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Immediate release

Marseille
28th of August 2020

Manifesta 13 marseille launches *Le Grand Puzzle* and opens its first exhibitions

Manifesta 13: From the pre biennial urban study *Le Grand Puzzle*, to the citizens' assemblies *Le Tour de Tous les Possibles* Manifesta 13 Marseille is more than just a series of exhibitions and has sought out collaborations with citizens across multiple disciplines to emphasise the potentials that exist in the local context. This is why the biennial commissioned an urban study of Marseille that is now presented as the publication *Le Grand Puzzle*, conceived by Rotterdam-based architectural studio MVRDV and The Why Factory. The research reveals Marseille's specificities, possibilities, dreams, necessities and complexities, resulting in a multi-narrated, mosaic-like grand puzzle. *Le Grand Puzzle* is a tool for citizens to rethink the potential of their city and illustrates different possibilities for new and more accessible urban landscapes.

Following on from this research, **Hedwig Fijen** and **Winy Maas** invited two local city makers, **Joke Quintens** and **Tarik Gezhali**, to use the leading themes of *Le Grand Puzzle* as a point of departure for the development of a deliberative process consisting of 22 citizens' workshops entitled *Le Tour de Tous les Possibles*, which brought together roughly 500 citizens from a variety of backgrounds to discuss societal, environmental and cultural issues directly derived from the narratives, data and analyses of *Le Grand Puzzle*. This pre-biennial format is meant to inspire Marseille's citizens to experience their city differently and hopes to contribute to a deeper understanding of the city's urban realities as well as its cultural, social and geo-political complexities. The workshops will be continued during the biennial period until November 2020.

1 Biennial, 3 Programmes

Manifesta 13 Marseille will welcome audiences and participants to its three programmes: the central programme *Traits d'union.s*; its education and mediation programme *Le Tiers Programme* and the collateral programme *Les Parallèles du Sud* from the 28th of August until the 29th of November 2020. The biennial will be constantly evolving throughout its entire duration. The story of Manifesta 13 Marseille is that of passages, or as the title of the central programme suggests, that of hyphens, between one world and the other: *Traits d'union.s*.

Traits d'union.s, the central programme

"Its beauty can't be photographed. It can only be shared. It's a place where you have to take sides, be passionately for or against. Only then can you see what there is to see. And you realise, too late, that you're in the middle of a tragedy.



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An ancient tragedy in which the hero is death. In Marseille, even to lose you have to know how to fight.” Jean-Claude Izzo.

By taking the ‘Condicio Marseillaise’ as its starting point, Manifesta 13 sets relationships into play between its local and international participants. Though Marseille’s conditions are truly special, they also relate to similar conditions elsewhere in the world. Consider the housing crisis, the ecological crisis, prevailing social inequalities or indeed the pandemic that connects us all.

At a time when social and political institutions are being tested and contested often from the different sides of the political spectrum, Manifesta 13 Marseille infuses existing institutions with different voices, temporarily expanding their narratives outwards and inwards, activating the possibilities that these institutions might still hold, leaving them more permeable, maybe more vulnerable and better equipped to speak to some of the challenges of our current predicament.

The Artistic Team (Katerina Chuchalina, Chief curator V-A-C Foundation in Moscow and Venice; Stefan Kalmár, Director ICA in London; Alya Sebti, Director of ifa Gallery, Berlin) of Manifesta 13 Marseille’s central exhibition *Traits d’union.s* works with 46 participants and created an exhibition devised into 6 plots: *The Home, The Refuge, The Almshouse, The Port, The Park* and *The School*. These plots will open successively from the 28th of August until 9th of October, after which they will be on view concurrently until the 29th of November 2020. The first plot opening on the 28th of August is *The Home, Rentals, Experiences, Places* at Musée Grobet-Labadié with works by **Black Quantum Futurism** (Collective, US), **Martine Derain** (1960, FR), **Lukas Duwenhögger** (1956, DE), **Jana Euler** (1982, DE), **Ken Okiishi** (1968, US), **Cameron Rowland** (1988, US), **Reena Spaulings** (Collectif, US), **Arseny Zhilyaev** (1984, RU), **Samia Henni** (1980, DZ/CH), **Noailles Debout** (Collective, FR).

Le Tiers Programme, the Education and mediation programme *Le Tiers Programme* has been constructed by Manifesta 13 Marseille’s Education and Mediation Department led by **Yana Klichuk** and **Joana Monbaron**. The programme is a set of interrelated research-based projects that have been born out of encounters with a variety of local actors, ranging from inhabitants to artists and that will delve into histories and present realities of the city.

On the 28th of August, *Le Tiers Programme* will open the sixth exhibition of “*Invisible Archives*” with historical B-Vice Sound Musical School and **Eva Doumbia** along with **Famoudou Don Moye**.

***Les Parallèles du Sud*, the collateral programme**

Analogue to *Le Tiers Programme* and *Traits d’union.s* is *Les Parallèles du Sud*, a programme in which local cultural institutions, galleries and artists are co-curating and co-producing projects with international partners. Visitors will be welcomed to over 80 projects of *Les Parallèles du Sud* in Marseille and across the Region Sud from the 28th of August to the 29th of November 2020. For this upcoming weekend 26 projects across Marseille will open their



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doors..

The Public Programme

The Public Programme of Manifesta 13 Marseille is inhabited by the Sonic, the Visual, the Poetic and the Political. It considers Marseille and the Mediterranean from multiversal perspectives as a place for the transfer of goods, people, knowledge and ideas in order to address the question: How to build future(s) and enable world-making on a more common and just basis?

The Public Programme of Manifesta 13 Marseille consists of three components: a film programme in collaboration with Videodrome 2, a sound programme together with Radio Grenouille and rencontres at Centre de la Vieille Charite and IMÉRA.

Guided Tours

The tours of Manifesta 13 in Marseille will offer a critical perspective on how cultural institutions function as sites of knowledge production and representational power. Our mediators will guide the visitors through the Manifesta 13 projects placed within museum collections, together deconstructing dominant storylines and searching for unrepresented narratives.

Manifesta 13 offers daily free Open Tours or Group Tours for 75,- euros. All groups have the maximum capacity of 12 participants due to the Covid 19 regulations.

www.manifesta13.org/tours

Manifesta 13 Marseille is a co-production between the Foundation Manifesta in Amsterdam and the City of Marseille and has been made possible thanks to the most generous support of multiple public partners, grants organisations and private supporters.

Editors Notes

App

Manifesta 13 Marseille is releasing a biennial app including participants, venues, projects and a map to find them all. It is available for free in both English and French in the App Store (for Apple users) and Google Play Store (for Android devices).



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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 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 a specific place.

Manifesta was founded, and is still directed, by 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, the Préfecture des Bouches du Rhône and the Departmental Council of the Bouches-du-Rhône.

Manifesta 13 Marseille
28 August – 29 November 2020

Next Manifesta Host Cities
Manifesta 14, Pristina (Kosovo, 2022)

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)

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