

## STQARRIJA GĦALL-ISTAMPA

VALLETTA, Malta, 17 ta' Jannar 2024

### **Il-President George Vella irrikonoxxa l-preparamenti li qed isefhu għal maltabiennale.art 2024**

B'inqas minn xahrejn sal-inawgurazzjoni tal-ewwel maltabiennale.art 2024, preparazzjonijiet għall-armor tal-padiljuni qegħdin fis-seħħ. L-artisti parteċipanti qed jirrankaw għall-avveniment u l-anticipazzjoni għall-avveniment tas-sena, tellgħet lil Malta fost l-ewwel 10 destinazzjonijiet kulturali Ewropej fl-2024, stennija li skont The Guardian, qed togħla fil-komunità kulturali internazzjonali.

Maltabiennale.art taqa' taħt il-patroċinju doppju tal-President ta' Malta, l-Eċċellenza Tiegħu Dr George Vella, u l-UNESCO. Iktar kmieni matul il-ġurnata, il-President żar MUŻA fejn ntlaga' mis-Sur Mario Cutajar, iċ-Chairman tal-Heritage Malta u l-President ta' maltabiennale.art u s-Sa Sofia Baldi Pighi, li tmexxi t-tim kuraturjali. Is-Sa Sofia Baldi Pighi għarrfet lill-President dwar ix-xogħol li qed isir bħalissa fuq siti varji, l-immanifatturar tad-dizinj u dwar l-artisti li bħalissa qed jaħdmu f'Malta.

Is-Sur Cutajar esprima s-sodisfazzjon tiegħu bil-mod kif ix-xogħol qed jimxi 'l quddiem. "Bħalissa qed nagħlqu t-tieni fażi tal-preparamenti ta' maltabiennale.art, li inkludew l-għażla tal-artisti-parteċipanti u l-padiljuni nazzjonali. Din kienet ħidma diffiċli meta wieħed iqis li rċevejna 'l fuq minn 2,500 proposta artistika minn iktar minn 100 pajjiż u 20 padiljun nazzjonali. Il-livell tal-interess li nħoloq stabilixxa lil maltabiennale.art bħala l-avveniment kulturali ewlieni tas-sena, kif ukoll poġġa lil Malta bħala destinazzjoni kulturali minn ta' quddiem għall-2024." Is-Sur Cutajar kompli jgħid li fi żmien xahrejn, Malta se tinbidel f'ċentru ta' innovazzjoni u kreattività, bi 80 artist internazzjonali jtella' spettaklu f'uħud mill-aktar siti storikament sinjifikanti fil-Mediterran. "Dan joħloq aspettativi diffiċli fuq Heritage Malta li, m'għandi l-ebda dubju, se tkun ta' suċċess f'din l-okkażjoni, kif dejjem tagħmel."

Il-padiljun prinċipali, padiljuni nazzjonali u padiljuni tematiċi li jiffurmaw maltabiennale.art, se jkunu mifruxin madwar 20 sit storiku f'Malta u Għawdex. Il-padiljuni nazzjonali se jkunu fil-Forti Sant Iermu, il-Belt Valletta (iċ-Ċina, Franza / il-Ġermanja, l-Awstrija, is-Serbja), Villa Portelli, il-Kalkara (Spanja, it-Turkija, L-Ukrajna, l-Italja, il-Polonja) u l-Mużew tal-Arti (MUŻA), il-Belt Valletta ( Malta).

Meta ġie ppreżentat b'ħarsa ġenerali lejn il-pjanijiet għal maltabiennale.art, il-President George Vella irrimarka dwar in-natura kollaborattiva ta' dan l-avveniment, "li mhux biss jiġbor flimkien artisti multidixxiplinarji kontemporanji minn madwar il-globu iżda jgħaqqad ukoll il-wirt storiku ta' Malta mal-arti kontemporanja, u għall-ewwel darba jibdel diversi siti ta' wirt ikoniku fi spazji ta' esibizzjoni, u jwassal l-arti lin-nies u mhux bil-kontra."

