



PRESS PACK

THE EUROPEAN FESTIVAL OF INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

12 & 13 SEPTEMBER '08, FLAGEY

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The European Festival of Intercultural Dialogue

Celebrating diversity with the Ambassadors of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008

Flagey aims to be a place in tune with the city and the era in which we live. This year, it will provide the urban arena for a galaxy of events focussing on the "rhythms" of the city – those of the neighbourhood, those of Brussels as well as those of Europe.

To kick off its 2008-2009 season, on the 12th and 13th September, the Flagey Arts Centre will play host to the **European Festival of Intercultural Dialogue**: a multidisciplinary event which will blend, bring together, interweave and witness the meeting of music and images, voices and above all words – one of the new axes of Flagey's programming.

Named the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue, 2008 is drawing attention to cultural diversity and the common values that have always been at the heart of the European project. This "Year" is an opportunity to explore the 'Other' in all its forms, to move towards mutual understanding, to build better ways of living together and to actively participate in the development of a European society open to the world.

At the request of the European Commission, well-known personalities from the world of the arts and the media have agreed to act as Ambassadors for the year, promoting its messages throughout Europe and beyond, thus also contributing to reflections upon its future. Converging on Flagey on the 12th and 13th of this September, these Ambassadors will play lead roles in a unique event which will illustrate the dialogue between artists through creative performances in the fields of **music, cinema, art and literature**.

The festivities will begin on Friday 12th September with a tribute from **Jack Martin Händler** to the conductor Bruno Walter with a **concert by the Bruno Walter Symphony Orchestra** accompanied by the amazing Turkish pianist **Fazil Say** (20:15, Studio 4). Saturday 13th September will be placed under the heading of dialogue, with **workshops, round tables, debates and activities for children** (from 10:00 a.m. onwards). The highlight of this fruitful day will be the **Orient-Occident concert**, certainly a memorable experience, bringing together musicians from across the entire world – among them the eminent master of the viola da gamba **Jordi Savall** and the percussionist **Pedro Estevan** (20:15, Studio 4). This extraordinary journey through the worlds of eastern and western music will be followed by an open air concert by the **Parno Grazz** ensemble, playing joyous gipsy folk music in front of the entrance to the building (Rue du Belvédère at around 22:30, free admission)!

Last but not least, film buffs will appreciate the **film** selection on offer in Studio 5 by the Belgian Royal Film Archive with introductions by the Ambassadors of this exceptional year. On the programme are **films** relating to intercultural dialogue such as **Copying Beethoven** which will be shown in the presence of the director **Agnieszka Holland** (Friday 12/09, 18:00, Studio 5), **Tous les matins du monde** by Alain Corneau will be shown in the presence of Jordi Savall (Friday 12/09, 20:00, Studio 5) as well as **Va, vis et deviens (Live and Become)** shown in the presence of its director **Radu Mihăileanu** (Saturday 13/09, 20:00, Studio 5).

To find out more go to: www.dialogue2008.eu or www.flagey.be

A European Commission initiative as part of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 in collaboration with Flagey

Programme

Friday 12th September, 18:00, Studio 5.

Copying Beethoven by Agnieszka Holland

USA/D/H – 2006 – fiction – colour – 104' – OV – Subtitles FR

With Diane Kruger, Ralph Riach, Ed Harris

Full price: 7€ | Reduced price: 5.50€

Ed Harris, the compelling actor who has been greatly admired for his extraordinary performance in the role of abstract painter Jackson Pollock (in *Pollock*, which he directed himself), here portrays another great artist Ludwig van Beethoven. The famed composer is working on his 9th symphony when an intimate relationship develops with his young and beautiful assistant (played by Diane Kruger). The era has been meticulously recreated, and the imaginary plot sheds light on the Beethovenian myth but above all upon its human truth.

The Director Agnieszka Holland, Ambassador for the Year of Intercultural Dialogue will introduce the screening.

Friday 12th September, 20:15, Studio 4.

