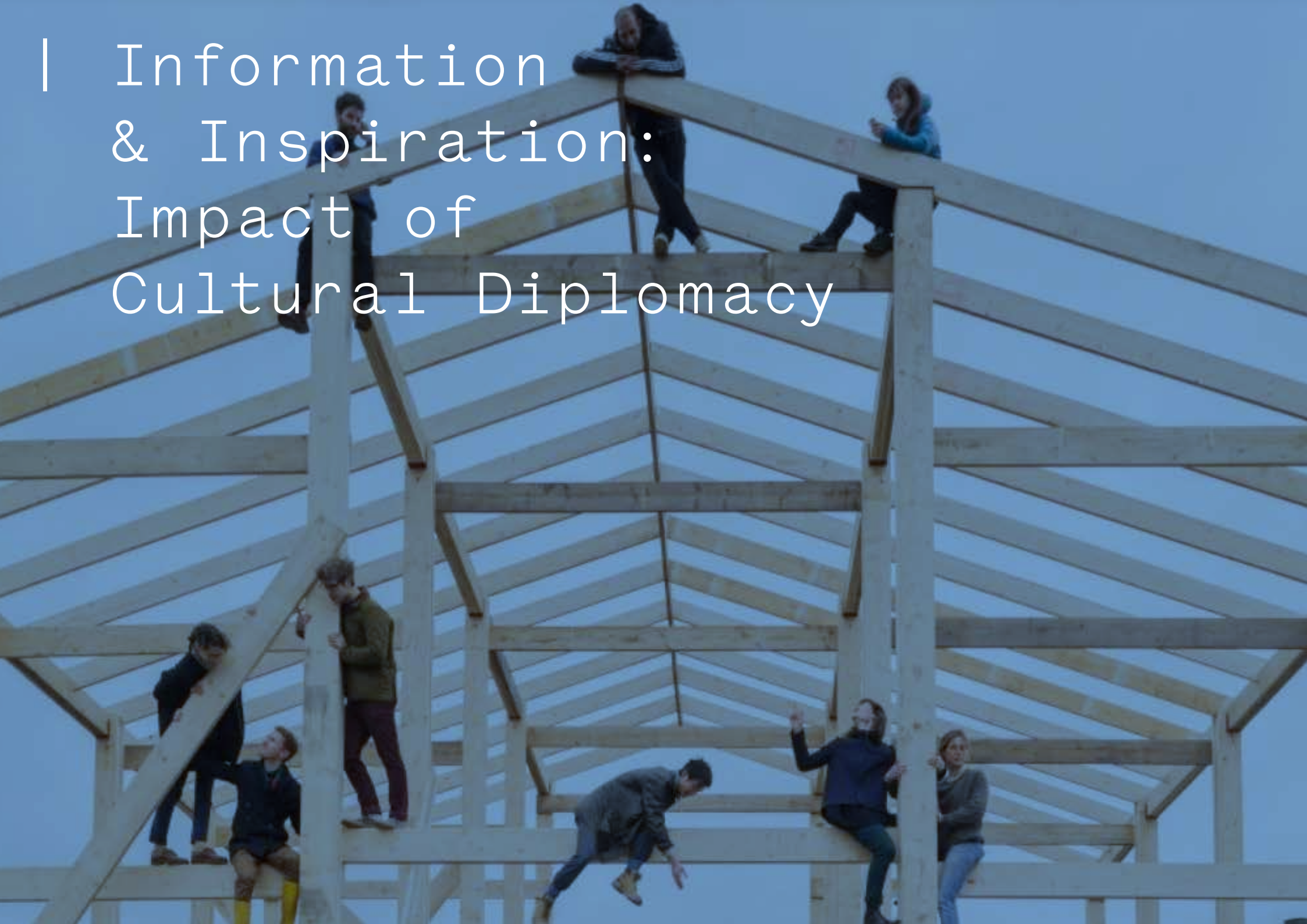


# | Information & Inspiration: Impact of Cultural Diplomacy



# | Introduction

| Information  
& inspiration:  
impact of  
cultural diplomacy

Art and culture have the ability to inspire and transform society. At a time of global challenges, this publication was created to examine the role of culture and its added value for society. The focus is on how international cooperation helps us contribute to a shift in thinking about the complex problems facing us in today's society. The role of cultural diplomacy and the value of culture are especially interesting subjects at a period when cultural legitimization is becoming more deeply intertwined with societal challenges.

Throughout history, culture has had a crucial role in critical thinking and the development of democratic ideals. Most complex societal problems, such as the refugee crisis or climate change, cannot be resolved by analytical disciplines or management theories alone. We are moved to ask the question: how does culture relate to these global challenges and serve as a basis for knowledge or social renewal? Part of culture's value is its 'speculative power': while it may not provide a direct solution to a problem or challenge, it can offer new perspectives on issues that may not otherwise be considered. Various cultural disciplines, such as design, architecture, theatre and music, can generate creative solutions through various forms of participation and social engagement. Art and culture also give people the opportunity to discuss issues on an equal footing. With that in mind, this

publication highlights best practices that can serve as inspirational tools for cultural diplomacy. These examples also illustrate the connection between culture and other international policy goals.

Through its foreign and international cultural policy, the Dutch government supports artists, cultural institutions and the creative industry, with a view to raising the Netherlands' profile abroad and boosting its cultural and creative sector. Quite often, art and culture can align with policy objectives: from strengthening the international legal order and respect for human rights, to sustainable development, food security, water and climate, social progress, multilateral cooperation and bilateral dimension. By supporting Dutch art and culture abroad, Dutch embassies can further certain political goals.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science are jointly responsible for the international cultural policy. Together they support DutchCulture, the network and knowledge organization for international cultural collaboration. DutchCulture facilitates, encourages and supports collaboration between artists and art institutions worldwide – in cooperation with organisations, diplomatic missions, government agencies and artists themselves – by providing individual advice and tailored guidance.

# | Introduction

| Information  
& inspiration:  
impact of  
cultural diplomacy

This publication, which is a co-production of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and DutchCulture, offers inspiring examples and provides information about both Dutch and international worldwide organisations, whose work has been so valuable in recent years. Needless to say, this is just a small part of the story. We do not see this publication as a finished product; rather, it is designed to grow with its readers. You are welcome to send your suggestions about projects or specific information you think should be included.

In conclusion, artists and others in the cultural sector can have a major impact on the world by finding and organising cultural activities that help address or discuss societal challenges. They are increasingly working in trans-disciplinary collectives, which span borders and nations. The embassies' diplomatic work plays an essential role in this connection, as a transitional force between the world of art and culture and the global political system. These best practices show how much has been accomplished and, at the same time, how much can still be achieved. The question is how cultural diplomacy can function as a bridge between the world of policy and the world of culture, and how it can contribute to fair international cooperation.

# | Table of Contents

# 9 Policy

## Goals

### by HGIS

#### **Strengthening the international legal order and respect for human rights:**

Promoting a well-functioning international legal order, including ongoing efforts in the area of human rights, is an integral part of Dutch foreign policy.

#### **Peace, security, stability and migration:**

Promoting Dutch and international security and stability by means of targeted bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation, promoting democratic transition in priority areas, especially in the arc around Europe and responding to large-scale disasters, including making provisions for the reception of refugees in their own regions.

#### **Effective European cooperation:**

Effective European cooperation to ensure the most peaceful, most prosperous and strongest future for the European Union and its member states.

The Homogeneous Budget for International Cooperation (HGIS), which is managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, comprises the joint expenditure of various Dutch ministries on foreign policy. HGIS is an important instrument which promotes international cooperation and integrates the international policy goals of the various Dutch ministries involved. It is focused on the following policy themes.

#### **Consular services and promoting Dutch values and interests internationally:**

Issuing travel documents to Dutch nationals abroad and providing them with consular assistance, and aiming to promote the Netherlands' international profile through art, culture and sport, thereby also establishing a good international market position for the creative industry.

#### **Sustainable economic development, trade and investment:**

Stay alert and pay attention to local highlights and use them and their publicity.

#### **Sustainable development, food security, water and climate:**

Improving food security, water management, drinking water and sanitation, promoting sustainable use of natural resources, combating global warming and increasing people's ability to cope with the unavoidable effects of climate change.

#### **Social progress:**

Enabling people to develop their abilities; promoting social and inclusive development in the interests of a sustainable and just world; such as promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights and working to achieve equal rights opportunities for women.

#### **Strengthening development frameworks:**

Strengthening frameworks for development and inclusive growth by creating a more socially-minded and opportunity-rich society through the promotion of social engagement through culture and sport.

#### **Multilateral cooperation and the bilateral dimension:**

Promoting regional partnerships through multilateral and bilateral cooperation with international (development) organisations on development challenges.

Strengthening the  
International legal  
order and respect  
for human rights

# Havana

## Dutch Film Week at Multicine Infanta

The Dutch embassy in Havana organised a Dutch film week, screening a selection of the best contemporary Dutch cinematic offerings. The Cuban people had the opportunity to view the seven selected films at the Multicine Infanta; one of the leading cinemas in Havana. Among the remarkable movies screened was *Bram Fischer* by Jean van de Velde, which addressed the subject of apartheid through the story of a renowned South African lawyer who is secretly affiliated with the resistance movement.

Other movies included *Riphagen* by Pieter Kuijpers, *Tonio* by Paula van der Oest and *Strike a Pose* by Ester Gould and Reijer Zwaan. For this seventh edition of the Film Week, the selection committee focused on movies that dealt with human rights and LGBTQIA+ rights in particular. Thanks to good marketing, including spots on Cuban television, and the quality of the films on offer, Dutch Film Week had a high turnout. (2017)



Credit:  
Photo courtesy via the embassy  
of the Netherlands in Havana



Strengthening the  
International legal  
order and respect  
for human rights

# Bratislava

## One World Documentary Film Festival

The One World Documentary Film Festival is an annual event focusing on human rights and global issues, with the aim of supporting an active learning process and encouraging the audience, especially young people, to share social responsibility for these issues. The festival had a special virtual guest: Dutch MEP Sophie in 't Veld, Chair of the Rule of Law working group. Though unable to attend in person, Ms in 't Veld recorded a video message that was shown before two screenings. The 19th edition of the Festival, which is sponsored in part by the NGO People in Need Slovakia, was held in Bratislava and Košice.

Dutch filmmakers had a strong presence at the festival, with seven Dutch (co-)productions in the programme, including Guido Hendrikx's documentary *Stranger in Paradise*, which addresses complex issues surrounding refugees and the asylum system.



In three acts the film portrays three facets of the European attitude towards the refugee crisis: dismissiveness, empathy and goodwill. In its final act, it examines the actual complicated immigration policy system itself. (2018)

Credits:  
Mykola Kovalenko Respect APP Agency

Strengthening the  
International legal  
order and respect  
for human rights

# Tehran

## Guilty Landscapes by Dries Verhoeven at Fajr Festival

The live video installation *Guilty Landscapes*, produced by the Dries Verhoeven Studio, was screened at the Fajr International Theater Festival, the biggest festival of its kind in Iran and the wider region. This virtual performance takes its one-person audience on an eight-minute virtual tour of the bombed-out city of Homs in Syria. The performance confronts visitors with images of people living in the ruined city and makes them think about their own lives in Iran. Everyday, news and images about Syria – where rebels fight the Iranian-backed regime of President Assad – are beamed straight into their living rooms. Suddenly, the Iranian viewer of the *Guilty Landscape* realises that the person he has been watching on the screen is also watching him. What appeared to be a recording is actually a live two-way video feed! The viewer feels more connected to and responsible for this person they are watching than when they see similar images in a one-way broadcast on television. In the offstage competition of the



festival, Dries Verhoeven received the prize for best international performance, with the jury noting that the work served to spark a relevant dialogue in the arts.

The performance is closely connected to the international agenda for the freedom of the press and information. In light of their government's heavy censorship and control of the media, Iranians need to be aware of their country's influence in the region and shown how new media and technology create fresh possibilities for conveying information. (2018)

Credits:  
Concept by Dries Verhoeven  
Production by Studio Dries Verhoeven  
Photography by Willem Popelier



Strengthening the  
International legal  
order and respect  
for human rights

# Kiev

## Hometown by Metahaven

Dutch artists from the Metahaven design studio exhibited *Hometown* at the IZOLYATSIA Foundation in Kiev. The Amsterdam-based Metahaven, which was founded by Vinca Kurk and Daniel van der Velden, produces films, texts, installations and graphic designs, with a focus on stories, poetry, digital culture and propaganda.

The film was shot in Kiev and Beirut and features garments by a Ukrainian designer. The two cities merge into a fictional home for the film's two protagonists, Ghina Abboud and Lera Luchenko, who describe life in their city in self-deprecating terms. Fluorescent, lava-like animations alternate between images of industrial estates and overgrown gardens. Nothing in this imagined city is certain among the derelict buildings, street markets, abandoned real estate projects and slaughterhouses. *Hometown* highlights the importance of freedom of press, in a city where independent newspapers are being forced to close their doors. Eight thousand people saw



the exhibition, and there were 50 local and international publications on the events and the parallel programme. (2018)

Credit:  
Image by Dima Sergeev

Peace, security,  
stability and  
migration

# Algiers

## Gallowstreet at the European Culture Festival

The Dutch band Gallowstreet was one of the acts featured at the European Culture Festival in Algiers. Most of the performances at the Festival were in the realm of classical music or dance. The Dutch embassy aspired to engage a younger audience by inviting dynamic artists with a vibrant stage presence that would encourage their audience to dance. Gallowstreet is a brass band, made up of young performers from Amsterdam who incorporate a mix of hip hop, funk, Afrobeat and dance music in their repertoire. The band's explosive energy and exciting sound puts a fresh spin on traditional notions of what brass band music represents. Their show was one of the most well-attended and popular at the festival.

