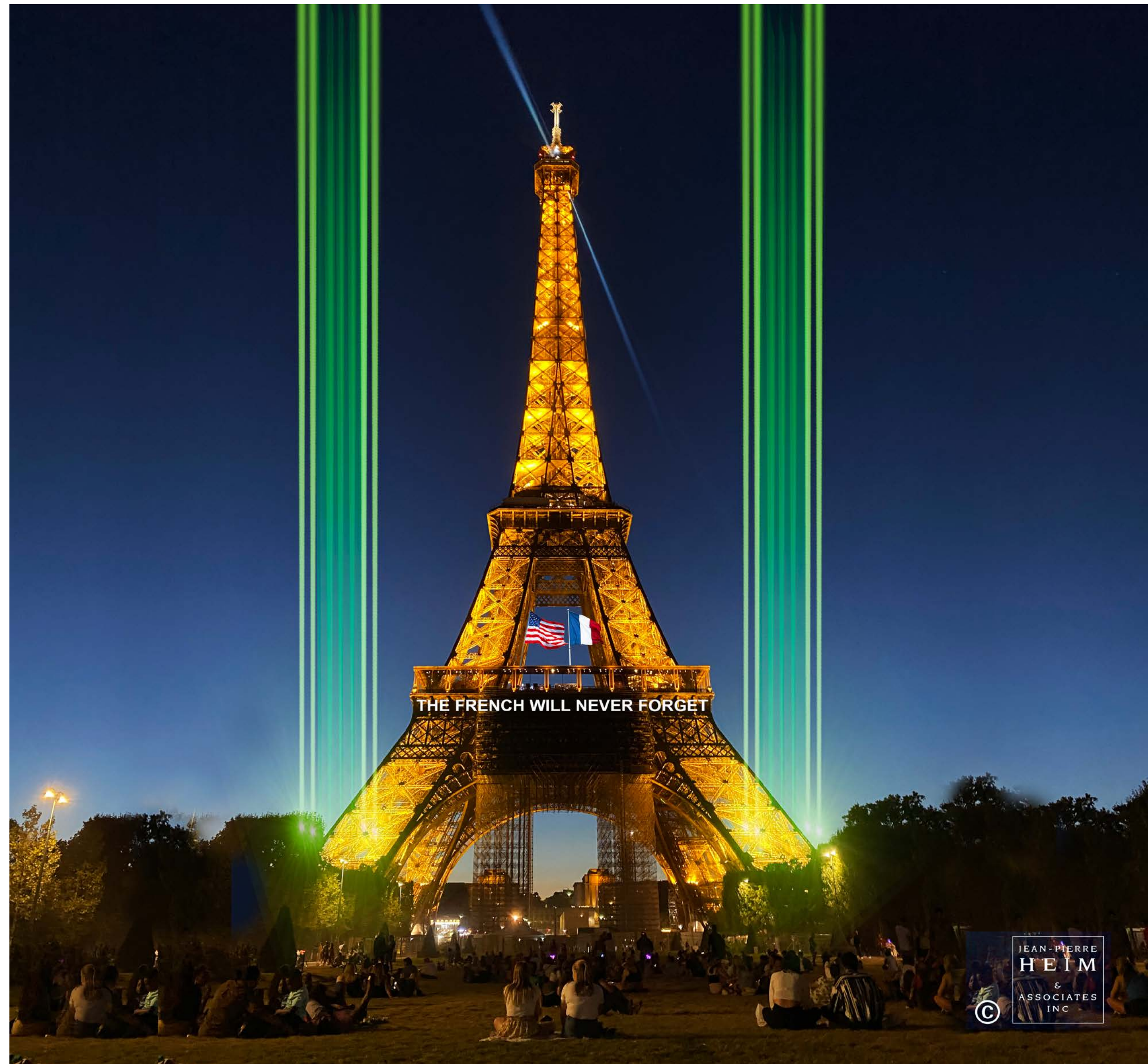


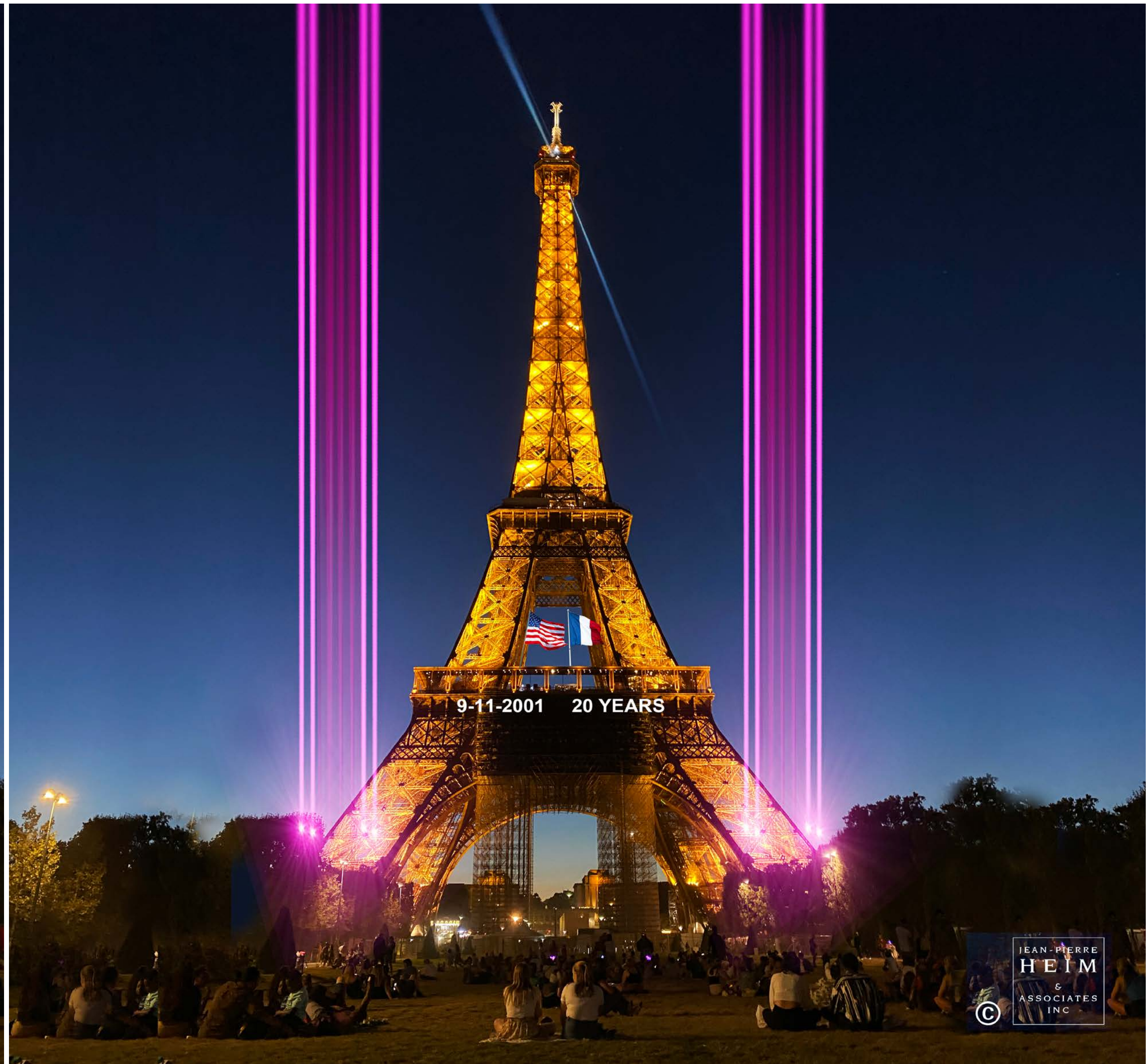
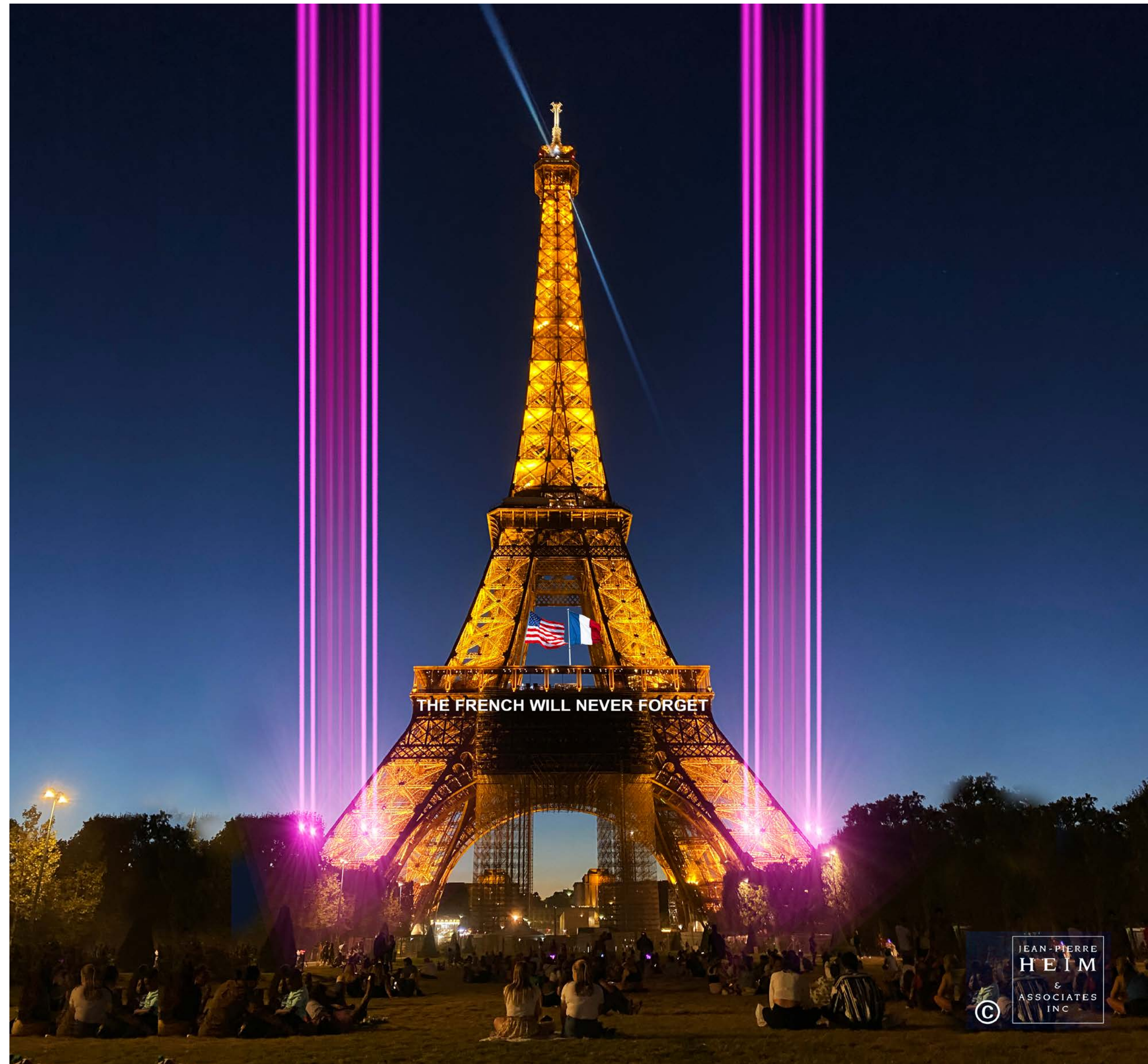
On September 2001 we were all Americans. But during the months and years that followed, the French-American relations underwent many difficulties. Without passing a judgment on that period, I would however like to know what your feelings are as French residing on this side of the Atlantic, especially towards the following question: do you think the French really understand how the United States in general and New Yorkers in particular were so profoundly touched by their individual and collective existence on that day?

