

# RIGHT TO CULTURE

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

5-7 October 2023 | Valletta, Malta





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## FOREWORD

A warm welcome to the 'International Cultural Policy Conference 2023' and the 'State of the Arts National Symposium 2023', presented by the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends and Arts Council Malta. We hereby present the conference portfolio in Valletta, Malta.

We are very pleased to invite you to an enriching discussion and a fruitful and interactive exchange on the the 'Right to Culture', among stakeholders from cultural policy, cultural research and cultural institutions. It is not only important to recognise that culture is a fundamental right, but also to discuss how we commit to advocating for a universally accessible Right to Culture in the future.

Therefore, we are happy to welcome Dr Karima Bennoune as a keynote speaker, who will provide a framework for the topic of cultural rights and its importance for cultural policies. It will be followed by 3 panels focusing on Artistic Freedom, Cultural Diversity and Accessibility, and Cultural Democracy, with various honoured guests bringing to the fore different perspectives and through several interactive formats.

We believe it is necessary to remind all actors of the importance of cultural rights for a stable, open-minded and free society oriented towards sustainable development. Let us discuss ways to strengthen cultural rights through governments, civil society and the cultural sector.

### **Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends**

# FOREWORD

Arts Council Malta is pleased to welcome you to the International Cultural Policy Conference 2023, which is being held in collaboration with The Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends, as well as the second edition of the State of the Arts - Malta National Symposium.

The International Cultural Policy Conference this year continues to build on the successes of the previous edition, which was held in Bucharest last year. The conference sheds light on the social, political and economic realities faced by cultural and creative practitioners through the lens of a transversal concept that is currently pertinent in international cultural policies - the Right to Culture.

The State of the Arts - Malta National Symposium, which takes place the very next day, examines the current scenario of Malta's Creative and Cultural Sectors while drawing upon the perceptions of practitioners and policy makers in an interdisciplinary manner. The Symposium also takes a cross-sectoral and multi-format approach, stimulating meaningful dialogue and practice within the creative sectors.

The themes that are being addressed in both events are intrinsically linked to Arts Council Malta's Strategy2025, which has placed the spotlight squarely on the Right to Culture. This is also one of the overarching values forming part of the National Cultural Policy 2021. As part of this strategy, the Council has ensured that all our initiatives and programmes are aimed towards widening access to artistic processes on a national level. Both the International Cultural Policy Conference and the State of the Arts Symposium constitute yet another building block in this journey.

A sustainable approach to cultural rights is imperative in our efforts to strengthen the status of the artist, and we are already starting to see this approach yield fruit. The implementation of Strategy2025 has seen policy directions, funding and investment facilitating community-led initiatives on a nationwide basis.

This has enabled inclusive growth that strengthens the status of the artist while enabling long-term sustainability. At Arts Council Malta, we look forward to continuing to address the sectors' main challenges and ambitions through initiatives of this nature.

**Arts Council Malta**

# INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY CONFERENCE

## “RIGHT TO CULTURE”

5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 | Valletta, Malta

Organised by



Hosted by



## CONFERENCE AGENDA

International Cultural Policy Conference  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

- 08:30 - 09:00**      **Bus Transfer from Hotels to Conference Venue**  
Meeting Point: ACM representatives will greet delegates at their respective hotel lobbies between 08:15 - 08:30.  
*This information is only relevant to Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members) and International Speakers & Moderators. Information on the Cultural Programme can be found on page 44.*
- 09:00 - 10:00**      **Registration & Welcome Coffee**
- 10:00 - 10:30**      **Opening | Welcome | Introduction**
- Albert Marshall**  
Chairperson, Arts Council Malta
- Helena Dalli**  
European Commissioner for Equality
- 10:30 - 11:00**      **Keynote Speech**
- Karima Bennoune**  
Celebrated author, lawyer and professor
- 11:00 - 12:30**      **Panel Discussion: Artistic Freedom**  
Even though it is constantly challenged, artistic freedom contributes to social progress, challenges societal norms, and encourages dialogue on important issues. What is the role of government, civil society and the cultural sector to promote and strengthen artistic freedom?
- Moderated by  
**Mary Ann DeVlieg**  
International Arts Rights Advisors
- Interventions by  
**Andreas Wiesand**  
Director, ERICarts Institute  
**Anupama Sekhar**  
Director of Policy and Engagement, International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA)  
**Ferenc Czinki**  
President, Society of Hungarian Authors  
**Maria Galea**  
Vice-President, Malta Entertainment & Arts Industry Association (MEIA)  
**Oliver Göbel**  
Coordinator - Compendium Coordinator  
**Sara Whyatt**  
Research Manager, Freemuse  
**Ulrike Blumenreich**  
Head, Compendium Coordinator

**12:30 - 14:00**      **Lunch Break at MUŻA, the Malta National-Community Art Museum**

**14:00 - 15:30**      **Panel Discussion: Cultural Diversity & Accessibility**

Cultural Diversity is the recognition and appreciation of differences that make each society unique. How can cultural policies and civil society be catalysts for cultural diversity and ensure equal opportunities for everyone?

Moderated by  
**Andrew Ormston**  
Drew Wylie Projects

Interventions by  
**Anna Villarroya**  
Associate Professor, University of Barcelona  
**Ása Richardsdóttir**  
Secretary General, IETM - International network  
for contemporary performing arts  
**Ben Walmsley**  
Director, Centre for Cultural Value  
**Lexi Parra**  
Founder, Photographer & Community Educator, Project MiRa  
**Romina Delia**  
Internationalisation Executive, Arts Council Malta  
**Simone Inguanez**  
Diversity and Communities Executive, Arts Council Malta

**15:30 - 16:00**      **Group Photo & Coffee Break**

**16:00 - 17:30**      **Panel Discussion: Cultural Democracy**

Cultural democracy is an approach that seeks to ensure equal and inclusive access to cultural expression, representation, and participation for all individuals and communities within a society. In what ways can cultural democracy empower individuals and communities to actively participate in cultural activities, governance and in shaping decision-making processes?

Moderated by  
**Karsten Xuereb**  
University of Malta

Interventions by  
**Adrian Debattista**  
Head of Strategy, Arts Council Malta  
**Carsten Brosda**  
State Minister, Ministry of Culture and Media for the City of Hamburg  
**Gabriele Rosana**  
Secretary General, Culture Action Europe  
**Jaka Primorac**  
Senior Researcher, Institute for Development and  
International Relations (IRMO)  
**Terje Hovland**  
Chair of CDCPP, Council of Europe



**17:30 -17:45**

**Artistic Intervention**

Spoken word intervention by **Sam Vassallo & Bradley Cachia**  
Presented by Inizjamed in collaboration with  
Arts Council Malta & the Compendium Association

**17:45 - 18:00**

**Closing**

Summary and short outlook from **Adrian Debattista**  
Vice-Chair of the Compendium Association

**18:00 - 22:00**

**Transfer to Dinner, Opening Event & Bus Transfer to Hotels**

*This event is exclusively for invited guests.*

**ALBERT MARSHALL**



Born in Malta in 1947, Albert Marshall has distinguished himself as a theatre and television director, playwright, poet and TV presenter in a career spanning over 50 years.

In 1980 he emigrated to Australia, where he read for his Masters degree in Communication Studies at the Victoria University, Melbourne, and spent 15 years working in Australian radio, theatre and television. On his return to Malta in 1996, Albert was engaged by the University of Malta as a lecturer in Communication Studies and lead the Distance Learning Programme at University Radio. He was appointed CEO of the Public Broadcasting Services Ltd in 1997, and three years later he moved to Super One Radio and Television where he started working as consultant and eventually as CEO.

In 2005, he relocated to Luxembourg to take up duties as a translator at the Language Directorate of the European Commission. Marshall's literary works have been extensively published in Australia, Canada and Malta. He recently published a complete collection of poetry works and is currently working on the publication of a collection of his works for the theatre. Work-in-progress is the translation of nine opera librettos into Maltese for adaptation and transmission on Malta's national television station.

In 2018, Albert was appointed a member of Malta Republic National Order of Merit, and in 2021 he was awarded Fellowship of the Royal Society of Arts. Albert Marshall is currently the Executive Chairman at Arts Council Malta; the National Agency dealing with cultural policy and strategy and works on developing and investing in the cultural and creative sectors. Part of Albert's duties - amongst other things as Executive Chairman of Arts Council Malta - also include capacity building in the 11 Public Cultural Organisations found on the islands, which are also overarched by the Council.

**HELENA DALLI**

Dr. Helena Dalli is the first EU Commissioner for Equality since December 2019. Her role is to deliver on the Union of Equality chapter within the Political Guidelines of President von der Leyen, by strengthening Europe's commitment to equality and inclusion in all of its senses.

