

BEYOND THE OBVIOUS

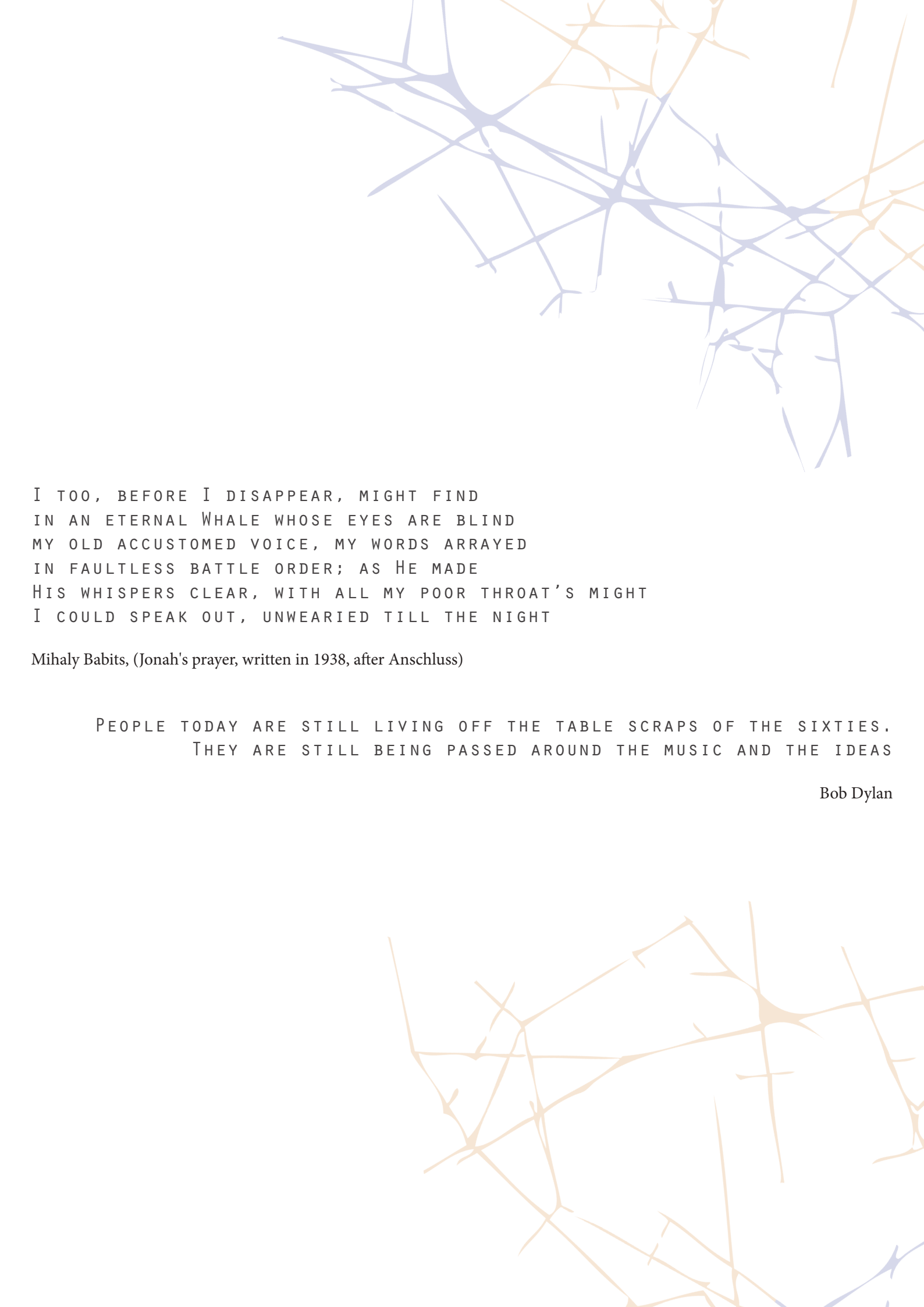
EUROPE, QUO VADIS?

