



What is beauty? What is the role of beauty in art? Should art always be beautiful?

## 28-30 of November 2015

HELD IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM FOLLOWED BY AN EXHIBIT IN THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

Be the voice of artists at the European level

Meet artists, critics, scholars, European decision-makers and participants from across Europe

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World **Youth** Alliance | Europe



### **European Arts Forum**

**The World Youth Alliance (WYA)** is a global coalition of young people, committed to promoting the dignity of the person through culture, education and advocacy and building solidarity among youth from developed and developing nations. WYA's cultural and arts-focused initiatives examine the relationship between art and the human condition and highlight the possibility of intercultural solidarity.

#### About the European Arts Forum

Following the success of the International Arts Forum held for three years in New York City, the World Youth Alliance will hold the first European Arts Forum (EAF) in Brussels. The EAF will gather artists, art critics, scholars, European decision-makers and participants from across Europe for an exhibition and some conferences that will examine the relationship between art and the human condition.

The theme of this year's conference is **'What is beauty? What is the role of beauty in art? Should art always be beautiful?'** and will take place in Brussels from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2015. The EAF will simultaneously exhibit the diverse work of young artists from across Europe and examine the relationship between art and beauty. Artwork selected for exhibition at the event ranges from sculpture, to painting, to jewelry-making, to coffee bean mosaics.

#### Schedule of the event

The European Arts Forum is a three-days long gathering that features a wide range of events, including an exhibition of the selected artworks in the European institutions, lectures by expert speakers, small group discussions, musical performances, negotiation of a Declaration to be presented at the European Parliament and presentations by the participating young artists about what shaped their work.

#### Application process for the young artists

The application process for **young artists to propose their piece of work** is now open online. In order to apply, you need to meet the following criteria:

- Be from 18-30 years old
- Must be residing in a European country
- Having a good level of English
- Be a member of the World Youth Alliance (having signed the WYA Charter)

For more information on the application process, please visit <u>www.wya.net/event/eaf</u>.

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#### WYA Charter

The World Youth Alliance is composed of young men and women from every part of the world. In cooperation with other organs of the international community, primarily the United Nations and the European Union, the World Youth Alliance is committed to building free and just societies through a culture of life. That culture affirms the inalienable dignity of the person, defends the intrinsic right to life, nurtures the family, and fosters a social climate favourable to integral development, solidarity, and mutual respect.

We recognize that the intrinsic dignity of the person is the foundation of every human right. We believe this dignity is independent of any individual condition and that no human community can grant or rescind that dignity.

We are convinced that the intrinsic dignity possessed by every human being from conception to natural death is the foundation of everyone's right to life. We believe that this inalienable right to life is the basis of a free and just society and we believe that society through law and culture has an obligation to protect the dignity of the person and thus protect the right to life.

We affirm that the fundamental unit of human society is the family, where men and women learn to live in genuine freedom and solidarity, and where individuals are equipped to fulfil their social obligations. We believe that the political community at the local, national and international level is obliged to protect and nurture the family.

We believe that the authentic development of society can occur only in a culture that fosters integral human development - characterized by physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional growth, in a climate of respect for the human person and the family.

We invite all those who share these convictions to join us in affirming them and give them effect in public life at all levels.

For more information, please visit our website <u>www.wya.net/event/eaf</u> or contact us.



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#### European Arts Forum 2015

#### Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2015

- 14:00 Welcoming of all the Participants
- 15: 00 Opening of the Forum: Introduction of WYA and the theme

"What is beauty? What is the role of beauty in art? Should art always be beautiful?"

15:30 First Panel of Experts

- Fabrice Hadjadj: writer and philosopher
- Artist

16: 30 Coffee break, possibility for conversation with the artists

17:00 Second Panel of Experts

- F. Rodrigo: art and the role of beauty in a country of war
- Academic speaker

18: 30 Award ceremony

19: 00 Performance of artists followed by a cocktail

#### Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2015

14: 00 Opening of the negotiations of the Declaration to be presented in the European Parliament to decision-makers: Beauty in art and its relation to human dignity

- Mafalda Pereira da Cunha: WYA member and PhD student: in History of Art at Birkbeck College, Univerity of London
- Antoine Mellado: WYA Europe director of Advocacy

14: 30 First Panel of negotiations of the WYA Declaration on Art, Beauty, Human Dignity and Human Rights

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15: 30 First Panel of Young Artists presenting their artwork

16:00 Coffee Break

16: 30 Panel on Culture, the vision of WYA

17: 00 Second Panel of negotiations of the WYA Declaration on Art, Beauty, Human Dignity and Human Rights

18: 00 Second Panel of Young Artists presenting their artwork

19:00 Unofficial dinner in the city centre

20: 00 Guided Tour in the centre of Brussels

#### Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015

10: 00 Visit of the European Parliament

12: 00 Presentation of the WYA Declaration to the European Parliament; meeting with decision-makers

14: 00 Closing cocktail and Exhibition of the pieces of arts in the European Parliament

