

MAA  
EUROPEAN CAPITAL  
OF CULTURE  
2018

# 2017 Cultural Programme

Notte Bianca c. Inigo Taylor



MEETINGS



EDUCATION



LITERATURE



PARTICIPATION



DANCE



DESIGN



VISUAL ARTS



FESTIVALS



MUSIC



EXHIBITIONS



PERFORMANCE



FILM

IN THE RUN-UP TO  
OUR EUROPEAN  
CAPITAL OF  
CULTURE  
CELEBRATIONS,  
VALLETTA 2018  
CONTINUES TO  
STIMULATE SOCIAL  
AND ECONOMIC  
CHANGE IN  
MALTA'S VILLAGES,  
TOWNS AND  
CITIES, CREATING  
AND SUPPORTING  
ACCESSIBLE  
COMMUNITY  
INITIATIVES ACROSS  
THE ISLAND.

OUR CONSTANT  
GOAL IS TO CREATE  
MEANINGFUL  
EXPERIENCES THAT  
ENCOURAGE THE  
PARTICIPATION OF  
DIVERSE COMMUNITIES  
ACROSS MALTA AND  
GOZO. AS WE GEAR UP  
FOR 2018, WE INVITE  
YOU TO CONTRIBUTE  
TO THE YEAR OF  
CELEBRATIONS WHICH  
LIES AHEAD OF US.





Kantakantun c. Chris Mangion

THIS YEAR, OUR CULTURAL PROGRAMME INVITES YOU TO REDISCOVER OUR CAPITAL CITY AND TO CREATE NEW, EXCITING EXPERIENCES AND LONG-LASTING FRIENDSHIPS. JOIN US TO SEE THE MALTESE ISLANDS THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS.

OUR COMMUNITIES CONTINUE TO EVOLVE, EXPAND, AND RESHAPE IN THE RUN-UP TOWARDS 2018. THIS YEAR'S CULTURAL PROGRAMME IS FOCUSED ON ENSURING THE SUCCESS OF ONGOING INITIATIVES, ENCOURAGING NEW VISIONS, INVITING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION, BUILDING STRONG NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS, AND ON PROVIDING THE SKILLS, RESOURCES AND PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURES NECESSARY TO SUSTAIN QUALITY FUTURE ACTIVITIES.





Notte Bianca c. Arts Council

## THE YEAR 2018

# VALLETTA 2018 INVITES YOU TO TAKE PART IN A YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION.

**VALLETTA 2018 WILL  
INAUGURATE THE  
EUROPEAN CAPITAL  
OF CULTURE  
FESTIVITIES ON THE  
WEEKEND OF THE  
20TH AND 21ST  
JANUARY 2018,  
WITH AN IMMERSIVE  
PROGRAMME  
OF EVENTS.**

Brimming with unique activities centred around art, music, literature, design, and lots more, our inclusive, weekend-long programme promises to enchant visitors young and old through engaging events that celebrate culture in all its forms.

The year will start off with Valletta 2018's major multi-site exhibition, curated by the internationally renowned Maren Richter. Contemporary artists from all over the world will connect with and react to local contexts and environments, to present audiences with a vibrant array of cultural activities.

Valletta 2018's theatre and music programmes will also work with local communities to explore our identities, cultures and futures through a year-long programme packed with new and exciting performances.



## BE PART OF OUR CULTURAL PROGRAMME

THE VALLETTA  
2018 FOUNDATION  
CREATES, SUPPORTS  
AND PROMOTES  
INITIATIVES THAT  
DEMONSTRATE  
HIGH ARTISTIC  
EXCELLENCE, AND  
ENSURES THAT  
CULTURAL ACTIVITY  
AND CREATIVE  
COLLABORATIONS  
ENDURE FAR  
BEYOND VALLETTA'S  
TITLE OF EUROPEAN  
CAPITAL OF  
CULTURE IN 2018.

The Valletta 2018 Foundation has created an Endorsement Programme that grants release of its logo to eligible third party producers of artistic, community, and cultural events. The programme considers contemporary initiatives which demonstrate the ability to generate community awareness, and which encourage participation in the European Capital of Culture ethos and the Valletta 2018 Capital of Culture celebrations. Initiatives supported by the Endorsement Programme benefit from an instantly recognisable mark of quality, which may be used across promotional material to communicate that an event is true to its proposed vision and appropriate for its intended audience.

If you are interested in our Endorsement Programme, we'd like to hear from you.

Website:

[valletta2018.org/have-your-project-endorsed/](http://valletta2018.org/have-your-project-endorsed/)

## FESTIVALS

As Malta's festivals go from strength to strength, creatives from a wide range of disciplines will bring a whole new year of cultural activity to the capital city and various places in Malta and Gozo, including an array of events and initiatives which contribute to the Valletta 2018 Cultural Programme.