Bruno Walter Symphony Orchestra & Fazil Say

Jack Martin Händler (conductor)

Fazil Say (piano)

Programme :

Georg Philipp Telemann *Suite in G "Les nations anciennes et modernes"*, Overture

Roman Berger *Post Scriptum II for strings*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra N° 12 in A major K 414*

Ludwig van Beethoven *Symphony N° 7 in A major, op. 92*

Full price: 25€-20€-15€ | Reduced price: 20€-15€-13€

Since the explosion of Fazil Say on to the European musical stage some years ago, he has continued to evoke passionate reactions – brilliant pianist for some, eccentric for others – nobody is left indifferent. By now, with hindsight and a few recordings under his belt, it must be acknowledged that the young Turkish pianist did not fall into any celebrity trap, that his performances are even getting better and better and that he has remained true to his style of exquisite clarity by keeping the use of the forte pedal to a strict minimum and by choosing composers and works which demand clarity and technical perfection. At Flagey, he will be accompanied by the Bruno Walter Symphony Orchestra for a tribute concert to the conductor of the same name considered, in his life time, as one of the most remarkable interpreters of the German musical repertoire.

Friday 12th September, 20:00, Studio 5.

Tous les matins du monde by Alain Corneau

FR – 1991 – fiction – colour – 115' – OV - Subtitles FR

With Jean-Pierre Marielle, Anne Brochet & Guillaume Depardieu

Full Price: 7€ | Reduced price: 5.50€

This very beautiful film sees an Alain Corneau, hitherto known as a director of whodunits, immerse himself in the century of Louis XIV to admirably evoke the personality of the musician Marin Marais. Gérard Depardieu plays the role of the artist in a production in which a flawless reconstruction of the era lends the ideal setting for a reflection on art and power, the carnal and the spiritual. A highly emotional work in which Jean-Pierre Marielle absolutely sets the screen alight in the role of Sainte-Colombe, the austere and insular master of the *viola da gamba*.

The screening will be introduced by Jordi Savall, composer of the film's musical score and Ambassador for the Year of Intercultural Dialogue.

Saturday 13th September, 10:00 – 20:00, Studios 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Workshops, debates, round table

Free admission

The whole of Saturday will be given over to dialogue, exchanges, encounters...

From morning until evening, the Ambassadors of the Year of Intercultural Dialogue will lead workshops, participate in debates with the public and will take part in a round table which will round off the exchanges of the day.

On the agenda from 10:00 onwards: a **musical workshop** for children with Jordi Savall, a **cinema workshop** for 12 to 14 year olds with Radu Mihăileanu and another **musical workshop** on the concertos of Joseph Haydn, lead by Jack Martin Händler in collaboration with the musicians of the Bruno Walter Symphony Orchestra and Harriett Langley, a soloist from the Chapelle Musicale Reine Elisabeth (10:30).

In the afternoon, the workshops will give way to a series of wide-ranging **debates** orchestrated by **Michaël Zeeman**, the **Ambassadors of the Year of Intercultural Dialogue**, as well as personalities such as **Benjamin Barber**, **Dr Saskia Sassen**, **Lord Bikhū Parekh** and **Imam Sajid** participating at the 6th edition of "Interdependence Day", an international forum which has as its theme this year: "The city: a communal space in a divided world". It is a fact that today more than half of the world's population live in large cities - each one of them a laboratory of intercultural cohabitation where we encounter the problem of interdependence in a concentrated form.

To finish this series of debates, a round table led by **Michaël Zeeman** will be held at 18:00 in Studio 1, with the Ambassadors of the Year of Intercultural Dialogue – among them the writer **Adam Michnik** and the singer **Marija Šerifović** – for a final round of discussion, as well as an opportunity in which to discover other people, other subjects and above all other ways of understanding the world.

Saturday 13th September, 20:15, Studio 4

Jordi Savall *East-West, a dialogue of souls, of ancient and world music*

Jordi Savall (conducting, viola da gamba)

Driss El Maloumi (oud), Dimitri Psonis (santur, morisca) & Pedro Estevan (percussion)

Full price: 25€-20€-15€ | Reduced price: 20€-15€-13€

The Orient-Occident project conceived and led by Jordi Savall presents itself in the form of a stimulating dialogue between eastern and western musicians by working on the instruments and music of ancient Christian, Jewish and Muslim Spain, on the estampies of medieval Italy as well as on the improvisations and dances of Morocco, Israel, Persia, Afghanistan and the old Ottoman Empire. Surrounded by some of the members of the group Hesperion XX – Driss El Maloumi (oud), Dimitri Psonis (santur and morisca) and Pedro Estevan (percussion) – the musician and the conductor of the Catalan orchestra will give a performance in three parts which, by alternating the pieces, will allow the public to note the existing contrasts between oriental and occidental music, courtly and traditional, written or oral traditions. A rich programme meant to remind the public that the music of the East and the West has been engaged in constant dialogue and that our common heritage has been enriched by this meeting of cultures.

