Guidelines
ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture 2017

CONTENTS

I  Introduction .................................................................. 2
II  Focus ........................................................................ 2
III  Eligibility and Criteria .................................................. 3
IV  Selection procedure ..................................................... 4
V  Jury .......................................................................... 5
VI. Nominators ................................................................. 5
VII  Previous Laureates ..................................................... 7
I. INTRODUCTION

The European Cultural Foundation’s (ECF) Princess Margriet Award for Culture is an annual award highlighting stellar and uplifting examples of cultural contributions which foster an image of Europe to believe in: a Europe of solidarity and openness. The Award Laureates break new ground in overcoming cultural, geographical and social borders. Through the lens of their work, the Award serves as a platform to inspire a broader European public to recognise the role of culture in realising a more inclusive Europe.

II. FOCUS

The ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture and the ECF’s work rests on the belief in culture as a catalyst for an open, democratic, and inclusive Europe. It believes that true social and political change requires cultural voices and engagement. Europe currently faces considerable challenges with many people questioning the value of a common Europe; political parties and national leaders echo these sentiments by looking inwards, turning to nationalism, and projecting prejudices onto the ‘other’. In the face of these challenges, the role of critical cultural engagement and the positive messages that culture can bring is ever more crucial.

This Award recognizes and supports the role culture has to play in strengthening the capacity for open-mindedness. Culture’s terrain is that of the imagination. It values the slow and indirect process of mutual understanding that might begin to bridge gaps that seem too wide or too deep. Culture shapes and is shaped by the actions of people and therefore plays an invaluable (though often undervalued) role in building and re-affirming visions of a European society that can be home to all new and changing communities.
III. ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA

**ELIGIBILITY:** Candidates must be cultural makers or thinkers living and working in broader Europe (this includes EU and EU neighbourhood countries; please see list of eligible countries in the box on the right). Both individuals and collectives can be nominated. A candidate’s work should have a significant impact locally, but must also bear a clear relevance to the European context.

**CRITERIA:** Candidates come from a myriad of different cultural practice such as the arts, cultural activism, critical thinking, architecture and digital and media culture. They act as cultural change-makers from within and beyond these fields. We are always looking to broaden the practices and geographies of candidates beyond those represented by previous Award Laureates.

Candidates must exhibit the following criteria:

- **Exceptional cultural practice:** The candidate’s work creates new lines of connection across the broad spectrum of society. It fosters a democratic imagination by bridging differing perspectives and enabling equality between different social groups.

- **Experimental:** Candidates demonstrate the potential of culture to engage with difference as a creative force. The candidate’s work expresses the need to create shared common values rather than representing fixed identities.

- **Enduring impact:** The candidate’s work has a sustainable impact beyond the output of a one-off project, and is influential in and beyond the cultural field. It entails a prospective for future action.

- **Local and European relevance:** The candidate’s work is inspiring within a local context but is also relevant to wider European contexts and publics. It strengthens the vision and practice of shared communities at both the local and the European level.

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**Eligible countries**

A  Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan  
B  Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria  
C  Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic  
D  Denmark  
E  Egypt, Estonia  
F  Finland, France  
G  Georgia, Germany, Greece  
H  Hungary  
I  Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy  
J  Jordan  
K  Kosovo  
L  Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg  
M  Macedonia (FYROM), Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco  
N  The Netherlands, Norway  
P  Palestinian Territories, Poland, Portugal  
R  Romania, Russia  
S  San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria  
T  Tunisia, Turkey  
U  Ukraine and the United Kingdom
IV. 2017 SELECTION PROCEDURE

For the 2017 ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture, ECF will invite nominations from:

- Experts in different regions with broad perspectives on cultural practice, including professionals from within and beyond ECF’s broader network.
- Groups of individuals and organisations who through various programmes and grant schemes have been part of the ECF’s community of practice in past years.

Each nominator is invited to propose one candidate via an online form. The deadline for submitting nominations is 1 September 2016. Once nominations are received they are internally assessed for eligibility. Nominators are not permitted to nominate themselves or an organisation with which they are affiliated.

See the full list of nominators who made a nomination for the 2017 ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture.

A pre-selected list of 20 nominations is made by ECF on the basis of their strength and their relevance to the Award criteria. ECF then carries out further research, and with the help of nominators, sources second opinions from other experts and advisors, and builds a portfolio on each of the 20 pre-selected nominations. These portfolios are then sent to the international Jury, which meet in November 2016 and select at least three Laureates (though how many Laureates may fluctuate, in keeping with nominations and circumstances) who will be endorsed by the ECF board.

All Laureates will be presented their Award at a ceremony in the Netherlands on 9 May 2017 in the presence of members of the Dutch royal family and an international audience. Laureates will also participate in debates, publications, exhibitions, and/or screenings on different occasions across Europe throughout the year.

The Laureates will each receive €20,000. There are no restrictions regarding the use of the Award money, but all Laureates are requested to attend and contribute to shaping the Award Ceremony to ensure a presentation that best reflects their work.

