

# Looking back, looking ahead

2010 – 2014

European Festivals Association

meets EU Commissioner

Mrs Androulla Vassiliou

Following the tradition

launched in 2006

with EU Commissioner

Mr Jan Figel'



## European Festivals Association

Kleine Gentstraat 46, B-9051 Gent, Belgium

T: +32 9 241 8080 F: +32 9 241 8089

info@efa-aef.eu www.efa-aef.eu

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## 2014

### Arts festivals meet EU Commissioner for Culture Mrs Androulla Vassiliou 30 January 2014, BOZAR, Brussels

Continuing EFA's initiative to hold once per year a round table with the European Commission to discuss future strategies and policies and possible partnerships between festivals and the European Commission on the 30 January the 2014 Round Table takes place at the BOZAR.

This year will be the last round table with EU Commissioner for Culture Mrs Androulla Vassiliou – as her term finishes in 2014 after the European elections. We'll take this opportunity to make an assessment of the most important changes in the relation to the European Commission and its cultural policy in the past 5 years and think of the priorities in the agenda in the years to come on the EU level regarding festivals in Europe. This year's meeting will also be special because it will be the opportunity to launch the new programme set up by EFA and the European Commission upon a call of the European Parliament: **Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe (EFFE)**. With the overall aim of celebrating the achievements and important role of festivals in Europe and enriching the festival landscape and European society at large, EFFE will **celebrate** Europe's diverse festivals honouring the most innovative and influential arts and cultural festivals.

#### Agenda topics

- Europe for Festivals Festivals for Europe EFFE
- European Resolution on Culture, For Values, Democracy and Citizenship and the future commitment to Culture



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2013

**Arts Festivals meet EU Commissioner for Culture Mrs Androulla Vassiliou  
12 February 2013 European Commission, Berlaymont Building, Brussels**

The 2013 round table focused on festivals' contribution to the construction of a citizens' Europe: from their daily artistic practice to their impact on citizenship development as well as on other areas: economy, policy and democracy. The meeting concluded with a statement:

**Culture Combats Cuts**

**Statement of festival leaders and the European Festivals Association (EFA) on the budget agreement by the European Council on 8 February 2013**

18 festival leaders — **Airan Berg**, Mannheim 2020; **Jan Briers**, Federation Music Festivals Flanders; **Darko Brlek**, Festival Ljubljana, EFA President; **Constantin Chiriac**, Sibiu International Theatre Festival; **Hugo De Greef**, European House for Culture; **Kathrin Deventer**, EFA Secretary General; **Jelle Dierickx**, Potsdam Sanssouci Music Festival; **Paul Dujardin**, BOZAR; **Bernard Focroulle**, Festival d'Aix-en-Provence; **Guy Gypens**, Kaaitheater; **Andrzej Kosendiak**, International Festival Wroclaw Cantans; **Massimo Merelli**, Emilia Romagna Festival; **Jonathan Mills**, Edinburgh International Festival; **Piñeiro Nagy**, Estoril Festival/Estoril Music Weeks; **Thomas Oberender**, Berliner Festspiele; **Virginie Puff**, Festival d'Automne à Paris; **Bosko Radojkovic**, Belgrade Music Festival; **Hanna Styrnisdóttir**, Reykjavik Arts Festival; **Biljana Zdravkovic**, Serbian Festivals Association — call upon the Members of the European Parliament, the European Council and the European Commission to **maintain the EU budget 2014-2020 for culture** under the heading 'citizenship and security' at the level proposed by the European Commission.

