

CONFLUENCES: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DIVERSITY AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

Festival Pirineos Sur, Panticosa (Huesca, Spain), 23-25 July 2008

Introduction

In the context of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue, this event entitled *Confluences – International Conference on Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue* will be held in Panticosa (Huesca, Spain) on 23-25 July 2008. The conference will take place in the framework of the 17th Pirineos Sur International Festival of Cultures.

Confluences aims to combine the theoretical and practical dimensions of intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity. These contemporary topics shall be presented to a broad audience, with particular emphasis on young people and cultural professionals.

Specific objectives of the event include the aim to break stereotypes surrounding cultural diversity and interculturalism, to provide professionals in the cultural field and other relevant sectors with practical examples which can enhance intercultural skills and to present new creative works from Spain, Europe and other regions dealing with diversity and intercultural dialogue.

Confluences' programme includes a series of testimonials, project presentations and discussions concerning a broad range of dimensions of cultural diversity (ethnicity, gender, age, language, etc.) and the ability to develop creative dynamics which, through intercultural dialogue, can generate educational, social, cultural or economic advantage. Sessions have been classified under the following categories:

- ▶ **Testimonials:** individual presentations on the experience of diversity and the opportunities brought about by intercultural dialogue.
- ▶ **Presentations:** productions in several art forms which help to visualise cultural diversity and, particularly, the results of intercultural processes.
- ▶ **Discussions:** round table debates with several speakers and opportunities for contributions from the audience.

Overall, the programme will include contributions from Spain, Europe, the Mediterranean, Africa and Latin America. Well-known personalities as well as relevant small-scale initiatives which provide new perspectives on diversity and intercultural dialogue will be invited. Some musicians involved in the Pirineos Sur Festival will also intervene as speakers.

The working languages of the conference languages are Spanish, English and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided throughout the event.

Confluences has been designed by the Interarts Foundation. It is supported by the European Commission, the Spanish Ministry of Culture, the Regional Government of Aragon, the County Council of Huesca (Diputación) and the Panticosa Town Council.

Target audience

Confluences addresses particularly professionals in the arts and cultural management, who will be presented with reflections, cases and tools to enhance their regular work. A non-specialised general audience, particularly young people, festival attendees and other interested members of the public should also feel invited to take part. The combination of a range of formats and themes should enable everyone to find issues of interest in the context of the conference.

Topics

The main themes which inspire *Confluences* are as follows:

- ▶ Multidimensional perspective on cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue.
- ▶ The diversity of cultural expressions in everyday life and its image in the media.
- ▶ Key role of young people as agents in creativity and intercultural dialogue.
- ▶ New forms of creativity arising in the context of globalisation, through the use of new technologies and as a result of migration processes.
- ▶ Cultural participation as a form of social inclusion and as a human right.
- ▶ New skills relevant to this context, founded on creativity, diversity and international competences.

Programme

Wednesday 23 July

- 15.45 **Registration opens**
- 16.30 **Opening session and welcome**

Contributions by:

- **Spanish Ministry of Culture**
- **Regional Government of Aragon**
- **Diputación de Huesca (County Council)**
- **Panticosa Town Council**
- **Interarts**

- 17.00 **Testimonials: Intercultural Dialogue Is Everyone**

This session aims to provide inspiring visions on intercultural dialogue as something inescapable, which is part of everyday life and enriches us as individuals. It also hopes to present a plural image of what 'intercultural dialogue' means, beyond the perspectives based on ethnicity or religion only. Intercultural dialogue lies at the basis of all forms of collective life, it has been an inspiring force in European integration and, in times of globalisation, is simultaneously expressed at local, national and international

level. The session will include opening testimonials from the two guest speakers, followed by a dialogue moderated by the session chair.

Speakers:

- **Eduard Miralles**, Advisor, International Relations, Department of Culture, Barcelona County Council (Diputació de Barcelona)
- **Vladimir Simon**, Director, Consultancy Centre for European Cultural Programmes, Romania

Moderator: **Beatriz Navarro**, *La Vanguardia* correspondent, Brussels

18.30 **End of the day**

Thursday 24 July

10.00 **Discussion: Intercultural Dialogue in Everyday Life**

This session aims to analyse the diverse forms adopted by intercultural dialogue in everyday life, the changes it generates and its translation into mixed cultural identities. To this end, speakers with diverse life paths have been invited to discuss their personal experiences and perspectives.

Speakers:

- **Juan de Dios Ramírez-Heredia**, President of the Unión Romaní, Spain
- **Malick Mbaye**, Consultant in Communication and Public Relations for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Senegal
- **Carmen Blanco**, Galician writer

Moderator: **Jordi Baltà**, Interarts Foundation

11.30 **Break**

12.00 **Discussion: Intercultural Dialogue in Creative Works**

This session will focus on the diverse forms in which cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue lead to artistic creativity. In some cases, intercultural dialogue is made explicit in art works and their participants. On other occasions, dialogue is expressed in the way works are received and interpreted.