The identity of the Award Laureates remains confidential until the inaugural press announcement is made in January 2017. ECF asks that the nominators and Laureates comply with this policy of confidentiality.
V. 2017 JURY

A five-person international and interdisciplinary Jury convene in November 2016 to assess the nominations and select the three laureates of the ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture. The 2017 ECF Princess Margriet Award Jury for Culture are:

- **Andreas Broeckmann** (Curator, Leuphana Arts Program, Lüneburg/Berlin)
- **Juan Freire** (Founding Partner, XTribe, EduCaas and inViable, Madrid)
- **Ivan Krastev** (Chairman of the Centre for Liberal Strategies, Sofia)
- **Ruth Mackenzie** (Artistic Director Holland Festival, Amsterdam)
- **Saskia van Stein** (Director of Bureau Europa, platform for architecture & design, Maastricht)

VI. NOMINATORS FOR THE ECF PRINCESS MARGRIET AWARD FOR CULTURE 2017

- **Mert Akbal**, project leader Experimental Media Lab, Saarbruecken
- **John Akomfrah**, artist and filmmaker, London
- **Robert Alagjozovski**, writer, researcher, cultural manager, Skopje
- **Yoeri Albrecht**, director De Balie, Amsterdam
- **Lot Amorós**, computer engineer and transdisciplinary artist, Barcelona
- **Zeina Arida**, director Nicolas Ibrahim Sursock Museum, Beirut
- **Pierluigi Vaccaneo**, cultural manager, Milan
- **Viviana Checchia**, Public Engagement Curator Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
- **Vassilis Chryssos**, activist, co-founder Sarantaporo.gr, Athens
- **Nick Connaughton**, theatre director and programme manager, London
- **Nicky Crabb**, senior producer Apples and Snakes, London
- **Alice Creischer and Andreas Siekmann**, artists, Berlin
- **Maxim Cuzmenko**, artist, Chişinău
- **Zane Datava**, curator and anthropologist, Trondheim
- **Mark Ball**, artistic director LIFT, London
- **Michael Defuster**, director Castrum Peregrini, Amsterdam
- **Carlos Delclos**, sociologist, researcher, journalist, El Diario, Barcelona
- **Clémentine Deliss**, curator and cultural historian, Berlin
- **Lilia Dragneva**, director Center for Contemporary Art, Chişinău
- **Mae Durant Vidal**, co-founder pezestudio.org, Madrid
- **Subtopia**, Botkyrka
- **Dumitrita Efremov**, architect, urban planning consultant, Chişinău
- **Chrissie Faniadis**, co-founder/director Eunia, Malmö
- **Eva Franch i Gilabert**, architect, chief curator and executive director Storefront for Art and Architecture, New York
- **Natasha Ginwala**, curator, researcher and writer, Amsterdam
- **Ana Gonçalves**, lecturer Estoril Higher Institute for Tourism and Hotel Studies, Lisbon
- **Felipe G. Gil**, coordinator ZEMOS98, Seville
• Jasmin Grimm, coordinator Public Art Lab, Berlin
• Ahmed Hassan, cultural director El-Takeiba Center for Artistic and Cultural Development, Cairo
• Jerzy Hausner, professor of economics University of Economics, Krakow
• Dougald Hine, social artist, writer, co-founder of Dark Mountain, Stockholm
• Barbara Honrath, director Goethe-Institute France, Paris
• Marijke Hoogenboom, researcher and professor Academy of Theatre and Dance, Amsterdam
• Christian Iaione, associate professor Guglielmo Marconi University of Rome, coordinator LabGov, Rome/Bologna
• Dobrila Lola Joksimovic, strategic manager at CZKD Center for Cultural Decontamination, Belgrade
• Mert Karaçikay, member of project management team, International Sinop Biennial
• Myro Katsimicha, curator, Athens
• Osman Kavala, chairman Anadolu Kultur, Istanbul
• Chris Keulemans, artistic director Tolhuistuin, Amsterdam
• Miodrag Kuč, artist, urban theorist, Berlin
• Pat Kulka, activist, project coordinator, Krytyka Polityczna, Warsaw
• Inga Lāce, curator Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art, Riga
• Tasja Langenbach, artistic director Videonale e.V., Bonn
• Sophia Lapiashvili, art manager, curator, photographer, Tbilisi
• Catherine Lenoble, project coordinator Dcalk, Brussels
• Juan López-Aranguren, architect, Madrid
• Carmen Lozano Bright, journalist and cultural agitator, Madrid
• Elina Makri, journalist, media project manager, Oikomedia, Athens
• Florian Malzacher, artistic director Impulse Theater Festival, independent curator and writer, Berlin
• Erja Salo, Head of Education and Public Programmes in The Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki

