

## PRE-SUMMIT TEXTS - *Monique Veaute*

### Who are you?

I am Monique Veaute, chairman of Fondazione Romaeuropa and Romaeuropa Festival. All my life the thought that contemporary art is strictly connected with its presentation's locations has driven me and my vision. That is why a contemporary creation's Festival like REF sets in a city like Rome; the historical heritage, together with the memory of our western culture is omnipresent. Rome itself is an invitation for a sharp debate between the artists we invite and us. But, please, don't get me wrong, the Festival's deep connection with its home in Rome is the starting point of a European vision and inclusion. Since its very first days (over thirty years ago already), Ref was born aiming at three specific targets: it was made to spread knowledge through artists' point of view, to share an experience with the audience and to raise a particular curiosity and attention towards the poetic complexity of our modern societies.

### If your festival was a human being, what would it be most proud of?

If our Festival should be addressed as a person, it would probably be a polyhydic artist who presents itself as a musician, a dancer, an actor, an art performer affected by its past and birthplace with a natural tendency for a sharp look to the future.

### Inter-national/cross-national cooperation a necessity for the arts, the artists and your audiences. Do you agree?

I am Monique Veaute, and together with a small group of other passionate, I've created the Romaeuropa Festival as a service to the public. Cultural events, in my opinion, are places of resistance. In here we host democracy, freedom of thoughts and fraternity through the voices and the acts of contemporary artists.

