



Manifesta 13 Marseille new artistic team announced for edition in 2020

Press Release — 1/5

Marseille
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Following the August 2018 appointment by Manifesta 13 of Dutch architect Winy Maas and urban practice MVRDV to conduct the pre-biennial research study for the city of Marseille, a new artistic team has been selected for Manifesta 13 Marseille in 2020 by Director of Manifesta, Hedwig Fijen.

Manifesta 13 Marseille will apply the same innovative approach introduced in Manifesta 12 Palermo, where an in-depth urban study preceded the appointment of 4 trans-disciplinary Creative Mediators who collaborated to genuinely integrate the biennial into the social, cultural, and political fabric of the city of Palermo. This model will now be continued for Manifesta 13 taking place in 2020 in Marseille with the intention to unlock the city and leave a tangible legacy as was accomplished in Palermo. This is the first time that Manifesta will hold a biennial edition in France. Acutely mirroring the current geo-political challenges both Europe and France are facing, and specifically Marseille as a city of many contradictions, this Mediterranean metropole provides an apt location to hold the European Nomadic Biennial in 2020.

Manifesta is announcing the artistic team of its 13th edition: Moroccan **Alya Sebti** is today the director of Berlin's ifa Gallery, has recently been the guest curator of the 13th Dak'Art, Biennial of Contemporary African Art (2018), and was Artistic Director of the 5th Marrakech Biennial; Spanish architect **Marina Otero Verzier** is the Director of Research and Development at Het Nieuwe Instituut in Rotterdam, The Netherlands; Moscow-based, Russian **Katerina Chuchalina**, is chief curator at the V-A-C Foundation in both Moscow and Venice; German **Stefan Kalmár** is currently the director of the ICA in London, formerly director of Artists Space New York City, and Kunstverein München, and former resident of Marseille having lived in the city for 12 years.

The appointed artistic team of Manifesta13 reflects this trans-disciplinary and intercultural approach and is the continuation of a model working with a team of both architects, urbanists, curators, and artistic producers covering the knowledge of the Mediterranean region at large as well as the wider spectrum of working in the specific geographical and social political context of Marseille.

manifesta°



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7 June — 1 November 2020

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Manifesta Director, Hedwig Fijen:

“In continuation of the thematic approach and model of Manifesta 12 in Palermo, we have looked for another southern Mediterranean, historically important central city allowing us to engage with the 21st century urgent global and local issues. This second city of France seems to always be positioned as the ‘outsider’ city characterized by many contradictions, since many citizens consider themselves first Marseillaise and second French.

Yet Marseille, with its great port city multiculturalism, and all its complexities and struggles, is for us maybe the ultimate test of how Marseille, France and Europe are facing the most important conflicts of our time. The appointed artistic team has our confidence to create a critical response to the current state of affairs in Europe and an artistic vision how we can look at global issues through the spectrum of Marseille.”

MVRDV, after having worked closely with students from the National Higher School of Architecture (ENSA), the National Higher School of Arts and Design of Marseille, and The Why Factory, a research institute for the future city, founded by Winy Maas in 2008 at TU Delft, will close its pre-biennial urban study in the beginning of 2019. An architectural intervention in public space of the city of Marseille will be presented in spring of the same year.

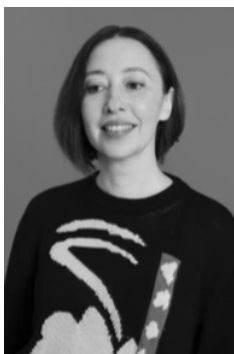
Manifesta 13 Marseille will take place between 7 June and 1 November 2020.



Alya Sebti has been directing the ifa Gallery Berlin (Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations) since 2016. In 2018 she was guest curator of the 13th Dak'Art, Biennial of Contemporary African Art and in 2014, she was the Artistic Director of the 5th Marrakech Biennial. She has curated several exhibitions including: invisible at Musée de l'IFAN in Dakar, Carrefour/Treffpunkt at the ifa Galleries, Casablanca, Energie Noire as part of Mons 2015 – European Capital of Culture, and Now Eat My Script at KW Institute for Contemporary Art Berlin (2014). She was a board member of the International Biennial Association (IBA). She has written and lectured extensively on art and the public sphere, about biennials and transcultural art practices at venues including: Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin; Thessaloniki Biennale (GR); University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin; International Academy of Salzburg (Austria); New York University, Berlin; Le Cube Art Centre, Rabat.