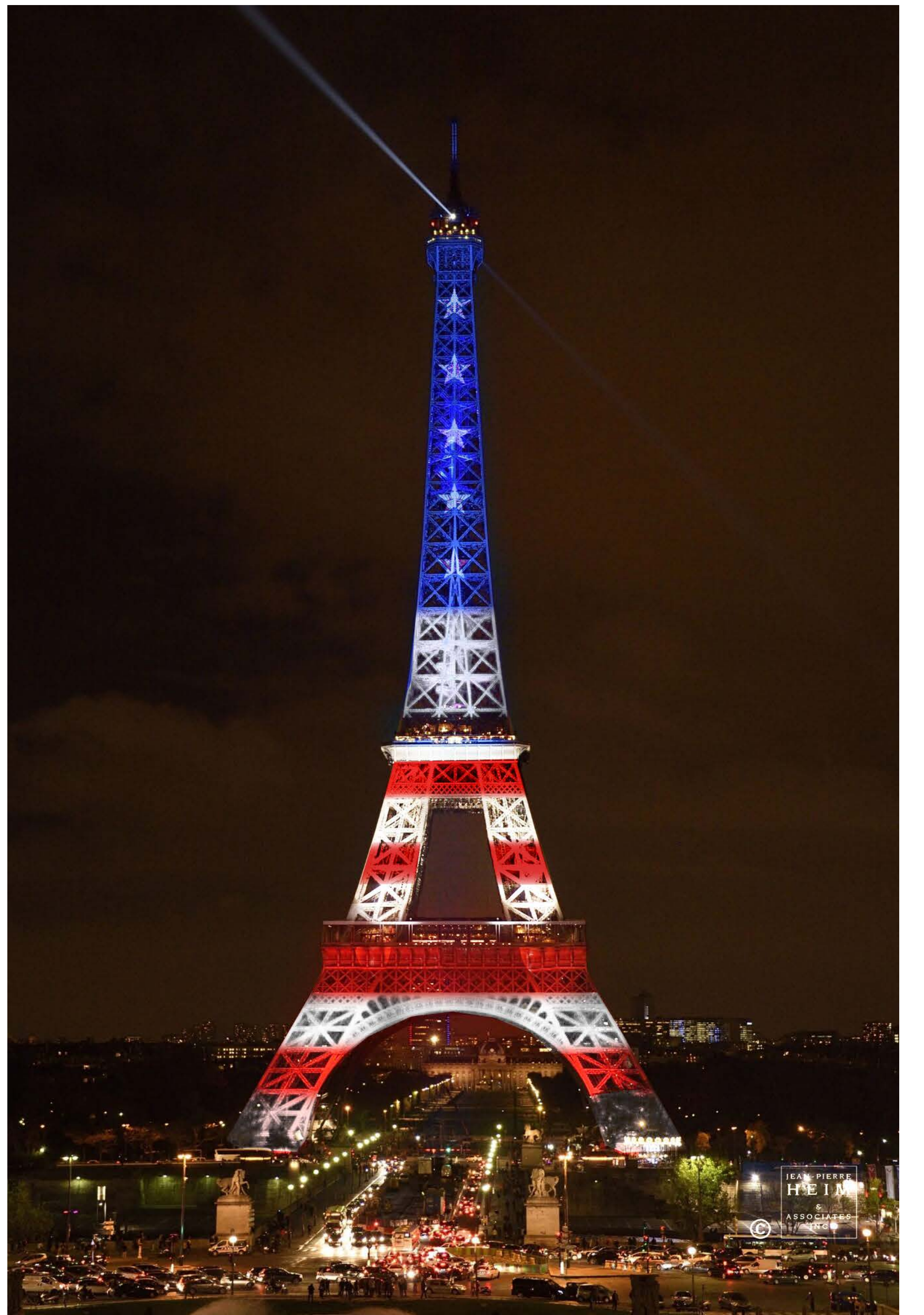
Our compatriots living in France and in the rest of the world were very sensitive to the American people's suffering. But can we blame them for it: they certainly did not feel it with the same intensity the inhabitants of New York, Washington and all the US did.

Finally, because we are on our American friends' side just as they were on ours when we needed them. On the coming September 11, we will be sharing their collective grief, and show our compassion to the families of the victims and those who were close to them.









A project design by  
Architect designer Jean Pierre HEIM



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