The day after the show, the band and the embassy decided to have Gallowstreet play a street concert in the centre of Algiers. This kind of performance is virtually impossible in Algeria: large gatherings are routinely broken up, making major street

events a rarity. A permit must be requested well in advance. Nevertheless, the band played for at least 20 minutes before they were asked to stop. In the end there was a group of about 100 enthusiastic spectators! By inviting such a dedicated band of young professional musicians, the Dutch embassy aspired to engage young Algerians. Young people in Algiers do not have access to many cultural events or activities. Combined with a lack of jobs, this could result in social disengagement. Gallowstreet is an example of a committed Dutch band that shows how hard work and dedication in music can offer new prospects for the future. (2018)



Credit:  
Image by Daniël Stork

Peace, security,  
stability and  
migration

# Sofia

## Graffiti Battle

In Sofia there is still a stigma surrounding street art as an art form. However, the aim of the annual Sofia Graffiti Battle is to lift this. The festival consists of various elements, such as graffiti competitions, workshops, the screening of documentaries and painting demonstrations. During the festival the exterior walls of an underground parking lot turned into a colourful canvas, where different artists depicted their vision of the city's future. The purpose of the festival is to support the development of Bulgarian urban and graffiti culture through an organised platform, which enables artists to create professional work of lasting value. The well-known Dutch graffiti artist PUAK was on hand to collaborate with Bulgarian artists. In the words of second embassy secretary René Kersten, 'Art is more than classical music and old paintings. It is a way for new generations to form an identity and way of expressing themselves.' The common space also offered a safe environment for children to work together in a creative manner.



The festival served to forge and strengthen friendships among the participants, thus fostering a sense of security in the neighbourhood. To increase feelings of community, the festival also assembled teams of volunteers to clean up the neighbourhood, make floor paintings for traditional children's games, and enhance the sports infrastructure. (2018)

Credit:

Photo courtesy via the embassy of the Netherlands in Sofia

Peace, security,  
stability and  
migration

# Bogota

## Cátedra Europa

The Netherlands was the Guest of Honour at Cátedra Europa, an event organised by Universidad del Norte in Colombia. The main objective of the Cátedra (lecture) is to strengthen academic ties and promote discussions between Colombian and European students, researchers and professionals. Cátedra Europa is an academic and cultural meeting place between the Colombian Caribbean and the European academic world. It is also the most significant international academic event at the Universidad del Norte. Each year, the event's chair plans over a week of free events, open to the general public, including workshops, forums, symposia, debates, film screenings and concerts. Since 1997, it has become a space to reflect on, debate and analyse political, economic, educational, social and cultural issues related to the current global order and the existing relations between European countries and the Colombian Caribbean. The Netherlands' programme included lectures and seminars on various subjects: ports and logistics,



water management and the creative industry. The cultural agenda featured a Dutch film festival, an 'orange bike ride', an exhibition by a Dutch photographer and a concert by the Dutch jazz group Nueva Manteca, led by saxophonist Ben van den Dungen. Discussions were also held on peace, security and human rights including a lecture by the well-known Dutch human rights professor Antoine Buyse. (2018)

Credit:  
Universidad del Norte

Peace, security,  
stability and  
migration

# Tehran

## Miss Kiet's Children (De kinderen van Juf Kiet)

For the EU Film Festival, which was held in seven cities throughout Iran, all participating EU embassies chose 'movies that mattered' – not blockbusters produced by their own movie industry, but movies with a message. Working with the EYE Film Museum, the Netherlands chose the award-winning documentary *Miss Kiet's Children* (Lataster Films). The film is about a Dutch teacher who not only instructs migrant children in the Dutch language, but also helps rebuild their self-esteem and deal with the traumatic experiences of fleeing their home country.

The documentary was well received and, it is hoped, raised public awareness about refugee children within Iran. The Iranian government takes relatively good care of the three million Afghan refugees within its borders. But still, after living in the country for many years, life can be difficult for Afghans. Education is the only hope for refugee children to integrate in their new country and have



their human dignity protected by the system and the people. (2018)

Credit:  
Image by Sanne Paul & Lataster films



## Central European Forum on Fascism

The Central European Forum on Fascism is a debating platform for European thinkers, writers, members of civil society and journalists, initiated by a Slovak non-profit organisation Project Forum in 2006, each year to be held in March in Bratislava.

Three leading personalities were invited to take part in a public debate and a workshop on this topic for the Slovak teachers of history, civics and ethics. One of these personalities was the Dutch writer and thinker Abdelkader Benali. Benali addressed such topics as the importance of free speech and freedom of the press, Dutch tolerance and multiculturalism, populism, radical and extremist narratives, and other issues related to one of the themes, 'Why is Fascism Modern?'.



Credit:

Photo courtesy via the embassy of  
the Netherlands in Bratislava



## Night of Literature

Each year the Night of Literature is taking place in Bratislava. The event is a Europe-wide project, coordinated by Czech Centres in cooperation with the EUNIC Cluster. The aim is to celebrate European literature by holding public readings at interesting venues in one specific neighbourhood. The event was held at a variety of different locations, which were not normally open to the public. For every location a book was chosen by an author from one European country. The Dutch book *The Secret Diary of Hendrik Groen, 83¼ Years Old* by Hendrik Groen, translated into Slovak by Adam Bžoch, was read at the embassy. The opportunity was also used to highlight the embassy's green & zero-waste strategy. It proved to be a good way to present Dutch values of sustainability and environmental consciousness to a broad Slovak public. (2018)



## HAY Festival

The Hay Festival in Segovia, Spain is an international event which brings together literature, design, music and other art disciplines. The Dutch contribution to the festival consisted of a selection of chairs made by modern and contemporary Dutch designers which were exhibited at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Esteban Vicente in Madrid. The designers or studios featured included Gerrit Rietveld, Ineke Hans, Piet Hein Eek, Pieter Warffemius, Enzo Vorm, Gispén and Mooi. The festival highlighted the importance of 'Coexistence in Europe' by showcasing design pieces from all over the continent. By putting together a museum catalogue on Dutch designers and museums or cultural institutions in the Netherlands, the Dutch embassy aimed to communicate its position in the contemporary design world to a Spanish audience. (2018)



Credit:

Photo courtesy via the embassy of the Netherlands in Madrid

Consular Services  
and promoting Dutch  
values and interests  
internationally

# Mexico City

## Darwin by Atelier van Lieshout

Atelier van Lieshout designed an installation, which was placed at the headquarters of World Design Capital Mexico City, in the city's main park. The work in question – entitled *Darwin* – is part of a series of artworks by the studio that focus on the functionality and aesthetics of sculpture in public spaces in an inventive and humorous way. This particular piece is a 'big purple sperm', blown up to extreme proportions. Visitors can enter through one end of the sculpture, and inside there is a small bed and a desk. As described on the website of Galeria OMR, 'While Darwin implies power, status, expansion and reproduction, it reflects on social Darwinism ideas and the need for survival in all aspects of our lives, whether biological or corporate.' Through the *Darwin* project, Atelier Van Lieshout seeks to explore notions of evolution: 'The concept of habitat and Darwinian theory are interpreted through the media of design and sculpture, architecture and experiment.' The embassy's King's Day reception around and inside the installation provided a celebratory setting.



This encouraged the organisers of the World Design Capital to invite more Dutch designers, including Daan Roosegaarde and OMR. This contributed to the relationship between the embassy and the Mexican design world and also promoted Dutch design and cultural values abroad. (2018)

Image copyright:  
Dutch embassy in Mexico City



Consular Services  
and promoting Dutch  
values and interests  
internationally

# Hanoi

## Jazz performance by Saskia Laroo & Warren Byrd

Over the course of ten days, well-known trumpeter Saskia Laroo and her husband Warren Byrd worked with Vietnamese musicians to develop a collaborative jazz performance. Together, they performed three concerts – at the European Village festival, the King’s Day reception and an event to celebrate 45 years of diplomatic relations between the Netherlands and Vietnam. Ms Laroo also gave master classes at the jazz department of the Viet Nam National Academy of Music.

The activity facilitated cultural exchange between musicians from the Netherlands and Vietnam and promoted Dutch music and creativity. Through the performances mentioned above, the musicians reached a wide audience, who were treated to a modern, professional performance of high artistic quality. (2018)



Credit:

Photo credits via the embassy of the Netherlands in Hanoi

Sustainable economic  
development, trade  
and investment

# Nairobi

## FilmAid Festival

FilmAid Film Festival, which was held in Dadaab, Kakuma and Nairobi, seeks to promote FilmAid's vision of informing, inspiring and empowering refugees and other marginalised populations throughout the world. The Festival was an opportunity for audiences to view stories about the refugee experience from filmmakers around the world. According to FilmAid, the festival 'is able to train, support and empower more than 50 refugee youth to tell their own stories through the power of film. In addition, the Film Festival provides independent filmmakers worldwide the opportunity to share stories with refugees in the Kenyan camps, allowing for shared artistic communication.'

The Dutch embassy believes in the value of creating employment opportunities and prospects for young refugee populations, including in the creative sector, as a way of promoting sustainable economic development. FilmAid Kenya provides capacity and support to refugees throughout the



year, both in the capital city and in the country's largest refugee camps (Dadaab/Kakuma). The festival also had an extensive skills development component and community outreach element (text message outreach, workshops, mass media, digital media outreach etc.). (2018)

Credit:  
FilmAid Film Festival

Sustainable development,  
food security, water  
and climate

# Toronto

## WATERLICHT by Daan Roosegaarde

The installation *WATERLICHT (Waterlight)* by Daan Roosegaarde was exhibited in Toronto. A diverse programme was organised around the theme of 'water light'. Roosegaarde's piece depicts a digital flood or interplay of light which addresses the devastating effects of rising sea levels. According to Roosegaarde, 'Innovation is engraved in the DNA of the Dutch and its landscape as seen by its innovative water programme and creation of dikes. However, it sometimes seems to be forgotten. *WATERLICHT* is a powerful and poetic experience to remind us of the role and importance of innovation. [It] is a combination of LEDs and lenses which create an everchanging layer of light, influenced by wind and rain.' Roosegaarde's work gives rise to a collective experience emphasising the importance of innovative techniques with regard to water. During three days, Toronto's Bentway, a public space below an expressway, was transformed into a mesmerising world of light, attracting more than 30,000 visitors.



While there, Roosegaarde attended multiple events and workshops where he gave inspiring presentations. This event aimed to contribute to the dialogue surrounding climate change and the impact of sea-level rise on communities around the world. (2018)

Credit:  
Image by Studio Roosegaarde



Sustainable development,  
food security, water  
and climate

# Katowice

## Climate Film Festival at Cinema Rialto

With the support of the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Polityka Insight and IKEA, the embassy took the initiative to hold a climate - themed film festival with panel discussions at Cinema Rialto in Katowice. The United Nations Climate Summit COP24 was very much on the minds of the Polish people. The venue of the three-day festival was decorated with air-cleaning plants by students from the Floral Art School. The plants were donated to selected start-ups after the festival. The aim was to raise public awareness of the urgency of climate change and the problems it poses to societies and individuals. The festival was also designed to inspire people to take action on climate change at home and in their communities. It consisted of screenings, discussions, workshops and special activities intended to spark 'green' ideas that could promote sustainable development. The screenings were followed by panel discussions with experts and activists involved in business and environmental issues.



The opening speech of the festival was given by Jaap Spier, a law professor at the University of Amsterdam, an eminent scholar in the field of law and global challenges, with a specialisation in environmental subjects. (2018)

Credit:  
Image by Marcin Fothrusciel

# Bogota

## Escuela Incierta

Lugar a Dudas organised a summer school, Escuela Incierta (Uncertain School), which assembled around 20 Colombian and international artists and experts who shared their experiences with young artists and students from the city. Lugar a Dudas is an artistic and intellectual space for dialogue between different cultures in the city of Cali, which has suffered greatly over the years in the war between drug cartels. Culture is now a path for the people of Cali to move beyond the city's violent past. According to the Lugar a Dudas foundation, 'An occulture is an ecosystem sheltered by a shadow conducive to the emergence of life-forms that would not be viable under direct sunlight. Bearing in mind that social spaces for cultural practices have been incorporated to the production of spectacles whose defining trait, according to Debord, is the certainty that "what appears is good and what is good appears," it may be time for us to inquire into those spaces of sheltering and secrecy where life, action and practice can still derive from and establish operations that



muddy and undo the dynamics of capitalist realism. Escuela Incierta calls out to those who are interested in margins, cracks, catacombs, and caverns.' The embassy supported the participation of Dutch artist Dick Verdult, also known as Dick El Demasiado. Dick delivered lectures to the students and performed his well-known *Experimental Cumbias* at the closing event of Escuela Incierta. This event offered young and vulnerable artists different perspectives on culture and life. (2018)

Credit:  
Fundación Lugar a Dudas

## European Film Festival

In collaboration with other EU embassies and the EU delegation, the Dutch embassy in Nairobi helped put together a large-scale European Film Festival. The goal of the festival was to foster dialogue about European culture with a large Kenyan audience, in particular young people. The Festival was held at various venues throughout the city, and as it was free of charge, attendance was open to all.

More specifically, the Netherlands contributed to the programming, screening the children's film *T.I.M.* and sponsoring a Kenyan film *18 Hours*, the latter being followed by a panel discussion. *18 Hours* was inspired by a true story about an accident victim's search for emergency medical care. The focus on emergency care was an attempt to stimulate the conversation around this issue in Kenya. The film has a compelling cast, including Nick Ndeda, Sue Wanjiru and Brian Ogola. Following the screening, there was a discussion on the question of what might have happened



next, with Irungu Houghton (Amnesty International Kenya) as moderator and Tabitha Griffith (KELIN) and Ben Wachira (Emergency Medicine Kenya Foundation) as panellists. (2018)

Credit:

Photo credits via the embassy of the Netherlands in Nairobi



# Lagos

## Mylo Freeman: Princesses Arabella & Zaza

Author and illustrator Mylo Freeman visited Lagos, Nigeria, where she held illustration workshops and readings for children in many different locations, including seven schools, a reading café in Ikoyi and the Green Festival at the Lagos Arts and Books Festival .