## L-GĦANJA TAL-POPLU FESTIVAL TAL-KANZUNETTA MALTIJA

July 2017



L-Ghanja tal-Poplu is a live music festival devoted to the strengthening and preservation of new original songs written and performed in the Maltese language. Songs competing for the title of L-Ghanja tal-Poplu deal with a variety of themes relating to the experiences of the Maltese people – social issues, hopes, dreams, and traditions. The festival awards artists who contribute significantly to the creation of songs in the Maltese language, and seeks to engage audiences with these productions.





Valletta International Baroque Festival  
c. Gregor Hohenberg / Sony Classical



## VALLETTA INTERNATIONAL BAROQUE FESTIVAL

12 – 28 January 2017



Since its launch in 2013, the Valletta International Baroque Festival has treated audiences to a unique event featuring some of the best ensembles on the baroque music scene. Taking as its main venue one of the oldest working theatres in the world, Teatru Manoel, this prestigious two-week festival also plays out within many wonderful baroque and historical venues, such as St. John's Co-Cathedral and the Grandmaster's Palace. This year's musical programme has once again secured some of the best contemporary exponents of Baroque music from the international and local sphere to contribute to the celebration of Malta's capital.





Carnival  
c. Jonathan Borg



## CARNIVAL

24 – 28 February 2017



Every year, the city of Valletta hosts the Maltese Carnival, one of the island's oldest festive traditions. Over four vibrant days, the capital plays host to dancers in elaborate costume and numerous marching bands, whilst the much-anticipated carnival float parade sees beautiful handcrafted floats depicting various themes – people, animals and mythical creatures – travelling along the historic streets.





Valletta Green Festival  
c. Elisa von Brockdorff



## VALLETTA GREEN FESTIVAL

28 – 30 April 2017



This highly-anticipated three-day event transforms one of the largest open spaces in Valletta, Pjazza San Ġorġ, through the introduction of an 'infjorata' – a floral carpet composed of some 80,000 seasonal flowering plants. Throughout the Valletta Green Festival, a varied programme of events will also explore the theme of environmental sustainability from multiple angles, with educational workshops, information sessions, and music and entertainment events taking place around Pjazza San Ġorġ and other venues within the capital.



Malta Fashion Week  
c. Kurt Paris

## MALTA FASHION WEEK

21 – 27 May 2017



Malta Fashion Week provides a platform through which the talented individuals working in Malta's fashion industry may be recognised, while also celebrating fashion's contribution to visual culture. Now in its 7th edition, this much-anticipated event sees fashionistas gathering for a week of fashion shows, parties, and events that showcase some of Malta's finest industry talent – from fashion designers to catwalk models, stylists, make-up artists, photographers, fashion bloggers and writers.

## GHANAFEST

24, 25, 28, 29 June 2017



Now in its 10th edition, Malta's yearly world music festival showcases a diverse mix of local and international talent, and attracts both devout folk fans and aficionados of Maltese-Mediterranean music with its diverse content and presentation. This popular festival seeks to nurture the folk revival happening on the Maltese music scene, whilst fostering collaboration with a growing network of international musicians.



Ghanafest c. Joe Smith





Malta International Arts Festival  
c. Darrin Zammit Lupi

## MALTA INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

23 June – 15 July 2017



The Malta International Arts Festival provides a dynamic platform through which established and emerging Maltese artists can showcase their work and engage with broader audiences. Each year, the festival strives to enrich the cultural calendar with a host of events, including virtuoso music performances, visual installations, dance, and well-established international acts performing at various venues in and around Valletta.





## VALLETTA FILM FESTIVAL

16 – 25 June 2017



The Valletta Film Festival is Malta's largest film event, a live and communal affair that transforms Valletta into a city-sized cinema, with 40 feature films and 25 short films being screened at several venues around the capital. Free screenings are also held at Pjazza San Ġorġ, Valletta, while masterclasses, conferences, and debates provide a platform through which participants can discuss film and contemporary affairs over the course of the festival's programme.





Malta Jazz Festival c. Stefano Vella



## MALTA JAZZ FESTIVAL

20 – 22 July 2017



One of Malta's longest-running festivals, this highly-acclaimed music event brings local and international artists to the city of Valletta for three days of jazz performances, concerts, and events. Each year, the festival features some of the most popular jazz musicians working in the music sector, and also offers a diverse programme of free activities and events, such as open-air concerts, master classes, intimate jazz performances, and jazz contests.



Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival  
c. Virginia Monteforte

## MALTA MEDITERRANEAN LITERATURE FESTIVAL

24 – 26 August 2017



The Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival brings together active writers and translators from Malta, the Mediterranean and beyond, to showcase contemporary writing and thinking, promote interaction across languages, geographies and artistic genres, and to discuss some of the major issues of our time. By fostering collaboration within specific programmes and across artistic genres through an annual literary festival, a literary translation workshop and other pre-festival events, the MMLF aims to consolidate the place of Maltese literature in its simultaneously global and Mediterranean context.