Speakers:

- **Begoña Puértolas**, presenting the project “La mirada del otro” / “Le regard du l'autre”, Huesca County Council
- **Tommi Laitio**, introducing StrangerFestival, European Cultural Foundation
- **Laïla Karrouch**, Catalan writer

Moderator: **Javier Brun**, Department of Education, Culture and Sport, Regional Government of Aragon

13.30 **Break**

15.00 **Project presentations**

A series of artistic works and projects which have found inspiration in intercultural dialogue will be presented in the afternoon of 24 and 25 July. Projects, mostly from the audiovisual sector, will be introduced shortly by the organisations which have carried them out or by a member of Confluences' organising committee.

Presentations of:

- *Guía de las Músicas del Magreb* (Guide of Musics from Maghreb), Asociación Cultural Fabricantes de Ideas
- *El artista emigrado*, film documentary by David Orejas (Paz Producciones)

17.30 **Testimonials: Intercultural Dialogue as Creative Wealth**

This session will explore the role which the knowledge of other cultures can play in creative processes. To this end, contributions will be made by two artists, presenting their own experiences first and engaging in a dialogue later.

Speakers:

- **Pepe Garamendy**, Argentinian actor, lives in Spain
- **Emanuela Baldi**, artist and project coordinator, Love Difference, Fondazione Pistoletto, Italy

Moderator: **Fanny Bouquerel**, artistic producer and general coordinator of Amuni, Paris / Palermo

19.00 **End of the day**

Friday 25 July

10.00 **Discussion: The Implications of Intercultural Dialogue for Institutions**

This session will explore how intercultural dialogue is approached by public authorities and governments, at different levels – from local and regional authorities to international institutions. How does the recognition of diversity and intercultural dialogue impact on policy design and implementation? How can these institutions contribute to the experience of intercultural dialogue within people at large?

Speakers:

- **José Luis González Vallvé**, Director, European Commission Representation in Spain
- **Fernando Gómez Riesco**, Deputy Director General, International Cultural Cooperation, Spanish Ministry of Culture
- **Speaker to be confirmed**

Moderator: **Mercedes Giovinazzo**, Director, Interarts Foundation

11.30 **Break**

12.00 **Discussion: Intercultural Dialogue in the Media**

This session will deal with the approaches to cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in the media, with a particular emphasis on journalism in the field of the arts and culture. What values are conveyed? What spaces can be found to highlight the human and social aspects of intercultural encounters, beyond market trends? The session will involve contributions by several journalists.

Speakers:

- **Antonio Parra**, Director, *Miradas 2*, cultural magazine on Spanish TV (TVE)
- **Lara López**, Director, Radio 3 (Spanish National Radio)
- **Fietta Jarque**, *Babelia*, cultural section of the *El País* newspaper
- **Chus Tudelilla**, *El Periódico de Aragón* (newspaper)

Moderator: **Rubén Caravaca**, La Fábrica de Ideas

13.30 **Break**

15.00 **Project presentations**

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Presentation of:

- *Princesa de África*, film by Juan Laguna

17.15 **Testimonials: Intercultural Dialogue and the Future**

This session will aim to think how intercultural dialogue will be experienced in the world of tomorrow. Beyond good wishes, the political, social and economic difficulties which

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hinder a balanced intercultural dialogue will be discussed, and proposals in this respect will be made.

Speakers:

- **Ray Lema**, Congolese musician
- **Juanjo Javierre**, Spanish musician

Moderator: **Luis Calvo**, Director, Festival Pirineos Sur

18.30 **Closing session**

Location

Centro Cultural La Fajuala
Panticosa (Huesca)
Spain

How to get there

Distances by car

Madrid: 493 Km. (via Zaragoza, Huesca, Sabiñánigo)
Barcelona: 370 Km. (via Lleida, Huesca, Sabiñánigo, Biescas)
Pamplona: 160 Km. (via Jaca, Sabiñánigo)
San Sebastián: 217 Km. (via Pamplona, Jaca, Sabiñánigo)
Zaragoza: 165 Km. (via Huesca, Sabiñánigo)
Valencia: 490 Km. (via Teruel, Zaragoza, Huesca, Sabiñánigo)
Pau (France): 80 Km. (via El Portalet)

Nearest airports:

Huesca: 85 Km.
Zaragoza: 165 Km.
Pamplona: 160 Km.
Pau (France): 96 Km.
Tarbes (France): 120 Km.

Nearest railway station

Sabiñánigo: 37 Km.

Access by coach

Coaches reach the area on a daily basis – check www.alosa.es

For further information on the Festival Pirineos Sur, visit www.pirineos-sur.es.

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Accommodation

A list of recommended accommodation places is available at the website of Interarts (www.interarts.net), as provided by the Tena Valley Tourist Association (www.valledetena.com/indexingles.htm).

Further information

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In the framework of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue



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