

For its 24th biennial, Europalia International will bring India to the heart of Europe in the **europalia.india** festival in Brussels and the environs. A preliminary outline of the programme has been announced.

europalia.india will translate India's immense cultural wealth into a multidisciplinary programme comprising exhibitions, concerts, dance and theatre performances, conferences, cinema and literature events and runs 4 October 2013 - 26 January 2014.

### The general theme of the festival: encounters

Encounters between India and other great world civilisations or between the different peoples and cultures that constitute the sub-continent have shaped India and continue to do so. But these encounters have also benefited the rest of the world: an encounter is never unilateral and each party can benefit from the occasion to extract elements and integrate them in their own culture.

The encounter is also a fitting metaphor for India: it can be a shock, an exchange, assimilation, discovery, resistance, a source of progress or sorrow, and love. Who knows, it may be a little of all of these that inspire to discover this incredible country.

### **Clusters within the main theme**

Again, it was in our attempt to decipher this multifaceted India that we identified seven sub-themes within the overall theme of encounters. These appeared to be enlightening and essential for anyone attempting to understand what India is. Each of these sub-themes, designed to facilitate a better

## reading of the programme, will be centralized as possible in one cultural venue or city. Each of the

themes will feature all artistic disciplines: exhibitions, music, dance, theatre, literature, conferences and film.

- 1- The Body
- 2 Indomania
- 3 India Tomorrow
- 4 Living Traditions
- 5 -Water
- 6 Bollywood & beyond
- 7 Diaspora

For full details, download the pdf. press release

**Europalia** is a major international arts festival held every two years in Brussels and the environs to celebrate one invited country's cultural heritage. Since 1969, Europalia has organised some twenty-two festivals. Each has turned the spotlight on one culture in a comprehensive programme of music, fine arts, photography, cinema, theatre, dance, literature, architecture, design, fashion, gastronomy...

Image: from the *Europalia.India Facebook* page - INDOMANIACS photo contest



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