Freeman seeks to increase the representation of non-white characters in children's books. This idea came to her when a Surinamese girl said she did not want to play the part of a princess because there were not any princesses that looked like her. This inspired Freeman to create a book about princess Arabella and Zaza, two young, strong-willed princesses. More diverse representation in media and literature remains a crucial tool in fostering children's self-confidence. (2018)



Credit:

Photo credits via the embassy of the Netherlands in Lagos

## Umoja + Bengatronics at Benga Music Festival

Umoja (a Dutch DJ duo) and the group Bengatronics (who put a fresh spin on traditional Kenyan Benga music) jointly produced an album which has been performed live in both the Netherlands and in Kenya. It was played at the Benga Music Festival in November and during King's Day celebrations in Kenya. The album, which features up-and-coming artists, will be available for sale on an online platform next year, at only \$1 per song. Bengatronics recently exploded onto the East African music scene, redefining Benga through cutting-edge electronics and irresistible rhythms. The Amsterdam-based Umoja ('unity' in Swahili) focuses on contemporary electronic beats and hip hop. This collaboration has boosted the technical capacity of Kenyan musicians, generated opportunities for innovation and job creation, and fostered collaboration between the Dutch and Kenyan



music sector. It also helped strengthen development frameworks by supporting an opportunity-rich society through culture. The Dutch embassy in Kenya is keen to support future collaborations between Dutch and Kenyan music collectives. (2018)

## Shared Cultural Heritage in Cuban Waters

The embassy has been providing support and mediation to the Dutch government's Cultural Heritage Agency and Cuba's Consejo Nacional de Patrimonio Cultural (CNPC) in their endeavour to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU builds on a project entitled *Dutch Presence in Cuban Waters*, and expresses both countries' interest in continuing to pursue archaeological and historical exploration. It is the basis for a future investigation of the shared underwater cultural heritage of over 20 Dutch shipwrecks that are located off the Cuban coast. The MoU was signed on 11 July – a symbolic date, commemorating the day in 1902 when Queen Wilhelmina officially recognised the newly formed Republic of Cuba. This MoU is of great value for the two countries' shared underwater cultural heritage, contributing to multilateral cooperation and the bilateral dimension and strengthening relations between the two countries. (2018)



Credit:

Photo credits via the embassy of the Netherlands in Havana



# | Dutch Cultural Organisations

| This selection is made on basis of giving an overview of the variety of organisations, institutions, foundations etc. in the Dutch field, divided by disciplines. Due to the vastness of the field this selection is by no means final. Rather, it is a stepping stone towards further research.

# Visual Arts

## The Rijksakademie

The Rijksakademie in Amsterdam focuses on developing talent in the fine arts by selecting promising individuals and offering them a platform to further develop their work. The Academy's two-year residency programme includes presentation of the artists' work and the cultivation of an international network. For many alumni the residency has led to their international breakthrough.



[Go to link](#)

## Mondriaan Fund

The Mondriaan Fund is the public fund for visual art and cultural heritage in the Netherlands. It facilitates the work of artists, exhibition makers, critics, museums and other art and heritage institutions, and publishers and commissioners. All contributions stimulate the production or presentation of art and heritage from the Netherlands, both at home and abroad, in places where the market does not yet do this. In such contexts, art and heritage can prove to be especially valuable as sanctuaries for the imagination.



[Go to link](#)

## Jan van Eyck Academy

The Jan van Eyck Academie is an innovative and outward-looking post-academic institution for fine art and design. It is international and interdisciplinary.



[Go to link](#)

# Visual Arts

## De Ateliers

De Ateliers is an independent institute run by visual artists. It focuses on the artistic development of young talent from the Netherlands and abroad. The listed building it occupies in Amsterdam offers spacious studios, which are put at the disposal of budding artists. These artists receive guidance from teachers and art critics on a weekly basis.



[Go to link](#)

## Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art

Founded in 1990, Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art was conceived as an art house with a mission to present and discuss the work created today by visual artists and cultural makers, from the Netherlands and afar. It organises exhibitions, commissions art, publishes, and develops educational and collaborative initiatives. This non-profit institution has especially worked with artists, and engaged audiences, who are interested in posing challenging inquiries and articulations of our present.



[Go to link](#)

## The Stedelijk Museum

The Stedelijk Museum was founded in 1874 by a group of private citizens in Amsterdam, led by C.P. van Eeghen, who donated funds and their art collections to establish a museum in the capital of the Netherlands that would be devoted to modern art. For its first decades, the Stedelijk maintained a diverse collection, which included works of contemporary Dutch and French masters but also period rooms and even the banners of citizens' militias. Beginning around 1920, however, the collection was culled and the focus concentrated more rigorously on modern and contemporary art, including pioneering collections and exhibitions of design and photography.



[Go to link](#)

# Visual Arts

## The Van Abbemuseum

The Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven is one of the first public museums for contemporary art to be established in Europe. The museum's collection of around 2700 works of art includes key works and archives by Joseph Beuys, Marc Chagall, René Daniëls, Marlene Dumas, Sheela Gowda, Patricia Kaersenhout, Gülsün Karamustafa, Iris Kensmil, Oskar Kokoschka, John Körmeling, El Lissitzky, Paul McCarthy, Pablo Picasso, Martha Rosler, and Lidwien van de Ven. The museum has an experimental approach towards art's role in society.



[Go to link](#)

## BAK, basis voor actuele kunst

BAK, basis voor actuele kunst is a base for art, theory, and social action. BAK is committed to the notion of art as a public sphere and a political space, and provides a critical platform for aesthetico-political experiments with and through art. BAK brings together artists, thinkers, and other members of the precarious classes to imagine and enact transformative ways of being together otherwise.



[Go to link](#)

## Casco Art Institute: Working for the Commons

Casco Art Institute: Working for the Commons focuses on the agency of art in its enquiring, imaginative and inventive modalities to engage with the practice of the commons. They support artists and other practitioners to develop, present, and share artistic commons. Presentations vary according to the specificities of each project or artwork including exhibitions, common or public infrastructure, workshops, and publications.



[Go to link](#)

# Visual Arts

## Marres, House for Contemporary Culture

With exhibitions, lectures, research, performances and publications, Marres, House for Contemporary Culture explores the visual arts in the widest possible sense. Marres participates in Very Contemporary, an association of thirteen institutions for contemporary art in the Meuse-Rhine Region. Within a radius of 100 km, the border region of Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany offers a large diversity of exhibitions and events many of which a combination can be visited in one day.



[Go to link](#)

## The Kunsthal Rotterdam

The Kunsthal Rotterdam is one of the leading cultural institutions in the Netherlands. With over twenty exhibitions a year, the Kunsthal offers a programme that is dynamic and always surprising. The Kunsthal is continuously transforming, and with its regularly changing exhibitions able to offer crossovers between various art disciplines. From modern masters and contemporary art to forgotten cultures, photography, fashion and design. The Kunsthal's exhibition programme gives it its national scope and international allure.



[Go to link](#)

## MU

MU is an explorative presentation platform that operates in a rich international network of creatives who define the liminal space between 'what art is and what art can be'. MU initiates, produces and presents rather new works, and surrounds it with an extensive and interdisciplinary secondary program targeted to a broad and rather young audience. MU prioritises introduction to, understanding of, elaboration on, and experiencing hands-on creation, of art. MU provides a platform for artistic research, and development of artists and designers, and helps them to profile themselves internationally.



[Go to link](#)

# | Photography

## Foam

Foam is an internationally operating organisation in the field of photography, based in Amsterdam. It seeks to inform and inspire the widest possible audience by presenting all facets of contemporary photography and organising a range of activities. These vary from exhibitions to publications, debates and educational projects.



[Go to link](#)

## World Press Photo

World Press Photo is a global platform connecting professionals and audiences through trustworthy visual journalism and storytelling. In 1955 a group of Dutch photographers organised an international contest (dubbed the World Press Photo) as a way of sharing their work with a global audience. Since then, the contest has grown into the world's most prestigious photography competition, and through its successful worldwide exhibition programme, the winning stories are presented to millions of people.



[Go to link](#)

## Paradox

Paradox is a not for profit organisation founded in 1993. They develop projects around contemporary issues with documentary authors: photographers, filmmakers, visual artists, writers and researchers. Paradox has developed more than 50 distinctive activities, travelling to some 120 venues worldwide. Paradox was founded with the aim of stimulating the development in photography. To reach this, Paradox produces travelling exhibitions, organises symposia and publishes audiovisual, digital and printed publications.



[Go to link](#)



# | Photography

## The Nederlands Fotomuseum

The Nederlands Fotomuseum collects and safeguards the photographic heritage of the Netherlands both of today and of the future and makes it accessible to the public. The goal is always to make the photography relevant to today's context. They collect and display photography that reflects the world we live in in order to enrich people's lives with visual stories that matter.



[Go to link](#)

## Huis Marseille

Since 1999, Huis Marseille has been situated on Keizersgracht 401 as Amsterdam's first photography museum. In September 2013, the museum was expanded to include the neighboring building at Keizersgracht 399, providing it with a total of fourteen exhibition spaces, including the lightwell in 399. The museum offers a rich and varied exhibition programme with changeovers about four times per year. Since the expansion in 2013, there has been a lot of opportunity to show the museum's own collection alongside the exhibition. The collection consists primarily of leading modern (national and international) photography.



[Go to link](#)

## Unseen

Unseen is the leading platform for contemporary photography. Exclusively focusing on what's new in the photography world, Unseen provides a channel for up-and-coming talent to showcase their work. Unseen brings together the international photography community to discuss and debate the directions in which the photographic medium is evolving.



[Go to link](#)

# Performing Arts

## Performing Arts Fund NL

The Performing Arts Fund NL is the most important cultural fund for music, music theatre, dance and theatre in the Netherlands, and it provides state support to every branch of the professional performing arts. To apply for a grant, the person or organisation in question must be based in the Netherlands, with the exception of the category 'composition or libretto commission' and initiatives involving the presentations of Dutch performing arts abroad at the invitation of prominent international festivals and venues.



[Go to link](#)

## Musicians without Borders

Musicians without Borders is the world's pioneer in using music for peacebuilding and social change. Working in some of the world's most vulnerable communities, they collaborate closely with local musicians and organisations to build sustainable projects in response to local needs. Musicians without Borders is currently active in Kosovo, the Palestinian Territories, Greece, Northern Ireland, Germany, Rwanda, Uganda, El Salvador, Italy and the Netherlands.



[Go to link](#)

## Nederlands Dans Theater

Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT) is one of the busiest dance companies in the Netherlands, if not in the world. The performances by NDT 1 and NDT 2 attract around 115,000 visitors a year in Europe, America, Asia and Australia. Together, the two ensembles account for around 160 performances a year at home and abroad.



[Go to link](#)

# Performing Arts

## Dutch National Opera & Ballet

Dutch National Ballet develops, produces and presents ballet at the highest international level. It aims to reach a wide audience and bring today's audiences into contact with the beauty and passion of the art form.



[Go to link](#)

## Dutch National Theatre

The Dutch National Theatre is the largest touring theatre company in the Netherlands; it is also the city company of The Hague. It was formed from a merger of Koninklijke Schouwburg, Het Nationale Toneel, NTJong and Theater aan het Spui. The National Theatre is a national stage, with a focus on a national audience. It seeks to create the best theatre and to present it to as many people as possible. The Dutch National Theatre also aims to be a platform for current affairs.



[Go to link](#)

## Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra

Widely considered one of the world's greatest music ensembles, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra tours extensively. The orchestra aims for a broad, international audience and, as its name suggests, is housed in the Royal Concertgebouw in Amsterdam.



[Go to link](#)

# Performing Arts

## Dancing on the Edge

Dancing on the Edge (DOTE) encourages artistic exchange with the Middle East and North Africa, with a focus on contemporary theatre, dance, film, music and installations of high artistic quality. Its activities fall into three categories – ‘Programming’, ‘Professional’, and ‘Knowledge Exchange’ – and take place in the Netherlands, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Formed in 2006, DOTE is based in Amsterdam.



[Go to link](#)

## Maas Theater & Dance

Maas Theater & Dance is physical, imaginative and distinctive in every sense. They perform for everyone: children from the age of three, school groups, families, teens and young adults. You can see them in their home city of Rotterdam and around the world. Maas represents something new for the Dutch performing arts scene by combining two disciplines – dance and theatre – in a single company.



[Go to link](#)

## Het Zuidelijk Toneel

Het Zuidelijk Toneel creates theatre. Artistic director Piet Menu and a diverse group of theatre makers from the Netherlands and Flanders have built an open, engaging and multifaceted theatre company – the best creative minds under one roof. Het Zuidelijk Toneel is driven by a desire to engage in dialogue with the audience.



[Go to link](#)

# Performing Arts

## Aslan Music Centre

The Aslan Music Centre offers music, dance and theatre classes to individuals and schools. Its goal is to transcend boundaries, inspired by a belief that music is for everyone and fosters connections and understanding. It aims to put this belief into action in the multicultural context of the Netherlands and, in doing so, bridge gaps between cultures.



[Go to link](#)

## Marmoucha

Marmoucha uses its expertise to develop and produce a new distinctive performing arts programmes inspired by the cultural wealth of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA region). It does this in collaboration with artists and companies from the region itself, but also from the Netherlands and other European countries. At the same time, Marmoucha promotes cultural exchange between the Netherlands and the MENA region. The foundation primarily focuses on the development of new professional music and music theatre productions.