The proposed EU spending on culture in the Creative Europe programme is a modest € 1.8 billion for the period 2014-2020. The investment into citizenship, culture, youth and education should not be lowered from the Commission's already modest proposal. **Every cut in culture would mean cutting the advantages that culture creates for European citizenship, and undermining the potential of culture to contribute to growth, jobs opportunities and social inclusion.** Festival leaders and the European Festivals Association further call upon:

- the European Commission to continue the efforts of the European Agenda for Culture, taking the cultural dimension into account in all policy areas, as established by Article 167.4 of the Lisbon Treaty, and making this tangible in programmes and in the budget, in particular in areas such as the cohesion policy, external affairs and citizenship;
- the Member States to take the cultural component into consideration in all policy areas following the EU approach;
- the cultural sector, the Member States, the European Commission and the European Parliament to work towards a European Resolution for Culture that introduces, among others, a minimum investment of the GNP in culture in all Member States.
- the European Parliament parties to include a tangible commitment, programme proposals and priorities on culture and its role in the shaping of the future Europe in their electorate campaigns and parties' platforms.

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**Agenda topics**

• **Values / narrative**

Question of Values as the new narrative and new vocabulary are intrinsically linked to the values Europe stands for: solidarity, tolerance, respect for each other, freedom of speech, and many others.

Introduced need to find a way on a law level, a legal act, so that politicians can't just speak about the value of culture and then ignore it when it comes down to policies and budgets. We should engage in a process to involve Member States in a shared attitude towards culture so that in 5 years time, we do not testify to such dramatic hindrance to the common values as lack of freedom of press or budget cuts for instance:

• **Values / policy impact**

Towards the elections in 2014, we need to provoke a new kind of interest of politicians for Europe as a cultural space: A European Resolution on Culture was introduced.

The meeting proposed that the European parties, during their electorate campaign towards 2014, include culture in their programmes so that it would become a normal part of their discourse when they address their electorate – this would force also the media to communicate it differently: festivals would then act on these inclusions and invite members of the parliament into public discourses on the contents written down.

The positioning of culture and European Culture in a globalised world is crucial. We should increase fast the contacts to other parts of the world, including North Africa, the Middle East, even South Europe for we tend to grow and develop our contacts to the North of Europe

• **Data collection and communication**

We need to be a lot smarter & more aggressive in communicating the specific benefits & values culture provides to European citizens.



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2012

**Arts Festivals meet EU Commissioner for Culture Mrs Androulla Vassiliou  
26 January 2012, European Commission, Berlaymont Building, Brussels**

Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou welcomed EFA and its contribution to the attainment of EC's aims on intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity reminding that in these times of austerity, the EC needs to put forward wise arguments to keep culture on the agenda, and in the budget.

Since 2007, with the introduction of the European Agenda for Culture, the EC has offered the sector the possibility to make its voice heard at the policy setting level.

One of EFA's actions to support the financial basis of the new Creative Europe Programme is to distribute a letter, co-signed by the European Parliament (in the person of Doris Pack chair of the Culture Committee) and EFA, to address Ministers of Culture, Finance, Economy and External Relations calling for their support of the EC's proposed budget.

In particular regarding the question how the potential of festivals towards Europe can be harnessed more efficiently in respect to their contact with audiences and national policy makers, a proposal **Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe** was handed over to Commissioner Vassilou.

As stated by EFA's President Darko Brlek, EFA considers it important to offer festivals' power in shaping European citizenship - the basis of a democratic process.

**Agenda Topics**

- EFA's proposal to set up a new programme: **Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe**. This programme reflects the needs of Europe to reach the goals defined in **Europe's 2020 Agenda** on the one hand, and the core mission, values and objectives the European Festivals Association stands for on the other. Along this concrete proposal, key topics discussed during the meeting will include the concept of **'Creativity'**, of **'Citizenship-Audiences Building'**, **'Culture and Economy'**, **'Training and peer-to-peer learning'** as well as **'Festivals in Europe and the world'**.

