malta biennale .art 2024

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STQARRIJA GĦALL-ISTAMPA

VALLETTA, Malta, 28 ta' Frar 2024

Workshops iservu ta' preludju għat-temi tal-maltabiennale.art

Għalkemm għad fadal sat-12 ta' Marzu biex jingħata bidu b'mod uffiċjali għall-maltabiennale.art, dan l-avveniment kulturali tant mistenni diġà rranka sew permezz ta' sensiela ta' workshops u seminars li saru f'dawn l-aħħar ġimgħat. Dawn l-attivitajiet servew bħala preludju għall-avveniment ewlieni, billi laqqgħu lill-pubbliku u lill-artisti mat-temi tal-Biennale, li huma ispirati mill-arti kontemporanja biex joħolqu diskursati dwar l-imgħoddi u l-preżent li jisfidaw perspettivi eżistenti fil-Mediterran.

L-aktar attività riċenti minn dawn kienet workshop b'attendenza massima li sar fil-Park Arkeoloġiku ta' Ħaġar Qim u l-Imnajdra u li ngħata l-isem "Avventuri bl-Ilwien: Tined u Disinji". Taħt it-tmexxija tal-artista Pollakka Wioletta Kulewska Akyel, tfal li għalqu t-tmien snin osservaw il-pittura intriganti ta' Akyel, f'għamla ta' tinda, li tifforma parti mill-padiljun prinċipali tal-maltabiennale.art. Din il-biċċa xogħol, imżejna b'figuri femminili, kitba, u disinji elaborati, nibbtet taħditiet eċċitanti dwar xi tfisser, kif saret, u mnejn tnebbħet. It-tfal imbagħad middew idejhom biex joħolqu biċċa xogħol f'għamla ta' tinda huma wkoll, bl-użu ta' żebgħa tal-okra ħamra u gouache tempera fuq tila tal-qoton. B'dan il-mod, il-parteċipanti żgħar kellhom l-opportunità unika li mhux biss jaħsbu dwar l-arti u l-wirt storiku iżda wkoll jimirħu fl-arti b'mod prattiku.

L-arti ta' Akyel tittratta waħda mill-erba' temi ewlenin tal-maltabiennale.art: "Il-Matri-arkivju tal-Mediterran". Din it-tema, li se tkun ibbażata fil-Palazz tal-Gran Mastru u l-Biblijoteka Nazzjonali fil-Belt Valletta, tisfida n-normi patrijarkali tal-arkivjar billi tiċċelebra l-kontribut kreattiv ta' nisa Mediterranji u tipprovdi interpretazzjoni mġedda u vitali tan-narrattivi storiċi għall-ġenerazzjonijiet li ġejjin.

Tema oħra tal-Biennale hija "Bħall-Baħar, Aħna: Il-Mediterran bħala korp politiku". Din it-tema se tkun mistħarrġa fl-Armerija tal-Birgu, fil-Baċir Numru 1 f'Bormla, u f'Underground Valletta, u tixtarr is-sehem ewlieni tal-baħar fit-tiswir tal-identità Maltija filwaqt li tistieden lill-artisi biex jesploraw il-baħar bħala spazju li jgħaqqad realtajiet differenti minkejja l-konfini territorjali u kontinentali.

It-tema "Il-Kontropoter tal-Piraterija" se tkun żvelata fil-Forti Sant'Iermu, il-Belt Valletta, kif ukoll fiċ-Ċittadella, fiċ-Ċentru Kulturali ta' Għawdex u fis-Silos tal-

Qamħ f'Għawdex. Din it-tema tanalizza r-rabtiet storiċi ta' Malta mal-piraterija u tislet paraguni mal-qagħda kontemporanja biex turi l-piraterija bħala simbolu ta' kontropoter li jispira lill-attivisti, il-hackers u l-organizzazzjonijiet tal-lum.

"Niddekolonizzaw lil Malta: Polifonija Aħna" hija l-aħħar tema. Din tesplora l-istorja ta' Malta bħala kolonja permezz ta' xogħlijiet artistiċi esebiti fil-Main Guard, il-Knisja tal-Pilar, u l-Berġa ta' Aragona fil-Belt Valletta kif ukoll Baċir Nru 1 f' Bormla u l-Ġgantija ġewwa Għawdex. Hawnhekk ix-xogħlijiet se jħarsu fil-fond lejn il-proċess kurrenti ta' dekolonizzazzjoni billi jqisu lil Malta bħala każ uniku li joffri perspettiva siewja fid-dibattitu usa' dwar is-suġġett.