[Go to link](#)

## Dutch Performing Arts

Dutch Performing Arts promotes Dutch music, theatre and dance on the international stage. The programme is powered by the Performing Arts Fund NL. Dutch Performing Arts aims to intensify the contact between Dutch makers and international presenters. Dutch Performing Arts also seeks to increase the interest of international presenters for Dutch performing arts and to stimulate the international ambitions of Dutch companies and artists with global potential.



[Go to link](#)



# Performing Arts

## Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (ITA)

Amsterdam Stadsschouwburg and Toneelgroep Amsterdam merged on 1 January 2018 and from the 18|19 season onwards operate under the name Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (ITA). They are currently working on a new organisation that will act as a beacon for contemporary theatre and cater to audiences from Amsterdam and around the world, leading the way at the national and international levels.



[Go to link](#)

## Metropole Orchest

Playing jazz, pop, world music and film scores, the Metropole Orkest has shared the stage with legends such as Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzy Gillespie, Pat Metheny, Brian Eno, Herbie Hancock, The Basement Jaxx and Bono. The Metropole Orkest has produced more than 150 albums and thousands of radio and television broadcasts, requiring over 600 arrangements per year in every imaginable style. Despite this musical versatility, people all over the world can recognise inimitable sound, style and identity of the Metropole Orkest.



[Go to link](#)

## The Parade

The Parade offers something for everyone, with over 80 different theatre, music, and dance performances for all ages. The festival kicks off in Rotterdam, and from there it continues its journey with colorful tents, restaurants and terrace cafes to The Hague and Utrecht, before winding up in Amsterdam.



[Go to link](#)

# Performing Arts

## If I Can't Dance, I Don't Want To Be Part Of Your Revolution

Established in 2005, If I Can't Dance, I Don't Want To Be Part Of Your Revolution is an art organisation dedicated to exploring the evolution and typology of performance and performativity in contemporary art. They do this through the development, production, and presentation of commissioned projects with artists, curators, and researchers on the basis of long-term collaboration and support.



[Go to link](#)

## Buma Cultuur

Buma Cultuur supports and promotes Dutch music copyright in both The Netherlands and key export markets for Dutch music. The aim is to increase the percentage of Dutch music in the Dutch market and foreign markets. Buma Cultuur is founded by the Dutch collecting society Buma. Buma/Stemra is the collection society for music authors in The Netherlands and represents the interests of its members worldwide. Besides collection and payment of remunerations to music authors, Buma/Stemra stimulates and supports the development of new talent.



[Go to link](#)

## STEIM

STEIM (the Studio for Electro-Instrumental Music) is an independent electronic music center founded in 1969 with an initial focus on developing tools for experimental electronic musicians for live stage performance art. The foundation's artistic and technical departments support an international community of performers, musicians, and visual artists, to develop unique instruments for their work.



[Go to link](#)

# Design, Architecture & Digital Culture

## Het Nieuwe Instituut

Through its activities Het Nieuwe Instituut aims to increase appreciation of the cultural and social significance of architecture, design and digital culture and to strengthen the interaction between these disciplines.

## What Design Can Do

What Design Can Do believes in the power of design and creativity to transform society. Money, governments and science can't solve complex global issues alone. We need fresh ideas, alternative strategies and provocative thinking. What Design Can Do is the perfect place for designers and creatives to meet businesses, NGOs and governments that are looking to start using design innovation.

## RNW Media

RNW Media is a centre of expertise that builds digital communities for social change. They use online media to engage young people on sensitive and often taboo subjects – from pleasurable sex to civic participation. By facilitating their access to information and amplifying their voices, RNW Media can help young people contribute actively to making their societies more inclusive.



[Go to link](#)



[Go to link](#)



[Go to link](#)

# Design, Architecture & Digital Culture

## Dutch Cultural Media Fund

The fund promotes the development and production of high-quality artistic programmes by the national and regional public broadcasting corporations. It provides more than €16 million in grants annually for radio and television programmes in the following fields: drama, documentary, feature film, youth, new media and performing arts.



[Go to link](#)

## Failed Architecture

Since 2011, Failed Architecture has been providing an inclusive platform for critical urban discourse, fuelled by unconventional narratives from an international network of contributors. By opening up new perspectives on the built environment, it seeks to explore the meaning of architecture in contemporary society.



[Go to link](#)

## African Architecture Matters

AAmatters is a non-profit consultancy working in the fields of design, planning, research and education. It is at the forefront of thinking on pressing challenges regarding architecture and urbanism, such as sustainable development and the role of cultural heritage in the African context.



[Go to link](#)

# Design, Architecture & Digital Culture

## Butterfly Works

Butterfly Works is a social design studio pioneering the use of co-creation and design thinking in international development. Building on almost 20 years of experience in over 25 countries on 50+ projects and 100+ partners, it works to devise education and communication solutions for social impact.



[Go to link](#)

## Creative Industries Fund NL

Creative Industries Fund NL is the Dutch cultural fund for architecture, design and digital culture, as well as every imaginable crossover. The aim of all the grants and programmes is to enrich the creative sector and through cooperation to strive towards a culture- and knowledge-driven creative economy.



[Go to link](#)

## Sundaymorning@ekwc

Sundaymorning@ekwc is an international workplace where artists, designers and architects explore the technical and artistic possibilities of ceramics. Sundaymorning@ekwc operates as an artist-in-residence centre and as a centre of excellence. Its aim is to promote the development of ceramic art, design and architecture.



[Go to link](#)



# Design, Architecture & Digital Culture

## The International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam (IABR)

The International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam (IABR) was founded in 2001 on the conviction that architecture and especially urban planning are of great social importance. The IABR is a knowledge institute as well as a cultural platform and its main objective is to generate real world change, using the power of imagination and design as its main instrument. The two most important tools the IABR uses to achieve its objectives are the IABR-Ateliers and the Biennale itself.



[Go to link](#)

## Dutch Design Week (DDW)

In October of each year, Dutch Design Week (DDW) takes place in Eindhoven. The biggest design event in Northern Europe presents work and ideas of more than 2600 designers. In more than 110 locations across the city, DDW organises and facilitates exhibitions, lectures, prize ceremonies, networking events, debates and festivities. DDW concentrates on the design of the future and the future of design. Their objective is to show how designers from around the world shape a positive future and to strengthen the position and meaning of Dutch designers.



[Go to link](#)

## The TextielMuseum

Within the TextielMuseum's walls are centuries of accumulated knowledge on crafts, materials, techniques, patterns and dye recipes. These are the starting point for a deliberate link to the present. Not only in the form of inspiring exhibitions and events; prototypes, autonomous works and exclusive productions are also developed and made there. In the TextielLab, advanced machines are in constant use, and designers, architects, artists and students conduct cutting-edge research.



[Go to link](#)

## Dutch Foundation for Literature

The Dutch Foundation for Literature is tasked with supporting writers and translators and promoting Dutch literature abroad. It invests in quality and diversity through grants for writers, translators, publishers and festivals, and contributes to the production and distribution of Dutch and Frisian literature at home and abroad.



[Go to link](#)

## Writers Unlimited

The Mission of Writers Unlimited is to connect writers with each other, with scientists, artists, thinkers and with their audiences, across borders of cultures and countries. This is done in an annual international literature festival (Winternachten Festival), monthly panel discussions in The Hague (B-Unlimited), and in tours across the world (Writers Unlimited Network).



[Go to link](#)

## Berber Library (Asis Aynan)

The Berber Library consists of ten classic books previously unpublished in Dutch by authors of Berber descent, such as Mohammed Khair-Eddine, Tahar Djaout, Taos Amrouche, Kateb Yacine and Mohammed Choukri. The series is a multimedia project. An initiative of writer Asis Aynan and translator Hester Tollenaar, the Berber Library is published by Jurgen Maas Publishers.



[Go to link](#)

# Heritage

## National Archives

The National Archives of the Netherlands, which are located in The Hague, hold over 3.5 million records of national significance that have been assembled by the central government, organisations and individuals. The National Archives seeks to extend its collaboration with international partners, so as to stimulate international and interdisciplinary historical research.



[Go to link](#)

## Van Gogh Museum

The Van Gogh Museum makes the life and work of Vincent van Gogh and the art of his time accessible to as many people as possible in order to enrich and inspire them. It also conducts research on the life and work of the great artist and his contemporaries.



[Go to link](#)

## The Anne Frank House

The Anne Frank House is an independent, non-profit organisation that runs a museum in the house where Anne Frank went into hiding. Its aim is to increase awareness of Anne's life story all over the world. The museum develops exhibitions, educational programmes and publications on the basis of her life story. Its objective is to make young people aware of the dangers of antisemitism, racism and discrimination, and the importance of freedom, equal rights and democracy.



[Go to link](#)

# | Heritage

## Reinwardt Academy

The Reinwardt Academy, which is part of the Amsterdam University of the Arts, is the only college in the country to offer a bachelor's programme in cultural heritage. Their International Master of Museology is intended for anyone aspiring to a policymaking position in the international field of cultural heritage and museums.



[Go to link](#)

## National Museum of World Cultures

National Museum of World Cultures is an ethnographic museum in the Netherlands founded in 2014. It consists of the Tropenmuseum (Tropical Museum) in Amsterdam, the Afrika Museum in Berg en Dal, and the Museum Volkenkunde (Ethnology Museum) in Leiden. The National Museum of World Cultures works in close cooperation with the Wereldmuseum (World Museum) in Rotterdam.



[Go to link](#)

## The Centre for Global Heritage and Development

The Centre for Global Heritage and Development is one of the nine joint multidisciplinary centres of Leiden University, Delft University of Technology and Erasmus University Rotterdam, the so called LDE alliance. The Centre initiates, stimulates and facilitates interdisciplinary and innovative research and education in the field of heritage.



[Go to link](#)

# | Heritage

## The Mauritshuis

The Mauritshuis in The Hague displays a collection of world-famous paintings by Dutch and Flemish masters from the Golden Age, in a majestic seventeenth-century house. The classical historic rooms of the museum are filled with iconic artworks by Vermeer, Rembrandt, Steen and Rubens.



[Go to link](#)

## The Cultural Heritage Agency

The Cultural Heritage Agency is an executive body of the Ministry for Education, Culture and Science. They are closely involved in listing, preserving, sustainably developing and providing access to the most valuable heritage in the Netherlands. They are the link between policymakers, academics and practitioners. They provide advice, knowledge and information, and perform certain statutory duties that have been assigned to them. The Cultural Heritage Agency is at the heart of heritage management in the Netherlands.



[Go to link](#)



## EYE Film Institute & EYE International

The Eye Film Institute is the premiere organisation for film in the Netherlands. It was formed by the merger, on 1 January 2010, of Holland Film, the Filmbank, the Dutch Institute for Film Education and the Nederlands Filmmuseum. Eye International is responsible for the international marketing and promotion of Dutch films. It offers a wide variety of services to Dutch filmmakers and producers, with a view to raising the profile of Dutch filmmaking worldwide. Eye International is involved in every stage in the life of a Dutch film abroad, from its selection at recognised film festivals to its presentation in international markets. It provides the international film circuit with information on current activities within the Dutch film industry.



[Go to link](#)

## International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam

The International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) is an independent and inspiring meeting place, where ordinary filmgoers and professionals can enjoy a varied, high-quality programme. The films on offer are highly diverse, not only in form and content but also in terms of the cultural backgrounds of the filmmakers. IDFA offers an alternative to mass entertainment and uniformity, demonstrating that there is growing demand for high-quality films that delve deep and urge us to reflect.



[Go to link](#)

## International Film Festival Rotterdam

International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) offers a high-quality line-up of carefully selected feature-length and short films (including documentaries) and media art. The festival's focus is on recent work by talented new filmmakers.



[Go to link](#)

## Netherlands Film Fund

The Netherlands Film Fund is the national agency responsible for supporting film production and film-related activities in the Netherlands. Its focus is to develop and strengthen Dutch cinema and film culture both domestically and internationally.



[Go to link](#)

## Movies that Matter

The main goals of Movies that Matter is to screen films about human rights and to stimulate and promote the screening of such films by other parties. Each year the organisation hosts the Movies that Matter Festival in The Hague, and throughout the year it screens films at Dutch cinemas with its On Tour programme and at various events throughout the country.



[Go to link](#)

## The Netherlands Film Festival

The Netherlands Film Festival is both the home of Dutch cinema and the leading platform for the Netherlands' national film culture. It celebrates the achievements of Dutch filmmakers and provides the bridge between film culture and all facets of Dutch society. It is active throughout the year, stimulating and promoting Dutch film culture before the 9-day extravaganza in late September when lots of premieres and the cream of the previous 12 month production output is presented.



[Go to link](#)

## The Hubert Bals Fund

The Hubert Bals Fund is designed to help remarkable or urgent feature films by innovative and talented filmmakers from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and parts of Eastern Europe on their road to completion. It provides grants in various categories that often turn out to play a crucial role in enabling these filmmakers to realise their projects.



[Go to link](#)

## The IDFA Bertha Fund

The IDFA Bertha Fund supports independent, critical, and artistic voices from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and parts of Eastern Europe (IBF regions) with the aim of stimulating and empowering the creative documentary sector in these regions. The Fund provides development, production, and distribution grants through two funding schemes. Filmmakers from and living in the above-mentioned regions can apply for IBF Classic. European co-producers of documentaries from these regions can apply for IBF Europe.



[Go to link](#)

# Funding

## Prince Claus Fund

The Prince Claus Fund was set up in the belief that culture and development are interconnected. The PCF Awards honour individuals and organisations for their work in culture and development. The Fund has various programmes, such as the Cultural Emergency Response programme.