Marina Otero Verzier is a Spanish architect and the director of research at Het Nieuwe Instituut in Rotterdam. She leads research initiatives such as “Automated Landscapes,” focusing on the emerging architectures of automated labor, “Architecture of Appropriation,” on squatting as spatial practice, and recently curated the exhibition Steve Bannon: A Propaganda Retrospective by Jonas Staal (2018). Otero was the curator of “Work, Body, Leisure,” the Dutch Pavilion at the 16th Venice International Architecture Biennale in 2018. Previously, she was Chief Curator of the 2016 Oslo Architecture Triennale together with the After Belonging Agency, and director of Global Network Programming at Studio-X- Columbia University GSAPP (New York). She is a co-editor of Unmanned: Architecture and Security Series (2016), After Belonging: The Objects, Spaces, and Territories of the Ways We Stay In Transit (2016), and editor of Work, Body, Leisure (2018). Otero has authored several articles and publications, including critical texts for Palermo Atlas, the urban study's result of Manifesta 12 in Palermo. She teaches architecture at RCA in London.



Katerina Chuchalina has been a chief curator at the V-A-C Foundation (Moscow and Venice) since 2011. Chuchalina conceived and curated the long-term cycle of nomadic artistic interventions and public programs in Moscow non-art institutions (Museum of Armed Forces, the Museum of Modern History, Institute for African Studies, GULAG museum etc.). She curated a series of exhibitions investigating architecture-related issues by means of contemporary art, which have included the international group shows *IK-00. The Spaces of Confinement* (Venice, 2014), and *The Way of Enthusiasts* (Venice, 2014). Chuchalina co-curated a transhistorical group show *Space.Force.Construction* that revolved around Russian avant-garde and its resonance within contemporary artistic practices. She also conceived and co-curated *Expanding Space*, a public art program aimed at examining the status and modus operandi of artistic interventions into the Moscow urban environment. She is the co-founder and member of the Centre for Experimental Museology (CEM), which draws on the innovations of Soviet avant-garde museology and the history of experimental exhibition design, and focuses the museum as a medium, and political implications of cultural institutions.



Stefan Kalmár has been the director of the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London since 2017, where he has been widely credited with reasserting the ICA's radical and progressive founding spirit with exhibitions by Seth Price, Forensic Architecture, Julie Becker and Metahaven and by reintroducing theatre, performance and truly independent cinema to the programme. Prior to this, Kalmár was director of Artists Space, New York, between 2009 and 2016. Notable exhibitions staged during his directorship include *Danh Võ* (2010), *Charlotte Posenenske* (2010), *Bernadette Corporation* (2012), *Hito Steyerl* (2015) and *Cameron Rowland* (2016). In 2012 he launched *Artists Space Books & Talks*, a second venue dedicated to critical, discursive practice and dialogue. With exhibitions such as *Decolonize This Place*, or historic surveys on the work of Christopher D'Archangelo, Charlotte Posenenske or Tom of Finland *The Pleasure of Play*, Kalmár demonstrates a deep commitment to historical and contemporary artists working in their most radical forms, a curatorial work that results in often longstanding and deep relationships with artists, and audiences alike.

About Manifesta:

Manifesta, the European Nomadic Biennial, originated in the early 1990s in response to the political, economic, and social change following the end of the Cold War and the subsequent steps towards European integration. Manifesta has developed into a platform for dialogue between art and society by inviting the cultural and artistic community to produce new creative experiences with, and not for, the context in which it takes place. Manifesta rethinks the relations between culture and society investigating and catalysing positive social change in Europe through contemporary culture in a continuous dialogue with the social sphere of specific place.

Manifesta was founded, and is still directed, by Dutch art historian Hedwig Fijen. Each new edition is fundraised individually and managed by a permanent team of international specialists.

Manifesta 13 Marseille is a non-profit organisation initiated by the International Foundation of Manifesta and the City of Marseille. Manifesta 13 Marseille is supported by the City of Marseille, the French Ministry of Culture, la Préfecture des Bouches du Rhône and the Departmental Council of the Bouches-du-Rhône.

Dates of Manifesta 13 :

7 June – 1 November 2020

Previous Manifesta Host Cities

Manifesta 1, Rotterdam (Netherlands, 1996)
Manifesta 2, Luxembourg (Luxembourg, 1998)
Manifesta 3, Ljubljana (Slovenia, 2000)
Manifesta 4, Frankfurt (Germany, 2002)
Manifesta 5, Donostia-San Sebastián (Spain, 2004)
Manifesta 6, Nicosia (Cyprus, 2006 – cancelled)
Manifesta 7, Trentino-Alto Adige (Italy, 2008)
Manifesta 8, Murcia - Cartagena (Spain, 2010)
Manifesta 9, Genk-Limburg (Belgium, 2012)
Manifesta 10, St. Petersburg (Russia, 2014)
Manifesta 11, Zurich (Switzerland, 2016)
Manifesta 12, Palermo (Italy, 2018)

Next Manifesta Host Cities

Manifesta 13, Marseille (France, 2020)
Manifesta 14, Pristina (Kosovo, 2022)

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