## POETRY ON FILM

August 2017



Poetry on Film is an initiative that beautifully merges the visual art of film with Malta's rich literature. Each year since 2014, Inizjamed has selected a Maltese poem from a different decade for adaptation into a short film, which then premieres at the Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival.





Notte Bianca  
c. Inigo Taylor

## NOTTE BIANCA

7 October 2017



Each October, Notte Bianca brings the streets of Valletta to life with a spectacular evening of cultural events that promises to hold something special for everybody. All over the city, state palaces and museums open their doors for visual art exhibitions and theatrical performances, and musicians and dancers perform throughout the capital's streets and piazzas. On the night of the festival, cafes, restaurants and food stalls also provide visitors with a wide variety of late-night dining choices.



Three Palaces Festival  
c. Stephanie Sant

## THREE PALACES FESTIVAL

3 – 12 November 2017



The Three Palaces Festival attracts admirers of classical, modern, and jazz music. Set against the rich backdrop of the Presidential Palaces – the Verdala Palace in Buskett, San Anton Palace in Attard, and the Grandmaster's Palace in Valletta – this festival promises audiences an unforgettable evening steeped in music and history.



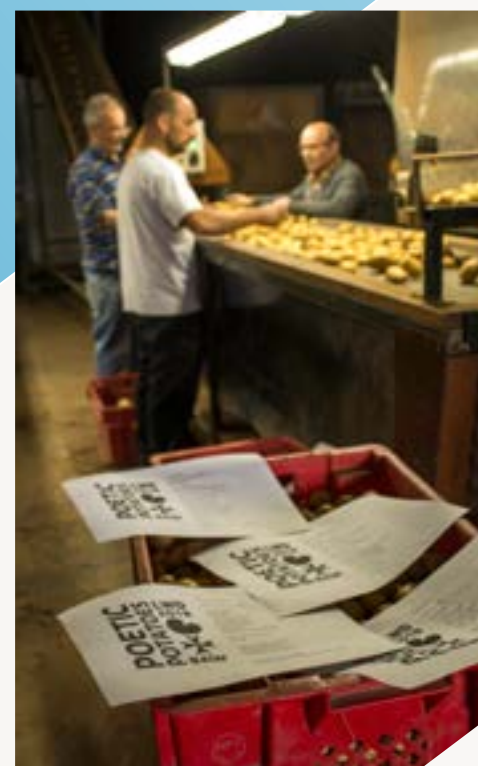
## PARTICIPATION

Our Cultural Programme invites all communities to exchange ideas, memories, and experiences through diverse and engaging communal events.



## POETRY IN POTATO BAGS

March & October 2017



This unique project is based on an ongoing poetry exchange between Malta and The Netherlands, a geographical region which has shared agricultural ties with Malta via the city of Leeuwarden since 1850. Poetry in Potato Bags creates a dialogue between Maltese and Dutch poets, whose poetic exchanges follow the actual agricultural cycle: every March, Maltese poems are packaged and sent to The Netherlands with the potatoes, whilst Dutch poets send their poetry back to Malta with the seeds in October. This initiative also incorporates an educational level, where students learn about agriculture and local farming processes and attend poetry workshops conducted by local poets.



Naqsam il-MUŻA  
c. Jonathan Borg

## NAQSAM IL-MUŻA

ONGOING



This exercise in community curation and participation celebrates the transition of the Museum of Fine Arts to MUŻA, Malta's new national art museum. As this flagship project prepares to open its doors for Valletta's title of European Capital of Culture, community representatives from different localities choose meaningful works from the national collection to be reproduced, exhibited, and discussed in various community spaces.

## RIMA MIGRANT STORIES

ONGOING



This multidisciplinary project combines art and anthropology to explore the multi-faceted aspects of migration and exile. Rima's initiatives encourage fruitful collaborations between experts from artistic and academic fields and migrants, wherein stories and experiences retrace a lost continuity between homeland and present daily life. Upcoming projects will focus on offering various creative initiatives for migrant communities, including a film festival featuring films produced by migrants, creative workshops in photography, creative writing and filming, and a final showcase of works produced.







## DARBA WAHDA

ONGOING



This much-loved multi-disciplinary series continues on its mission to draw children and the elderly together in different locations across Malta. Darba Wahda celebrates and explores the relationship between the valuable life experience of the elderly and the youthful inspiration of children through all sorts of inventive activities: drama, games, exercises, arts and crafts, storytelling, improvisations, and much more. Designed to create a bridge between two generations, all group sessions are carefully designed and curated by creative professionals, who are committed to fostering solidarity and friendship amongst participants in a fun and engaging way.



## ĠEWWA BARRA

ONGOING



Ġewwa Barra explores the needs, dreams and ideas that shape life in the capital through creative collaborations with Valletta's residents. This community-focused initiative empowers the residents of Valletta by encouraging their creative participation in the dialogues taking place around our ever-changing capital city. The project provides an opportunity for us all to appreciate and celebrate Valletta's multi-faceted social fabric together with the city's residents, and to encourage changes in ways that respect the cultural complexity and wealth of life in Valletta.