[Go to link](#)

## Prince Bernhard Culture Fund

The Fund's mission is to support cultural and nature preservation projects in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, including the Caribbean parts of the country (Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, St Maarten, St Eustatius and Saba). It lays stress on artistic excellence and educational initiatives.



[Go to link](#)

## MAMA CASH

MAMA Cash is an international fund that supports women's, girls' and trans people's movements around the world. Mama Cash supports more than 130 organisations, networks and women's funds annually.



[Go to link](#)

# Funding

## DOEN Foundation

The DOEN Foundation is a Dutch organisation which supports initiatives related to culture and cohesion and in pursuit of a green and inclusive economy. Its focus is on sustainable, cultural and social innovation.



[Go to link](#)

## The Cultural Participation Fund

The Cultural Participation Fund provides grants for special cultural initiatives all over the Netherlands, from Zeeland to Groningen, across all disciplines. The Cultural Participation Fund collaborates with national government, local and provincial authorities, and stakeholders involved in cultural education, the amateur arts, popular culture and cultural participation, such as sector associations and institutes, interest groups, and knowledge and research institutions.



[Go to link](#)

## Fonds 21

Fonds 21's mission is to facilitate enterprising community-based cultural and social initiatives. The Fund supports high-profile projects, both large and small, in the areas of art & culture and youth & society, as well as related science and education projects. In addition to contributions for special acquisitions for the Rijksmuseum's collections, the Fund is also the main sponsor of the Teekenschool, the most comprehensive museum education centre in the Netherlands.



[Go to link](#)



# Funding

## Amsterdam Fund for the Arts

The Amsterdam Fund for the Arts (AFK) invests in the arts which enriches the experience of life in the city of Amsterdam. The AFK encourages the quality, dynamism and diversity of the arts in Amsterdam, and contributes to the city's strong and richly varied cultural climate. The fund is available to all disciplines within the cultural sector, for cultural organisations and artists.



[Go to link](#)

## The Democracy and Media Foundation

The Democracy and Media Foundation is the successor of Stichting Het Parool, founded in 1944 by the founders of the illegal resistance newspaper Het Parool. DMF invests in independent, critical journalism and a strong, just constitutional democracy. Furthermore, one of the statutory objectives of the foundation is to support the surviving relatives of those who lost their lives or were otherwise harmed for their support of the illegal newspaper Het Parool.



[Go to link](#)

## European Cultural Foundation

The European Cultural Foundation are committed to making a tangible impact on civil society, citizen initiatives, public opinion and policy proposals, and combat the fragmenting forces jeopardising peace and social progress in Europe. They support cultural changemakers through grants, exchanges, and incubator programmes, and their annual ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture highlights culture as a force for positive change.



[Go to link](#)

## The Dutch Fund for Journalism Projects

The Dutch Fund for Journalism Projects awards subsidies to individual journalists for articles, long-reads, photo reportages, journalistic books/biographies and investigative reports (tv, radio, online, print). The goal is to support journalists who want to produce in-depth stories which would not be possible without this extra funding. The subsidy is open to all journalists and authors who have a contract for their story or book to be published or broadcast in Dutch. There are also separate subsidies available for young journalists.



[Go to link](#)

# Various Disciplines

## Lira Foundation

Lira is a Dutch collective management organisation (CMO) for writers, translators and freelance journalists which represents about 12,000 affiliated Dutch writers. It collects and distributes remuneration for the (re)use of literary and audio-visual works, in the form of public lending rights, private copying, the transmission of audio-visual works on television and radio, and reprographic rights.



[Go to link](#)

## Hivos

Hivos seeks new and creative solutions to persistent global problems by helping people to take control of their lives. It offers a positive countervailing force against discrimination, inequality, the abuse of power and the unsustainable use of our planet's resources. Its mission is to innovate for social change. With smart projects in the right places, it works to bring about more open and green societies.



[Go to link](#)

## MasterPeace

MasterPeace is an award-winning, global, grassroots non-profit and non-governmental peace movement, which has branches in over 40 countries around the world. MasterPeace aims to mobilise people around the world to use their talent and energy for peace-building and togetherness. Through music, sports, art and dialogue, MasterPeace seeks to help lead the way to a more sustainable world with less armed conflict.



[Go to link](#)

# Various Disciplines

## Boekman Foundation

The Boekman Foundation collects and disseminates knowledge and information about the arts and culture, both in policy and practice. It is an independent intermediary between interested parties and stakeholders from government, academia, the business world and the cultural sector.



[Go to link](#)

## Meertens Institute

The Meertens Institute is a research institute concerned with the study and documentation of Dutch language and culture. The main focus is on the phenomena that shape daily life in our society.



[Go to link](#)

## National Centre of Expertise for Cultural Education and Amateur Arts (LKCA)

LKCA is for everyone who is committed to education and participation in culture and the arts, both within the education system and beyond. Anyone working in or involved with these sectors can benefit from the expertise and opportunities for active knowledge exchange that LKCA offers.



[Go to link](#)

# Various Disciplines

## Street Art Today

Street Art Today is a promotional platform for street art and a full-service urban art and street art agency. In addition, it is also the initiator of the largest Street Art Museum in the world, which will open in 2019 at the NDSM docks.



[Go to link](#)

## Humanity House

Humanity House is a museum that lets visitors experience what it is like to live through a disaster or conflict and that explores related themes in temporary exhibitions. The Humanity House also serves as a meeting place for people, organisations and agencies that deal with humanitarian issues. Moreover, the education programmes explain global problems to children and young adults.



[Go to link](#)

## NOOR

NOOR is an international non-profit committed to democratic principles and positive social change through the creative advancement of visual journalism and the documentary arts. They produce innovative high-impact photographic and visual communication projects in partnerships with museums, festivals, universities and organisations on critical issues such as global warming, migration, civil rights, and equity and justice.



[Go to link](#)

# Various Disciplines

## art.1 Foundation

The art.1 Foundation is committed to the fundamental rights guaranteed by Article 1 of the Dutch Constitution. The projects they initiate highlight discrimination and taboo subjects through film, photography and stories. The foundation is also engaged in educational projects around the idea of making sexual and cultural diversity open to discussion in a rapidly changing society.



[Go to link](#)

## Crafts Council Nederland

Crafts Council Nederland (CCNL) is a platform for contemporary craft, the Dutch version of the British crafts Council and similar bodies elsewhere. CCNL develops programmes and activities centred on teaching, connecting, inspiring and developing. Traditional techniques are given a new life: they are translated and decoded to prevent them from disappearing and to use them as a form of stimulus to the creative sector.



[Go to link](#)

## Culture Connection

Culture Connection aims to bring together different worlds through art projects. Its intention is to create an open space for encounter between people of different cultures and religions, while respecting everyone's own values. Culture Connection creates platforms for cultural exchange and artistic encounters by organising festivals, community arts programmes and dialogue within Europe and cultural collaboration programmes with Mediterranean countries.



[Go to link](#)

# Various Disciplines

## Pakhuis de Zwijger

Pakhuis de Zwijger, which opened its doors in 2006, is a unique cultural organisation which has grown to be an independent platform dedicated to the city of Amsterdam and its inhabitants. It functions as a 21st-century debate centre, which puts dialogue ahead of conflict and connection ahead of opposition. It encourages collaboration on how to make a liveable city and puts urgent issues on the agenda, linking them to the creative industry.



[Go to link](#)

## Makers Unite (Thami Schweichler)

Through the power of creation, Makers Unite connects newcomers and local 'makers' to real opportunities. Makers Unite has designed an effective social inclusion programme based on creating sustainable products together. Newcomers have the opportunity to tell their own stories at external workshops at schools, companies and organisations.



[Go to link](#)

## Free Press Unlimited

Free Press Unlimited believes that objective information can be of life-and-death importance. Free Press Unlimited helps local journalists in war zones and conflict areas to provide their audience with trustworthy news and information. The information that people need to survive and give shape to their own future.



[Go to link](#)



# Various Disciplines

## CODART

CODART is the international network of curators of Dutch and Flemish art. The tremendous popularity and the fact that works of art from the Low Countries of the 15th through the 19th century are widely disseminated means that CODART's network is extensive and unique. Major holdings of Dutch and Flemish fine and decorative art are located in approximately 50 countries.



[Go to link](#)

## RKD Netherlands Institute for Art History

The RKD provides worldwide access to knowledge, research and information about Netherlandish art in an international context, for museums, the academic community and the general public alike. The RKD manages, maintains, researches and indexes art historical knowledge and information for museums, science and the general public. The RKD strives to actively involve the general public in its developments and ambitions by providing a valuable (digital) service, to reach a wide audience and to achieve digital sustainability.



[Go to link](#)

## Stroom Den Haag

Stroom Den Haag (an independent foundation founded in 1990) is an art center with a wide range of activities. Starting from the visual arts, architecture, urban planning and design the program focuses on the urban environment. Stroom's policy is not committed to any particular movement. The centre is open to everyone with stimulating ideas or a need for information regarding art and the urban environment. It aims at being a hospitable and stimulating platform. Starting from this mentality Stroom, in collaboration with other institutions, wants to contribute to the permanent development of the reflection on the city and the part that can be played by the visual arts in this context.



[Go to link](#)

# | International Cultural Organisations

| This selection is made on basis of giving an overview of the variety of organisations, institutions, foundations etc. in the international field, divided by continents. Due to the vastness of the field this selection is by no means final. Rather, it is a stepping stone towards further research.

## The African Cultural Policy Network

The African Cultural Policy Network (ACPN) is an online network initiated by Mike van Graan (South Africa) and Aadel Essaadani (Morocco) in June 2017. Both were part of various national and regional, continental bodies. With numerous – and rapid – developments in the international cultural policy arena, there is a need for an informed, proactive and bold African voice in the arena of cultural policy and advocacy. The ACPN works with, and seeks to complement other actors in the African creative space.



[Go to link](#)

## Art Moves Africa

Art Moves Africa (AMA) is an international non-profit organisation that aims to facilitate cultural and artistic exchanges across the African continent. AMA offers grants to artists, arts professionals and cultural operators living and working in Africa to travel within the continent for the purpose of exchanging information, enhancing skills, developing informal networks and pursuing cooperation.



[Go to link](#)

## Space for Pan-African Research, Creation and Knowledge

SPARCK is a programme of experimental multi-disciplinary arts residencies, workshops, symposia, exhibitions, publications and performances centred on innovative, ethically driven approaches to urban space. SPARCK develops its projects in partnership with a growing network of artists and cultural practitioners at work throughout Africa and the African diasporas, in a call-and-response pattern that privileges outside-the-box, self-sustaining initiatives. Across the African world, SPARCK engages with creators working in image, sound, word and video, installations, transient architectures, cutting-edge technologies and emergent media on projects that question the status quo, while rejecting clichés and easy answers.



[Go to link](#)

## Aid for Africa

Aid for Africa's charity organisations work throughout Sub-Saharan Africa. Member organisations provide support in a wide variety of areas, including health and medical care, education, sustainable development, arts and culture, environmental conservation, food and agriculture, advocacy and wildlife protection.



[Go to link](#)

## Asia-Europe Foundation

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes greater understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments and organisations of the ASEM and has since implemented over 650 projects, engaging over 17,000 direct participants as well as reaching out to a much wider audience in Asia and Europe.



[Go to link](#)

## ASEF culture360

ASEF culture360 is a portal managed by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) since 2005. ASEF culture360 is designed to stimulate cultural engagement and enhance mutual understanding between Asia and Europe by providing relevant information through weekly updates on news, events, opportunities and resources. It also features a magazine with in-depth articles, interviews and profiles, and social media tools to enable online networking between individuals, as well as organisations across the ASEM region. Since 2011, culture360.asef.org has hosted the website of the Asia-Europe Museum Network (ASEMUS).



[Go to link](#)

## The Asian Cultural Council

The ACC works to advance international respect and understanding between peoples and cultures through transformative cultural exchange. The ACC awards fellowship grants to artists and scholars in three categories of cross-cultural exchange: Asia to the US, the US to Asia, and intra-Asia. To enable meaningful engagement, ACC develops programmes specifically tailored to the needs and interests of its grant recipients. Additionally, ACC fosters ongoing dialogue between and among its grant recipients and artists and scholars through a dynamic and robust network of individuals across disciplines and across the globe.



[Go to link](#)

## Arts Network Asia

Arts Network Asia, established in 1999 by Ong Keng Sen and managed by TheatreWorks (Singapore), is a regional arts network of independent group of artists, cultural workers and arts activists from Asia and an enabling grant body. The network works across borders in multiple disciplines, encouraging and supporting artistic collaboration, dialogue, exchange and the development of managerial and administrative skills within Asia. ANA is motivated by the philosophy of meaningful collaboration, initiated in Asia, characterised by mutual respect, and carried out together with Asian artists and arts communities.



[Go to link](#)

## South Asia Foundation

Founded by UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Madanjeet Singh in 2000, the SAF is a secular, non-profit and non-political organisation, comprising eight autonomous chapters: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. SAF's core objective is to promote regional cooperation through UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Institutions of Excellence in the eight SAARC countries.



[Go to link](#)

# Australia / Oceania

## The Australia Council for the Arts

The Australia Council for the Arts is overseen by the Council Board. The Board is appointed by the Minister for the Arts and comprises a range of expertise across the realms of artistic practice, arts management, business, management, public policy, corporate governance and administration, regional issues, gender, multicultural and indigenous community participation in the arts, finance, philanthropy, legal affairs, corporate strategy and research.



[Go to link](#)



## On the Move

On the Move (OTM) is a cultural mobility information network with 40 members in over 20 countries across Europe and beyond. Its mission is to encourage and facilitate cross-border mobility and cooperation, contributing to building a vibrant and shared European cultural space with strong connections around the world.



