

# ANNE MORGAN'S WAR:

## Rebuilding Devastated France, 1917-1924



WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES

Palm Beach : (561) 655 2090 or [palmbeach@wallyfindlay.com](mailto:palmbeach@wallyfindlay.com)



ANNE MORGAN AND ANNE MURRAY DIKE - BLÉRANCOURT, CA. 1919 - 1921

Through period photography and silent film, the exhibition brings to life the extraordinary work undertaken by a small team of American women who left comfortable lives to devote themselves to relief work in France during and after World War I. Called the American Committee for Devastated France, the group's dynamic leader was Anne Morgan (1873–1952), the youngest daughter of the financier J. Pierpont Morgan.

Living alongside the rural people of Picardy in wooden barracks at the Château de Blérancourt, and at the wheels of their Ford trucks, the volunteers directed the reconstruction of buildings and agricultural production; created a network of visiting nurses, libraries, social centers, and kindergartens; encouraged sports and scouting; and organized festive events designed to rebuild social ties.

Morgan harnessed the power of documentary photography to foster a humanitarian response to the plight of French refugees. With haunting views of ruined

French towns, portraits of refugees, and tableaux of American volunteers at work, the exhibition explores not only the human cost of war but also the potency of photographic propaganda and the influence of women's activism.

This powerful exhibition as arrives at Wally Findlay Galleries in Palm Beach following showings at the The French Cultural Center in Boston, the Woodrow Wilson House in Washington, DC, the Morgan Library and Museum in New York City, and the National World War I Museum in Kansas City.

The exhibition was curated by The Franco-American Museum Curator, Anne Dopffer. It is supported in part by The Florence Gould Foundation and the American Friends of Blérancourt. This Palm Beach exhibition is made possible in part by the gracious underwriting of Wally Findlay Galleries International.



BAKING RESUMES AFTER THE WAR - MONS-EN-LAONNOIS, 1919

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VILLAGE LIFE - SAINT-BANDRY, 1919

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VOLUNTEERS AT THE BLÉRANCOURT GATEWAY - BLÉRANCOURT, 1921

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THE "RABBIT CAVE" - BLÉRANCOURT, 1919

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MME COMPAGNON: "THEY SHALL NOT PASS" - SAINT-BANDRY 1919

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CHILDREN OF SAINT-PAUL-AUX-BOIS - SAINT-PAUL-AUX-BOIS 1919

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FRANCE IN RUINS - AMBLENY, 1919

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**MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup> THROUGH MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>  
PALM BEACH, FL**

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