- The role of the **European Commission in reference to the national level and local level:** where can we improve synergies and agreements on shared responsibility for Europe (political and financial) in the building of an Europe of Europeans;

- The concept of EU values included in the EFA Label as 'measuring' basis of the non-for-profit sector - and the term "creativity" as used in the **Creative Europe Programme:** as the definition the non-for-profit sector and actors (festivals) would like to see it implemented (statement by Ars Electronica Festival): **the cultural dimension versus the industries**

- The concept of **'Audiences building'** and festivals' role: Jonathan Mills (Edinburgh Festival, born and raised in Australia) definition of a festival in a place in a city: "Senses are placed, places are sensed": how do festivals' artistic work contribute to identity building, Union citizenship and why the cultural component is important: the 'European' identity based on a citizens Europe (in view of 2013 European Year of Citizens).

- The **relation EU – outside EU – culture in external/neighbourhood policy:** what could be the possibilities of the festivals' policy development by the European Commission in other policy areas, in particular referring to external affairs and the importance to take culture into consideration in this context? Could the label be part of other programmes of DG neighbourhood policies (examples of the Belgrade festival) or as a best practice also for the rest of the world: Arab countries (taken up by the Arab league: Beitaddine Festival)

- Suggestions on how EC action could be extremely beneficial to the Culture sector without implying more resources but by rationalising the efficiency of the existing ones:

- Need for a strong lobby for contemporary artistic creation to be included in the structural funds;
- Creation of a sponsorship/patronage law at an European level;
- Potential for development if the EC could stimulate the Ministers of Tourism and Culture to engage in a joint culture & tourism programme using the funds that exist already for tourism
- Exchanges with Commissioner Stefan Füle for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy underlined the cross-sectorial need of collaboration.



2010

## Arts Festivals meet EU Commissioner for Culture Mrs Androulla Vassiliou 20 October 2010, European House for Culture, Flagey, Brussels

Representatives agreed on the vital role of international arts festivals in the European integration process. Festivals contribute to the development of a Europe for citizens, connect cities and regions closer to the European project and are windows to the world beyond EU borders.

**Commissioner Vassiliou** called upon festivals to “keep Europe’s cultural diversity alive by helping artists circulate around Europe, to keep up festivals positive impact on jobs and the local and regional economy, to reach out into communities and to communicate Europe’s diversity and Europe’s values to our young people.” Strengthening the Commissioner’s strategy to position culture at the heart of all policy areas, in particular when the next generation of EU policies and the budget (2014-2020) are being discussed, is key for the next two years.

This first round table underlined the Commission’s readiness to consult the sector and to connect to the international artistic practice.

### Agenda Topics

#### • Agenda for Culture

The importance of festivals within the European integration context.

What is their impact in cultural but also in political and social terms in the framework of the ‘European project? To what extent can the argument be made that international festivals are making a contribution to an emerging European citizenship and to participation of citizens in the European project, through their core artistic mission, and through outreach and educational activities?

What in particular is the role and active involvement of festivals within the context of the European Agenda for Culture and Europe’s 2020 agenda (including the Millennium goal of the fight against poverty and social exclusion), and the role of networks such as EFA? How can festivals contribute within the frame of e.g. the next Culture Programme (including festivals’ great ability of being carriers of the idea that ‘Europe is also and first of all a cultural project’, of creation, co-production, mobility of artists, managers...) – or as powerful players in cities and regions (e.g. territorial development, social cohesion, external affairs...?)

#### • Audience Development and Citizenship

What are the tangible ways, methods and tools that festivals - as a unique cultural formula - have at their disposal to generate a sense of responsibility among citizens living in Europe: artists, audiences, politicians, business... young and old, privileged, excluded ...

#### • Culture and Regional Development and Culture in external affairs

# COMMITMENT



## The European Festivals Association: Together for a Cultural Europe

*Europe has a future if it chooses to be a cultural Europe! In this declaration, arts festivals commit themselves to combining their collective forces and striving to further develop a cultural Europe based on creativity, participation and civic commitment.*

Every year, thousands of artists perform on festival stages around Europe, presenting arts to a broad audience.

Millions of citizens from all sections of society attend festivals in different cities, regions and countries, come into contact with different arts and cultures and learn about different traditions and history.