26
BUDAPEST

28 JANUARY 2017
HUNGARY

**culture
ACTION
europe**
Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union



The background of the page is a complex, abstract pattern of thin, overlapping lines in shades of blue and orange. The lines are irregular and somewhat chaotic, creating a sense of movement and depth. The blue lines are more prominent in the upper half, while the orange lines are more prominent in the lower half.

I TOO, BEFORE I DISAPPEAR, MIGHT FIND
IN AN ETERNAL WHALE WHOSE EYES ARE BLIND
MY OLD ACCUSTOMED VOICE, MY WORDS ARRAYED
IN FAULTLESS BATTLE ORDER; AS HE MADE
HIS WHISPERS CLEAR, WITH ALL MY POOR THROAT'S MIGHT
I COULD SPEAK OUT, UNWEARIED TILL THE NIGHT

Mihaly Babits, (Jonah's prayer, written in 1938, after Anschluss)

PEOPLE TODAY ARE STILL LIVING OFF THE TABLE SCRAPS OF THE SIXTIES.
THEY ARE STILL BEING PASSED AROUND THE MUSIC AND THE IDEAS

Bob Dylan



BEYOND THE OBVIOUS

EUROPE. QUO VADIS?

The thought-provoking gathering of Culture Action Europe aims to look beyond the obvious.
A prophetic task fitting our mandate in society.

Every year since 2014 WE UPDATE OUR DEFINITION OF THE OBVIOUS.
WHAT WAS UNTHINKABLE THE YEAR OR EVEN THE DAY BEFORE, BECOMES THE NEW OBVIOUS.

Our self-definition as a sector includes the task of sense-making,
laying the foundations for shared cultural interpretations of our uncertain world.
Much like a reluctant prophet before, we might prefer to reflect and think in a shade,
ignoring the alarming signs of social, environmental and political tensions.

The mission that unites us is to ACT FOR CULTURE,
to GATHER STRENGTH from each other in order to fulfill this calling.
We will again provide an opportunity to SHARE STORIES and EXPERIENCES, to SKETCH SCENARIOS,
and BUILD STRATEGIES.

THE 2017 BEYOND THE OBVIOUS CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE BY THE DANUBE, IN BUDAPEST,
IN A VENUE NAMED APPROPRIATELY BALNA (THE WHALE).

We propose to take advantage of this location as a starting point
to discuss the multiple challenges of the EUROPEAN PROJECT.

Knowing that no obvious solutions exist, we need a deeper understanding of the cultural
and historic viewpoints of the different European regions.

After a decade of being in the EU, Central and Eastern Europe is culturally still TERRA INCOGNITA.
Seriously underrepresented in EU cultural networks, CENTRAL and EASTERN EUROPEANS LACK A VOICE
and Europe as a whole lacks the lenses to understand
the complex social and cultural developments that shape the region.

We wonder are the East-West socio-cultural dynamics fundamentally different?

What are the common threads?

How meaningful is the North-South paradigm?

And importantly, how do we move beyond the centre-periphery dichotomy?

We invite you to reflect, discuss and collectively embrace the issues that a composite Europe faces today.
TO PREVENT FURTHER FRAGMENTATION THIS CANNOT BE POSTPONED.

European culture is not limited by borders.

After the UK vote to leave the EU and at a time of rising global counterrevolution against cosmopolitanism and globalisation, we need to urgently discuss how the cultural frameworks shaping our practices can benefit from the inclusion of cultural actors within and outside of political borders.

EXPECT LIVELY EXCHANGES FROM COLLEAGUES FROM UK,
FROM THE BALKAN AND HOPEFULLY FROM RUSSIA AS WELL

While we search for effective ways to act on national and global level,
we have great examples of CULTURE-LED SOCIAL INNOVATIONS from communities at a local level.

EXPECT INSPIRING DISCUSSIONS AS A BREAK FROM ALL THE DOOM AND GLOOM SCENARIOS
FROM ACTORS IN THE MOST INNOVATIVE EUROPEAN CITIES

We are inviting BRAVE CITIES, PILOTING SOLUTIONS on how to create inclusive,
culturally sustainable localities.