Subjective Maps Malta  
c. Tomoko Goto

## SUBJECTIVE MAPS MALTA

ONGOING



This project gathers 'subjective maps' produced by residents from various localities in the Maltese Islands. The main focus of Subjective Maps Malta is to investigate rapidly changing communities and emerging identities found at the confluence of Maltese and non-Maltese residents.

## LATITUDE 36

ONGOING



Latitude 36 is a transmedia project focusing on the Maltese emigrant experience. With the help of Maltese communities residing abroad, the migratory experience is placed at the core, mapping and examining migratory patterns and personal narratives. The final work will be a multi-platform transmedia project, woven together from various strands – conversations, images, texts, artefacts, memories, and emotions.







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## VISUAL ARTS & DESIGN

This series of accessible exhibitions and events showcases contemporary cultural forms – visual art, design, and other emerging media – as they take root in the capital city, where spaces, places, history and technology interact with modern audiences in surprising and innovative ways.

## VALLETTA DESIGN CLUSTER PROGRAMME

MALTA ROBOTIC OLYMPIAD

7 – 8 April 2017



The Valletta Design Cluster Programme focuses on initiatives related to infrastructural development and design. The programme is committed to two main strands: the creation of accessible events that raise awareness about design, and the exploration of design concepts which contribute to the regeneration of Valletta. For the second year running, the Valletta Design Cluster will be collaborating with the Design and Technology Learning Centre (Ministry of Education) and the Malta Robotics Olimpiad, to deliver a National Design & Technology Expo that reaches out to all interested students and the general public. The Valletta Design Cluster Programme also curates the urban development project, Design4DCity, and continues to cultivate relationships with international design collaborators.





Curatorial School  
c. Inigo Taylor

## CURATORIAL SCHOOL

28 August – 1 September 2017



Now approaching its 4th edition, this intensive one-week programme invites practitioners and students involved in a variety of related areas, such as fine arts, art education, arts administration, curation, and history of art to participate in lectures and workshops delivered by international guest speakers. The 2017 edition will employ an interactive model, incorporating workshops and a hands-on approach into the lecture programme.

## FRAGMENTA MALTA

ONGOING



Curated by Bettina Hutschek, FRAGMENTA is a platform for presenting contemporary art in the form of pop-up exhibitions set in public or semi-public spaces around the Maltese Islands. Each exhibition is a one-day-only event, during which the public can engage with art and some of the most relevant and complex issues of our time.







A Tale of Two Cities  
c. David Pisani



## A TALE OF TWO CITIES

12 – 28 February 2017



This exhibition brings two very different cities and histories together through the lens of photographer David Pisani. Combining the photographer's 29-year documentation of Valletta's buildings and his photographic essay on Nicosia and conflict areas in the north of Cyprus, A Tale of Two Cities offers a cross-cultural dialogue between two Mediterranean Island states whose architecture voices a powerful narrative of social displacement. The exhibition will be held in Pafos, Cyprus, in 2017, and in Malta in 2018.

## Design4DCity



A close collaboration between Valletta Design Cluster, Valletta 2018, the University of Malta and 72 Hours Urban Action, the objective of Design4DCity is to co-design the experience of common and shared spaces in Valletta and the Maltese Islands, by building meaningful bridges with the community of residents and regular users of such spaces, with a focus on the 'Biċċerija' area in Valletta. The workshop sessions as well as the dynamics generated during the exercise shall provide valuable information for future research into the multidisciplinary application of design-related practices to the regeneration of urban areas.



## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

With the right tools in hand, young generations are better equipped to explore the multi-faceted aspects of culture and production. Our empowering initiatives for children and young people combine engaging content with artistic development programmes and skill-building activities.



## OHLOQ KULTURA

SCHOLASTIC YEAR



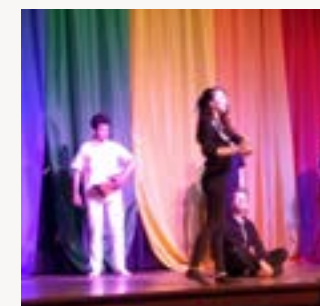
Led by More or Less Theatre, these workshops are designed to create awareness about cultural activities amongst secondary school children aged 8 to 10. Through a series of entertaining talks and hands-on activities taking place at their own school, students are introduced to complex ideas like history, architecture, and cultural heritage in fun, engaging and accessible ways. With this knowledge in hand, students are then encouraged to create their own fantasy culture and devise a rich cultural programme for their world.

## THE BOX

SCHOLASTIC YEAR



Studio 18 leads this intensive drama workshop where young teenagers of all experience levels can explore dynamic performance and theatrical production. Taking their inspiration from a creative stimulus – a poem, a piece of music, an object – which is hidden inside a box, each school group will collaborate with professional tutors and workshop leaders to write, produce and perform their own original theatrical piece. The project will culminate in a final performance showcase for participating schools.





