



## FRANCE: CARRYING THE GIANTS

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Gayant and his family are over 8 metres tall and have been watching over the town of Douai in Northern France for over five centuries. Once a year, they take part in a ceremony that symbolises their link with the town and its inhabitants who consider themselves "the Children of Gayant". For three days, the giants are carried through the streets on the back of the townspeople. Being bearer of the giant is a privilege handed down through the families, from father to son, since the 16th Century. The dynasty of bearers is hidden under the giants' skirts: they might be workers, wrestlers, civil servants or unemployed; but for three days a year they become the soul of the giant. The town belongs to them...

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