Festivals promote the most distinguished artists and ensembles, but they also highlight new talents and unusual productions. Their immediate impact is the creation of new values in the artistic, cultural, educational and social spheres.

Festivals contribute to social inclusion and livening up a city’s life. They support citizen pride and well-being, the sharing of values, ownership, social responsibilities and citizenship. In short: they offer a genuine added value for all people from all walks of life.

Thus, festivals are invaluable platforms for promoting artistic excellence, cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue, and for offering a window on the world.

#### The European Festivals Association: Together for a Cultural Europe

The European Festivals Association is always attentive to opportunities that foster collaborations. The network stimulates an intense exchange of practices among its members but it also spreads these good practices to everybody who may find them useful.

In particular since its move to Belgium in 2004, EFA has extended its activities to the needs of the sector in general. In this collaborative spirit, EFA has devised flagship projects: the **Arts Festivals’ Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue** (January 2008), the **FestLab for Creativity and Innovation** (March 2009), the **EFA Books Series** (launched in December 2006, the 4th volume was published in May 2009), the **European Atelier for Young Festival Managers** (in 2006 and 2009) and the **European House for Culture** (in September 2008)

They show the significant commitment of festivals towards a cultural Europe.

#### Continued commitment: EFA in the next 5 years

EFA and its members, in view of EFA’s 60th anniversary in 2012, confirm to the upcoming European Commission and to the next European Commissioner in charge of culture to support the development of the vital, dynamic, innovative cultural sector that is essential to the construction of a Europe based on diversity, participation, curiosity and knowledge of our invaluable artistic and cultural potential and heritage.

- Through its support of the **work of hundreds of arts festivals**, EFA and national festivals associations and networks play an active role in the promotion of artistic excellence and access to arts and culture: EFA members come from 40 countries, and their work encompasses music, dance, theatre and a multitude of other disciplines; they take place in small towns and remote villages, in urban hubs and entire regions. In their growing diversity they are united in their work for a cultural Europe;
- Through its training programme, the **European Atelier for Young Festival Managers**, EFA supports life-long learning at an international level and contributes to professional networking and the continued support to artists: under the motto “Car le vrai rôle d’un festival est d’aider les artistes à oser, à entreprendre des projets” young managers from all over the world are offered new ways of developing arts festivals in which the artist and his work are central;
- Through fostering the role of festivals as platforms for dialogue, EFA invites festivals to open its doors and offer time and space for public reflection by artists, cultural actors, politicians, business representatives, academics, journalists..... – communicated broadly in the framework of festivals;
- Through the **FestLab for Creativity and Innovation**, EFA contributes to the excellence and originality of festivals and supports **artistic creation and creativity** offering a platform for artistic directors to exchange on an international level and enter into co-productions;
- As part of the FestLab, the **European Festivals Association Award** is further developed into an Artists Prize at European level that aims to promote and support artistic excellence and give it an international operation and visibility through European festivals;
- Through the growing **EFA BOOKS series**, EFA promotes the sharing of knowledge and the stimulation of thought on a cultural Europe: also the next editions of the EFA BOOKS will focus on the role of the arts, arts festivals and civil society in the process of creating Europe of Europeans, from in-depth historical reflections to anecdotal experiences and very personal testimonies on Europe’s integration, its opportunities, its intensified exchanges and its historical landmarks;
- Through its growing contacts with festivals and cultural actors **outside Europe**, EFA aims to further the mutual inspiration and internationalisation of festivals’ work: growing partnerships with festivals in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, the Mediterranean area, Euroasia and the American continent will lead to strengthened networking, understanding and mutual inspiration;
- Initiated by EFA, the **European House for Culture**, in 5 years time, aims to be a House that will encourage meetings between all who believe that culture and art have a fundamental role to play in society – a place where the voice of the cultural sector is given a physical manifestation in the conviction that a cultural Europe can only be built through strong alliances between the players in the sector on the one hand and an intense dialogue with the European and other regional/national public institutions on the other.