Saturday 13th September, 20:00, Studio 5.

***Va, vis et deviens (Live and Become)* by Radu Mihaileanu**

FR/B/IL/I – 2005 – fiction – colour – 140' – OV – Subtitles FR

With Yaël Abecassis, Roschdy Zem, Moshe Agazai, Moshe Abebe

Full price: 7€ | Reduced price: 5.50€

In the middle of the 1980s, a vast air operation enabled the transfer to Israel of numerous Ethiopian descendants of a very ancient Hebrew tribe. Based on the true story of these African Jews, Radu Mihaileanu's beautiful film tells the story of a young Christian boy whose mother urges him to declare himself as Jewish so that he can escape famine and death... A soberly moving coming of age tale, outstandingly acted, riveting from start to finish, which also sheds light on a decidedly complex Middle-East

The film will be introduced by its director, Radu Mihaileanu, Ambassador for the Year of Intercultural Dialogue.

Saturday 13th September, 22:30, Rue du Belvédère

Parno Graszt

Free admission

To be born Roma, is to be born a musician. It hardly matters if one is playing the violin or the spoon that beats the Jerry cans or scratches wooden doors to make a double-bass sound. Parno Graszt restores the spirit of the gypsy folklore of the country by delivering to the public the music that marks the marriages, funerals and celebrations of this community. Oriental influences, Hungarian folklore and untamed rhythms will break down any boundary between audience and musicians. A large festive gathering that also aims to highlight the importance of this minority to Hungarian identity.

The Ambassadors

Jack Martin Händler

Conductor and violinist Jack Martin Händler is one of the founding members of the Orchestra of European Soloists of Luxembourg. Born in 1947 in Bratislava in Slovakia, he studied at the conservatoire in his home town before being discovered by the legendary violinist David Oistrakh who took him to Moscow to complete his training. Once his studies were finished, Händler began his career as a soloist gaining renown throughout Europe. Little by little, he abandoned the bow in favour of the baton. He became the musical director of various ensembles (in Sweden, Slovakia, Hungary and Germany) and rapidly acquired international renown by participating in tours and festivals.

In 1989, he co-founded and took on the role of musical director for the Orchestra of European Soloists – an ensemble characterised by a cocktail of impetuosity and delicacy. Discs and recordings for radio and TV are testimony to his talent as well as to his affinity for Viennese classicism, romanticism and the music of the 20th century. To date, Jack Martin Händler has recorded close to 80 albums, several of which have appeared under the Sony label. In 2005, he was awarded the Gold Medal of European Merit.

Agnieszka Holland

Agnieszka Holland is considered one of Poland's best filmmakers. Born in Warsaw in 1948, she studied film directing at Prague's FAMU. She was Krzysztof Zanussi's assistant director on *Illumination* (1973), and shortly afterwards directed her first film for television: *An evening at Abdon's* (1974). From 1972 to 1981, she was a member of the collective led by Andrzej Wajda and collaborated on several of his screenplays including *Man of Marble*, *Man of Iron*, *The Orchestra*, *Danton* and *Doctor Korczak*. In 1980, Agnieszka Holland directed *Fever* for which she won the Silver Bear at the Berlin Film Festival the following year. After *A Woman Alone* (1981) which won the Montreal Grand Prix for New Cinema, she released *Bitter Harvest* (1985) which earned an Oscar nomination for best foreign film in 1986. Several other films were to follow, amongst which were *Europa Europa* (Golden Globe winner for best foreign film, 1992) *Olivier Olivier* (1992), *Secret Garden* (1993), *Total Eclipse* (1995), *Copying Beethoven* (2006) and her last film to date: *Corner Boys* (2006).

Adam Michnik

Adam Michnik (born 1946) is the editor-in-chief of *Gazeta Wyborcza*, Poland's biggest daily newspaper. Michnik is a historian and co-founder of the Committee for the Defence of Workers (KOR). Between 1965 and 1980, his political activism within the "Solidarity" movement led to numerous arrests. He would spend a total of 6 years in Polish jails for opposing the communist regime. In 1989, he was elected a member of the first post-communist parliament.

