

Challenges of collaboration

TURN²

KULTURSTIFTUNG
DES
BUNDES

Les enjeux de collaboration
Meeting 2 | 2–4 June 2016 | Berlin

2nd Meeting of TURN-funded projects
2–4 June 2016 in Berlin, Sophiensaele

TURN² focuses on the projects, the specific challenges of intercontinental and intercultural collaborations and the creative practices which emerge from these encounters. We would like to invite you to share your experiences, ideas, problems, conflicts, best practices and questions with us. In parallel to this emphasis on the projects' experiences, we would also like to discuss the migration and refugee issues as challenges that societies both in Africa and Europe are currently facing.

Programme

THURSDAY 2 JUNE

Host: Nkechi Madubuko

16.00 Arrival & registration

17.00 Welcoming address by the German Federal Cultural Foundation

17.30–19.15 **MEET THE PROJECTS #1**

SPACE 1 Conversations between projects presenting themselves and interviewing each other
In English with simultaneous interpretation in French

17.40–18.05 Dialogue 1
Two projects in conversation

18.15–18.40 Dialogue 2
Three projects in conversation

18.50–19.15 Dialogue 3
Two projects in conversation

19.30 Welcome Dinner

21.15 **Concert “Polyversal Souls”**
SPACE 1 **with Max Weissenfeldt und Guy One Ghana**

22.00 Lounge / informal get-together

FRIDAY 3 JUNE

Host: Nkechi Madubuko

9.00 Coffee

9.30–11.00 **KICK-OFF ROUNDTABLE**

SPACE 1 **The Art of Collaboration: Exchange, (Mis)understanding and the Building of Knowledge**

Working together always means working differences. Do we find a common ground or do we have to create one? What kind of knowledge do we create? How do we collaborate on a par with each other?

In English with simultaneous interpretation in French

Kick-off statements:

1. Paul Goodwin *University of the Arts London, Chair of Black Arts and Design / Director of TrAIN
(Centre for Transnational Art, Identity and Nation)*

2. Juliet Wanyiri *Foondi Workshops, Kenya / Senior Fablearn Fellow, Stanford*

3. Philipp Misselwitz *Technical University of Berlin, Chair of Habitat Unit / TURN Project
“Simulizi Mijini”*

Round table / open discussion with all participants

11.00 Coffee

11.30–13.00 **PROJECTS IN DISCUSSION | FAQ**

Six parallel workshops (1st slot)

Projects in discussion #1

How did your collaboration work out? What was difficult? What was successful? Where did you find unexpected solutions together? What would you like to know more about? Choose one discussion or workshop and share your experiences and questions with the other projects.

SPACE 1 **1. What Space in which Place? On Site-Specific Creative Strategies**

Chair: Paul Goodwin *London*

In English with French language facilitation, if needed

TURN projects have to deal with the situation of choosing and adapting to different spaces in different countries. This may lead to a diversity of spatial strategies – practically and aesthetically - in putting up a performance, an exhibition, a film production, a platform or a festival. We would like to discuss the site-specific creative strategies that projects elaborate, keeping in mind the respective history that is attached to appropriating a space.

SPACE 1 **2. Do You Understand? On Languages of Post-colonial Collaborations, Translations and Misunderstandings**

Chair: Bibi Bakare-Yusuf *Lagos*

In English with simultaneous interpretation in French

Intercultural project conductors have to find a common language of working across their linguistic differences to arrive at a lingua franca that's eligible to all. Misunderstandings, omissions and ambivalent translations are intrinsic to the working and communication process in a post-colonial setting. In this panel, we would like to speak about speaking and the role that processes of understanding and creative misunderstanding plays in intercultural collaborations.

SPACE 2 **3. How Can We Pass It On? On Finding Ways of Documenting and Circulating Knowledge**

Chair: Stefanie Schulte Strathaus *Berlin*

In English with French language facilitation, if needed

The unique and exceptional experiences which a lot of projects make in the preparation and collaboration are often so abundant and overwhelming that they cannot be completely incorporated in the artistic outcome. We would like to speak about ways of documenting, archiving and circulating the creative and communicative processes that form the precondition for the projects to take place.