Prior to taking her role as Commissioner, Dalli held various political roles in Malta including Member of Parliament (1996 to 2019), Minister for European Affairs and Equality (2017 to 2019), and Minister for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties (2013-2017). She was also opposition Shadow Minister for public administration, equality, public broadcasting and national investments (1998-2013) and Junior Minister for Women's Rights in the Office of Prime Minister (1996-1998). Dalli holds a PhD in Political Sociology from the University of Nottingham, and lectured in Economic and Political Sociology, Public Policy, and Sociology of Law at the University of Malta.

# KEYNOTE Speakers

**KARIMA BENNOUNE**

Karima Bennoune is shining a light on people of Muslim heritage worldwide –particularly women–working to combat both extremism and anti-Muslim discrimination. She was featured as an expert commentator following the Charlie Hebdo tragedy and during the ISIS hostage crisis on outlets including MSNBC, CNN and The Huffington Post Live. Bennoune has also appeared as a highly acclaimed speaker at venues including the Harvard Law School, the London School of Economics and the World Affairs Council, which called her “an excellent, engaging and confident speaker”.

She is a former Amnesty International Legal Advisor and a current professor of international law and Martin Luther King, Jr. Hall Research Scholar at the University of California-Davis School of Law. Her most recent book, *Your Fatwa Does Not Apply Here: Untold Stories from the Fight Against Muslim Fundamentalism*, was selected as the top social science book of 2013 by the American Library Association and won the 2014 Dayton Literary Peace Prize for its bold exploration of the question that is so often asked in the media: “Where are the Muslims who speak out?” Through interviews with nearly 300 unsung heroes from around the world, she shows that they are everywhere, but rarely given the microphone.

Her related TED Talk, “When People of Muslim Heritage Challenge Fundamentalism” has been viewed by over 1.2 million people. Bennoune is on an epic journey to transform the global conversation about combating extremism and ending terrorism, one voice at a time.

# CONFERENCE Speakers

(A-Z)

**ADRIAN DEBATTISTA - HEAD OF STRATEGY, ARTS COUNCIL MALTA**

Adrian Debattista is a cultural policy researcher interested in the interdisciplinarity emerging from the convergence of policy analysis, political discourse theory, popular music studies and the sociology of music. He is Head of Strategy at Arts Council Malta, having led key national cultural policy measures including the development of Arts Council Malta's Strategy 2025. In January 2021, he was elected as Vice-Chair for the Association for the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends. He recently served as EU MS expert and co-author within the OMC working group on the status and working conditions of artists and cultural and creative professionals. Adrian is currently reading for a PhD in cultural policy at Queen Margaret University, researching the discursive analysis of cultural policy (or the lack thereof) in relation to the social dynamics of music scenes in Malta.

**ANDREAS WIESAND - DIRECTOR, ERICARTS INSTITUTE**

Andreas Joh. Wiesand, Executive Director, European Institute for Comparative Cultural Research (ERICarts); Professor (em.) for cultural policies in Hamburg; Director of ARcult Media (consultancy). Worked first in broadcasting, book publishing, at DER SPIEGEL and as Director of Zentrum für Kulturforschung with a focus on arts, heritage and media policies (until 2009). From 1998 to 2017, co-editor of the CoE/ERICarts Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends. 2020-22 on the executive team of ESPON HERIWELL and previously an expert for the EU; the Council of Europe; UNESCO; development agencies; foundations; governments; universities, etc. Author or responsible editor of over 50 book publications, e.g. Culture and Human Rights: The Wroclaw Commentaries (2016), and numerous honorary positions.

**ANDREW ORMSTON - DIRECTOR, DREW WYLIE PROJECTS**

Andrew is an international consultant working across the culture, heritage and creative sectors. He works as an expert for the European Commission's New European Bauhaus and Creative Europe programmes and is a research assessor for the Carnegie Foundation for Scottish Universities. Andrew is Chair of Cinema For All, a board member for the Queen's Hall concert hall and SURF (Scotland's regeneration network) and National Advisory Group member for the Remembering Together Covid community memorial programme. His background includes the role of culture director for the City of Birmingham and as a venue manager for a number concert halls, theatres and festivals. Andrew holds a MSc in Environment, Culture and Society from the University of Edinburgh.

**ANNA VILLARROYA - ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA**

Associate Professor at the Department of Economics and Academic coordinator of the Doctoral Programme in Gender Studies: Culture, Society and Policy of the University of Barcelona. She regularly teaches courses related to the economics of culture and cultural policies. Her areas of expertise include cultural work and participation, gender inequalities in culture, and the social value of culture. She is director of the Centre in Information, Communication and Culture at the University of Barcelona (CRICC) and co-PI of the project 'Gender Perspective in Information and Media Studies' (GENDIMS). She is co-author of the profile for Spain included in the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends.

**ANUPAMA SEKCHAR - DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND ENGAGEMENT,  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ARTS COUNCILS AND CULTURE  
AGENCIES (IFACCA)**



Anupama Sekhar is Director of Policy and Engagement at IFACCA, the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies, which currently brings together public institutions in 70 countries across the world. She is a Board Member of ArtsEquator, which promotes critical writing about arts practice in south-east Asia. She is a member of the selection panel for UNESCO's International Fund for Cultural Diversity. Anupama is a trained dancer in the Indian classical Bharatnatyam style. She is currently based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

**ÁSA RICHARDSDÓTTIR - SECRETARY GENERAL, IETM - INTERNATIONAL  
NETWORK FOR CONTEMPORARY PERFORMING ARTS**



Ása Richardsdóttir is the secretary general of IETM - the largest international network in the performing arts ([www.ietm.org](http://www.ietm.org)), with over 500 members working in the contemporary performing arts worldwide. Ása has led a versatile career in the performing arts, culture, academia, banking, politics and media. She was a television reporter at RÚV Iceland, founder of theatre, Kaffileikhusid, executive director of Iceland Dance Company, president of Performing Arts Iceland, project leader of ICE HOT Reykjavík Nordic Dance Platform and Wilderness dance, of the keðja dance network and producer of various artistic projects and international collaborations for the last 25 years.

**BEN WALMSLEY - DIRECTOR, CENTRE FOR CULTURAL VALUE**



Ben is Dean of Cultural Engagement at the University of Leeds (UK) and Director of the Centre for Cultural Value. Before his academic career, Ben worked as an arts manager for ten years, most recently as Producer at the National Theatre of Scotland. Ben is an Expert Advisor for the UK Government's Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and recently led a national research project investigating the impacts of Covid-19 on the UK's cultural sector. Ben has published widely on arts marketing, arts management, cultural policy and cultural value. His monograph *Audience Engagement in the Performing Arts: A critical Analysis* was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2019 and he is co-editor of the recently published *Routledge Companion to Audiences and the Performing Arts*.

**CARSTEN BROSDA - STATE MINISTER, MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND MEDIA  
FOR THE CITY OF HAMBURG**



Dr Carsten Brosda is the Minister of Culture and Media of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg since February 2017. In November 2020 he was elected President of the German Theatre and Orchestra Association "Deutscher Bühnenverein". He has been Co-Chairperson of the Commission for Media Politics of the SPD Party Executive Committee since July 2018 and Chairman of the culture forum of the social democracy since November 2019. He was Hamburg's State Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, State Secretary for Media and Digitisation in the Senate Chancellery and the Senate's authorised media representative. In Berlin he previously worked as head of the SPD party executive's communication department and deputy head of the management and planning



staff at the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. He studied journalism and political science at the University of Dortmund, completed a newspaper traineeship with the Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung and gained his PhD on “discursive journalism”. He publishes regularly on socio-political issues.

**FERENC CZINKI - PRESIDENT, SOCIETY OF HUNGARIAN AUTHORS**



Ferenc Czinki was born in Székesfehérvár, Hungary in 1982. Journalist, essayist, writer. President of Szépirodalmi Társasága.

**GABRIELE ROSANA - SECRETARY GENERAL, CULTURE ACTION EUROPE**



Gabriele Rosana is the Policy Director at Culture Action Europe (CAE), the major European crosssectoral cultural network of networks, organisations, policy-makers, activists and artists. Based in Brussels, CAE is the first port of call for informed opinion about cultural policy in Europe and a regulator interlocutor of the EU Institutions (Commission, Parliament, Council) on all matters pertaining to culture.

**JAKA PRIMORAC - SENIOR RESEARCHER, INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (IRMO)**



Jaka Primorac works as a Scientific Advisor at the Department for Culture and Communication, Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO), Zagreb, Croatia. She holds a PhD in Sociology from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, Croatia. Her work is centred on the relationship between culture and economy, with a focus on cultural labour, cultural and media policies. Primorac collaborates on research projects in Croatia and abroad (e.g. Jean Monnet projects platEU and CULPOL, Horizon Europe CRESCINE, ‘Access to culture. Policy analysis’ EU Program Culture, FP7 project MEDIADDEM, expertise for European Parliament, etc). She publishes in scientific journals such as *Cultural Trends*, *International Journal for Cultural Policy* etc.

