

Brussels Conversations 2013 Programme



Friday 13 December 2013

18:00 **Welcome Reception at deBuren**

The European House for Culture will open the programme with a welcome reception at deBuren (Leopoldstraat/rue Léopold 6, 1000 Brussels).

19:00 **Optional Performances (only for those that reserved tickets)**

- 19:00 [Hamlet](#) by Ambroise Thomas directed by Olivier Py at De Munt/La Monnaie
- 20:30 [The Pyre](#) by Gisèle Vienne at Kaaithheater

Saturday 14 December 2013

Location: **De Munt/La Monnaie** (Place de la Monnaie, 1000 Brussels)

9:00 **Registration and Welcome Coffee**

Doors will open at De Munt/La Monnaie at 9:00. You can enter at the main entrance of the building, Place de la Monnaie 1000 Brussels. Please follow the signage to the conference room on the 7th floor.

The front doors will close at 9:30.

9:30 **Welcome Address**

Welcome from Frans de Ruiter, President of the European House for Culture

9:35 **Discussion of the Decisive Deal: A European Resolution on Culture for Values, Democracy and Citizenship**

- What concrete developments and changes would you propose for the political agenda of the EU relating to culture, values, democracy, and citizenship?
- What questions would you ask the political candidates in the run up to the 2014 elections?

We will informally discuss these questions in a roundtable format. It will be the group's responsibility to set any further agenda and to guide the conversations towards questions and conclusions.

13:00 **Sandwich Lunch**

14:00 **Finalization of Concepts**

The existing proposals and new ideas we have developed throughout the day will be narrowed down to a short list of the essentials that we will hand off to the Berlin Conference to reach an agreement with top politicians on their agenda in the European Parliament for the coming 5-year term.

14:45 **Closing Remarks**

15:00 **End**

Context

The **European House for Culture** (EHfC) and its partners are organizing the **Brussels Conversations 2013**, bringing together innovative and influential individuals to discuss **The Decisive Deal**, a process to define culture's contribution to Europe in the context of the European elections taking place 22-25 May 2014.

Over the last year, "**A Soul for Europe**" (ASfE) has built a **Cultural Coalition for a Citizens' Europe** (CCCE), a network of partner organizations and individuals working to create a Europe of citizens through one of Europe's most valuable resource, its culture. The **European House for Culture** and the CCCE are now embarking on a programme towards the 2014 European elections: the **Decisive Deal**.

The [2014 European elections](#) will be different from years past, with each political party of Europe nominating candidates for President of the European Commission. "**A Soul for Europe**" and the **Cultural Coalition for a Citizens' Europe** are inviting these candidates to debate critical European issues with artists and intellectuals at the [Berlin Conference 2014 \(3 March 2014\)](#).

To jumpstart the dialogue, we have developed a working document under the title [The Decisive Deal: A European Resolution on Culture, for Values, Democracy and Citizenship](#). The Brussels Conversations will enter into a deep discussion about this document. At the same time, we invite all citizens to give feedback on the ideas laid down in this draft pact. These initial proposals are based on the results of discussions with citizens that took place in 2012/13 across Europe, with two more [events](#) coming up: the **Amsterdam Conversations 2013 (29 November 2013)** and **Brussels Conversations 2013 (14 December 2013)**.

The members and friends of the **European House for Culture** and the **Brussels Conversations 2013** have an important role to play in this process: we will review and discuss the content that the **Cultural Coalition for a Citizens' Europe** has gathered over the past 18 months formulate proposals to serve as the topics for the debate at the **Berlin Conference 2014**. The Berlin Conference on 3 March 2014 will formalize the proposals into suggestions to be brought before in the European Parliament.

The Brussels Conversations 2013 is produced in partnership with the [Marcel Hicter Association](#), [ENCATC](#), [European Union National Institutes for Culture \(EUNIC\)](#), [European Festivals Association \(EFA\)](#), [Access to Culture Platform](#), [Felix Meritis](#), [ECSA – European Composer and Songwriter Alliance](#) and "[A Soul for Europe](#)" with the support of the [Citizenship Programme of the European Union](#).

The opening reception of the Brussels Conversations 2013 is hosted by [de Buren](#).

The Brussels Conversations 2013 is hosted by our partner in the event [De Munt/La Monnaie](#).