Bħalissa sebgħin artist lokali u internazzjonali, fosthom bosta magħrufin mad-dinja kollha, qed jagħmlu l-aħħar irtokki fl-installazzjonijiet tagħhom, li se jkunu għall-wiri f'20 sit storiku f'Malta u Għawdex. Biex ikunu ċċelebrati t-talenti, il-ħiliet artistiċi u l-viżjoni tagħhom, huma se jingħaqdu lkoll flimkien għall-ftuħ uffiċjali li se jsir mill-Eċċellenza Tiegħu George Vella, President ta' Malta, fis-Sala tat-Tron tal-Palazz tal-Gran Mastru, il-Belt Valletta, fit-12 ta' Marzu.

maltabiennale.art hija inizjattiva tal-Heritage Malta permezz ta' MUŻA, il-Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Arti, bi sħubija mal-Kunsill Malti tal-Arti. maltabiennale.art hija ppreżentata wkoll b'kollaborazzjoni mal-Ministeru tal-Affarijiet Barranin u Ewropej u l-Kummerċ, mal-Ministeru għall-Wirt Nazzjonali, l-Arti u l-Gvern Lokali, mal-Ministeru ta' Għawdex, kif ukoll ma' Visit Malta, Malta Libraries, MCAST, Festivals Malta, L-Aġenzija Kulturali għall-Belt Valletta u Spazju Kreattiv. L-inizjattiva tinkludi s-sehem tal-Iskola tal-Arti Viżiva u Performattiva f'Malta, AUM, ŻfinMalta, KorMalta, Teatru Manoel, L-Orkestra Filarmonika ta' Malta, Franco La Cecla, IULM University Milan, id-Dipartiment tal-Istudji Umanistiċi, il-Fakultà tal-Arti u Turiżmu, id-Dipartiment tal-Wirt Kulturali ta' Taħt il-Baħar ta' Heritage Malta, id-Dipartiment Arkeoloġiku ta' Heritage Malta u l-Mużew Marittimu ta' Heritage Malta.

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Email: info@maltabiennale.art

PRESS RELEASE

VALLETTA, Malta, 28th February 2024

A prelude to maltabiennale.art's themes through engaging workshops

maltabiennale.art's grand opening may be set for March 12, but this much-anticipated cultural event has already ignited across Malta through a series of engaging workshops and seminars which have been taking place over the past few weeks. These activities serve as a prelude to the main event, immersing the public and artists into the biennale's rich themes, which draw on contemporary art to catalyse conversations about the present and past, challenging perspectives within the Mediterranean.

The most recent of these events was a fully attended workshop at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Archaeological Park titled "Colour Adventures: Tent and Patterns." Led by Polish artist Wioletta Kulewska Akyel, children aged eight and above delved into Akyel's fascinating tent-like painting installation, which forms part of the main pavilion at maltabiennale.art. Adorned with stylised female figures, hand-painted texts, and intricate patterns, the piece inspired lively discussions about its meaning, inspiration, and process. The children then collaborated on crafting an artwork tent of their own using red ochre pigment and gouache tempera paint on cotton canvas, providing these young participants with a unique opportunity not only to reflect on art and heritage but to actively engage in their own artistic pursuits.

Akyel's artwork delves into one of the four main themes of maltabiennale.art: "The Matri-archive of the Mediterranean." Hosted at the Grand Master's Palace and National Library in Valletta, this theme challenges patriarchal archiving norms by celebrating the creative contributions of Mediterranean women and providing a vital reinterpretation of historical narratives for generations to come.

The biennale's three other main themes include "Can You Sea?: The Mediterranean as a political body." Held at the Armoury in Birgu, Dock-1 in Cospicua, and Underground Valletta, this theme highlights the sea's pivotal role in shaping Malta's identity and invites artists to explore the sea as a space that connects diverse realities across territorial constraints and continents.

"The Counterpower of Piracy" unfolds at St Elmo in Valletta, the Cittadella, Gozo Cultural Centre, and the Grain Silos in Gozo. This theme delves into Malta's

historical ties with piracy, drawing parallels to contemporary movements to portray piracy as a symbol of counterpower that inspires modern activists, hackers, and grassroots organisations.

The final theme, "Decolonising Malta: Polyphony Is Us," explores Malta's history of colonisation. Artworks showcased at the Main Guard, Tal-Pilar Church and Auberge d'Aragon in Valletta together with Dock No.1 in Cottonera and Ġgantija Archaeological Park in Gozo aim to highlight the ongoing process of decolonisation by positioning Malta as a unique case that offers a vital perspective for the broader decolonial discourse.

Seventy local and international artists, including many of global renown, are currently putting the final touches on their installations for exhibition across 20 heritage sites in Malta and Gozo. In celebration of their remarkable talent, artistry, and vision, all artists are welcomed to the grand opening, which will be inaugurated by His Excellency the President of Malta, Dr. George Vella, in the Throne Room of the Grandmaster's Palace in Valletta on March 12.

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:
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