Wishing the new European Commissioner a successful, dynamic and significant mandate with powerful regulations and innovative policies, EFA is offering its network capacities to contribute to the improvement of communication channels between cultural institutions and public authorities, educational institutions and the creative

industries. Therefore, EFA encourages all parties to fully exploit the opportunity offered by festivals and the European House for Culture to engage in the debate.



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## 2009

2009 was the European Year of Creativity and Innovation and in this frame Commissioner Jan Figel' joined EFA in two events EFA organized in this framework and supported the FestLab initiative.

### **Festivals as Laboratories of Creativity and Promoters of Innovation**

#### **Launch of The Festlab For Creativity and Innovation**

**27 March 2009, Prague**

Initiated at the occasion of the European Year of Creativity and Innovation, European Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Youth, Ján Figel', assigned 25 major European festivals from 15 different European countries with the FestLabPass: a Pass that **commits festivals to act as laboratories of creativity and promoters of innovation**. "The FestLab is established to demonstrate the important role that culture, arts, artists and festivals play in creating a fruitful ground for the development of innovative and creative talents," stresses EFA Secretary General Kathrin Deventer. "Nurturing creativity in people through the arts – and in particular in the festive environment of an arts festival – is almost self-referential evidence. Policies will need to follow evidence!"

Conceived as a laboratory, the FestLab **spotlights the many diverse creative approaches of festivals** and their multiple potential for innovating our societies – be it through the support of young artists, be it through educational activities, be it through the use of unusual venues, be it through cross-sectoral partnerships, be it through a striking piece of art. On 27 March, festivals from Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain are the first to commit to the objectives of the FestLab and bring its message to life.

The launching moment was organised in the framework of the Czech EU Presidency event „Forum for Creative Europe“, in partnership with the Czech Ministry of Culture and in collaboration with the Czech Association of Music Festivals, Prague Spring International Music Festival, Brno International Music Festival, Janáček May International Music Festival and Concentus Moraviae Festival.

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### **Festivals for a Cultural Europe**

#### **Meeting Between Ján Figel', EU Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Youth and European Festival Directors**

**In the Framework of the Opening of the Brucknerfest and Linz, European Capital of Culture 2009**

**13 September 2009, Brucknerhaus, Linz**

During a meeting on 13 September 2009, the European Festivals Association (EFA) delivered a commitment declaration to Mr Ján Figel', European Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Youth. Festival directors from all over Europe committed to their



continued engagement for a cultural Europe also during the next European Commission term. The meeting took place at the occasion of Linz – European Capital of Culture 2009 and the opening of the Brucknerfest Linz 2009.

"EFA today thanks Mr Figel' for his steady and strong support! We underline at the same time festivals' readiness to provide open and international platforms for artists to create and for audiences to access culture also in the next five years and beyond," underlines EFA President Darko Brlek.

A Declaration of Commitment to confirm festivals' engagement for a cultural Europe also in the future is signed by all present festivals and cultural representatives.

"Ambitious objectives need strong and sustainable part-

nerships! EFA and its members are signalling to the future EU Culture Commissioner to continue to stand up strongly for culture and recognise the role of arts, artists and arts festivals in the European integration process," stresses EFA Secretary General Kathrin Deventer. With the aim to establish a sustainable cultural infrastructure and to leave a lasting impact on the city's long-term cultural, economic and social development, Martin Heller, Artistic Director Linz – European Capital of Culture 2009 ([www.linz09.at](http://www.linz09.at)), echoes this view.

20 directors from major European festivals and cultural organisations participated in the gathering, among them: Brno International Music Festival, Concentus Moraviae Festival, ECPNM, Estoril Music Weeks, European Composers' Forum, Reykjavik Arts Festival, Festival De Musica De Canarias, Festival Internacional de Música y Danza de Granada, Festival Mitte Europa, Brucknerhaus Linz, Ars Electronica Festival Linz, Festspiele Europäische Wochen Passau, Innsbruck Festival of Early Music, Ljubljana Festival, Norway Festivals, Rheingau Musik Festival, Schleswig Hollstein Musik Festival and Settimane Musicali al Teatro Olimpico (Vicenza).

