malta biennale .art 2024

Under the Patronage of

His Excellency the President of Malta

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STQARRIJA GĦALL-ISTAMPA

VALLETTA, Malta, 2 ta' Frar 2024

Il-UNESCO tappoġġja l-maltabiennale.art waqt seminar speċjali għall-artisti u l-esperti

Bħalissa, f'Malta hawn numru sostanzjali ta' artisti li qed jirriċerkaw, iħejju, u jibnu x-xogħlijiet tal-arti tagħhom biex jieħdu sehem bihom fl-ewwel edizzjoni tal-maltabiennale.art, li se tiftaħ il-bibien tagħha għall-pubbliku fit-13 ta' Marzu 2024, u se tibqa' miftuħa sal-aħħar ta' Mejju ta' din is-sena. B'kollox se jkunu qed jieħdu sehem mat-80 artist minn 23 pajjiż differenti, u magħhom 20 padiljun nazzjonali u tematiku. Il-maltabiennale.art hu l-uniku biennale li se jittella' f'diversi siti storiċi. Il-UNESCO qed tqis dal-biennale bħala riflessjoni tal-missjoni li għandha din l-organizazzjoni tan-Nazzjonijiet Magħquda, li s-sena li għaddiet tat il-patroċinju tagħha lil dal-festival internazzjonali tal-arti kontemporanja.

Il-UNESCO, flimkien ma' Heritage Malta, għadhom kemm organizzaw seminar ta' ġurnata f'Malta għall-artisti li bħalissa jinsabu hawnhekk biex jaħdmu fuq ix-xogħlijiet artistiċi tagħhom. Fih ġew diskussi r-relazzjonijiet li għandu jkun hemm bejn dak li hu kontemporanju u s-siti storiċi li fihom se jkun qed jittella' l-maltabiennale.art 2024. B'kollox se jkun hemm mal-20 sit storiku ddedikat għall-maltabiennale.art 2024, li ħafna minnhom huma fost l-iktar siti popolari ta' Heritage Malta fil-pajjiż. Is-seminar li sar fil-Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Arti, il-MUŻA, ħa forma ta' workshop li matulu ġew diskussi l-interpretazzjonijiet varji biex jinftiehem aħjar u jiġi rrikonoxxut iktar il-patrimonju u r-rwol tal-arti kontemporanja fit-twessigħ tal-perspettivi. Fl-istess waqt, ingħataw modi innovattivi għal għarfien ikbar tal-patrimonju. Ġew diskussi wkoll l-aħjar metodi u mezzi kif bl-arti jiġi interpretat l-imgħoddi kolonjali ta' Malta, kif joħorġu iktar il-perspettivi kuratorjali u l-involviment tal-komunità, u r-relazzjoni ta' din tal-aħħar mal-patrimonju.

Bosta artisti ngħaqdu wkoll virtwalment ma' dawk preżenti f'das-seminar li sar ġewwa l-MUŻA, li fih kien hemm: kelliema esperti mill-UNESCO, permezz taċ-Ċentru Internazzjonali għall-Interpretazzjoni u l-Preżentazzjoni ta' Siti Patrimonjali; uffiċjali ta' Heritage Malta; u membri mit-tema kuratorjali tal-maltabiennale.art 2024. L-artisti fis-seminar iddiskutew ukoll ma' dawn l-esperti l-esperjenzi li qed isibu u jibnu fuqhom f'dal-biennale. Ix-xogħlijiet ta' dawn l-artisti qed jinbnew fl-MCAST u fil-Valletta Design Cluster, filwaqt li ħafna mir-riċerka qed issir fil-Biblijoteka Nazzjonali.

Fost il-kelliema esperti waqt is-seminar, kien hemm: Dr Sujeong Lee, il-Kap tal-Uffiċju tar-Riċerka fi ħdan il-UNESCO WHIPIC; is-Sinjura Haeree Shim, il-Kap tal-Uffiċju tal-Edukazzjoni u n-Networking fi ħdan il-UNESCO WHIPIC; Valentina Buzzi, kuratriċi u riċerkatriċi ta' Ph.D. fl-Istudji Kulturali, li koproduċiet is-seminar ukoll; Dr Kenneth Gambin, Maniġer tal-Operat Ewlieni fi ħdan Heritage Malta; u Emma Matteri, kuratriċi tal-maltabiennale.art. Sofia Baldi Pighi, id-Direttriċi Artistika tal-maltabiennale.art, immoderat il-panel u s-sessjonijiet ta' diskussjoni. Il-parteċipanti kellhom l-opportunità jitkellmu mal-esperti, u b'hekk setgħu japprezzaw iżjed l-interpretazzjoni tal-patrimonju.

