

## **DID YOU KNOW THAT ABOUT PLAINE COMMUNE ?**

## **# HASHTAGS**

Heritage, remarkable architecture, builders, contemporary history, masterpieces, monuments



**Agriculture**, a family tradition. In Saint-Denis, salad production was a family affair for the Kersanté family from 1920 to 2017. At the beginning of the 20th century, Marie Pellan, who came from Brittany, founded a market gardening business on the border of Stains. At the time, the Plaine des Vertus, which includes Saint-Denis, was the largest market gardening area in Europe. However, everything changed over time, and in 2017, René Kersanté, 75, the grandson of Marie Pellan, remained the last market gardener in Seine-Saint-Denis. He retired, and his farm was replaced by Zone Sensible and the Jardins de Gally.

**When Villetaneuse paved the way for records**. Midilive Studio was established in 1997 in the former Vogue Records studios, the largest independent French label until 1986. Built in 1976, these studios were named the Sidney Bechet Studios after the jazzman who was one of Vogue Records' first artists, long before the "yéyé" wave with Johnny Hallyday, Jacques Dutronc, and Françoise Hardy. The record industry in Villetaneuse began in 1932 at the La Nobel factory, which specialized in shaping Bakelite and plastics and then moved into the manufacture and engraving of 78 rpm records.

L'île-Saint-Denis, the land of divers. The only island municipality in the Seine, L'Ile-Saint-Denis, was mainly inhabited by fishermen, sailors, and especially the "Seine divers" until World War II. These divers were responsible for maintaining underwater cables in the river and performing underwater interventions on barges. L'Ile-Saint-Denis thus inherited the nickname "the island of porthole men."

**Strength games, Breton games.** For a long time, Saint-Denis was a land of Breton immigration, where people came seeking fortune. Consequently, it became the site of many strength games found only on the western facade of France, such as the sideways pole lift, one-handed axle lift, and stone throw, as well as various disc games common in Brittany. This tradition even led to an initiation day for these various disciplines in May 2024, held in the Parc de la Légion d'Honneur in Saint-Denis, under the auspices of the Federation of Breton Sports and Games.

## Plaine Commune Press Service

Félix Grand <u>felix.grand@plainecommune.fr</u> 01 71 86 36 73 - 07 76 62 40 56

## WHO CAN TALK ABOUT IT ?

f 🎯 plainecommune.fr