*maltabiennale.art* hija inizjattiva ta' Heritage Malta li qed issir permezz tal-MUŻA – il-Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Arti – fi sħab mal-Kunsill Malti għall-Arti. Il-biennale qed jittella' wkoll b'kooperazzjoni mal-Ministeru għall-Affarijiet Barranin u Ewropej u l-Kummerċ, il-Ministeru għall-Wirt Nazzjonali, l-Arti, u l-Gvern Lokali, il-Ministeru għal Għawdex, Visit Malta, Malta Libraries, l-MCAST, Festivals Malta, il-Valletta Cultural Agency, il-Malta School of Art, u l-AUM, bil-partecipazzjoni ta' ŻfinMalta, KorMalta, it-Teatru Manoel, l-Orkestra Filarmonika ta' Malta, Franco La Cecla, id-Dipartiment għall-Istudji Umanistiċi fi ħdan il-Fakultà tal-Arti u t-Turiżmu fl-Università IULM f'Milan, iċ-Ċentru għall-Istudji Postkolonjali u tal-Ġeneru fi ħdan il-Fakultà tal-Istudji Umanistiċi u x-Xjenzi Soċjali fl-Università L'Orientale ta' Napoli, il-Matri-archivio del Mediterraneo (MAM), id-Dipartiment ta' Taħt il-Baħar ta' Heritage Malta, id-Dipartiment Arkeoloġiku ta' Heritage Malta, u l-Mużew Marittimu ta' Heritage Malta.

*maltabiennale.art* huwa online:

Sit uffiċjali: [www.maltabiennale.art](http://www.maltabiennale.art)

Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn: @maltabiennale

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## PRESS RELEASE

VALLETTA, Malta, 17th January 2024

### **President George Vella marks preparations being made for maltabiennale.art 2024**

With less than two months to go until the inauguration of the first ever maltabiennale.art 2024, preparations for the setting up of the pavilions are well underway. Participating artists are gearing up and anticipation for the event of the year, which has propelled Malta to one of the top 10 cultural destinations in Europe for 2024 according to The Guardian, is rising within the international cultural community.

Maltabiennale.art is being held under the double patronage of the President of Malta, His Excellency Dr George Vella, and UNESCO. Earlier today the President visited MUŻA where he was received by Mr Mario Cutajar, Heritage Malta Chairman and maltabiennale.art President and Ms Sofia Baldi Pighi who leads the Curatorial Team. Ms Baldi Pighi briefed the President on the works which are currently underway in various sites, the manufacturing of the set designs and the artists who are currently working in Malta.

Mr Cutajar expressed his satisfaction with the way the work was progressing. "We are now wrapping up phase two of the maltabiennale.art preparations which included choosing the participating artists and the national pavilions. This was a daunting task given that we received over 2,500 artistic proposals from over 100 countries and 20 national pavilions. The level of interest that has been generated has established maltabiennale.art as the main cultural event of the year and has positioned Malta as a top cultural destination for 2024." In two months' time, Mr Cutajar went on to say, Malta will be turned into a centre of innovation and creativity, with 80 international artists performing in some of the most historically

significant sites in the Mediterranean. "This places a huge burden of expectation on Heritage Malta which, I have no doubt, will rise to the occasion as it always does."

The main pavilion, national pavilions and thematic pavilions making up maltabiennale.art will be spread across 20 historic sites in Malta and Gozo. The national pavilions will be located in Fort St Elmo, Valletta (China, France / Germany, Austria, Serbia), Villa Portelli, Kalkara (Spain, Turkey, Ukraine Italy, Poland) and the Museum of Fine Arts (MUŻA), Valletta (Malta).

On being presented with an overview of the plans for maltabiennale.art, President George Vella remarked on the truly collaborative nature of this event, "which not only brings together contemporary multidisciplinary artists from across the globe but also merges Malta's historical legacy with contemporary art, turning several iconic heritage sites into exhibition spaces for the first time and bringing art to the people and not the other way round."

*maltabiennale.art is a Heritage Malta initiative through MUŻA, the Malta National Community Art Museum, in partnership with Arts Council Malta. Maltabiennale.art is also presented in cooperation with the Ministries for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government, and Gozo, as well as with Visit Malta, Malta Libraries, MCAST, Festivals Malta, Valletta Cultural Agency and Spazju Kreattiv. With the participation of Malta School of Art, AUM, ŻfinMalta, KorMalta, Teatru Manoel, Malta Philharmonic Orchestra, Franco La Cecla, IULM University, Milan, Department of Humanities Studies, Faculty of Arts and Tourism, Underwater Department Heritage Malta, Archaeological Department Heritage Malta and Maritime Museum Heritage Malta.*

*maltabiennale.art is online:*

Official website: [www.maltabiennale.art](http://www.maltabiennale.art)

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