Kantakantun  
c. Chris Mangion



## KANTAKANTUN

SCHOLASTIC YEAR



KantaKantun encourages early secondary school students to explore the relationship between music and architectural space. This innovative project kicks off with an introduction to important concepts in both areas and a fieldtrip around a school's locality, where students can apply learned concepts to the urban landscape. Following these impressions, a practical exercise allows students to create an original soundscape based on their surrounding architecture. The experience culminates in a follow-up session, where students share their soundscapes with other schools, propose imaginary interpretations of what their peers' spaces might have looked like, and have their visual designs transferred onto a series of prefabricated architectural elements to form an installation.

## SOUNDS OUT LOUD

SCHOLASTIC YEAR



Sounds Out Loud is an empowering workshop aimed at children and young people with different abilities, which taps into the power of music and rhythm to motivate participation, enjoyment, and the importance of sounding out. A series of workshops will be held at resource centres and special school programmes during the academic year, while several activities open to the public will be held at the Johann Strauss School of Music in Hamrun.







Discover Valletta  
c. Chris Mangion

## DISCOVER VALLETTA

SCHOLASTIC YEAR



This enchanting project takes secondary school students on a journey through the fascinating history, myths, legends, people, and places of Valletta with stories by beloved Maltese author, Trevor Zahra. In the run-up to 2018, Discover Valletta distributes activity packs to schools for all form one students to enjoy. Each pack is theirs to keep and contains everything a child needs for a fascinating cultural excursion around the city with teachers or guardians.

Discover Malta is sponsored by Bank of Valletta and is fully endorsed by the Ministry for Education and Employment.



## MCAST

VALLETTA2018 COLLABORATIONS

ONGOING

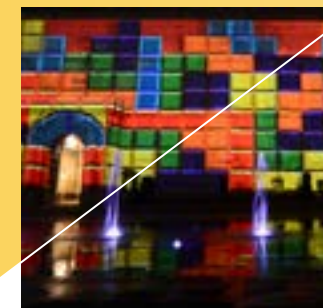


Following the success of joint initiatives such as the digital projections on the façade of the Grandmaster's Palace in Valletta at Christmas time, and the cladding of the Valletta Cruise Port Tunnel, MCAST's Institute for the Creative Arts and Valletta 2018 are now exploring new collaborative projects that can be undertaken with the Dutch European Capital of Culture, Leeuwarden 2018. Over the past year, lecturers and administrators from MCAST and two Dutch colleges, Friesland College and ROC Friese Poort, have identified and developed a number of collaborative projects designed to connect students, lecturers and professionals from the two capitals of culture. The projects identified cover an array of areas: a web portal whereby individuals from the two countries can interact together, a children's book, an opera project, info pods to be placed in Valletta and Leeuwarden in 2018, the setting up of commercial companies, a joint water quality project, a biodiversity project, a brewing project, and the creation of a solar-powered motor boat. A number of student mobility programmes have already provided groups of students with the opportunity to work on the various projects together.





Žigužajg  
c. Tümer Gençtürk



## ŽIGUŽAJG

INTERNATIONAL ARTS  
FESTIVAL FOR CHILDREN  
AND YOUNG PEOPLE

10 – 19 November 2017



Every year, this annual international arts festival delights audiences in Valletta and Gozo with a treasure trove of over 150 performances and workshops by critically-acclaimed international and national companies. Žigužajg's enduring popularity springs from its varied and multidisciplinary programme of quality creative work for children and youth, which attracts audiences of over 13,000 every year.

## DIGITAL PROJECTIONS

December 2017



The Christmas season sees the return of this magical event developed in collaboration with the MCAST Institute for the Creative Arts, where BA Graphics and Interactive Media Students in their final year present digital projections to illuminate and transform the façade of the Grandmaster's Palace. A brand new set of original projections will be revealed during this year's celebration.



## PERFORMANCE

The performing arts empower professionals working in a wide range of disciplines to uncover the potential of the self and others through artistic expression. Our Cultural Programme brings audiences and cultural operators together through dedicated youth workshops, accessible platforms for both established and emerging talent, and an ever-growing creative network.

## MODERN MUSIC DAYS

11 February 2017

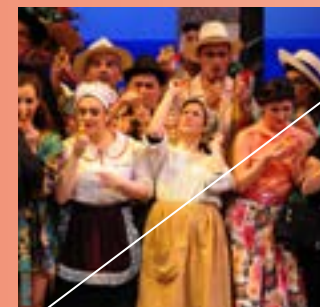


Modern Music Days (MMD) is committed to promoting the performance and awareness of 20th-century repertoire and contemporary music in Malta. Through adventurous programming and informed presentation, MMD connects composers and musicians with other artists, to encourage interdisciplinary expression, and to support collaborations between local musicians and international artists and institutions.