[Go to link](#)

## European Cultural Foundation

The European Cultural Foundation nurtures a socially engaged and culturally rooted civil society across Europe. Advocacy is the foundation for what it does: creating a central position for culture and community participation at a local level and in EU policies. It supports cultural change makers and their projects through grants, exchanges, online platforms and incubator programmes. It highlights stellar examples of culture as a force of positive change through the ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture; and connect the local to the European, the grassroots to the policy, and facilitate collaboration.



[Go to link](#)

## European Union National Institutes for Culture

The European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) is a network of European national institutes of culture and national bodies engaged in cultural and related activities beyond their national borders. EUNIC brings together organisations from all 28 EU member states and adds value through its global network of clusters. By pooling together the resources and expertise of its members and carrying out joint work on areas of common interest, EUNIC is a recognised partner of the EU and its stakeholders in defining and implementing European policy on culture inside and outside the EU.



[Go to link](#)

## Creative Europe

Creative Europe is the European Commission's framework programme for providing support to the culture and audiovisual sector. The Creative Europe programme is open to cultural and creative organisations from EU member states, as well as non-EU countries. Subject to certain conditions, participation is also open to EEA, ENP and candidate/potential candidate countries on an equal footing with member states.



[Go to link](#)

## Fondazione Fitzcarraldo

Fondazione Fitzcarraldo is an independent centre for planning, research, training and documentation on cultural, arts and media management, economics and policies, at the service of those who create, practise, take part in, produce, promote and support the arts and culture. It aims to contribute to the development, diffusion and promotion of innovation and experimentation in the previously mentioned fields, in part through the systematic search for collaborative agreements and synergies with local, regional, national and international authorities and bodies.



[Go to link](#)

## Robert Bosch Foundation

The Robert Bosch Foundation is one of the major foundations in Europe associated with a private company. Through its work, it has kept alive Robert Bosch's legacy for over 50 years, by continuing his commitment to social causes in a contemporary form.



[Go to link](#)

## Centre for the Advancement of Civil Society Organisations

CEASCO is a non-profit organisation committed to the empowerment of civil society organisations active in the social sector in Europe. Its goal is to support the work of civil society organisations by improving their efficiency, sustainability and collaboration so as to maximise their performance and impact. Working hand in hand with community members CEASCO is committed to building solid relationships that promote the values of civil society organisations.



[Go to link](#)

## Culture Action Europe

Culture Action Europe is the major European network of cultural organisations, artists, activists, academics and policymakers. CAE is the first port of call for informed opinion and debate about arts and cultural policy in Europe. As the only cross-sectoral network of its kind, it represents all sub-sectors in culture: from performing arts, literature, visual arts, design and cross-arts initiatives to community centres and activist groups. Culture Action Europe aims to put culture at the heart of public debate and decision-making by raising awareness of the contribution of culture to the development of sustainable and inclusive societies.



[Go to link](#)

## IETM

International network for contemporary performing arts – a network of over 450 performing arts organisations and individual members working in the contemporary performing arts worldwide: theatre, dance, circus, interdisciplinary live art forms, new media. Their members include festivals, companies, producers, theatres, research and resource centres, universities and institutional bodies.



[Go to link](#)

## IFACCA

The International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) is the global network of arts councils and ministries of culture, with member institutions in over 70 countries. The IFACCA Secretariat provides services, information and resources to member institutions and their staff – from senior executives and policy makers, to researchers, grant makers and administrators – as well as the wider community.



[Go to link](#)

## Artists at Risk Connection (ARC)

ARC is a collaborative project led by PEN America, which has been committed to protecting open expression in the United States and worldwide since 1922. Artists at Risk Connection is committed to: improving access to resources for artists at risk; enhancing connections among supporters of artistic freedom and raising awareness about artistic freedom.



[Go to link](#)

## Perpetuum Mobile

Perpetuum Mobile's ARTISTS AT RISK (AR) is a new human rights institution in the field of visual culture. As a platform dedicated to art practitioners "at risk", the work of AR encompasses mapping and coordinating art professionals under threat, addressing their practical needs and advancing their artistic practice. To achieve this, selected key figures are granted short (and in other sub-programmes, long-term) residencies at so-called "Safe Havens" – as invited and honoured visiting art professionals. These are art actors which not only greatly enrich their host countries, but are at the heart of rebuilding their often war-torn countries of origin.



[Go to link](#)

## The Anna Lindh Foundation

The Anna Lindh Foundation is an international organization working from the Mediterranean to promote intercultural and civil society dialogue in the face of growing mistrust and polarisation.



[Go to link](#)

## The Roberto Cimetta Fund (Euro-Arab region)

The Roberto Cimetta Fund is an international non-profit making organisation created in 1999 to respond rapidly and directly to individual artists and cultural managers wishing to travel in order to develop contemporary artistic cooperation projects in the Euro-Arab geographical zone and beyond. It is the Mobility Fund for artists and cultural operators in Europe, the Arab world and the Middle East. Since 2014, RCF is also providing sustaining support grants for venues, platforms and networks in the Arab geographical zone exclusively.

[Go to link](#)

## ISPA

ISPA is a global network of 500 leaders in the performing arts with representation from more than 185 cities and all regions of the globe. ISPA members include facilities, performing arts organisations, artist managers, festivals, funders, consultants and other professionals working in the performing arts.



[Go to link](#)

## Julie's Bicycle

Julie's Bicycle is a London based charity that supports the creative community to act on climate change and environmental sustainability. They believe that the creative community is uniquely placed to transform the conversation around climate change and translate it into action. They provide the creative community with the skills to act, using their creativity to influence one another, audiences and the wider movement. Also, they run a programme of events, free resources and public speaking engagements, which contribute to national and international climate change policy development.



[Go to link](#)

## ResArtis

Res Artis is an association of over 650 centers, organisations, and individuals in over 70 countries. Each of our members is dedicated to offering artists, curators, and all manner of creative people the essential time and place away from the pressures and habits of every-day life, an experience framed within a unique geographic and cultural context.



[Go to link](#)

## DutchCulture|TransArtists

DutchCulture|TransArtists combines and shares knowledge and experience on artist-in-residence (AiR) programmes and other international opportunities for creative professionals to temporarily stay and work elsewhere. They offer all about facts, use and value of international artist-in-residence opportunities. The goal is to make the enormous worldwide residential art labyrinth accessible for everyone through the website, workshops, AiR collection, research and projects. It has the biggest database of artist-in-residence programmes in the world, with current number of 1587 residencies.



[Go to link](#)

## The Commonwealth Foundation

The Commonwealth Foundation is an international organisation established by Heads of Government in support of the belief that the Commonwealth is as much an association of peoples as it is of governments. The Foundation is dedicated to strengthening people's participation in all aspects of public dialogue, to act together and learn from each other to build democratic societies. Ultimately, the Foundation seeks to ensure that policy and government institutions are more effective contributors to development through the influence of civic voices.



[Go to link](#)

## UNESCO

UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. UNESCO's programmes contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals defined in Agenda 2030, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015.



[Go to link](#)



## ICOMOS

ICOMOS works for the conservation and protection of cultural heritage places. It is the only global non-government organisation of this kind, which is dedicated to promoting the application of theory, methodology, and scientific techniques to the conservation of the architectural and archaeological heritage. ICOMOS is a network of experts that benefits from the interdisciplinary exchange of its members, among which are architects, historians, archaeologists, art historians, geographers, anthropologists, engineers and town planners. The members of ICOMOS contribute to improving the preservation of heritage, the standards and the techniques for each type of cultural heritage property: buildings, historic cities, cultural landscapes and archaeological sites



[Go to link](#)

## ICORN

The International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN) is an independent organisation of cities and regions offering shelter to writers and artists at risk, advancing freedom of expression, defending democratic values and promoting international solidarity.



[Go to link](#)

# North America

## TransCultural Exchange

Since its grassroots inception in 1989, Trans-Cultural Exchange has worked directly with hundreds of artists, arts organisations, foundations, galleries, museums, and cultural centres in 60 countries to produce over 350 art projects. All of these have involved artists from different cultures, working across disciplines, and they typically include artist exchanges and collaborations as key components. The organisation also provides professional development resources, new markets and career opportunities for artists around the world through its social media, resource web portal, talks and its International Conferences on Opportunities in the Arts.



[Go to link](#)

## CoveyLaw

CoveyLaw is a Brooklyn-based law firm that has made its name serving the needs of the international arts community. It handles immigration, entertainment and business matters for musicians, actors, dancers, visual artists, record labels, talent agencies, theatre companies and professionals working throughout the creative and tech industries.



[Go to link](#)

## The Fulbright Programme

The Fulbright Programme was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by then-Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. It is sponsored by the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Fulbright Programme awards approximately 8,000 grants annually. Roughly 1,600 US students, 4,000 foreign students, 1,200 US scholars, and 900 visiting scholars receive awards, in addition to several hundred teachers and professionals. Approximately 370,000 'Fulbrighters' have participated in the Program since its inception in 1946. Currently, the Fulbright Programme operates in over 160 countries worldwide.



[Go to link](#)

# North America

## National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America.



[Go to link](#)

## Tamizdat

Founded in 1998 by an international group of musicians, Tamizdat is a non-profit organisation that facilitates international cultural exchange. It is motivated by the conviction that the international mobility of culture is fundamental to healthy and progressive global civil society. Through its programme activities Tamizdat seeks to assist the international performing arts community in addressing problems presented by US immigration policy and procedure.



[Go to link](#)

# South America

## INTERARTS

INTERARTS was founded in 1995. From its headquarters in Barcelona, INTERARTS carries out its international activities through and with an extensive network of partner organisations and professionals. With offices in Lima (Peru) and Pristina (Kosovo), INTERARTS operates in full and open competition systems. It designs proposals which are then submitted in response to calls for proposals or tenders, by both public and private entities. INTERARTS does not receive operating support from either private or public funds. It is a non-profit which defines itself as both an NGO and a civil society organisation.



[Go to link](#)

## Iberescena

Iberescena is a programme created for supporting and integrating Latin American performing arts activities, including exchanges. The fund aims to promote the creation of an integrated space for performing arts in its member states, through funding and financial support. It offers financial aid for Ibero-American performing arts creation process residencies. Members states are Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Spain, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB).



[Go to link](#)

## Iberoamerican General Secretariat (SEGIB)

The Iberoamerican General Secretariat (SEGIB) is an international support organisation for the 22 countries that make up the Ibero-American community: the 19 Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries in Latin America and those of the Iberian Peninsula: Spain, Portugal and Andorra. It supports the organisation of the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, implements its mandates and drives Ibero-American Cooperation in the areas of education, social cohesion and culture. It is the only official space for convergence, work, supervision and agreements in the Ibero-American region which brings together countries on both sides of the Atlantic.



[Go to link](#)

# 17 Inspirational international cultural projects

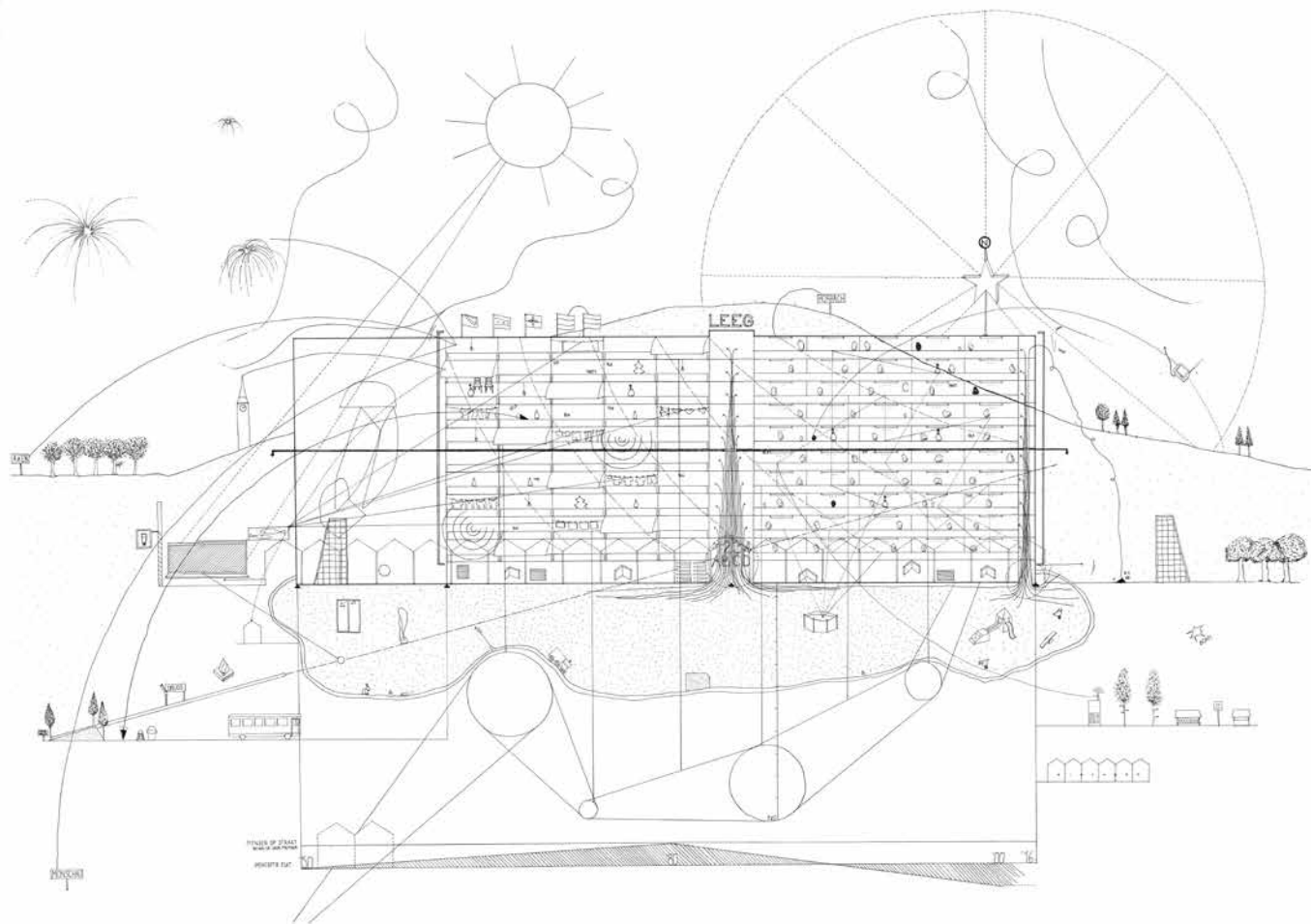
The following examples are included as a way to provide inspiration, trigger ideas, motivate and stimulate further cooperation.