**KARSTEN XUEREB - RESEARCH OFFICER, MINISTRY FOR THE NATIONAL HERITAGE, THE ARTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN MALTA**



Dr Karsten Xuereb lectures, researches and manages projects addressing cultural policy and relations in Europe and the Mediterranean at the University of Malta. He is a visiting lecturer with the Department of International Relations, the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution, the Institute of Maltese Studies, the Institute for Tourism, Travel & Culture and the Faculty of Education. He is a member of the scientific committee of The Phoenicians' Cultural Route on behalf of the Maltese cultural association Inizjamed. He is a member of the Unfinished Foundation for artistic contemporary thought and CircE addressing the circular economy. He carries out research at the UNESCO World Heritage Nomination Project at the Ministry for Culture (<https://culturalpolicy.blog/>)

**LEXI PARRA - FOUNDER, PHOTOGRAPHER & COMMUNITY EDUCATOR, PROJECT MIRA**



Lexi Parra is a Venezuelan-American photographer and community educator based primarily between Caracas, Venezuela and New York. Her work focuses on youth culture, the personal effects of inequality and violence, and resilience. She has a joint degree in Photography and Human Rights from Bard College. Parra has contributed to publications like *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, and others. Her work has been exhibited internationally. Parra is the founder of Project MiRA, an arts education initiative that fosters visual literacy and critical analysis with youth in the barrios of Caracas. Project MiRA has been supported by Canon USA, the US Embassy and the Davis Peace Prize; exhibited in Photoville and the Bronx Documentary Center's Latin American Foto Festival.

**MARIA GALEA - VICE-PRESIDENT, MALTA ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (MEIA)**



A multi-disciplinary catalytic leader within the visual arts industry in Malta with over 10 years of experience. She is today the Vice President for MEIA Malta Entertainment and Arts Association, founder of MARIE Gallery5 and Malta's largest visual arts network; ARTZ ID. Her vast local and international experience within the art ecosystem propels her desire to help transform it into a more accessible, sustainable, and inclusive ecology through innovation and collaboration.

**MARY ANN DEVLIEG - CO-FOUNDER, INTERNATIONAL ARTS RIGHTS ADVISORS**



Currently a PhD candidate critiquing policies regarding rights of artists impacted by displacement. Advisor to al Mawred al Thaqafy's 'Stand for Art' training for MENA at-risk artists' residencies. Since 2013, advises the annual Safe Havens conferences; in 2023 curated the Salzburg Global Seminar's 'Artists on the Front Line'. Since 2019 works with the Swedish Arts Council and the Council of Europe developing artistic freedom programmes. Co-founder of IARA, International Arts Rights Advisors. A co-founder of the Arts-Rights-Justice Academy University of Hildesheim. Founded/co-founded [www.on-the-move.org](http://www.on-the-move.org) and Roberto Cimetta Fund for Mobility in the Mediterranean. Board member, Ettijahat Independent Culture Lebanon. MA in European Cultural Policy, Warwick University. - 18 -

**OLIVER GÖBEL - COORDINATOR - COMPENDIUM COORDINATOR**

Olivier Göbel 1975, Project Manager of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends and research associate at the Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft e.V.. He studied political science, economics and social sciences at the University of Bonn. From 2005-2017 he was project manager of the European Institute for Comparative Cultural Research (ERICarts) where he was responsible for the coordination and logistical execution of transnational comparative research studies or projects, such as: "Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends" (Council of Europe 2005-2017), "Contribution of Culture to Local and Regional Economic Development as part of European Regional Policy" (2010 EU-project), "Mobility Matters" (EU-project 2009), "Sharing Diversity" (EU-project 2008).

**ROMINA DELIA - INTERNATIONALISATION EXECUTIVE, ARTS COUNCIL MALTA**

Dr Romina Delia is the Internationalisation Executive at Arts Council Malta. She has led Malta's participation at the Venice Art Biennale and at the London Design Biennale for the past 7 years, all of which received very positive feedback from the international press. In 2017, during Malta's Presidency of the Council of the EU, she was one of the team members from Malta chairing the Cultural Affairs Committee in Brussels. She is the focal point of Malta for international networks such as EUNIC- the EU network for National Institutes of Culture and IETM- the International Network for Contemporary Performing Arts. She is currently the vice president of the EUNIC Malta Cluster. Romina has a PhD from the University of Leicester, UK.

**SARA WHYATT - RESEARCH MANAGER, FREEMUSE**

Sara Whyatt is a campaigner and researcher on freedom of artistic expression. She headed the writers' association PEN International's freedom of expression programme for over 20 years, during which time she campaigned for thousands of writers worldwide who had been imprisoned, attacked and killed. She is now working on projects exploring the ways that artistic freedom is curtailed across the world, providing her expertise to a wide variety of organisations, including UNESCO, Council of Europe, Freemuse, IFACCA, and the Swedish Arts Council and other arts and human rights organisations working to support threatened artists. She is the author of the Council of Europe's 'Free to Create: Artistic Freedom in Europe', pub. February 2023

**SIMONE INGUANEZ - DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITIES EXECUTIVE, ARTS COUNCIL MALTA**

Simone Inguanez joined Arts Council Malta in 2009. She is currently responsible for Diversity and Communities strategy development, leading the implementation of the Right to Culture sensitisation campaign, and managing support for promoting and enabling access, participation, and well-being. Simone's interests lie at the crossroads between diverse narratives, creative expression, and human rights. She graduated in law, and continued to pursue studies in human sciences, and language. She has served on the Maltese language council since its creation in 2005. She is a published author and award-winning translator.

**TERJE HOVLAND - CHAIR OF CDCPP, COUNCIL OF EUROPE**



Educated at the University of Bergen, Terje holds a degree in archaeology. Since 1997 he has been working in public cultural heritage management in Norway, both at a regional and national level, and since 2012 at the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment, Department for Cultural Environment and Polar Affairs. Terje has been a member of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) since 2016, where he currently holds the position of chair. As Chair of the CDCPP he is also Board member of the Compendium Association. Terje is a member of the Steering Committee and Governing Board of the JPI Cultural Heritage and Global Change, and is also representing Norway in Horizon Europe, Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive society.

**ULRIKE BLUMENREICH - HEAD, COMPENDIUM COORDINATOR**



Ulrike Blumenreich is vice director of the Institute for Cultural Policy within the Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft in Germany and head of the Compendium coordinator. She leads several (inter)national research and monitoring projects (research areas: cultural policy, cultural financing, cultural statistics, cultural governance), coordinates the service provider of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends, works at numerous cultural development planning processes (on national, regional and local level), as co-editor (e.g. "Yearbook of Cultural Policy", "Journal on Cultural Policy"), as lecturer at universities and as (inter)national consultant. She graduated in Applied Cultural Sciences at the Universities of Lüneburg (Germany) and Växjö (Sweden).

# CONFERENCE Contributors

In the context of the International Cultural Policy Conference 2023, Arts Council Malta and The Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends have forged collaborations with both local and international artists. These artists will play a pivotal role in the conference by providing insightful reflections and presentations on its proceedings.

## **SPOKEN WORD INTERVENTIONS**

The spoken word interventions are presented by Inizjamed in collaboration with Arts Council Malta & the Compendium Association. Inizjamed is a voluntary non-governmental cultural organisation founded in 1998 in Malta that is committed towards the regeneration of culture and artistic expression in the Maltese Islands and actively promotes a greater awareness of the cultures of the Mediterranean. The Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival (Festival Mediterranju tal-Letteratura ta' Malta) is an annual international literary festival organized by Inizjamed in collaboration with the European network Literature Across Frontiers and other national and international partners. <https://www.inizjamed.org/>

### **SAM ALEKKSANDRA**



Sam Alekksandra (b.1998) is a Maltese poet, artist and journalist. She is on a mission to place words and craft sounds. Her debut poetry book "politics of touch" was published by Ede Books in 2022, which described her as "a promising young voice holding a match ready to strike, to burn language and its expectations from the inside." Alekksandra holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Malta and SciencePo and became a journalist by accidental fate, in the wake of the death of journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia. Alekksandra is a practising multidisciplinary artist and co-founder of R Gallery. She performs electronic music under the name princess wonderful. Her debut short film "If You're Sure I Want To", comes out in December 2023. Photo Credit: Alba Zari.

### **BRADLEY CACHIA**



Born in 2004, Bradley Cachia is currently reading for a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Maltese with Communication Studies at the University of Malta. He identifies as a performing artist and a literary artist, with a great appreciation towards the creative experimentation which these forms allow him to pursue, especially when he manages to bridge them together. He has also worked, and still works, in various voluntary NGOs with the aim of promoting social causes which he holds close to heart, such as language, arts and culture, education, and justice.