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## 2008

In the beginning of 2008 the European Festivals Association, in conjunction with hundreds of signing parties, committed to the promotion of intercultural dialogue with the Arts Festivals' Declaration of Intercultural Dialogue the flagship project of the European Festivals Association in the framework of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue. The Declaration has traveled the world monitoring the immense efforts festivals make to fulfill their commitment.

EFA and festival directors had two moments in the frame of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue.

### **Signing of the Arts Festivals' Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue 8 January 2008, Ljubljana, Slovenia**

Followed by Tallinn, Estonia on 2 February 2008 | Oslo, Norway on 3 March 2008 | Antalya, Turkey on 25 April 2008 | Brezice, Slovenia on 4 July | Ghent, Belgium on 15 September 2008 | Liverpool, Great Britain on 23 October 2008 | Stockholm, Sweden on 15 November 2008 | Ubeda, Spain on 28 January 2009

The Arts Festivals' Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue has been signed by major European arts and culture festivals in Ljubljana on 8 January 2008. 25 festivals and officials from 17 European countries signed the Ljubljana Declaration and committed to its objectives and obligations.

300 delegates, officials, press and representatives of civil society were invited to assist the launching event at the Ljubljana Castle. Thanks to a fruitful cooperation between the European Festivals Association, the Ljubljana Festival, the City of Ljubljana, the Cultural Ministry and the European Commission, the ceremony offered a valuable platform for the launch of the festivals' activities throughout 2008.

From Ljubljana, the Declaration traveled to hundreds of arts festivals across Europe and beyond!



Ján Figel', European Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Youth was one of the initial signatory parties in Ljubljana. He applauds the Declaration agreeing with the statement that "European arts festivals initiated a vital process of circulating and giving visibility to the different cultural streams of European arts and cultures thus representing a huge step toward the development of intercultural competences."

### **Arts Festivals' Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue 17 November 2008, Paris**

On 17 November 2008 in Paris, the European Festivals Association (EFA) had the opportunity to share the achievements of its project with 600 conference participants from across Europe and beyond. EFA stressed its gratefulness for the support of European Commissioner Ján Figel' who, in return, awarded the Association and 20 major European festivals for their efforts throughout the year. "I think the nature of the piece of art underscores perfectly the partnership and the long-term commitment to intercultural dialogue of us all," said Ján Figel' during the ceremony. "It is a great pleasure for me to share this award, in the knowledge that it will travel to all parts of Europe, just as we wish the spirit of intercultural dialogue to spread its warmth to every corner of our common home." The event took place in the framework of the conference "New Perspectives of Intercultural Dialogue in Europe" - the official closing event for the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue organised by the French EU Presidency and the European Commission. The conference aimed to look to the future of Europe from the point of view of cultural diversity. Looking ahead, EFA added an Epilogue to its Declaration and thus once again underlined the strength of arts and culture and in particular festivals to enhance dialogue between cultures. Festivals from Avignon, Berlin, Brno, Edinburgh, Emilia Romagna, l'Epau, Estoril, France Festivals, Granada, Ljubljana, Reykjavik, Rheingau, Santander, Sarajevo, Festivals in Transition, Trondheim, Varna, Vilnius and Flanders confirmed their engagement for "peaceful and free exchange among people and the respect for cultural diversity also beyond 2008" (abstract from the Epilogue to the Declaration). Also Ján Figel' shared his future vision with the festivals present: "Our partnership has gone from strength to strength; and the new Cultural Agenda for Europe, and the European Year for Innovation and Creativity, will multiply our opportunities for working together." The Arts Festivals' Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue is one of hundreds of activities and projects that were highlighted, promoted and shared with the wide public in the course of year. All aimed to raise awareness of the importance and benefits of intercultural dialogue.



