

Programme Festival Cities Round Table

at the Galway Bay Hotel **Arts Festivals Summit 2021**
23 November at 14.45 –17.10

Moderated by **Kathrin Deventer** (EFA)
and **Péter Inkei** (Budapest Observatory).

PAVING THE FLOOR

- ... Kick-off with a Summit group picture.
- ... Welcome by EFA President **Jan Briers**.
- ... Welcome by the Mayor of the City of Galway Councillor **Colette Connolly**.
- ... Introduction to the legacy of Galway by **Brendan McGrath**, Chief Executive of Galway City Council.
- ... Welcome comment by **Giorgio Guazzugli Marini** from, Deputy Head of Unit at the European Commission.

This is what you came for, a dialogue with artist **Els Dietvorst**.

THE EFFE SEAL FOR FESTIVAL CITIES

Introduction of the EFFE Seal in various chapters, with presentations of its initiators: 7 cities and their vision and proposals for bringing the EFFE Seal to life

Edinburgh > live presentation by David Waddell (Senior Culture & Events Officer, City of Edinburgh Council), Julia Amour and James Mc Veigh (Festivals Edinburgh).

Leeuwarden > live presentation by Hester van der Werff (Senior Advisor International Affairs at Gemeente Leeuwarden & Project Manager and Initiator at Learning Hub Friesland)

Belgrade > online presentation by Jovanka Višekruna Jankovic (pianist, founder of ArtLink and the ArtLink Festival, Artistic Director of the ArtLink Festival and the Camerata Balcanica chamber ensemble, and the Acting President of Serbian Festival Association).

Q&A session 1: La parole aux festivals, we want to hear from you!

Krakow > online presentation by Robert Piaskowski (Plenipotentiary for Culture of the Mayor of the City of Krakow. Associated with Krakow Festival Office).

Gent > live presentation by Bart Doucet (Advisor Culture Department at Stad Gent).

Q&A session 2: La parole aux festivals, we want to hear from you!

Ljubljana > online presentation by Mateja Demšič (Capital city of Ljubljana).

Bergen > online presentation by Harm Christian Tolden (Director General -Department of Culture, City of Bergen).

THE WAY AHEAD

- ... The way ahead, by **Bart Temmerman**, CEO of the organisation “publiq”
- ... **Simon Mundy**'s conclusion.

GET TO KNOW ELS DIETVORST

Today, Els Dietvorst will involve us in a deep reflection on the necessity of conversations and actions between festivals and cities when shaping our inclusive public spaces and life.

Els Dietvorst is a socially engaged artist. She uses dialogue, experiment and intuition to address social issues such as migration, racism and climate change.

Els Dietvorst will involve festival makers and cities in a conversation on the opportunities, and necessities for both, festivals and public authorities, to work together in a joint effort to shape an inclusive urban and social life for our societies.

Her work reflects on the 'condition humaine' and focuses on the position of the outsider, directing her gaze towards those persons and events that would otherwise go unnoticed.

She creates circumstances that enable us to be together, think together and act together. The work of art as an object is not a goal in itself for Dietvorst, but a means to create social involvement. In a world dominated by capitalism and inequality, Els Dietvorst searches for alternatives, for hope.

Her work has been shown and supported by art institutions and festivals such as the Kaaitheater, Brussels; Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Brussels; M HKA, Antwerp; Muzee, Ostend; Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, Moscow and BAK, Utrecht

In 2017 she received the Evens Art Prize and in 2018 she won the prize for anthropology and sustainable development at the international Jean Rouché festival in Paris with her documentary *I watched the white dogs of the dawn*.

Seeing art as a means to communicate, a reason to talk about relationships between people and their environment, today, Els Dietvorst will welcome us into her space, work and mind.