- |    |                                                |    |                                       |    |                                                 |
|----|------------------------------------------------|----|---------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------|
| 01 | (A)BCD360°<br>by Dear Hunter                   | 07 | littleBits                            | 13 | 'The Poisons Museum'<br>by Ilya Fedotov-Fedorov |
| 02 | Algae Glass<br>by Studio Klarenbeek            | 08 | Living Museum at Humanity House       | 14 | New Unions<br>by Jonas Staal                    |
| 03 | Assemble studio                                | 09 | Night Soil<br>by Melanie Bonajo       | 15 | The Silent University<br>by Ahmet Ögüt          |
| 04 | Enjoy Poverty<br>by Renzo Martens              | 10 | 'Poster'<br>by Jon Burgerman          | 16 | Time/Bank at Stroom                             |
| 05 | 'Forensic Justice'<br>by Forensic Architecture | 11 | Power To The Wild<br>by De Onkruiders | 17 | Trust Me, I'm an Artist                         |
| 06 | Human Flow<br>by Ai Weiwei                     | 12 | Rap Research Lab                      |    |                                                 |

# (A)BCD360°

by Dear Hunter

Until recently, there were four high-rise flats in Bleijerheide (Kerkrade, the Netherlands). The first flat, flat A, was demolished a few years ago. The three remaining flats, property of HEEMwonen, are being comprehensively transformed as part of the IBA Parkstad project 'SUPERLOCAL'. In the summer of 2016 two researchers from Dear Hunter stayed in one of the flats. During their time in the neighbourhood, they explored their surroundings in search of people with a view of the flats from their homes. Some lived close by, others far away, but the buildings were a presence in all of their daily lives. A total of 18 meetings took place, each consisting of an informal conversation on location. The interpretation of these conversations offers a surprising perspective on the flats, providing insights into how they have been perceived over the past 50 years and guidelines for the future development of the flats and the surrounding area, both spatially and socially.



Credit:  
Dear Hunter (Marlies Vermeulen) - map,  
ink on paper, 84x119cm.



[Go to link](#)

# Algae Glass

by Studio Klarenbeek

After three years of research with Salga Seaweeds, Danvos, Wageningen University, the Biobased Lab in Breda and other institutions, Studio Klarenbeek was invited to establish an open research and production lab at the Luma Foundation in Arles. Since February 2017, it has alternative production in an urban setting. CO2 emissions and pollution from factories at the mouth of the Rhone are filtered by algae. The by-product is a biomass that is not edible but otherwise highly versatile. Usually the scientific community will ask a multinational to associate itself with the results of a research project. At this point the process suddenly slows down considerably, and after the first setback, everything grinds to a halt. By contrast, Studio Klarenbeek works very quickly and flexibly, thanks to their small-scale workplace. The studio is attempting to build a bridge between scientific research and the local economy. It has started performing 3D scans of historical glassware from the collection of the Musée Départemental in Arles and reproducing them with locally grown algae. In its lab, it can cultivate the algae and then dry and process it to create a material that can be used to 3D print

objects. In principle, this local algae polymer can be used to make anything: from shampoo bottles to tableware or rubbish bins. Its ambition is to provide all restaurants and catered events in the city with tableware from the AlgaeLab.



Credit:  
Photo courtesy of Studio Eric Klarenbeek.



[Go to link](#)



# Assemble Studio

Assemble is a multi-disciplinary collective working across the fields of architecture, design and art. Founded in 2010 to undertake a single self-built project, Assemble has since delivered a diverse and award-winning body of work, while retaining a democratic and cooperative working method that enables built, social and research-based work at a variety of scales, both making things and making things happen.



Credit:  
Photo courtesy of Assemble.



[Go to link](#)

# Enjoy Poverty

by Renzo Martens

Enjoy Poverty is a 90-minute film, documenting Renzo Martens' activities in the Congo. Documenting an epic journey, the film argues that images of poverty are the Congo's most lucrative export, generating more revenue than traditional exports like gold, diamonds or cocoa. However, as with these traditional exports, the people that provide the raw material – the poor, whose lives are being filmed – scarcely reap any benefit.

Amid ethnic conflict and relentless economic exploitation, Martens sets up an emancipation programme that aims to teach the poor how to benefit from their biggest resource: poverty. Thus, Congolese photographers are encouraged to move on from development-hindering activities, such as photographing weddings and parties, and to start taking pictures of war and disaster. With a neon sign proclaiming 'Enjoy Poverty' carried through the jungle by Martens' porters, the local population is encouraged to capitalise on what the world has given them as their lot.



Credit:  
Renzo Martens, still from Episode 3  
Enjoy Poverty, video, 2009.



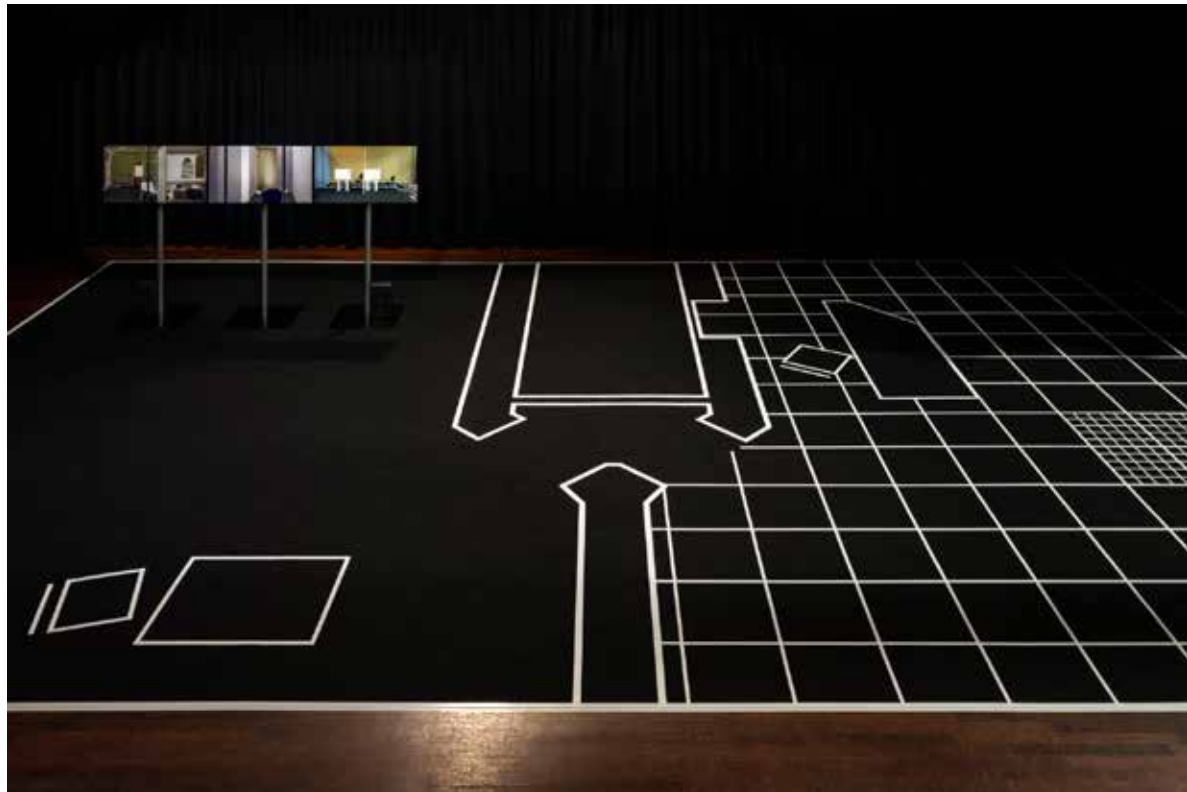
[Go to link](#)

# Forensic Justice

by Forensic Architecture

Forensic Architecture is an independent research agency based at Goldsmiths, University of London. (This interdisciplinary team of investigators includes architects, scholars, artists, filmmakers, software developers, investigative journalists, archaeologists, lawyers and scientists).

The exhibition 'Forensic Justice' at BAK features a number of tactical forensic reclamations of social and ecological justice. Articulating evidence-based counter-narratives to dominant interpretations of investigated events, the installations mobilise what Forensic Architecture refers to as 'public truth'. These mobilisations, as the exhibition proposes, can be understood as critical instances of 'forensic justice'. The exhibition involves two main narratives, entwining the 20th-century horrors of genocide with its contemporary extension into environmental catastrophes.



Credits:

Forensic Architecture, 77sqm, 9:26min, 2017, installation.  
Forensic Justice at BAK, basis voor actuele kunst,  
Utrecht, 2018–2019.  
Photo - Tom Janssen.



[Go to link](#)

# Human Flow

by Ai Weiwei

Over 65 million people around the world have been forced from their homes to escape famine, climate change and war in the greatest human displacement since the Second World War. Human Flow, an epic film journey led by the internationally renowned artist Ai Weiwei, gives powerful visual expression to this massive human migration. The documentary elucidates both the staggering scale of the refugee crisis and its profoundly personal human impact.

Captured over the course of an eventful year in 23 countries, the film follows a chain of urgent human stories that stretches across the globe in countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, France, Greece, Germany, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Mexico and Turkey. Human Flow is a witness to its subjects and their desperate search for safety, shelter and justice: from teeming refugee camps to perilous ocean crossings to barbed-wire borders; from dislocation and disillusionment to courage, endurance and adaptation, from the haunting lure of lives left behind to the unknown potential of the future.



Human Flow comes at a crucial time when tolerance, compassion and trust are needed more than ever. A testament to the unassailable human spirit, this visceral work of cinema asks one of the questions that will come to define this century: will our global society emerge from fear, isolation and self-interest and choose a path of openness, freedom and respect for humanity?

Credit:

A scene from HUMAN FLOW, an Amazon Studios release.  
Photo courtesy of Amazon Studios.



[Go to link](#)

# littleBits

littleBits is the New York-based education startup that invented the electronic building block. These magnetic 'bits' snap together to turn ideas into inventions, transforming the way kids learn so they can grow up to be tomorrow's change-makers – no matter their age, gender, race, nationality or ability. Up to 40 percent of the kids using littleBits kits are girls, which is four times the industry average.



Credit:  
Courtesy of littleBits Electronics, Inc.



[Go to link](#)



# Living Museum

at Humanity House

Humanity House is more than a museum. It is also a platform for hosting live interviews, debates, exhibitions, events and festivals, film screenings and other activities. Since February 2017, visitors to Humanity House can meet eight individuals from eight different places around the world. They can watch and listen to the stories of Yvonne, Bruce, Shaza, Aiham, Ram, Akhrat, Desbele and Lidija, and ask them anything they want. Each has a story unlike any other. What unites them is that they are all refugees who have settled in the Netherlands.

These eight people from the new 'collection' take visitors on an informative voyage of discovery. In this way, visitors are not only observers but also participants who can think and act in this interactive installation.



Credit:  
Courtesy of Humanity House.



[Go to link](#)

# Night Soil

by Melanie Bonajo

Night Soil is an experimental film in three parts that shows how most of the Western population feels strongly disconnected from nature. Adopting a semi-documentary approach, Melanie Bonajo explores in depth how people live with a sense of fragmentation and alienation. The figures in her film are searching for new rituals, a different relationship with nature and a reconfiguration of the concepts connected to gender issues in an attempt to resist the tremendous sense of emptiness that pervades them. Not infrequently, their search leads them to adopt alternative lifestyles, at times engaging in antisocial or illegal behaviour. Segments of a semi-documentary nature alternate with hallucinatory fragments that emerge from Bonajo's imagination. These last images result from her close collaboration with the main characters, most of whom are women.



Credit:  
Courtesy of Melanie Bonajo.