Michnik has written a plethora of books and has had numerous articles published in internationally renowned newspapers and magazines such as *Der Spiegel*, *Le Monde*, *Libération*, *El País*, *Lettre International*, *The New York Review of Books*, even the *Washington Post*. In addition, Michnik is an Honorary Doctor of different universities including The New School for Social Research in New York, The University of Michigan and Connecticut College. He has received numerous prizes and awards for his remarkable work, his courage and his political engagement.

Radu Mihaileanu

Born in Bucharest in 1958, Radu Mihaileanu was 22 when he fled Ceausescu's dictatorial regime and migrated to Israel before settling in France. A pupil at IDHEC, the current FEMIS, he directed short films and worked in parallel as an editor, then assistant-director with Marco Ferreri.

In 1993, he made *Betrayal*, his first feature length film as both director and screenwriter. These films led to invitations to numerous events; The Montreal Film Festival and The Istanbul Film Festival among them. However, it was with *Train of Life*, winning awards at the Venice Film Festival in 1998 and at Sundance in 1999, that he achieved international recognition. In 2005, *Va, vis et deviens (Live and Become)* sealed his talent and he became part of the league of great European directors. Public prizes at the Berlin Film Festival and a César for the best screenplay at the Cannes Film Festival in 2006, this film has continually won awards.

Jordi Savall

Jordi Savall is one of the most versatile musical personalities of his generation. Concert performer, teacher, researcher and creator of new musical and cultural projects, he is amongst the main protagonists of the current appreciation of historical music. For more than thirty years, he has brought musical marvels to the attention of the world that would otherwise have been abandoned to indifference and obscurity. With his viola da gamba and his three ensembles founded with Montserrat Figueras - Hespèrion XX, La Capella Reial de Catalunya and Le Concert des Nations – he creates a universe filled with emotions and beauty offered to all lovers of forgotten music.

His indispensable involvement in Alain Corneau's *Tous les Matins du Monde* (winner of a César for best soundtrack), his intense concert schedule (about 140 per year), his discography (6 recordings per year) with the recent creation of Alia Vox - his own recording label – proves

that there is nothing elitist about ancient music and that, across the globe, it can attract the interest of an increasingly youthful and numerous public.

Fazil Say

Fazil Say was born in Ankara, in Turkey, in 1970. After studying piano and composition at the Ankara Conservatoire, he obtained a grant which enabled him to pursue his musical training at the Robert Schumann Institute in Düsseldorf. From 1992 to 1995, he relocated to Berlin and took classes at the Berlin Conservatoire.

From the outset of his career he has played with some of the best orchestras in the world, e.g. The New York Philharmonic Orchestra, The Baltimore Symphony, The Saint Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, The BBC Philharmonic, The French National Orchestra. Say has also taken part in numerous celebrated festivals such as the Salzburg Festival, The Montreux Jazz Festival and even Harrod's Piano Series in London. He has also recorded CDs of works by well-known composers as well as pieces of his own creation.

Marija Serifovic

Marija Serifovic was born in Serbia in 1984. From a family of generations of musicians, she dreamed of a career in the world of music from an early age. After giving her first concert at the age of twelve, she later released *Naj, najbolja*, her first solo album which means "Simply the best". A kind of prophetic title since after winning first prize at the Budva Festival 2004 for her song *Bol, ludila* ("The unbearable pain"), she and her voice left an indelible impression on the memories of millions of Europeans by winning the Eurovision Song Contest in Helsinki in 2007.

Michaël Zeeman

Michaël Zeeman (born 1958) is a philosopher, publicist, TV presenter and professor of cultural studies. But he also has a remarkable track record as a critic of literature and art. He has not only written about art, theatre, literature but also on the history of the sciences, philosophy as well as on history and cultural policy. In 1994, he came to public attention presenting the TV show *Zeeman met boeken* on the Dutch TV channel VPRO, a monthly gathering much watched for its in-depth interviews with high-profile authors and thinkers. Crowned by a *Gouden Ganzeveer* for his contribution to Dutch culture, Michaël Zeeman has been working since 2002 in Rome as *Volkskrant's* correspondent, reviewer and critic.