2007

**European Commissioner Mr Ján Figel' meets European Festivals  
6 December 2007, Berlaymont Building, Brussels**

On 6 December, European Commissioner Ján Figel' met major European festivals for an intense face-to-face consultation centered around the involvement and engagement of European arts festivals in the framework of the **European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008**.

The meeting was facilitated and organised by the European Festivals Association and aimed to round up the preparatory activities in the run up towards 2008 – European Year of Intercultural Dialogue and prepare initiatives of the European Festivals Association for the year itself.

**Agenda topics**

- Arts Festivals' Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue

2006

**European Commissioner Ján Figel' meets European Festivals  
3 May 2006, Berlaymont Building, European Commission, Brussels**

On 3 May, a group of festivals had the unique opportunity to meet Mr Jan Figel', European Commissioner for Culture, in Brussels.

During the two-hour lasting conversation, Figel' underlined his concern for the festival sector and expressed great interest in entering a closer dialogue with EFA, in particular with regard to the year 2008, Year of intercultural dialogue.

**Agenda Topics**

- What is the importance of festivals within the European integration context? What is their impact in cultural but also in political and social terms in the framework of the 'European project'? To what extent can the argument be made that international festivals are making a contribution to an emerging European citizenship? As festivals are ideal carriers of the idea that 'Europe is also and by all means a cultural project', concepts have to be developed how festivals can expose this quality in a more visible way.
- What are tangible ways, methods and tools which festivals - as a unique cultural formula - have at their disposal to generate a sense of 'European-ness' among the European citizens. What in particular is the role and active involvement of festivals within the context of "2008 - Year of intercultural dialogue" as proposed by the European Commission? How can festivals contribute to the visibility of the year? How can they be involved on the level of their programming in this thematic year? What are concrete tools they might implement to communicate their intercultural competence to the audiences?