## GRAPHIC RECORDINGS

Participating in the conference remotely from her studio in Leipzig, Johanna Benz will visually capture and comment on key facts, ideas, and statements shared during the conference in real-time, creating subjective images and lasting memories. The live-drawing process will be presented on screen for a few minutes every 15 minutes during panel discussions. Delegates can also access the virtual gallery through their devices - QR codes are available around the conference venue.

Delegates can also access the virtual gallery through their devices:

<https://www.picdrop.com/graphicrecording.cool/nJX1zTPRBY>

### JOHANNA BENZ



Graphicrecording.cool was founded in 2013 by Johanna Benz and Tiziana Beck. Since they got to know each other during their studies at the Academy of Visual Arts Leipzig, they have been working together intensively. Based in Leipzig and Berlin, the duo develops individual graphic recording formats for conferences, workshops, symposium or performative events. Through the live-drawing process they illustrate and comment on facts, ideas or statements, as well as show subjective images and memories with the aim of creating new connections between visual and applied arts, science, research and education. Johanna will record the conference for you from her studio in Leipzig.

# 6<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY OF THE COMPENDIUM ASSOCIATION AND ASSEMBLY OF COMPENDIUM EXPERTS

6<sup>th</sup> October 2023 | Valletta, Malta

Organised by



Hosted by





## AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE OF COMPENDIUM COMMUNITY

**6th Assembly of the Compendium Association and Assembly of Compendium Experts  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

*This event is open strictly to Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members).*

- 08:30 - 09:00**      **Bus Transfer from Hotels to Assembly Venue**  
Meeting Point: ACM representatives will greet delegates at their respective hotel lobbies between 08:15 - 08:30.
- 09:00 - 09:30**      **Welcome Coffee**
- 09:30 - 10:00**      **Outlook Compendium**
- 10:00 - 11:00**      **General Assembly of the Association of Compendium  
of Cultural Policy and Trends**
- 11:00 - 12:30**      **ACE-Assembly**
- 12:30 - 14:00**      **Lunch Break at MUŻA, the Malta National-Community Art Museum**
- 14:00 - 16:00**      **Discussion on the further development of the Compendium  
(incl. Working groups)**
- 16:00 - 16:30**      **Group Photo & Coffee Break**
- 16:30 - 18:00**      **Presentation of Research Projects**

*The following information is only relevant to Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members) and International Speakers & Moderators. Information about the Cultural Programme can be found on page 42.*

- 18:00 - 18:15**      **Walking Transfers to Cultural Visits**  
*(Departure Point: National Museum of Archaeology)*
- 18:15 - 19:15**      **Cultural Visits**
- 19:15**              **Complementary Local Snack & Beverage**
- 21:00 - 21:30**      **Bus Transfer to Hotels**  
*(Departure Point: Phoenicia Hotel, Valletta)*

## EXPERTS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMPENDIUM COMMUNITY

*Alphabetically-ordered by country*

Albania	Blerina Berberi	Expert / Board Compendium Association / Board ACE
Armenia	Haykuhi Muradyan	Expert
Austria	Anna Steiner	Member
Austria	Klara Košťal	Expert
Azerbaijan	Yashar Huseynli	Member / Expert
Belgium (Flanders)	Eva Van Passel	Member
Belgium (Flanders)	Jean-Gilles Lowies	Expert
Belgium (Wallonia)	Kim Dang-Duy	Member
Bulgaria	Diana Andreeva-Popyordanova	Member / Expert
Croatia	Jaka Primorac	Member / Expert
Czech Republic	Pavla Petrová	Expert
Estonia	Marko Lõhmus	Member, Expert
Estonia	Karl Viilmann	Member
Finland	Anna Kanerva	Member / Expert / Board Compendium Association
Finland	Marjo Mäenpää	Member
France	Thomas Perrin	Expert
Germany	Ulrike Blumenreich	Member / Expert / Coordinator
Great Britain	Andrew Ormston	Expert
Hungary	Péter Inkei	Expert / Board ACE
Lithuania	Martynas Tininis	Member
Lithuania	Radvilė Maskuliūnaitė	Member
Lithuania	Audronė Rimkutė	Expert
Luxembourg	Barbara Zeches	Member
Malta	Adrian Debattista	Member / Expert / Board Compendium Association
Montenegro	Natasa Kraljevic	Member / Expert
Netherlands	Rogier Brom	Member
Netherlands	Mutaleni Nadimi Mbumba	Expert
Norway	Bård Kleppe	Expert
Poland	Dorota Ilczuk	Expert
Poland	Anna Karpińska	Expert
Poland	Maciej Koziel	Expert
Portugal	Cristina Farinha	Expert
Romania	Carmen Croitoru	Expert
Romania	Andreea Codreanu-Öner	Expert
Serbia	Milan Đorđević	Expert
Spain / Eures	Anna Villarroya	Member / Expert
Russia / Finland	Tatiana Romashko	Expert
Sweden	Andreas Petersson	Member
Switzerland	Solange Michel	Member
Switzerland	Bucher Claudio	Expert
Council of Europe	Francesc Pla	Member / Board Compendium Association
ERICarts	Andreas Wiesand	Member / Board Compendium Association
CDCPP	Terje Hovland	Member / Board Compendium Association
Coordinator	Ulrike Blumenreich	Head
Coordinator	Oliver Göbel	Project Manager
Coordinator	Leonard Mertens	Project Assistant

# 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION OF THE STATE OF THE ARTS - MALTA NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

## “RIGHT TO CULTURE”

7<sup>th</sup> October 2023 | Valletta, Malta

Organised by



## SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

State of the Arts - Malta National Symposium  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**08:15 - 08:45**

### **Bus Transfer from Hotels to Conference Venue**

Meeting Point: ACM representatives will greet delegates at their respective hotel lobbies between 08:00 - 08:15

*This information is only relevant to Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members) and International Speakers & Moderators. Hospitality information can be found on page 42.*

**08:30 - 09:00**

### **Registration & Welcome Coffee**

**09:00 - 09:20**

### **Opening | Welcome | Introduction**

#### **Ms Mary Ann Cauchi**

Director Funding & Strategy, Arts Council Malta

#### **Mr Alex Farrugia**

Director, Culture Directorate

**09:20 - 09:55**

### **Keynote Presentation**

#### **Claire Tonna**

Queer Maltese singer, songwriter, and performer

**09:55 - 10:55**

### **Panel Discussion: Contextualising the 'Right to Culture' in Malta**

Moderated by

**Elaine Falzon** - Cultural Manager

Interventions by

#### **Alistair de Gaetano**

Chairperson, Autism Advisory Council

#### **Andre Callus**

Activist, Moviment Graffiti

#### **Margerita Pulè**

Artist, Curator & Cultural Manager, Unfinished Art Space

#### **Nikki Petroni**

Education and Development Executive, Arts Council Malta

#### **Rosetta Debattista**

Creative Consultant at Villabianca (The Malta Trust Foundation),  
Artistic Consultant (Teatru Salesjan)

#### **Ruth Farrugia**

Senior Lecturer, University of Malta

**10:55 - 11:15**

### **Coffee Break**

- 11:15 - 11:45**      **Workshop: Empowering Sounds or Trivial Rhythmic Variations?**
- Facilitated by  
**Cynthia Bonnici**  
 Graduate in Psychology, Reading for a Master of Arts in Disability Studies
- 11:45 - 12:00**      **Presentation: Ale's Project - Dreaming on Ilia Chkolnik's Piano Concerto No1**
- Presented by  
**Alessia Bonnici** - Musician &  
**Sara Accettura** - Dance Coach, Ale's Project
- 12:00 - 12:15**      **Closing**
- Summary and short outlook from **Mary Ann Cauchi**  
 Director Funding & Strategy, Arts Council Malta
- 12:15 - 12:30**      **Walking Transfer to Valletta Campus - L-Università ta' Malta**
- 12:30 - 14:00**      **Speed Dating Presentations & Networking Lunch at Valletta Campus - L-Università ta' Malta**
- Contributions by  
**Alexander Vella Gregory**  
 Music & More at the Jesuits: Right to Culture as a Christian Principle  
**Anna Formosa**  
 Arts in health and for well-being  
**Kristina Borg & Christian Mifsud**  
 Reliving Bighi through Communities' Stories  
**Peter Farrugia, Janette Schembri & Umberto Buttigieg**  
 Kuluri u Tifkiret: A Gestalt Approach to Expressive Arts and Community Building among People Living with Dementia in Malta  
**Toni Attard**  
 Pinkwashing & cultural rights
- Poster Exhibition by  
**Charmaine Zammit & Mariella Cassar Cordina (ARTIMUZI)**  
 Experiencing Maltese Townscapes and Soundscapes  
**Pamela Kerr & Rachel Calleja**  
 The Golden Years: Sounds of Care within Residential Settings for the Elderly  
**Sarah Micallef Muscat**  
 Reimagining Disney: Translating Songs into Maltese for Cultural Preservation and Engagement  
**Valerie Visanich**  
 Accomplishing Cultural Policy and the Use of AI in Cultural Participation
- 14:00 - 14:15**      **Bus Transfer to Hotels (Departure Point: Phoenicia Hotel, Valletta)**  
*This information is only relevant to Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members) and International Speakers & Moderators. Hospitality information can be found on page 42.*

# **KEYNOTE Presentation**

**CLAIRE TONNA**

Claire Tonna is a queer Maltese singer, songwriter, and performer renowned internationally for her distinctively contralto voice and writing, which are considered to be ones that transmit the plural facets of human emotion and empowerment.

