

AFIELD

27-29 SEPT.
2024



CO-PRODUCED WITH
KANAL-CENTRE POMPIDOU
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

FORUM

AFIELD FORUM: SYSTEMS CHANGE BY ARTISTS, 27-29 SEPTEMBER, BRUSSELS

For its 10-year anniversary, the AFIELD network is launching a new public forum on systems change led by artists. The ongoing multiscalar crisis urges the arts and cultural field to take more concrete actions towards social and environmental justice. Aligning with its mission, AFIELD is embarking on a 3-year cycle of international gatherings bringing new perspectives on the role of art in society.

The entire program will be conducted in English and recorded, without translation or simultaneous transmission. Attendance at all the events is encouraged; however, you can [register](#) for certain parts only.

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

K1, Avenue du Port 1, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

9:00-10:00

Welcome coffee

10:00-10:05

Welcome words

By Kasia Redzisz

10:05-10:15

Introduction

By Grégory Castéra and Sandra Terdjman

10:15-10:45

Warm up

By Sergio Roberto Gratteri

A vocal warm-up activity crafted to harness the liberating power of voice, guiding participants to explore diverse vocal expressions in a welcoming environment. To sharpen our listening skills, forge connection, and set an intentional tone to create a conducive space for meaningful discussions.

10:45-11:45

Propositions for Systems-Change #1: Rewriting Democracy

By Anand Giridharadas, followed by a Q&A with Taeyoon Choi

In this pivotal year, about half of the world's population is heading to the polls, while authoritarian movements enjoy success not seen in decades. Drawing insights from the acclaimed book «Winners Take All: The Elite Charade of Changing the World,» the speakers will explore the essential role of creative grassroots activism and artist-led systems change in upholding democratic values; liberty, equality and justice.

11:45-13:15

Conversation on Livable City #1: Urban Commons

With Ambassade Universelle and El Warcha, moderated by Giuseppe Micciarelli

An abandoned embassy occupied by undocumented migrants in Brussels, a collaborative design studio in Tunis, a self-organized cultural center in Napoli: through the exploration of three initiatives offering different perspectives on the Commons, this conversation will explore how to reimagine the city and resist exclusionary urban development.

13:15-14:15

Lunch Break at K1

14:15-15:45

In Our Minds

With Martha Atienza, Anna Dantes, El Warcha, Sergio Roberto Gratteri, Fernanda Laguna, Sahad Sarr, moderated by Olivia Alvarez and Abi Tariq

Through the presentation of a work that remains “in their mind”, AFIELD's 2024 cohort will introduce and discuss their approach on system-change by artists.

15:45-16:45

Conversation on Support Structures

With Sandra Terdjman and Visible (Matteo Lucchetti and Judith Wielander), moderated by Ana Vargas

The field of socially engaged practice thrives through cooperation. In this conversation, the speakers will map the ecosystem of arts and philanthropy, and reflect on the notion of «impact» through examples of artists-led initiatives around the world.

16:45-17:00

Break

17:00-18:00

Relating to Food Politics

With Martha Atienza, Lauren Bon, Linda Goode Bryant and Amy Franceschini

This moment draws AFIELD Forum participants into relational activities inspired by artistic thinking around how humans relate to land water and food security in diverse cultural and geographic contexts.

18:00-18:15

Closing Sound

By Sahad Sarr

SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

K1, Avenue du Port 1, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

9:00-10:00

Welcome coffee

10:00-10:15

Introduction

By Diana Campbell and Chantal Wong

10:15-10:45

Warm up

By Analida Galindo

Drawing from her work with Programa Enlaces, Analida Galindo's practice blends contemporary dance techniques with community-building exercises to emphasise personal growth and community connection.

10:45-11:45

Propositions for Systems-Change #2: An Artist for President

By Eileen Myles, followed by a Q&A with Jessica Gysel

In 1992, Eileen Myles ran for president of the United States, a campaign that still inspires many artists regarding the role of art and poetry in the political sphere. Sharing materials from this campaign, Myles will reflect on the language of politics and the role of artists and poets in advocating for social justice.

11:45-12:45

Collective Discussion: Theory as Resistance

With Waad, moderated by Taeyoon Choi

The Learning Palestine Pamphlets is a collection of online essays across various genres, periods, and topics for a comprehensive understanding of the Palestinian history and resistance. The session will begin with the project's context and a collective discussion about the Learn Palestine Pamphlets.

12:45-14:15

Lunch Break at K1

14:15-15:45

Conversation on Participative Performance

With Majaw Njaay and TransfoCollect, moderated by Helena Kritis

Often associated with inclusion and diversity, participative performances carry many ethical challenges and require in-depth engagement from artists and institutions. This conversation will focus on projects developed in Belgium and Senegal in collaboration with young people, where performance and storytelling become tools for political action.

15:45-17:15

Knowledge Market on Survival Skills

MCs: Majaw Njaay and Abi Tariq

In the Knowledge Market, originally conceived by ruangrupa, participants share knowledge of different kinds, becoming alternately teacher and student, a learning practice where conviviality becomes a condition for collective imagination.

17:15-17:30

Closing Remark

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CIVA, Rue de l'Ermitage 55, 1050 Ixelles, Belgique

19:00-20:30

Conversation on Livable City #2: Participative Urban Design

With Ola Hassanain, Bernardo Robles Hidalgo, Ana Vargas and Andrea Yarbrough, moderated by Analida Galindo

The speakers in this conversation have developed critical approaches to urban design, where participation becomes a practice of regenerating urban landscapes, reactivating forgotten areas, and reappropriating spaces transformed by urban development. They will discuss the ethics of participation and spatial tactics for more livable cities.

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SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

10:00-16:00

Visits

Social initiatives from Brussels Region will open their doors to informals visits. Please [register](#) to join the walking tour.

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