Teatru Manoel Youth Opera  
c. Ray Attard



## TEATRU MANOEL YOUTH OPERA

20 – 21 May 2017



A long-term collaboration between Teatru Manoel and Valletta 2018, this dedicated youth programme is committed to offering artistic development and support to emerging operatic talent in Malta and Gozo. The programme offers intensive weekly workshops and masterclasses, enabling young singers to explore all aspects of production in the run-up to staging their own full-scale opera, and the opportunity to participate in rehearsals and performances alongside established practitioners at the prestigious Teatru Manoel.





Quintessence  
c. European Central Bank

## QUINTESSENCE

ONGOING



A collaboration between Valletta 2018 and the artist collective Open Works Lab, Quintessence consists of a solo performance by musician and sound designer Renzo Spiteri, that was premiered at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, in partnership with Future Everything Festival 2015. It has since been presented to critical acclaim in various locations in Germany, The Netherlands and England. This performance is then opened up into 'Quintessence [City]', a story lab which opens up the city into a space that encourages play, performance and participation through experimental storytelling techniques.

Jump  
c. Marco Montalto



## JUMP

ONGOING



Valletta 2018 has joined forces with the ŻfinMalta Dance Ensemble, Malta's national contemporary dance company, to create JUMP. This initiative is designed to empower teens who have never had the opportunity to receive formal dance training to explore creative movement and dance. Participants undergo intensive sessions with company dancers, in preparation for various performances taking place around the Maltese Islands. A documentary set to be screened in 2018 will follow the youngsters' journey.



## BALZUNETTA TOWERS

July 2017



Balzunetta Towers is a theatrical cabaret based on one of Malta's best kept secrets – 'Balzunetta'. Sometimes described as Strait Street's naughtier sibling, Floriana's lesser-known 'Balzunetta' area earned its infamy through the ironic contrast between its risky goings-on and the official nature of its neighbourhood, which held the Maltese Curia, the Police Headquarters, and the Army Barracks. Set to play out in Pjazza Teatru Rjal with a live orchestra, this spectacular performance promises to deliver an exciting and interactive cabaret experience, replete with a spine-tingling collection of memoirs and tales that frame this enduring local myth within some of the islands' most gripping historical eras.





## STRADA STRETTA EVENTS

ONGOING



As the bygone haunt of bar hoppers and risqué characters, Valletta's infamous Strada Stretta, or 'Strait Street', holds a special place in Malta's contemporary history and popular imagination. It is now a fast-growing hub of social and cultural activity that is being sustained by a programme of quality events, including exhibitions, talks, street theatre, jamming sessions, networking opportunities for artists, and much more.

## DANCE4ALL

ONGOING



This community-oriented dance project is offering members of various local communities the opportunity to participate in workshops with company dancers from the ŻfinMalta Dance Ensemble. With the format and content of each workshop customised to suit the needs of the community taking part, this initiative is an open invitation for everyone and anyone to share in the art of dance.

## ENCOUNTERS

Establishing the ideal conditions for meaningful creative exchange ensures the long-term health of cultural activity. For this reason, our Cultural Programme includes a dedicated strand of ongoing funds and initiatives that are designed to facilitate cross-cultural and multidisciplinary dialogue, skill-sharing and professional development, mobility, and networking.



## THEATRES AUDIT CATALOGUE

January 2017



As part of the Cultural Mapping project, the Valletta 2018 Foundation is carrying out research commissioned by Arts Council Malta, which consists of an analysis of spaces and their potential for cultural use in Malta and Gozo. This study aims to provide the culture sector with valuable informational resources about the spaces available within each locality, as well as the use of these same spaces in contemporary cultural activity. A comprehensive and visual audit of theatres located in Malta and Gozo will be published in January 2017.

## CULTURE MATTERS:

VALLETTA2018 FINDINGS

February 2017



In February 2017, this seminar will present the 2016 research findings uncovered by Valletta 2018's Evaluation and Monitoring Steering Committee, an initiative devoted to monitoring and evaluating the processes and impact of Valletta as a European Capital of Culture. The Steering Committee, which is coordinated and managed by Valletta 2018's Research Department, is composed of individual academics and a number of institutions, including the Economic and Policy Department, Jobsplus, the Malta Tourism Authority, and the National Statistics Office, and conducts quantitative and qualitative research into vital themes related to ECoCs and the development and regeneration of Valletta itself over the period 2015-2019.





Cultural Mapping Conference  
c. Elisa von Brockdorff

## LIVING CITIES, LIVEABLE SPACES:

PLACEMAKING  
& IDENTITY

22 – 24 November 2017



Titled 'Living Cities, Liveable Spaces: Placemaking & Identity', the 2017 edition of the Valletta 2018 International Conference seeks to discuss and analyse the impact of rebranding policies and strategies on cities and the community members who inhabit or interact with these cities. Taking cue from Valletta's run-up to the title of ECoC in 2018, this conference analyses the effects of such branding and repositioning strategies by exploring research, policy and practical examples carried out by different researchers, academics, policy makers and cultural practitioners, and by combining policy and strategic aspects with practical, on-the-ground perspectives.