Tonna's works and performances have been taking place all over the globe in the last two decades inside theatres, festivals, LGBTQI+ spaces, prisons, slums, refugee centres, mental hospitals and many other spaces resonating with her truth-filled music and vocation.

The facets of her presence and voice are acclaimed to present the audience an experience of incomparable empowerment.

In 2019 she won the title and award of 'Best European Singer/Songwriter' rewarded by the Tour Music Fest, Sony (Italy) and Berklee College from Boston, United States.

"I sing what heals my broken bones and sing them in the one voice we are; Human." CT

**SYMPOSIUM**  
**Speakers &**  
**Moderator**



**ALISTAIR DE GAETANO - CHAIRPERSON, AUTISM ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Alistair de Gaetano advises the Maltese Government's Directorate for Disability Issues (DDI), and is Chairperson of the Autism Advisory Council. He worked on setting up both entities, and eventually on developing key legislation, strategies, policy and actions to reform and strengthen the Maltese disability and autism sectors. Alistair has represented Malta at a number of high-level meetings, and was Vice-Chair of the Social Questions Working Party on the European Accessibility Act, during the country's 2017 EU Presidency. He is a warranted lawyer, having studied in Malta, Maastricht and Dublin, where he was awarded a PhD by Trinity College, after defending a dissertation on denial of rights to autistic persons. Alistair was a co-founder of EUCAP, the European Council of Autistic People.

**ANDRE CALLUS - ACTIVIST, MOVIMENT GRAFFITI**

André Callus became involved in social justice activism at the age of 17 when he joined left-wing organisation Moviment Graffiti. He has participated in awareness-raising events, educational activities and direct actions aimed at challenging the political party duopoly and the power of big business in Malta. These included campaigns for environmental protection and initiatives against the privatisation of public land and the economy. André Callus holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology.

**ELAINE FALZON - CULTURAL MANAGER**

Elaine is a cultural manager with more than ten years of professional experience in the cultural and creative sectors. After six years working at Arts Council Malta, she embarked on the freelance journey, working on a number of different projects with public and private entities. During these past years, she has been mostly focusing on strategy development exercises for the arts as well as project development and management. Elaine is also a part-time lecturer at MCAST teaching Arts Management.

**MARGERITA PULÈ - ARTIST, CURATOR & CULTURAL MANAGER, UNFINISHED ART SPACE**

Margerita Pulè is an artist, curator, and cultural manager. She is founder-director of Unfinished Art Space, an independent and nomadic space showing contemporary art in Malta, through which she engages in an open and collaborative curatorial practice. She is also a founder-member of the Magna Żmien Foundation, which digitises 20th century analogue home archives, forming a community archive accessible to researchers and artists. In July, she was one of just four practitioners awarded ACM's Sabbatical for Artistic Research Grant; and will use this time to work towards a meaningful curatorial methodology, seeking new ways to think through the diverse relationships between curator, artist, artwork, space, audiences and society.

**NIKKI PETRONI - EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE, ARTS COUNCIL MALTA**



Nikki Petroni pursued postgraduate studies in Art History at University College London (UCL) and completed a Ph.D. in Maltese Modern art at the University of Malta in 2019. Nikki is Education and Development Executive at Arts Council Malta where she is responsible for the identification and implementation of strategic goals for the growth and betterment of formal and informal arts education and development in Malta. Nikki is also a visiting lecturer in Modern and Contemporary art history at the University of Malta and is curator of the APS Mdina Cathedral Contemporary Art Biennale. She is an independent researcher, curator, and editor of several academic essays, books, and exhibition catalogues.

**ROSETTA DEBATTISTA - CREATIVE CONSULTANT AT VILLABIANCA (THE MALTA TRUST FOUNDATION), ARTISTIC CONSULTANT (TEATRU SALESJAN)**



A graduate of the Royal College of Music and the University of Surrey, Rosetta has worked as an Educator, Therapist and Performer for the past thirty years, performing both locally and overseas. She worked as a Vocal Coach and Music Director for many locally produced musicals and initiated and coordinated several productions. In 2011-2018 she was Arts Education Consultant for Teatru Manoel, where she launched and ran the theatre's Toi Toi Education Programme, leading projects within schools, resource centres and residential homes. In 2019 she was appointed the Artistic Director at Teatru Salesjan. She is Creative Consultant to The Malta Trust Foundation, designing and leading Villabianca - Centre for Music and the Arts, giving children and young people with disabilities access to music.

**RUTH FARRUGIA - SENIOR LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF MALTA**



Dr Ruth Farrugia is an advocate and lecturer. She received her undergraduate and postgraduate education at the University of Malta, University of Strasbourg and Metropolitan Tribunal. Ruth has contributed to a number of local, regional and international boards and chaired the Children and Young Persons Care Orders Board and the National Commission for Child Policy and Strategy in Malta. She has drafted guidelines and legislation regarding children and equality rights both locally and for the EC and Council of Europe, and has published widely in the field of family, child rights and human rights law. She currently works as a consultant to the Council of Europe on a number of projects relating to child rights.

**SYMPOSIUM  
Contributors &  
Presenters**

In the context of the State of the Arts - Malta National Symposium 2023, Arts Council Malta issued a Call for Contributions welcoming proposals from creatives, researchers, academics, activists, and other practitioners from the Cultural and Creative Sector and from shared interest sectors (including the Social Sector, the Health Sector, the Sustainability Sector, Local Government, and Civil Society) - representing a range of backgrounds including gender diversity, sexual orientation, age, disability, cultural diversity, socio-economic background, academic background, fields of expertise/ experience, geographical, ideology and beliefs. Contributors were invited to submit initiatives, case studies, good practices, possible strategies, and questions for discussion during the State of the Arts - Malta National Symposium 2023: "Right to Culture".

## WORKSHOP

### EMPOWERING SOUNDS OR TRIVIAL RHYTHMIC VARIATIONS?

#### CYNTHIA BONNICI



Cynthia Bonnici is a psychology graduate who has completed her final year reading for a M.A. in Disability Studies. Her main interest centres around cognitive disability. She is also a mother to an 18-year-old pianist on the autism spectrum who over the years has motivated her to advocate for the rights of this group. She continues today to seek for opportunities in the cultural sector to be made available for people with disability. Cynthia was involved in the setting up of Villabianca, and remains affiliated with the centre today through her support to attending families and the creation of other projects related to disability and the arts. She is also the producer of Ale's Project, a music video featuring her daughter, Alessia Bonnici, as the main protagonist."

#### ALESSIA BONNICI

Presentation - Ale's Project - Dreaming on Ilia Chkolnik's Piano Concerto No 1



Teenage musician Alessia Bonnici has been exploring her love for music since 2012. She is a student at the Malta School of Music, currently reading for her Diploma in Piano. Alessia has also completed a distance learning A-Level course with Trinity Laban Conservatoire. This year, Alessia went to perform in Finland where she participated in an international inclusive festival. Last year she was chosen as one of the Rising Stars, where she performed at the Manoel Theatre during the Malta Spring Festival. In 2021, supported by the Arts Council of Malta and AX Foundation amongst others, Alessia and her collaborators created Ale's Project, aiming at increasing awareness around the intersection of music and disability.

**SARA ACCETTURA**

Born in Italy, where she achieved a Diploma for dance teachers at I.D.A. and a MA in choreography at European Dance Alliance, Sara graduated at the London Contemporary Dance School (UK). Since then, she has danced in UK for the National Dance Company of Wales, Cedar Dance, Diciembre Dance, Combination, Leila Dance, and Maddogs, whilst teaching at The Place, Mortlake School of Dance, and Ballet School of Notting Hill. After achieving a Master of Arts in Performance at LCDS (London), she danced for various choreographers, amongst them M. Brew, Y. Cienfuegos, D. Raz, M. Khoo, L. Piquero, M. Zavan, O. Ronen, F. Tranter. Sara is a freelance dancer, choreographer and educator, and is pursuing her PhD in Dance and Autism at the University of Bedfordshire. She is artistic director of Junior Dance Company (Bari, Malta), Dance Master Class, and Dance For All, Assistant Lecturer in Dance Studies and Disability Studies at the University of Malta. In 2021, Sara joined Opening Doors as dance leader.