A special focus will be on sharing experiences of actors from past and future
or aspiring EUROPEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURES.

We need our collective creativity and visions to REDEFINE the edges of culture.

We cannot be blind to the signals pointing to the transformation of the global regime
and the change of paradigm that it encompasses.

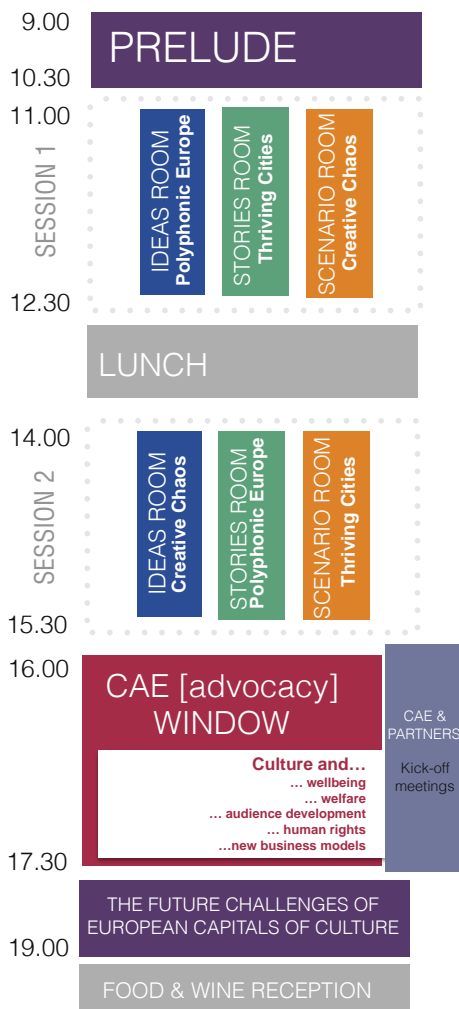
Yet, the global changes happening are not limited to the domain of the political institutions.
The digital data, information and communication revolution, the rapid transformation of work,
the depletion of the biological and environmental base of our existence as a species,
makes this GREAT ACCELERATION UNPREDICTABLE.

This is the context where we need to be bold enough to move beyond our conventional assumptions.

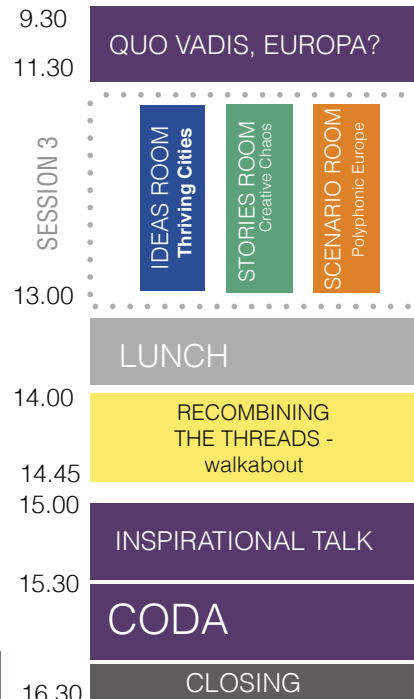
The Whale will be a space to RETHINK CULTURE, to explore its BORDERS and EDGES.

IN A BLINK

friday
JANUARY 27



saturday
JANUARY 28



thursday
JANUARY 26



THURSDAY 26

17:30
REGISTRATION OPENS

18:00 -19:15
INSPIRATIONAL BEGINNING

WELCOME TO BUDAPEST

ANDRÁS TÖRÖK | Director, Summa Artium and author of Budapest-related books

ZSÓFIA CSUKONYI | Design Terminal

RICHÁRD NAGYFI and JONATHAN RAVASZ | Kitchen Budapest

ABRIS GRILLUS | Hungarian contemporary performing artist and ZOLTAN MIZSEI | Hungarian contemporary musician