## CULTURE PARTICIPATION SURVEY

SPRING



The Culture Participation Survey is a collaboration between Arts Council Malta, the National Statistics Office, and the Valletta 2018 Foundation. The current survey, which acts as a follow up to that carried out in 2011, offers a comprehensive picture of the status of cultural participation in Malta, and a detailed analysis of audience segmentation, lifestyle and wellbeing, language preferences in cultural consumption, and personal perceptions towards culture and the arts amongst respondents. A specific section about Valletta 2018 will also be included, the results of which will be presented during the survey's launch event in May.





## IS-SUQ TAL-BELT

ONGOING



The restoration of the iconic Victorian-era structure affectionately known as 'is-Suq tal-Belt' is being overseen by the Arkadia group, the Maltese firm CGE Architects, and the Italian architectural design firm Archea, with works projected for completion by the end of 2017. Together, the operators are working with the Superintendence for Cultural Heritage to ensure a plan that rehabilitates this neglected landmark in line with all requirements, and which reconciles the property's place in Maltese collective memory with its potential for present-day commercial and cultural use. The restoration plan features a basement-level food market dedicated to fresh produce, a ground floor offering a range of culinary specialties, and, in the spirit of the operators' commitment to collaborating with the Malta Arts Council and Valletta 2018, an upper level which will function as an open space for cultural events and initiatives.



## UTOPIAN NIGHTS

ONGOING



This series of public events brings artists and thinkers together to discuss important social issues related to exile and conflict. The Utopian Nights will take place over the course of four themed events, where experts will engage the public with artistic interpretations of pressing political themes. All sessions will include an open debate with experts and an invitation for public feedback, followed by the opportunity to continue discussion during a social mixer event.





Blitz Residency  
c. Alexandra Pace



## BLITZ RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

ONGOING



The Blitz Residency Programme facilitates long-term, international artistic cultural exchanges, and is defined by two activities – incoming residencies at Blitz and outgoing residencies with partner organisations abroad, with the latter commencing in 2017. Applicants from all over the world are invited to apply, and proposals are open to those working across creative fields in a range of media, including (but not limited to) film, photography, performance, sound, immersive installation, and digital platforms.



## ARTIST-IN- RESIDENCE PROGRAMME

ONGOING



Through a collaboration between Valletta 2018 and Fondazzjoni Kreattività, this programme invites creatives from all fields to participate in a yearly residency based on the Maltese Islands. This programme strives to enrich multiculturalism within the national creative scene by encouraging productive interaction between international and local creatives, and works towards fostering ongoing working relationships between visitors and communities.



## DEEP SHELTER PROJECT

ONGOING



Deep Shelter Project is a qualitative, interdisciplinary study that analyses the use of audio-visual artwork designed for therapeutic purposes within the Psychological Support Services at Sir Anthony Mamo Oncology Centre (SAMOC). The visual and auditory content used aims to sustain therapeutic dialogue between the healthcare professional and the patient by immersing the viewer or patient in visuals rich with symbolic language. In the run-up to 2018, the project enters a new stage with a series of art workshops that aim to create site-specific artwork through research and dialogue with cancer survivors.



## ROBERTO CIMETTA FUND

ONGOING



Valletta 2018 is collaborating with the Roberto Cimetta Fund to facilitate mobility and collaboration for artists and cultural operators living and working in the Euro-Arab geographical region. A series of open calls for travel grants will be issued from now until 2018, and will consider collaborative projects taking place in Malta, or which are linked to Malta and Valletta's title of European Capital of Culture 2018. Priority is given to Malta-based artists developing international projects in Malta, or to artists wishing to travel to Malta.