**SPEED DATING PRESENTATIONS**

*Delegates will have the opportunity to listen to each of these five presentations in small groups during the networking lunch on Saturday 7th October. After viewing all presentations, delegates are welcome to walk around, revisit presentations, and engage in further discussion with the contributors.*

**ALEXANDER VELLA GREGORY - MUSIC & MORE AT THE JESUITS: RIGHT TO CULTURE AS A CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLE**

Alexander Vella Gregory is a composer, performer, and researcher. His works have been performed in Malta and abroad, and are published by United Music Publishers. Alexander holds a PhD in Music Composition with Edinburgh Napier University, and is an Assistant Professor at Triagon Acadmey. Alexander is also the Artistic Director of Cappella Sanctae Catharinae, Malta's only male choir, as well as Artistic Director of the Music & More at the Jesuits cultural programme at the former Jesuit Church in Valletta. He is a Trustee of the Ian Tomlin Malta Edinburgh Music Scholarship Fund, and a visiting lecturer with the University of Malta.

**ANNA FORMOSA - ARTS IN HEALTH AND FOR WELL-BEING**

Anna is an applied drama theatre practitioner and pharmacist. Initially a theatre performer, she later studied applied drama and along the years led many projects such as youth theatre, after-school drama clubs, tailor-made projects, working with young offenders, in a drug-rehabilitation facility, with people with learning disabilities, and with Ziguzajg. Her latest work focuses on elderly and intergenerational groups. She also enjoys sharing her passion with students at UoM. Being both a health-care professional and an arts practitioner, she always felt the connection between arts and health and well-being, and will continue to work and develop projects in this area.

**KRISTINA BORG & CHRISTIAN MIFSUD - RELIVING BIGHI THROUGH COMMUNITIES' STORIES**



Kristina Borg is a socially engaged freelance artist and art educator. In her transdisciplinary research-practice she spends time integrating into specific communities and, in dialogue with the community and the place, she co-creates situation-context-specific projects, involving alternative, experiential processes that relate to socio-political and economic issues in urban-collective spaces.



Christian Mifsud is an archaeologist specialising in urban and building archaeology and is concluding his PhD studies in the origins of urban development in Malta. A former officer of the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, Mifsud is the Curator of Historic Buildings at Heritage Malta. His research focuses on the historic transformation of spaces and the assigned values to places by communities.

**PETER FARRUGIA, JANETTE SCHEMBRI & UMBERTO BUTTIGIEG - KULURI U TIFKIRET: A GESTALT APPROACH TO EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND COMMUNITY BUILDING AMONG PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA IN MALTA.**



Peter Farrugia is a psychotherapist with a strong emphasis on arts-based therapy and spirituality. He has a profound interest in integrating the expressive power of art into his psychotherapy practice and its emphasis on emotional regulation and trauma recovery.

Jeanette Schembri is a psychotherapist who brings a wealth of experience in group facilitation to the team. She has facilitated numerous groups throughout her career, providing the project with critical expertise in fostering an environment conducive to collective expression and growth.

Umberto Buttigieg is a trainee psychotherapist and an administrator at the Malta School of Art. His background as an artist has significantly influenced the project's expressive arts components, deepening links between art and psychotherapy.

**TONI ATTARD - PINKWASHING & CULTURAL RIGHTS**

Toni Attard (Malta) is the Founder and Director of Culture Venture, an international arts advisory firm as well as the founder and creative producer of Udjenja. He holds an MSc in cultural management and policy (QMU, Edinburgh) and a B. Communications (Hons) (Melit.). He was Director of Strategy at Arts Council Malta, and co-authored Malta's creative economy strategy and national cultural policies. Toni is active in international advocacy for the arts and is a founding member of Opening Doors, an NGO for artists with learning disabilities. He is also a theatre director and served as Festival Director of four editions of ŽiguŽajg. He is the Artistic Director of EuroPride 2023 and was appointed by the European Commission as a Member of the Selection and Monitoring Panel of European Capitals of Culture.

**POSTER EXHIBITION**

*Delegates will have the opportunity to view this poster exhibition in small groups during the networking lunch on Saturday 7th October. After viewing all presentations, delegates are welcome to walk around, revisit the exhibition and engage in further discussion with the contributors.*

**CHARMAINE ZAMMIT & MARIELLA CASSAR CORDINA (ARTIMUZI) - EXPERIENCING MALTESE TOWNSCAPES AND SOUNDSCAPES**

Charmaine Zammit, PhD (Art Education), is a full-time Education Officer for Art, and part-time Senior Lecturer at the University of Malta. With a background in Art Education, her interests encompass arts and wellbeing, emotional literacy, sustainability, visual literacy, museum education, holistic learning, and community outreach art projects.



Mariella Cassar-Cordina, PhD (Music composition) from the University of Falmouth, incorporating Dartington College of Arts, UK. She is a composer specializing in acoustic and electroacoustic composition. She frequently collaborates with musicians and visual artists on interdisciplinary and community projects. She is an Education Officer for Music and a lecturer at the University of Malta.

**PAMELA KERR & RACHEL CALLEJA - THE GOLDEN YEARS: SOUNDS OF CARE WITHIN RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS FOR THE ELDERLY**



Pamela Kerr is an independent dance artist who mainly works on choreography and rehearsal direction. She has worked with various dance artists and companies both locally and internationally. Pamela teaches classical ballet at The Dance Workshop and has led several community dance projects in these past years.



Rachel recently graduated with an MSc in Creative Psychotherapy at Edge Hill University (UK). Being interested in accessible movement practices also led her to study as a Dance Ability teacher. Her experience includes working at Inspire, choreographing for ŻfinMalta, co-founding the NGO Żugraga, being a dance leader with Opening Doors, and writing a Dance Education Package with Spazju Kreattiv. Currently, Rachel works as a Creative Therapist offering one-to-one sessions with TAASC and MOVE.

**SARAH MICALLEF MUSCAT - REIMAGINING DISNEY: TRANSLATING SONGS INTO MALTESE FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION AND ENGAGEMENT**



Sarah Micallef Muscat, a media professional with 13 years of experience, is the presenter of "Reimagining Disney: Translating Songs into Maltese." As a producer, writer, director, and performer/artist, Sarah has honed her skills and deepened her understanding of the creative process. Her recent experiment in translating Disney songs into Maltese gained significant attention on social media platforms, demonstrating her passion for cultural preservation and engagement. Through her work, Sarah strives to inspire the younger generation to connect with their native language and foster a sense of pride in Maltese culture. Her expertise lies in the art of translation, storytelling, and leveraging social media platforms to facilitate cultural dialogue and expression.

**VALERIE VISANICH - ACCOMPLISHING CULTURAL POLICY AND THE USE OF AI IN CULTURAL PARTICIPATION**



Valerie Visanich is a Senior lecturer at the Department of Sociology, at the University of Malta. She is a co-editor of the book series *The Sociology and Management of the Arts* (Routledge). Currently, she is a board member of the European Sociological Association, Research Network Sociology of Art (RN02) and had previously occupied the position of a chairperson between 2017-2019, within this European research network. Her recent publications includes a co-edited book *Accomplishing Cultural Policy in Europe: Financing, Governance and Responsiveness* (2022, Routledge). Other publications include her monograph entitled *Education, Individualization and Neoliberalism: Youth in Southern Europe* (2019, Bloomsbury).



# **PRACTICAL Information**

## EVENT COMMUNICATIONS

### OFFICIAL HASHTAG:

**#RighttoCulture23**

### STAY CONNECTED:

Journalist Ramona Depares will be sharing real-time updates and coverage of the event proceedings on Arts Council Malta's LinkedIn page. Engage in discussions and share your insights using the official hashtag.

### SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK:

Your input is valuable to us. Please take a few moments to complete our post-event feedback survey which will be sent to you by email. Your insights help us improve and enhance future initiatives.

### DISCOVER MORE:

Discover Arts Council Malta's 'Right to Culture' Resource Pack - an initiative aimed at increasing awareness regarding inclusivity and supporting the implementation of cultural rights in our day-to-day practice:

<https://artscouncilmalta.gov.mt/pages/guidance-advice/resources/right-to-culture/>

### EXPLORE MORE ABOUT ARTS COUNCIL MALTA AND STAY CONNECTED THROUGH OUR VARIOUS ONLINE PLATFORMS:

<https://artscouncilmalta.gov.mt/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ArtsCouncilMalta/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/arts-council-malta/>

<https://www.instagram.com/artscouncilmalta/>

<https://soundcloud.com/arts-council-malta>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/maltaculture>

## EVENT VENUES



### **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY**

Auberge de Provençe, Republic Street, Valletta

The National Museum of Archaeology is housed within the Auberge de Provençe, a fine exemplar a style of Baroque that flourished in Malta during during the era of the Knights of Order of St John. Dating back to 1571, it housed the langue of Provençe, France. An attraction in its own right the upper floor hosts the Gran Salon, a uniquely large painted hall, with decorations dating to the early 1800s.