ALEXANDRA SZALAY-BOBROVNICZKY | Vice Mayor Budapest

19:15 - onwards
MEET AND GREET



FRIDAY 27

08:30
REGISTRATION OPENS

9:00 – 10:15
PLENARY PRELUDE by ROBERT MANCHIN
President and Acting Secretary General | Culture Action Europe
with
TIBOR NAVRACSICS | Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport | European Commission
CORINA SUTEU | Former Minister of Culture | Romania

10:15 – 10:45
TRANSITION TO ROOMS (with coffee and tea)

10:45 – 12:30
PARALLEL SESSIONS

IDEAS ROOM

POLYPHONIC EUROPE:
bridging a composite Europe
through cultural leadership

Fragmentation, nationalisms and culture

YAMAM AL-ZUBAIDI

Equality and Diversity Manager, Riksteatern, Sweden

BEL OLID

President, AELC, Spain

CLYMENE CHRISTOFOROU

Executive CoDirector, ISIS Arts, UK

Moderator: **PETER INKEI**

Director, Budapest Observatory, Hungary

STORIES ROOM

THRIVING CITIES:
placing culture(s) in sustainable
urban development

Forms of governance of public spaces

LUCA KÖVÉCS

International Relations & Communication Director,
Bakelit, Hungary

GÖKÇE SUVARI

Project Manager, Izmir Mediterranean Academy,
Turkey

SALVATOR-JOHN A. LIOTTA

Architect and Ambassador of Farm Cultural Park,
Italy

SCENARIOS ROOM

CREATIVE CHAOS:
enlightening the socio-political
and environmental crises

Twenty years from now

ALEX MESZMER

Board Member, Visarte, Switzerland

LÁSZLÓ KARVALICS

Professor, University of Szeged, Department of Cul-
tural Heritage and Human Information Science

LARS EBERT

Head of Research, Development and Advocacy,
ELIA, Netherlands

12:30 – 14:00
STRENGTHEN•ING LUNCH



14:00 – 15:30
PARALLEL SESSIONS

IDEAS ROOM

CREATIVE CHAOS:
enlightening the socio-political
and environmental crises

The next paradigm of sustainability

ANDRÁS SZÖLLŐSI-NAGY

President, International Hydrological Programme,
UNESCO

GIOVANNA BARNI

President, Coopculture, Italy

GARY MCMAHON

Senior Executive Officer, Galway City Council

Moderator: NICHOLAS

ANASTASOPOULOS

PhD and Professor, School of Architecture NTUA,
Greece

STORIES ROOM

POLYPHONIC EUROPE:
bridging a composite Europe
through cultural leadership

Citizens' fluxes and models of co-creation

ALEXANDRA SABINO

Advisor to the Deputy Mayor for Culture, City of
Lisbon

SALVATOR-JOHN A. LIOTTA

Architect and Ambassador of Farm Cultural Park,
Italy

SERHAN ADA

Lecturer, Bilgi University, Istanbul

TOM GREEN

Platforma Director, Counterpoints Arts, UK

SCENARIOS ROOM

THRIVING CITIES:
placing culture(s) in sustainable
urban development

The value of culture

BEATRIZ GARCIA

Head of Research, Cultural Policy & Impact, Institute
of Cultural Capital, UK

MICHAELA SAISANA

Joint Research Centre, European Commission

LÁSZLÓ PINTÉR

Professor, Environmental Sciences and Policy, CEU,
Hungary

15.30 – 16.00

TRANSITION TO WINDOWS (with coffee and tea)

15:30-17:30

side meeting for PILOT CITIES only

16:00 – 17:30

CAE [ADVOCACY] WINDOW

CAE WINDOW #1: Political advocacy for culture

with KATHERINE HEID and ROSA PÉREZ MONCLÚS Political Development | Culture Action Europe

CAE WINDOW #2: Culture and Wellbeing: a coordinated way to tell stories

with ANNALISA CICERCHIA Senior Researcher | ISTAT, Italy

CAE WINDOW #3: Culture and Sharing Economy: new business models for culture

with CRISTINA DA MILANO President | ECCOM, Italy and GIOVANNA BARNI President | Coopculture, Italy

