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Europalia International

Europalia International has been organising arts biennales, each focusing on a different guest country, since 1969. Its four-month multidisciplinary programme comprises hundreds of events throughout Belgium and in other European countries.

Europalia enthral a broad European audience not only with exhibitions, but also the performing arts, music, literature, conferences and film. It turns the spotlight not only on big names, but also on talented newcomers. Heritage plays a significant part, but the contemporary scene is also generously covered; new creations and interaction between artists from the guest country and from Europe receive particular attention.

The informative services offered to the public, with an especial accent on the young, **tries to provide insights that avoid Eurocentrism**. It stimulates open dialogue between cultures in an atmosphere of trust. Europalia's festivals bring about enduring cooperation between artistic partners. The projects travel both in and beyond Europe by means of an international network.

The Europalia team develops each festival with a national team from the guest country, working within a framework agreed with the country's government and assisted by international culture experts.

The impact of the festival is further enhanced through events organized in parallel by other cultural bodies. Thanks to these collaborations, the festival is able to meet the expectations of both Belgian and international visitors.

Europalia has had the opportunity to cooperate with many countries since 1969. This long experience has allowed the association to develop significant expertise in artistic, logistic and financial direction of the festival, but also to ensure reliable partnerships with all major Belgian and European cultural institutions.

Europalia can rely on **partnerships with major cultural institutions in Brussels, Belgium and across the borders**. These partners host festival events in their infrastructures. **The Centre for Fine Arts (BOZAR), major federal museums, the National Theatre in Brussels, the M HKA or deSingel in Antwerp, the MAC's in Grand-Hornu, the SMAK in Ghent, the Théâtre Royal in Namur, the Théâtre de la Place in Liège, the Bibliothèque Nationale de France and the Tropentheater in Amsterdam are only a few examples of hundreds of institutions collaborating with the festival.**

Furthermore, various museums and specialized institutions collaborate in specific festivals by making their works or knowledge available. Among them : **the Louvre Museum in Paris, the British Museum, the Prado Museum, the Kunsthistorische Museum in Vienna, the National Gallery in Prague, the Uffizi Gallery in Florence and also the State Hermitage Museum in St-Petersburg**. In addition to these coproduced projects, many more emerge from other cultural actors who offer their own vision on the guest country and in doing so, contribute to the festival.

All these partners seize the opportunity of collaborating in an outstanding artistic event granted by the guest country and benefit from all the advantages of the festival. In doing so, they also commit their management, know-how and audience to the event. This synergy is vital to the festival's success.

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