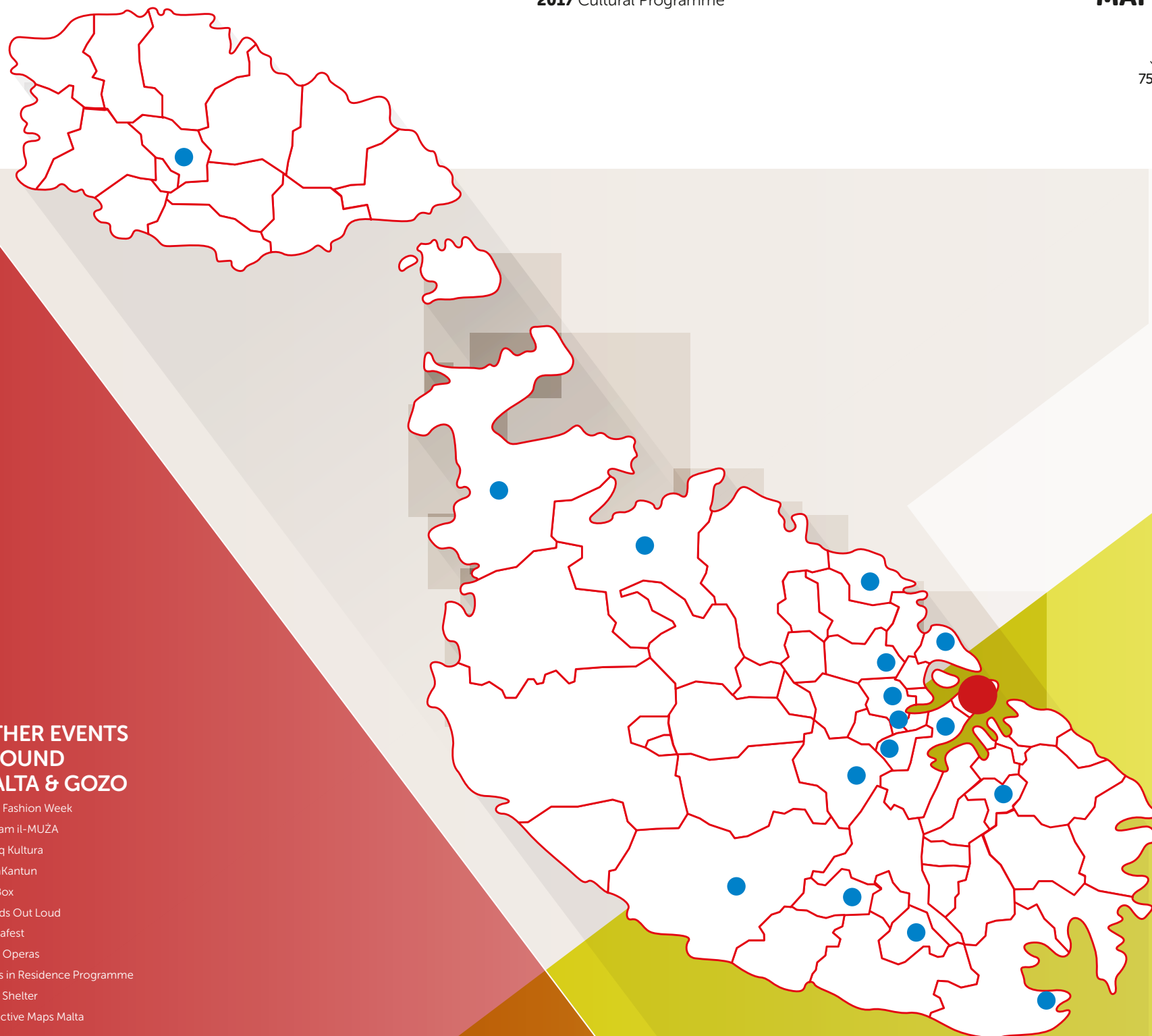


## EVENTS IN VALLETTA

Carnival  
Valletta Green Festival  
Christmas and New Year Digital Projections  
Notte Bianca  
Malta International Arts Festival  
Valletta Film Festival  
Žiguzajg Children's Festival  
Gewwa Barra  
The Box  
Discover Valletta  
Curatorial School  
A Tale of Two Cities  
Valletta International Baroque Festival  
Modern Music Days  
Malta Jazz Festival  
L-Ghanja tal-Poplu  
Jump  
Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival  
Poetry on Film  
Design4DCity  
Blitz Residency Programme  
Naqsam il-MUŻA  
Valletta Design Cluster Programme  
Is-Suq tal-Belt  
Strada Stretta Events  
Three Palaces Festival  
Teatru Manoel Youth Opera

## OTHER EVENTS AROUND MALTA & GOZO

Malta Fashion Week  
Naqsam il-MUŻA  
Ohloq Kultura  
KantaKantun  
The Box  
Sounds Out Loud  
Ghanafest  
Gozo Operas  
Artists in Residence Programme  
Deep Shelter  
Subjective Maps Malta



VALLETTA 2018  
EUROPEAN CAPITAL  
OF CULTURE

TAL-KULTURA<sup>2018</sup>  
VOLUNTEERS

## VOLUNTEERING WITH VALLETTA 2018.

An important part of Valletta 2018's role as European Capital of Culture is to foster the shared universal values behind volunteerism in the cultural sector, as elsewhere - free will, commitment, equity, engagement, solidarity, compassion, empathy and respect for others. For this reason, in collaboration with SOS Malta, a Maltese NGO with a long history of promoting volunteering and civic participation in Malta, Valletta 2018 has launched Tal-Kultura.

The Valletta 2018 Foundation and SOS Malta aim to mobilise large numbers of people as volunteers for the various projects and/or events that feature within the 2016-2018 cultural calendar. The main objective behind Tal-Kultura is to establish volunteering as a staple ingredient and common practice within the arts and culture sector in Malta.

**If you are interested in getting involved,  
we'd like to hear from you.**

**Contact details: [talkultura@valletta2018.org](mailto:talkultura@valletta2018.org)**

**Website: [www.talkultura2018.org](http://www.talkultura2018.org)**

The information in this booklet was correct at the time of going to print. Valletta 2018 reserves the right to amend dates and other event details at any time.



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