<https://heritagemalta.mt/explore/national-museum-of-archaeology/>



### **MUŻA, THE MALTA NATIONAL-COMMUNITY ART MUSEUM**

Auberge d'Italie, Merchants Street, Valletta

The acronym for the Maltese title, Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Arti, and a direct reference to the mythological Muses of Classical Antiquity, MUŻA is Malta's National-Community Art Museum where works of art from the 15th to the early 21st century are on display. MUŻA also means 'mood' and 'inspiration' in the Maltese vernacular. All works of art on display at MUŻA (housed at the former Auberge d'Italie in Valletta), have been inspired by and founded on four main narratives: Mediterranean, Europe, Empire and The Artist.

<https://heritagemalta.mt/explore/muza/>



### **VALLETTA CAMPUS - L-UNIVERSITÀ TA' MALTA**

The venue has two entrances, one on St Paul Street and another on Merchants Street.

The Valletta Campus, which is housed in the Old University Building, dates back to the founding of the Collegium Melitense in 1592. Huddled between St. Paul, St Christopher, Merchants and Archbishop streets, the plan of the structure is typical of Renaissance large public buildings, including a central courtyard. Almost half of the site is taken up by the Jesuit church, the construction of which started in 1592 and concluded in 1609.

<https://www.um.edu.mt/campuses/valletta/history/>

## CULTURAL PROGRAMME

### THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER

The Welcome Dinner is exclusively for invited guests. Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members) and International Speakers & Moderators are requested to consult the invitation letter provided upon their hotel check-in.

### FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER

Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members) and International Speakers & Moderators have been invited to experience cultural, historical, and contemporary art venues in Valletta on the evening of Friday 6th October. The visits will depart from the National Museum of Archaeology at the end of the Assembly. After the visit, delegates are invited to a local bar, where we will end the evening with a complementary Maltese platter and local beverage.

#### Visit 1: Guided Tour around Valletta



This guided excursion through Valletta offers an in-depth exploration of its historical essence. Commencing at the National Museum of Archaeology, the itinerary proceeds towards the distinguished President's Palace - the official seat of the President of the Republic of Malta. It continues through the thoroughfare of Merchants Street, and concludes at the Upper Barrakka Gardens. The final destination presents a commanding panoramic view of the Grand Harbour and its imposing fortifications.

#### Visit 2: Visit to Spazju Kreattiv - National Centre for Creativity and Valletta Contemporary - Art Gallery



Established by Fondazzjoni Kreattività in the year 2000, the Spazju Kreattiv programme of creative arts and cultural events is located at St James Cavalier - a 16th-century fort converted into the National Centre for Creativity. Under the slogan of Il-Qalba tal-Kreattività (The Heart of Creativity), its annual season comprises over 500 events including exhibitions, performances, films, workshops and an artist-in-residence programme - presented across its gallery spaces, theatre-in-the-round, studios, and the only arthouse cinema on the island.

<https://kreattivita.org/en/>



Located in Valletta's lower east end, away from the bustling city centre, Valletta Contemporary (VC) is an independent exhibition space and art gallery, housed within a 400-year-old former warehouse, and run by the Norbert Francis Attard Foundation, and which opened its doors to the public in April 2018. The project seamlessly blends modern exhibition spaces with the building's original aesthetic character. VC also houses a gallery shop, through which it supports VC's mission and the work of selected Maltese and international emerging artists and designers.

<https://www.vallettacontemporary.com/>



### Visit 3: Visit to Valletta Design Cluster and Blitz Valletta - Contemporary Art Space

The Valletta Design Cluster within the Valletta Cultural Agency - a legacy project of Valletta 2018, European Capital of Culture - is a community space for cultural and creative practice situated in the renovated Old Abattoir (Il-Biccerija l-Antika) in Valletta. It focuses on design, entrepreneurship and social impact, while supporting and promoting user-centred design as a catalyst for innovation and as a multi-disciplinary approach that can create positive impacts for communities and individuals.

<https://www.vca.gov.mt/en/valletta-design-cluster/>



Blitz was founded in 2013 as a grassroots, artist-run contemporary arts space, and it is housed in a four-level, typical Valletta townhouse, which was originally the family home of founder Alexandra Pace's grandparents. After standing empty for over 30 years, the building slowly started returning to life through a dedicated and steady restoration process. Nowadays, Blitz has become a reference for contemporary art in Malta, and each of its floors shines in its full former glory where it has hosted numerous events and exhibitions, while also being the private residence of its founder.

<https://blitzvalletta.com/>

### SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

Delegates who have extended their stay beyond the 'Right to Culture' Events may be interested to know that on 7th October, the entire city of Valletta, from City Gate to Fort St Elmo, comes alive for Notte Bianca. Valletta's streets, piazzas, churches, state palaces and museums are transformed into venues for a myriad of live performances and concerts, while many cafés and restaurants extend their opening hours.

<https://www.festivals.mt/nb>

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR COMPENDIUM DELEGATES

### HOTEL INFORMATION

#### **Sliema Marina Hotel**

163, Tigne Sea Front Tas-Sliema, SLM 3010  
00356 2133 6462  
marina@eshotelsmalta.com

Check-in from 15:00 onwards  
Check-out until 11:00 am.  
Breakfast is served between 07:30 am - 09:30 am everyday.

#### **St Julian's Bay Hotel**

51, Censu Tabone Street, St Julians San Ġiljan, STJ 1217  
00 356 2138 6422  
marina@eshotelsmalta.com

Check-in from 15:00 onwards  
Check-out until 11:00 am.  
Breakfast is served between 07:30 am - 09:30 am everyday.

#### **Europa Hotel**

138, Tower Road, Sliema SLM 1604  
00 356 2133 4070  
marina@eshotelsmalta.com

Check-in from 15:00 onwards  
Check-out until 11:00 am.  
Breakfast is served between 07:30 am - 09:30 am everyday.

Sliema and St. Julian's, vibrant coastal towns situated to the northwest of Valletta, are a short distance away. They are accessible via a 10-minute ferry ride to and from The Strand in Sliema, or a 15- to 30-minute bus ride or drive.

## CONFERENCE TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Bus transfers have been organised daily for Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members) and International Speakers & Moderators between the hotels in Sliema / St Julian's and Valletta.

- Please consult the daily agenda for schedule information and meeting points. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated via the dedicated WhatsApp Group.
- We kindly ask you to be punctual if you wish to make use of the conference transport. Please refer to the general transport information on page 46 should you wish to make your own way to and from the hotel.
- Each bus will be accompanied by a liaison officer who will also guide delegates through any planned walking transfers between conference venues.