# Festivals participating in the round tables 2006-2014

Ars Electronica, Martin Honzik  
BBC Proms, Helen Heslop  
BBC Proms, Nicholas Kenyon  
Beethoven Festival, Elzbieta Penderecka  
Beiteddine Festival, Nora Joumlatt  
Belgrade Music Festival, Sreten Krstic  
BEMUS - Belgrade Music Festival, Bosko Radojkovic  
BEMUS - Belgrade Music Festival & No Borders Orchestra, Biljana Zdravkovic  
Bergen International Festival, Anders Beyer  
Bergen International Festival, Per Boye Hansen  
Berliner Festspiele, Henrik Adler  
Berliner Festspiele, Joachim Sartorius  
Berliner Festspiele, Thomas Oberender  
Bozar Festival, Paul Dujardin  
Bratislava Music Festival, Izabella Pazitkova  
Brighton Dome | Brighton Festival, Andrew Comben  
Brno International Music Festival, Zdenka Kachlova  
Brucknerhaus Linz, Wolfgang Winkler  
Concentus Moraviae Festival, David Dittrich  
Culturescapes, Juriaan Cooman  
Czech Association of Music Festivals, Jaromir Javurek  
Dubrovnik Festival, Ivica Prlender  
Edinburgh International Festival, Joanna Baker  
Edinburgh International Festival, Jonathan Mills  
Emilia Romagna Festival, EFA Vice-President, Massimo Mercelli  
Estoril Festival / Estoril Music Weeks, Maria José Ricardo  
Estoril Festival / Estoril Music Weeks, Piñeiro Nagy  
European Composers' Forum, Klaus Ager  
European Conference of Promoters of New Music, Helmut Erdmann  
European Festivals Association, Kathrin Deventer  
European House for Culture, Flagey Center Brussels, Festival of Philosophy,  
former EFA secretary General, Hugo De Greef  
Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, Bernard Focroulle  
Festival d'Automne à Paris, Marie Collin  
Festival d'Automne à Paris, Virginie Puff  
Festival d'Avignon, Hortense Archambault  
Festival d'Avignon, Philippe Le Moine  
Festival d'Avignon, Vincent Baudriller  
Festival de Barcelona Grec, Ricardo Szwarczer  
Festival de l'Epau, Hervé de Colombel  
Festival De Musica De Canarias, Candelaria Rodriguez-Afonso  
Festival de Wallonie, Baudoin Muylle  
Festival Filosofia Modena, Michenila Borsari  
Festival Filosofia Modena, Roberto Franchini  
Festival Internacional de Música y Danza de Granada, Enrique Gaméz  
Festival Ljubljana and EFA President, Darko Brlek  
Festival Mitte Europa, Ivana Thomaschke  
Festival Mitte Europa, Philipp Thomaschke  
Festival Mitte Europa, Thomas Thomaschke  
Festival van Vlaanderen Brussels – Klarafestival, Hendrik Storme  
Festivals in Transition, Rose Fenton  
Festspiele Europäische Wochen Passau, Pierre Soldatenko  
Flanders Festival International / Gent, Jan Briers  
Flanders Festival International / Gent, Serge Platel  
France Festivals, Philippe Toussaint  
Hellenic Festival Athens, Yorgos Loukos  
Helsinki Festival, Eric Söderblom  
Helsinki Festival, Risto Nieminen  
Innsbruck Festival of Early Music, Sarah Wilson  
International Festival Sarajevo "Sarajevo Winter", Ibrahim Spahic  
International Festival Wratistavia Cantans, Andrzej Kosendiak  
International Festival Wratistavia Cantans - National Forum of Music, Piotr Turkiewicz  
International Festival Wratistavia Cantans, Natalia Klingbalj  
International Gaudeamus Music Week Amsterdam, Henk Heuvelmans  
International Istanbul Music Festival, Yesim Güner Oymak  
Israel Festival Jerusalem, Yosi Tal-Gan  
Kaaithater, Guy Gypens  
Croatian Composers Society, Tomislav aban  
Lecce 2019 & Manheim 2020, Airan Berg  
Les Amis de Brosella, Hélène Vandenberghe  
Linz European Capital of Culture, Martin Heller  
Lyon Biennials and Théâtre de la Ville in Paris, Former Director Festival d'Avignon,  
Bernard Faivre d'Arcier  
Music Biennale Zagreb, Ivo Josipovic  
Music Biennale Zagreb, Berislav ipu  
Musikfestspiele Potsdam Sanssouci, Jelle Dierickx  
Norway Festivals & St. Olav Festival Trondheim, Per Kvistad Uddu  
Ohrid Summer Festival, Toni Simonovski  
Poet and novelist, festival director, broadcaster and cultural policy adviser,  
Simon Mundy  
Prague Spring International Music Festival, Roman Belor  
Puccini Festival, Adalgisa Mazza  
Puccini Festival, Daniele de Plano  
REMA, Marie Gouy  
Reykjavik Arts Festival, Thorunn Sigurdardottir  
Reykjavík Arts Festival, Hanna Styrmsdóttir  
Rheingau Musik Festival, Evelyn Meining  
Rheingau Musik Festival, Michael Herrmann  
Romaeuropa Festival, Fabrizio Grifasi  
Romaeuropa Festival, Monique Veaute  
Santander International Festival, Emilia Levi  
Santander International Festival, Jose Louis Ocejo  
Savonlinna Opera Festival, Jan Strandholm  
Schleswig Hollstein Musik Festival, Rolf Beck  
Sibiu International Theatre Festival, Constantin Chiriac  
Vicenza – Settimane Musicali al Teatro Olimpico, Giovanni Battista Rigon  
Vicenza – Settimane Musicali al Teatro Olimpico, Sonig Tchakerian  
Vilnius International Festival, Gintauatas Kevisas  
Vilnius International Festival, Ruta Pruseviciene  
Wiener Festwochen, Wolfgang Wais  
Yerevan Perspectives International Music Festival, Sona Hovhannisyán