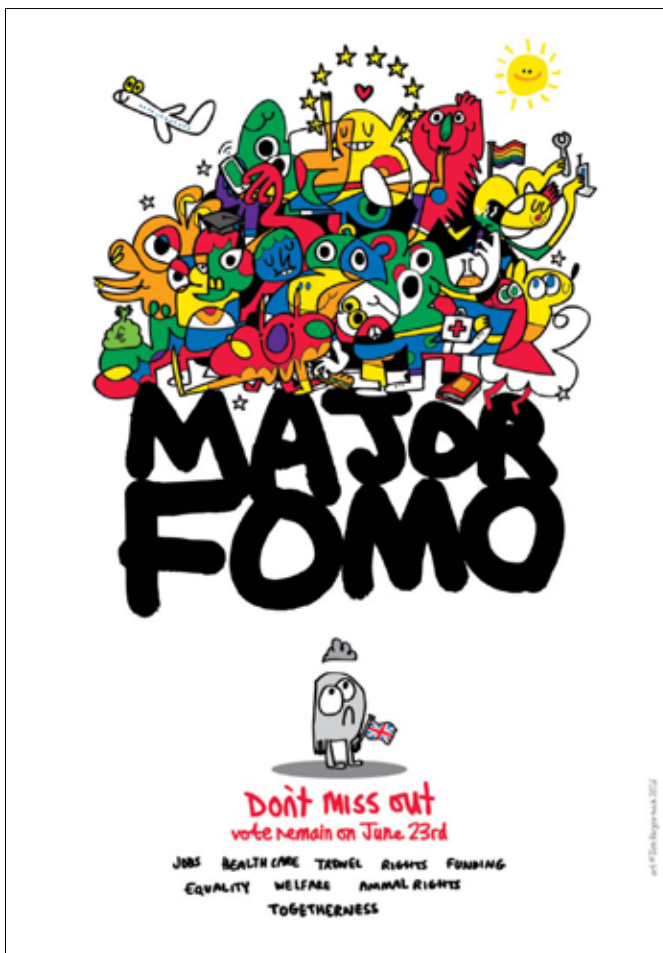


[Go to link](#)

# Poster

by Jon Burgerman

Before the EU referendum in the UK, 13 artists joined the 'Remain' campaign – each explaining with a new artwork why they were opposed to Brexit. In Jon Burgerman's words, 'Being able to openly travel around Europe and meet and even collaborate with a host of companies, makers and artists not only transformed my practice but also my life. The ease and openness of these collaborations, allowing for the sharing of ideas, tools, products and work across so many countries and cultures is not possible anywhere else in the world. We would be a lot poorer culturally (and likely financially) without it.'



Credit:  
Courtesy of Jon Burgerman, 2016.



[Go to link](#)



# Dissident Gardens

by De Onkruidier

With the arrival of a new plant neighbourhood called the Urban District, plant communities in the city finally started to be taken seriously at the turn of the century. Fugitive plants from garden centres, stem cuttings taken from a holiday, and bird-seed that has sprouted next to a rubbish skip. We see these as pillars of the new urban landscape which redefines the relationship between humans, plants and the environment. What does this say about our perception and connection to the city? How do plants in the city play a role in this?

A selection of 30 wild plants was set up on the roof of the New Institute to illustrate different qualities: caring, dedication, concentration, serenity and unruliness. Visitors were allowed to take some seeds and introduce these qualities to their own environments.



Credits:

Power to the Wild by de Onkruidenier and Overtreders W  
in Het Nieuwe Instituut.

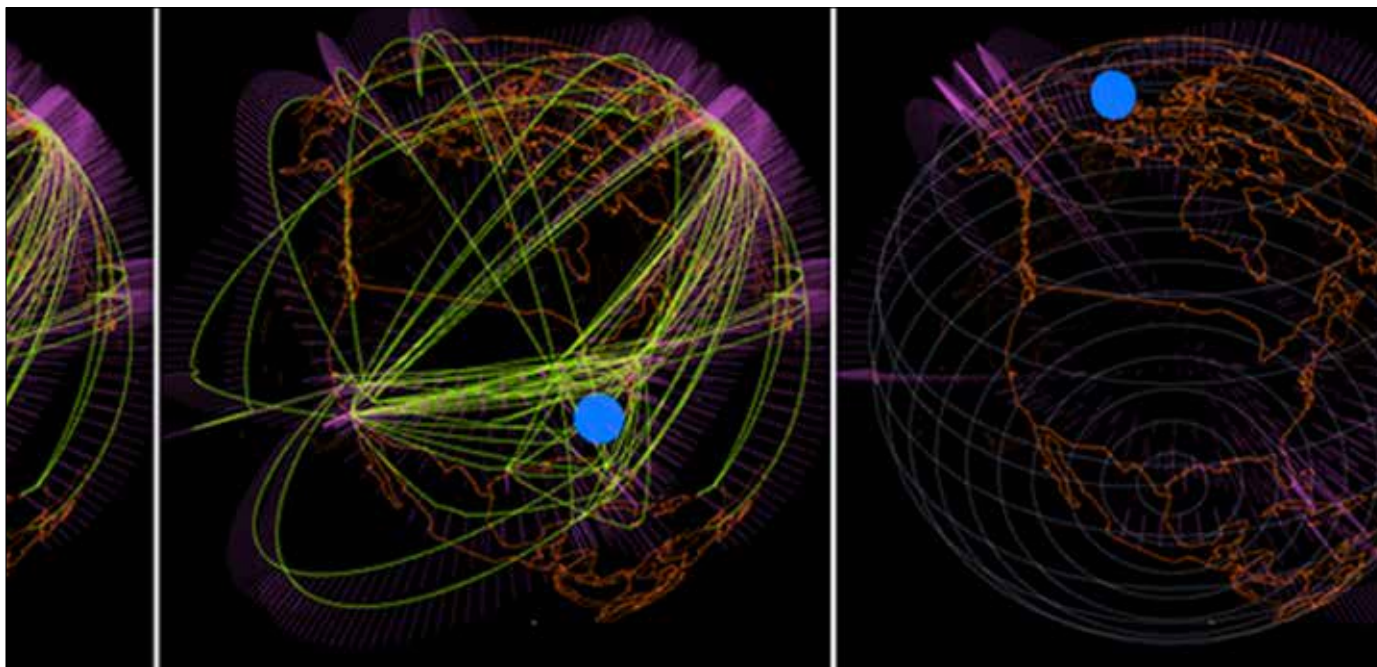
Photo - Johannes Schwartz.



[Go to link](#)

The Rap Research Lab is a community-based creative technology studio that empowers youth and educators to explore rap as a cultural indicator through educational, editorial, and creative interrogations. They are a cross-functional team of artists, radical educators, narrative designers, software developers and researchers who use rap as a lens through which we can better understand popular and youth culture, explore questions of social justice, and facilitate empowerment through community data projects.

They design projects and ask questions, both collaboratively and individually, that challenge notions of ownership and agency in cultural spheres. They lead workshops for youth and adult educators to learn and teach media research skills, sociocultural inquiry, and data visualisation.



Credit:  
Photo courtesy of Rap Research lab.



[Go to link](#)

# The Poisons Museum

by Ilya Fedotov-Fedorov

Ilya Fedotov-Fedorov's project 'The Poisons Museum' is an ode to (dis)information. It is dedicated to the problem of the global transmission of information and misinformation, and how toxic, if not deadly, these things can be.

HIV/AIDS now affects approximately two million people in Russia according to the Federal AIDS Centre. Fedotov-Fedorov believes that one of the biggest dangers associated with the ongoing epidemic is the lack and non-circulation of information and knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS. This causes individuals to question the disease's existence or to draw uninformed conclusions from the available literature.

The project, supported through sustained research with the Amsterdam Medical Centre (AMC), included an installation comprising a variety of artefacts, which echoes the set-up of a scientific museum.



Credit:  
Photo courtesy of Ilya Fedotov-Fedorov.



[Go to link](#)



# New Unions

by Jonas Staal

New Unions is an artistic and political campaign that departs from the current political, economic, humanitarian, and environmental crisis of Europe with the aim of assembling representatives of transdemocratic movements and organisations to propose scenarios for new future unions.

New Unions considers the crisis of Europe simultaneously as a crisis of the imagination, and as such rejects both ultranationalist parties that demand separation from the European union and seek to return to a mythical notion of the nation-state, as well as the political-economical functionary elite that has used the EU for its austerity politics. Instead, New Unions argues for the need for third, fourth, fifth options in the form of alternative scenarios for trans-national unionisation.



Credits:

Title - New Unions: Act I-V, 2017.

Artist - Studio Jonas Staal.

Photo - Lidia Rossner.

Production - HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Berlin.



[Go to link](#)

# The Silent University

by Ahmet Ögüt

The Silent University is a solidarity-based knowledge exchange platform for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants. It is led by a group of lecturers, consultants and research fellows. Each group contributes to the programme in different ways: course development, research on key issues or personal reflections on what it means to be a refugee and asylum seeker. The platform is presented in the format of an academic programme. Since 2012 the Silent University has welcomed people who had academic training and careers in their home countries, but are unable to use their skills in their new homes due to a variety of reasons related to their status. Working together, the participants have developed lectures, discussions, events, resource archives and publications.

The Silent University aims to address and reactivate participants' knowledge and to make the exchange process mutually beneficial by using alternative currencies, in place of money or voluntary service. The Silent University's aim is to challenge the idea of silence as a passive state, and explore its powerful potential through

performance, writing and group reflection. These explorations attempt to lay bare the systemic failure and the loss of skills and knowledge experienced through the silencing process of seeking asylum.



Credits:  
Logo design - Vahit Tuna.  
Courtesy of the Silent University and Ahmet Ögüt.



[Go to link](#)

# Time/Bank

at Stroom

The Time/Bank, which is based in The Hague, works with hour notes as payment. You acquire hour notes by exchanging the positive balance on your Time/Bank account for physical hour notes through Stroom Den Haag. You get a positive balance on your Time/Bank account by exchanging goods and services with other members of the Time/Bank.



Credits:

Time Bank - Time/Store at Stroom Den Haag, 2011-2013.

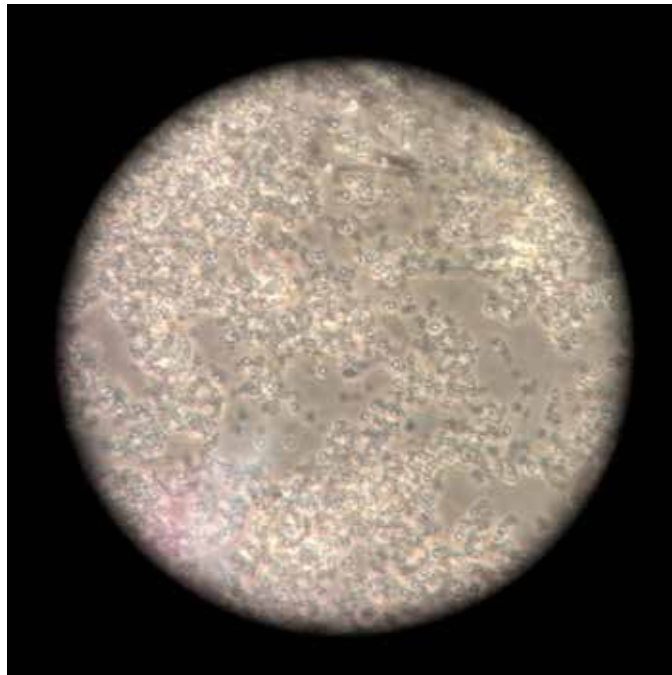
Photo - © Stroom Den Haag.



[Go to link](#)

# Trust Me, I'm an Artist

Trust Me, I'm an Artist develops ethical frameworks for artists, cultural institutions and audiences engaged in the challenges of creating and experiencing new art forms in biotechnology and biomedicine in Europe. The project, which is supported by funding from Creative Europe, is a collaboration between the Waag Society, Brighton and Sussex Medical School, the Arts Catalyst, CIANT, Kapelica Gallery, Medical Museion, Capsula and Leonardo/Olats. The lead artist on the project is Anna Dumitriu and the lead ethicist is Professor Bobbie Farsides. The aim of Trust Me, I'm an Artist is to investigate how artists and cultural institutions can best engage with biotechnology and biomedicine in order to drive innovation in artistic production, find new ways of presenting artworks and cultivate new audiences in Europe. The main goal is to provide artists, cultural institutions and audiences with the skills to understand the ethical issues that can arise in the creation and exhibition of artworks with biotechnology and biomedicine.



Credit:  
Photo courtesy of Anna Dumitriu.



[Go to link](#)

# | 15 Tips & Tricks to get you started:

**01 Policy objective:**  
Consider what primary policy objective could be linked to the cultural activity.

**02 Network:**  
Develop a broad cultural network on a local basis.

**03 Cultural organisations:**  
Reflect on whether there are organisations you could collaborate with.

**04 Cultural disciplines:**  
Think about popular cultural traditions that you may be able to use.

**05 Local highlights:**  
Stay alert and pay attention to local highlights and use them and their publicity.

**06 Spin-off:**  
When possible, try to create a spin-off to an existing festival and broaden the audience.

**07 King's Day:**  
When King's Day is celebrated at an external location, try to find a cultural venue.

**08 Cultural value:**  
Add value by putting Dutch partners in touch with local contacts.

**09 Local objective:**  
Whenever possible, have Dutch arts and culture support a local objective.

**10 Social criticism:**  
Stage activities at locations which allow for social criticism.

**11 Film festival:**  
Organise debates around the topics of well-known film festivals.

**12 Dutch companies:**  
Get Dutch companies involved with your activities.

**13 Awards:**  
Giving awards for certain activities can contribute in a positive way.

**14 Target group:**  
Keep in touch with your target group on a regular basis.

**15 Culture:**  
Do not treat culture as 'free-standing'; link it to your political objectives. And of course, get your embassy colleagues involved as well.



# | Acknowledgements

This publication was made in collaboration between DutchCulture and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For more information on the government's International Cultural Policy, follow [this link](#) for Dutch and [this link](#) for English.

If your organisation is similar to the organisations and cultural projects listed in this publication, it could be considered for inclusion in next year's edition! If your organisation has experience in international cultural cooperation and has done smaller cultural projects abroad corresponding to the examples used in this publication, please contact us at one of the following addresses.

Although every effort was made to find the copyright holders for the images and photographs used, it has not been possible to trace them all. If you believe you may be the copyright holder, please notify us.

## Contact:

b.panevska@dutchculture.nl  
ma.eijgenraam@minbuza.nl

## Text:

Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
(International Cultural Policy Unit)  
Marianne Eijgenraam  
& Annabelle Verhagen  
Rijnstraat 8, 2515 XP  
Den Haag, The Netherlands

## DutchCulture:

Bojana Panevska & Chris Sigaloff  
Herengracht 474, 1017 CA  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## Graphic Design:

Lesley Moore Ontwerpers



Rijksoverheid

DutchCu | ture