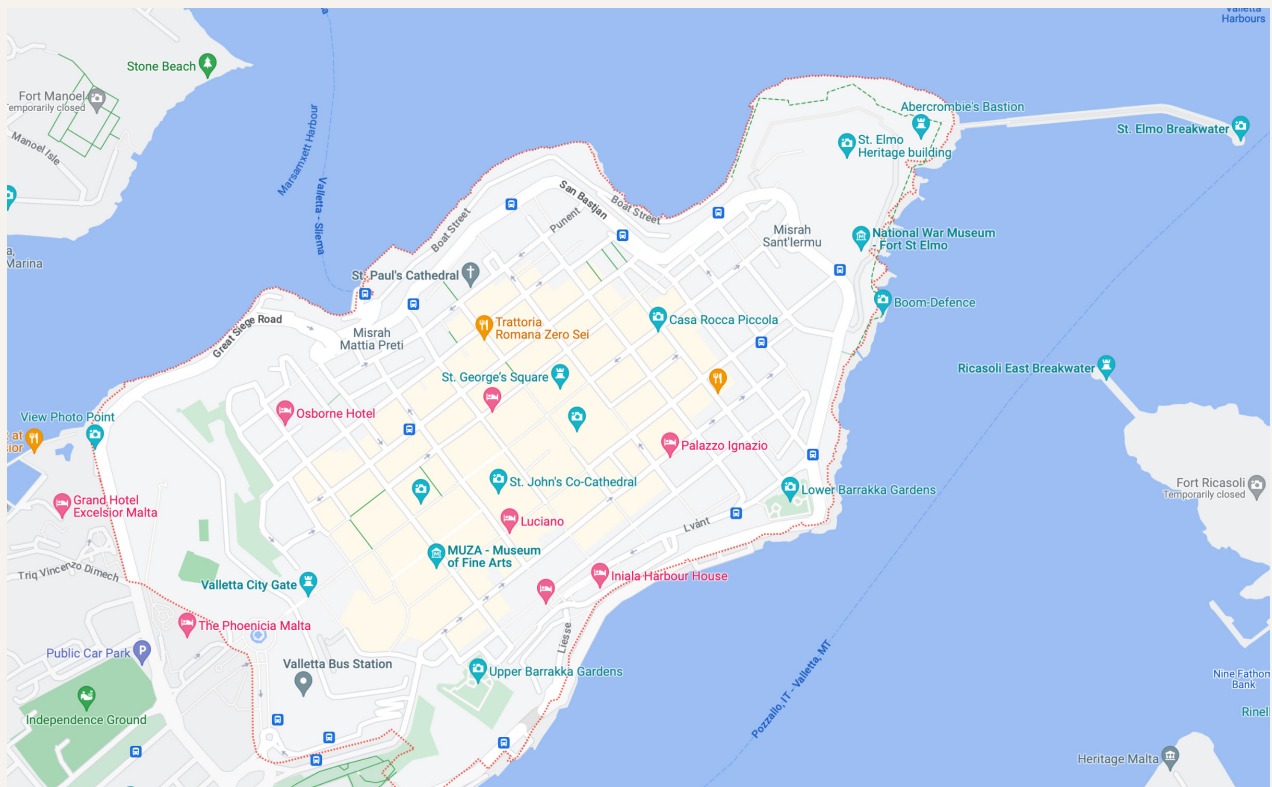
## WHATSAPP COMMUNICATION

Updates and modifications to the agenda, including the transport and cultural programme, will be shared through the exclusive WhatsApp Group for Compendium Delegates (Board Members, Experts, and Members) and International Speakers & Moderators. Kindly refer to the invitation letter given during your hotel check-in for the QR Code to join this group. If you encounter any difficulties connecting, feel free to ask for assistance at the Conference Registration Desk.

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

### Valletta

The capital of Malta, Valletta, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is inextricably linked to the history of the military and charitable Order of St John of Jerusalem. Built after the Great Siege of 1565 and named after Grandmaster Jean Parisot de la Valette, this fortified city has hundreds of monuments, all within a relatively small space, making it one of the most concentrated historic areas in the world.



Click here to access Google Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/BKPkqxK8YCx26JQh9>

### TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

**Buses:** A system of route buses operates across the island. Check Malta Public Transport's on-line journey planner or the Tallinja App for bus schedules and timings.

<https://www.publictransport.com.mt/en/trip-planner>

**Water Ferries:** Two catamaran ferry services operate frequently from The Strand (Sliema) to Valletta and from The Three Cities to Valletta.

<https://www.vallettaferryservices.com>



Airport: The Malta International Airport is located in Luqa some 10km from the capital city, Valletta.

<https://www.maltairport.com>

Gozo Channel: A regular ferry service operates between Ċirkewwa, Malta and the island of Gozo, taking about 20 minutes each way.

[www.gozochannel.com](http://www.gozochannel.com)

Taxis: The white taxi service can pick up passengers from anywhere, except bus stops. Other popular local taxi providers include eCabs and Bolt (both accessible via online app), amongst other options.

## **LANGUAGE & CURRENCY INFORMATION**

The national language of the Maltese islands is Maltese, a Semitic language with Romance influences. It is written in Latin script. Maltese is one of Malta's official languages, together with English which is also spoken widely across the islands. The currency used in Malta is the Euro. Most international cards are accepted.

## **CLIMATE INFORMATION**

For your comfort in Malta's Mediterranean climate, we recommend wearing light clothing. Please be aware that the conference venue does not have air conditioning, which is essential for maintaining the ideal indoor climate for this historical site.

## **MEDICAL INFORMATION**

The nearest health centre to the conference venue is Floriana Health Centre (37, Triq Sarria, Floriana FRN 1633), reachable at +356 2123 1356.

The nearest health centre to the hotels is Gzira Health Centre (77, Triq Tas-Sliema, Gzira GZR 1633), reachable at +356 2134 2279.

Malta's main hospital is Mater Dei Hospital (Msida MSD 2090) and emergency services are available 24/7.

Pharmacies have varied opening times but most open from 9.00 - 13.00 and from 16.00 to 19.00.

## **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

The European emergency number 112 is the only emergency number in Malta, encompassing medical emergencies, police, and fire & rescue services.

## ORGANISATION TEAM

### The Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends

The Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends seeks to generate and review policy standards in areas of concern to governments and society, by providing knowledge, statistics, comparisons, resources, thematic sections and more. The country profiles contain information on the historical development, present structure, financial aspects, specific sectors and ongoing debates in national cultural policies. The information presented in the country profiles is derived from a variety of sources including research studies, governmental documents and reports by ministers and other key representatives, reports or manifestos of lobby and advocacy groups, important statements from artists and cultural producers, from political campaigns or the media.

[culturalpolicies.net](http://culturalpolicies.net)

#### **Kulturpolitik Gesellschaft**

#### **Compendium Coordinator & Conference Concept Development**

The Kulturpolitik Gesellschaft eV was founded in 1976 and is the platform for cultural policy discourses in theory and practice in Germany. It stands for the principle »cultural policy is social policy« and is a non-partisan nationwide association for the promotion of education, science and research in the fields of art, culture and cultural policy. The KuPoGe is a network and association of around 1,500 people and organisations who are interested and committed to cultural policy, including those from the fields of cultural policy and administration, cultural practice, science, art, cultural education and training, socioculture and journalism.

<https://kupoge.de/>

Ulrike Blumenreich  
Oliver Göbel  
Leonard Mertens

Project Head  
Project Manager  
Project Assistant

## Arts Council Malta

### Right to Culture Events Organisation & Compendium Conference Host

Arts Council Malta (ACM) is the national agency for development and investment in the cultural and creative sectors. The creation and development of strategies for the sector falls under the Funding and Strategy Directorate. The Directorate is built on strategic focal points which include public investment, internationalisation creative entrepreneurship, research and evaluation, education and development, and diversity and communities. These points also run throughout the Council's strategy for the cultural and creative sectors for the years 2021-2025. The Directorate also focuses on the management and development of the funding portfolio, which currently includes 15 schemes based on 5 main strands: Resilience, Artistic and Community, Development, Education, Cultural Heritage and Structural, amounting to 7 million euro. A brokerage team also reaches out and assists operators in the cultural and creative sectors to maximise their potential.

[artscouncil.mt](http://artscouncil.mt)

### 'Right to Culture' Events Team

Stephanie Bonnici	Conference Coordinator
Annalisa Schembri	Site Manager
Clare Agius	Compère
Ramona Depares	Rapporteur

### Arts Council Malta Team

#### Board of Directors

Executive Chair - Albert Marshall  
 Members:  
 Dario Vella  
 Jackie Mercieca  
 Joseph Buttigieg  
 Justin Attard  
 Ilona Schembri  
 Marika Sammut Dimech  
 Roselyn Kitcher  
 Silvana Civelli

## **Funding & Strategy Directorate**

Director Funding & Strategy - Mary-Ann Cauchi  
Head Strategy - Adrian Debattista  
Head Communications - Maria Angela Vassallo  
Head Funding - Rita Falzon  
Fund Administration Executive - Annalise Buttigieg  
Support Administrator - Claude Gaspare Busuttil  
International Outreach Coordinator - Celine Portelli  
EU Projects Executive - Christopher Spiteri  
Creative Communications Broker - Eleonora Ruggieri  
PR International - Frank Psaila  
Creative Broker Executive - Glen Zammit  
Creative Broker - Joseph Lia  
Education & Development Executive - Nikki Petroni  
Support Administrator - Odette Micallef  
Administration Support Officer - Rityanne Gauci  
Internationalisation Executive - Romina Delia  
Diversity & Communities Executive - Simone Inguanez

## **Executive Chair's Office & Corporate Affairs Directorate**

Director - Eric Fenech Sevasta  
Management Support Executive - Aida Daoud Bushra  
Administration Officer - Angie Felice  
Assistant Director - Claudette Debono Farrugia  
Finance Executive - Eileen Spiteri  
Guest Relations Officer - Elaine Pickard  
Registry Administration Assistant - Elizabeth Muscat  
Driver/Messenger - Diandra Agius  
Financial Controller - Gilmore Mercieca  
Finance Senior Manager - Josepha Zammit  
Finance Senior Officer - Karen Farrugia  
Administration Senior Officer - Leonard Sciberras  
Legal Officer - Luke Dalli  
Administration Officer - Martha Scicluna  
Operations Executive - Martin Gauci  
Cleaner - Laurene Portelli  
Officer - Oscar Briffa  
Support Officer - Ritienne Borg  
Finance Senior Officer - Ritienne Grogen  
Driver/Messenger - Robert Camilleri  
Accounts Support Senior Officer - Rossella Farrugia  
IT Executive - Sean Cockram  
Driver/Messenger - Selina Mallia  
Projects Executive - Vincent Piscopo  
Reception - Tania Spiteri