Il-maltabiennale.art qed isir taħt il-patroċinju tal-Eċċellenza Tiegħu l-President ta' Malta u l-UNESCO. Dal-festival internazzjonali tal-arti kontemporanja qed isir f'pajjiżna għall-ewwel darba u qed jitqies bħala l-avveniment kulturali ewlieni għal dis-sena. *The Guardian*, u numru ta' ġurnali u rivisti oħrajn, ikkunsidraw lil Malta bħala destinazzjoni prinċipali għal waqt il-maltabiennale.art, u ssemma li diġà sabu post għal Malta fil-kalendarju kulturali dinji. Il-maltabiennale.art se jinawgurah l-Eċċellenza Tiegħu l-President ta' Malta, Dr George Vella, waqt ċerimonja li se ssir fis-Sala tat-Tron tal-Palazz tal-Gran Mastru nhar it-Tlieta 12 ta' Marzu 2024.

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-parteċipazzjoni 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' Napli, 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

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PRESS RELEASE

VALLETTA, Malta, 2nd February 2024

UNESCO endorses maltabiennale.art at special seminar for artists and experts

Malta is currently hosting a significant number of local and international artists who are researching, preparing, and building their works of art to take part in the first edition of maltabiennale.art, which will open to the public on 13 March until the end of May 2024.

In total, 80 artists from 23 different countries will be taking part across 20 national and thematic pavilions. As the only biennale to be staged across multiple heritage sites, UNESCO sees maltabiennale.art as embodying the mission of the United Nations and has officially endorsed this global contemporary art festival.

In the build-up to the festival, UNESCO in collaboration with Heritage Malta hosted a one-day seminar for the artists who are currently in Malta finalising their works. The focus of the seminar was to discuss the relationships that should exist between the contemporary and the historical, with a special focus on the 20 heritage sites in which maltabiennale.art will be staged, many of which are among the most popular heritage sites in the country.

The seminar held at MUŻA, the National Museum of Art, took the form of a workshop during which discussions were held to better understand and recognise the role of contemporary art to broaden perspectives and provide innovative ways to deepen our understanding of our heritage. Other topics discussed include the best methods and means of interpreting Malta's colonial past through art, how curatorial perspectives and community involvement can be given more prominence, and the relationship between community and heritage.

Many artists joined the seminar online, along with those physically present at MUŻA, to listen to expert speakers from UNESCO's International Centre for the Interpretation and Presentation of World Heritage Sites, officials from Heritage Malta, and members from the maltabiennale.art curatorial team. Artists in attendance also discussed their experiences and processes as part of this

biennale. The works of these artists are being built at MCAST and the Valletta Design Cluster, while much of the research is being done at the National Library.

Expert speakers at the event included: Dr Sujeong Lee, Head of Research Office at UNESCO WHIPIC; Ms Haeree Shim, Head of Education and Networking Office at UNESCO WHIPIC; Valentina Buzzi, curator and Ph.D. researcher in Cultural Studies, who also co-produced the seminar; Dr Kenneth Gambin, Chief Operations Manager at Heritage Malta; and Emma Mattei, maltabiennale.art curator. Sofia Baldi Pighi, Artistic Director of maltabiennale.art, moderated the panel and discussion sessions. Participants had the opportunity to engage with experts, gaining a deeper appreciation for heritage interpretation.

maltabiennale.art has the patronage of His Excellency the President of Malta and UNESCO. This international festival of contemporary art is being held for the first time in the country and is being considered as Malta's main cultural festival for this year. The Guardian and a number of other newspapers and magazines listed Malta as a top destination throughout the maltabiennale.art, placing Malta prominently on the world's cultural calendar. maltabiennale.art will be inaugurated by His Excellency the President of Malta Dr George Vella during a special ceremony that will take place in the Throne Room of the Grandmaster's Palace on Tuesday 12 March 2024.

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.

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