Useful Information

<p>Friday 12th September '08 18:00 Studio 5 Full price: 7€ Reduced price: 5.50€ Info Tickets: 02 641 10 20 or www.flagey.be</p> <p>20:00 Studio 5 Full Price: 7€ Reduced price: 5.50€ Info Tickets: 02 641 10 20 or www.flagey.be</p> <p>20:15 Studio 4 Full price: 25€-20€-15€ Reduced price: 20€-15€-13€ Info Tickets: 02 641 10 20 or www.flagey.be</p>	<p><i>Copying Beethoven</i> by Agnieszka Holland USA/D/H – 2006 –fiction – colour – 104' – OV - Subtitles FR With Diane Kruger, Ralph Riach, Ed Harris In the company of Agnieszka Holland</p> <p><i>Tous les matins du monde</i> by Alain Corneau FR – 1991 – fiction – colour – 115' – OV - Subtitles FR With Jean-Pierre Marielle, Anne Brochet & Guillaume Depardieu In the company of Jordi Savall</p> <p>Bruno Walter Symphony Orchestra & Fazil Say Jack Martin Händler (conducting) Fazil Say (piano)</p> <p><i>Programme</i> : Georg Philipp Telemann <i>Suite in G "Les nations anciennes et modernes"</i>, Overture Roman Berger <i>Post Scriptum II for strings</i> Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart <i>Concerto for Piano and Orchestra N° 12 in A major K 414</i> Ludwig van Beethoven <i>Symphony N° 7 in A major, op. 92</i></p>
<p>Saturday 13th September '08 From 10:00 Flagey Free admission</p> <p>20:00 Studio 5 Full price: 7€ Reduced price: 5.50€ Info Tickets: 02 641 10 20 or www.flagey.be</p> <p>20:15 Studio 4 Full price: 25€-20€-15€ Reduced price: 20€-15€-13€ Info Ticket: 02 641 10 20 or www.flagey.be</p> <p>22:30 Rue du Belvédère Free admission</p>	<p>Workshops, debates, round table With amongst others: Jordi Savall, Radu Mihaileanu, Agnieszka Holland, Jack Martin Händler, Harriett Langley, Adam Michnik, Marija Serifovic, Michaël Zeeman, Benjamin Barber, Doctor Saskia Sassen, Lord Bikhu Parekh & Imam Sajid</p> <p><i>Va, vis et deviens (Live and Become)</i> by Radu Mihaileanu FR/B/IL/I – 2005 –fiction – colour – 140' – OV - Subtitles FR With Yaël Abecassis, Roschdy Zem, Moshe Agazai, Moshe Abebe In the company of Radu Mihaileanu</p> <p>Jordi Savall <i>Orient-Occident, a dialogue of souls, ancient and world music</i> Jordi Savall (conducting, viola da gamba) Driss El Maloumi (oud), Dimitri Psonis (santur, morisca) & Pedro Estevan (percussion)</p> <p>Parno Graszt</p>

APPENDIX: We are looking for participants for our cinema workshops!

CINEMA WORKSHOPS RUN BY DIRECTORS RADU MIHAILEANU AND AGNIESZKA HOLLAND!

Ever felt you had a story to tell about where you live? Do you think that Flagey is the ideal backdrop for making a film? Ever had the desire to join a film group or to take part in an original project?

On Saturday 13th September, enrol to make a short film with the Franco-Hungarian director Radu Mihaileanu ('Va, Vis et deviens') and the director Agnieszka Holland ('Copying Beethoven'). Come with your ideas for narratives and fascinating stories about where you live to get them on film.



FESTIVAL

Anything can happen at the workshop. You will work in a team with a camera, you will be faced with sound recording, you will try your hand at acting, you will prepare the equipment and you will reveal the little secrets of where you live.

From the point of view of equipment, the organisation and practical support on hand, don't worry, Jekino is taking care of it. The official 'Premiere' of the finished short will take place later on Flagey's big screen.

Is experience essential?

No, not at all, the first meeting is scheduled for Saturday 6th September for a brief introduction. Here you will learn how to use a camera, you will get to know basic sound techniques and explore, as a group, an original idea for a screenplay prior to being ready for the day of filming on the 13th September!

Useful information:

Saturday 6th September from 14:00 to 18:00: Initial meeting and introduction

Saturday 13th September from 12:00 to 18:00: Filming the short

Participation: Free

Enrol up until 1st September.

Don't delay! The number of participants is limited.

Age: 12 – 14 years and 15-16 years

To enrol contact: anelore.schittecatte@flagey.be

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