CAE WINDOW #4: Results from recent CAE studies: «Engage Audiences»
and «Freelancers and social protection: gaps and policies»

with CHRIS TORCH Founder | INTERCULT, Sweden and Artistic Director | Timișoara 2021
and SARAH DE HEUSCH Project Officer | SmartBe, Belgium

CAE WINDOW #5: Arts, Rights and Justice: focusing on Poland, Spain and the Netherlands

with SARA WHYATT Consultant on Human Rights and Freedom of Expression, UK

CAE WINDOW #6: Cultural leadership: a transformative action learning workshop

with ROBERT KRAMER Chief Learning Officer | Budapest Academy for Leading Change, Hungary



17:30 – 19:00

THE NEXT CHALLENGES FOR THE EUROPEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURE

a plenary conversation with:

GALWAY 2020 | EITHNE VERLING
MATERA 2019 | ROSSELLA TARANTINO
NOVI SAD 2021 | PETR SIMON
RIJEKA 2020 | IRENA KREGAR SEGOTA
TIMIȘOARA 2021 | SIMONA NEUMANN
Moderator: CHRIS TORCH

19:00 – onwards

CHILL-OUT FOOD & WINE RECEPTION @ BÁLNA

SATURDAY 28

9:30 – 11:00

QUO VADIS, EUROPA?

A polyphonic plenary conversation with:

CATHERINE CULLEN Former Deputy Mayor for Culture | City of Lille, France
BOTOND FELEDY Senior fellow | CEID, Hungary
GERGELY PRÖHLE Former State Secretary and current director of Petőfi Irodalmi Múzeum, Hungary
Moderator: LUCA BERGAMO Vice Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Culture | City of Rome, Italy

11:00 – 11:30

TRANSITION TO ROOMS (with coffee and tea)

11:30 – 13:00

PARALLEL SESSIONS

IDEAS ROOM

THRIVING CITIES:
placing culture(s) in sustainable
urban development

Big and medium size cities

BERND FESEL

Senior Advisor, European Centre for creative economy (ecce); Chair, European Creative Business Network (ECBN)

DAN DIACONU

Deputy Mayor, City of Timișoara, Romania

LÁSZLÓ PINTÉR

Professor, Environmental Sciences and Policy, CEU, Hungary

SEBASTIANO SALI

Strategic Projects, Fundraising and International Relations, Mayor's Office - City of Mantua, Italy

Moderator: **JORDI PASCUAL**

Coordinator, Agenda 21 for Culture, UCLG

STORIES ROOM

CREATIVE CHAOS:
enlightening the socio-political
and environmental crises

Arts and the environmental challenges

ANDRÁS SZÖLLŐSI-NAGY

President, International Hydrological Programme, UNESCO

DANIEL BROOKS

Zoologist, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

HENRY MCGHIE

Head of Collections and Curator of Zoology, Manchester Museum, UK

NICHOLAS ANASTASOPOULOS

PhD and Professor, School of Architecture NTUA, Greece

SCENARIOS ROOM

POLYPHONIC EUROPE:
bridging a composite Europe
through cultural leadership

*Beyond North - South • East-West •
Center- Periphery paradigm*

BOTOND FELEDY

Foreign policy analyst, Hungary

IVOR DAVIS

Researcher and Programme Associate, Pilot Cities, Culture Action Europe

LUCA BERGAMO

Vice Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Culture, City of Rome, Italy



13:00 – 14:00
STRENGTHEN•ING LUNCH

14:00 – 14:45
WALKABOUT: RE-COMBINING THE THREADS

15:00 – 15:30
INSPIRATIONAL TALK
by
DANIEL BROOKS Zoologist | University of Nebraska-Lincoln

15:30 – 16:30
PLENARY CODA: RE-COMBINING THE THREADS
by
ROBERT MANCHIN President and Acting Secretary General | Culture Action Europe
with
ANDRÁS SZÖLLÖSI -NAGY President | International Hydrological Programme | UNESCO
LÁSZLÓ PINTÉR Professor, Environmental Sciences and Policy | CEU, Hungary
SARA WHYATT Consultant on Human Rights and Freedom of Expression | UK

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