• Yael Ohana, founder and principal project officer Frankly Speaking - Training, Research & Development, Berlin/Bratislava
• Corina Oprea, curator and researcher, Stockholm
• Katarina Pavić, cultural worker and activist, Zagreb
• Françoise Pissart, director King Baudouin Foundation, Brussels
• Klaus Peter Sachau, artistic director LesArt. Festival, Dortmund
• Olga Sagaidak, co-founder Dofa. fund, chief of projects, Kiev
• Gabriële Schleijpen, artistic director Dutch Art Institute, Arnhem
• Rien Sprenger, consultant Sharing Arts Society, Utrecht
• Vitalie Sprinceana, activist, sociologist, journalist Oberliht and PLATZFORMA.MD, Chişinău
• Igor Stokfiszewski, researcher and activist Krytyka Polityczna, Warsaw
• Ina Studenroth, international project coordinator, Les Têtes de l’Art, Marseille
• Tatyana Tumasyan, director Kharkov City Art Gallery, Kharkov
• Neil van der Linden, cultural manager, curator, Amsterdam
• Natasja van’t Westende, artistic director Dancing on the Edge, Amsterdam
• Robin van Westen, project developer, Waag Society, Amsterdam
• Barbara Visser, artist and chair of the Royal Netherlands Society of Arts (KNAW), Amsterdam
• Izabela Zalewska-Kantek, landscape architect, artist and activist, Warsaw
• Milan Zvada, dramaturg, cultural manager, Banská Bystrica
VII. PREVIOUS LAUREATES

The ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture has previously been awarded to:

2016
Krétakőr (theatre group, Budapest)
For using dramaturgy to bring different perspectives into debate and conversation and for transforming theatre from a stage-based experience into a social forum.

Medialab-Prado (citizen laboratory, Madrid)
For nourishing democratic processes between digital culture and the public sphere in Madrid, across Spain, and in the global media sphere.

2015
Visual Culture Research Center (arts organisation, Kiev)
For creating a truly common space of cultural production and debate that reflects social realities and keeps critical discourse alive.

Athens Biennale (arts biennale, Athens)
For questioning the concept of the biennale from within, remodelling the biennale as a space for grassroots action, and pioneering the idea of ‘curating from below’.

2014
Teodor Celakoski (cultural activist, Zagreb)
For his pivotal role in shaping Croatia’s independent cultural scene and his commitment to making real democratic processes possible.

Teatro Valle Occupato (foundation for the commons, Rome)
For transforming the Teatro Valle theatre into a space of cultural commons in the heart of Rome, reinvigorating culture as a process that is continuously shaped by and with a diverse public.

2013
Lia & Dan Perjovschi (visual artists, Sibiu)
For the active role that their art has played in Romanian culture and community building since the late 1980s as well as its wider European relevance and global impact.

Yoel Gamzou (conductor, Berlin)
For his exceptional talent and energy and the work he has done to challenging the conventional structures of classical music and uncover its democratic potential.

2012
John Akomfrah (filmmaker, London)
For his ground-breaking film work representing perspectives often hidden from the mainstream narratives of European history.

Charles Esche (curator, Eindhoven/Edinburgh)
For his exceptional leadership rethinking cultural centres and art museums as public spaces, and for showing us the power of art to engage with the contemporary world.

2011
Šejla Kamerić (visual artist, Sarajevo)
For photography, sculptural works and films that convey deeply personal realities which illuminate and question a wider preoccupation with the proliferation of borders.

Kutluğ Ataman (artist and filmmaker, Istanbul)
For video installations that form a rich tapestry of voices and refute the generalising effect of cultural stereotypes.

2010
Borka Pavićević (dramaturg, Belgrade)
For optimistically sustaining public discourse under truly difficult conditions and taking a firm stand against intolerance and cultural homogenization.

Stefan Kaegi (theatre-maker, Berlin)
For documentary theatre that explores the unseen networks between cultures, cities, countries, and continents, revealing both the central and peripheral lives of globalisation.

2008
Jérôme Bel (choreographer, Paris); Pichet Klunchun (choreographer, Bangkok)
For their performance ‘Pichet Klunchun & Myself’, a bold yet eloquent encounter that unravels the cultural differences between the two choreographers.

Stuart Hall† (cultural theorist and activist, London)
For his hugely influential work that has helped make sense of our multifarious, multicultural societies.

For more information on former Laureates, please visit the ECF website: 2008 Award, 2010 Award, 2011 Award, 2012 Award, 2013 Award, 2014 Award, 2015 Award and 2016 Award.
The European Cultural Foundation believes that culture connects people as Europeans and helps to build a shared future. We initiate and support cultural exchange and creative expression across wider Europe. We do this because culture inspires, empowers and engages people to create democratic societies. We achieve our aims through our wide-ranging activities, advocacy, grants. The Award is presented by ECF’s former President, HRH Princess Margriet of the Netherlands, in whose honour it was established by the ECF with the support of the Dutch Ministries for Foreign Affairs and Education, Culture and Science.