SPACE 3 **4. How Do We Want to Deal with It? On Cultural Answers and Attempts towards Migration**

Chair: Raphael Chikukwa *Harare* & Eric van Grasdorff *Berlin*

In English with French language facilitation, if needed

While Europe is trying to cope with the flux of refugees from the South, Africa has been faced with voluntary and forced migrations within the continent for decades. How do cultural institutions on both continents react to this reality which changes the societies everywhere?

SPACE 4 **5. People Moving About, Projects Afloat? On Creative Practices under Demanding Circumstances**

Chair: Claude Guingane *Ouagadougou* & Ella Huck *Hamburg*

In French with English translation

Political conflicts, persecutions, epidemics, migration – these are just a few problems that intercontinental projects may encounter and which might put their realisation at risk. These situations can reveal different notions of security, danger and liability. They also bear the opportunity to face each other and to adapt to unforeseen circumstances. We would like to discuss how projects deal with situations where circumstances change and projects risk to fail.

FAQ

SPACE 5 **6. Financements de la mobilité des artistes et des professionnels de la culture en Europe et à l'international - opportunités et ressources**

with Marie Le Sourd / *On the Move* (Brussels)

In French only

Everything you wanted to know about the funding of cultural projects in Germany and Europe and other means of financing.

13.15 **Flashlights of “Projects in Discussion #1”**

SPACE 1 Quick workshop summaries: What is the biggest challenge in the field / within the discussed context? How could things work out better?

In English/French with simultaneous interpretation in French/English

13.30 Lunch & Coffee

15.00–16.30 **PROJECT EXHIBITION**

SPACE 1–5 Presentations of project displays (in groups)

In English/French with French/English language facilitation, if needed

16.30 Aperitif

17.00–20.30 **MEET THE PROJECTS #2**

SPACE 1 Parallel conversations between projects presenting themselves and interviewing each other
Table 1: In English with simultaneous interpretation in French

17.15–17.40 Dialogue session 1
Nine projects – four conversations

17.50–18.15 Dialogue session 2
Eight projects – four conversations

18.45–19.15 Break

19.25–19.50 Dialogue session 3
Ten projects – four conversations

20.00–20.25 Dialogue session 4
Nine projects – four conversations

20.35–21.00 Dialogue session 5
Four projects – two conversations

21.00 Lounge

Optional: Visit of opening night of “The Incantation of the Disquieting Muse” (African Futures), DJ Set with Spoek Mathambo
SAVVY Contemporary, Plantagenstr. 31, Berlin-Wedding

SATURDAY 4 JUNE

Host: Nkechi Madubuko

9.30 Coffee

10.00–11.30 **PROJECTS IN DISCUSSION | PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP | FAQ**

Four parallel workshops (2nd Slot)

Projects in discussion #2

How did your collaboration work out? What was difficult? What was successful? Where did you find unexpected solutions together? What would you like to know more about? Choose one workshop and share your experiences and questions with the other projects.

SPACE 1 **1. Can You Fix It? On Maker Cultures and Tech-Scenes Across Continents**

Chair: Juliet Wanyiri *Nairobi* & Inke Arns *Dortmund*

In English with simultaneous interpretation in French

Taking things in your own hands and improving them, producing locally and sustainably and finding new ways of passing on technical and artisanal knowledge: Maker Cultures in African countries are on the rise and have become part of the cultural production. How do these developments connect to maker scenes in Europe? Is there an intercontinental transfer of practical knowledge?

SPACE 4 **2. Who will come and see? On finding, developing and addressing different audiences in different places**

Peter Rorvik *Cape Town*

Projects which take place on two continents in distant places are confronted with audiences with completely different backgrounds in very different settings. We would like to talk about ways of reaching out and adapting to altering publics and the various reactions that this can entail.

Performance workshop

SPACE 3 **3. Can You Do this Move? On Bodies, Languages and Projects”**
with Gintersdorfer / Klaßen *Berlin*

The workshop with Franck Edmond Yao (aka Gadoukou la Star) from Ivory Coast will explore movement in combination with language in order to propose an alternative set of communicative and expressive means. The aim will be to raise an awareness of the dynamic knowledge of the body and to create a performative dialogue among the participating projects.

SPACE 2 **FAQ**

4. Update on the Promotion and Facilitation of International Cultural Projects in Germany and Europe

with Laura Seifert *Kulturförderpunkt Berlin, Berlin*

In English only

Everything you wanted to know about the funding of cultural projects in Germany and Europe and other means of financing.

11.30 Coffee

12.00–13.30 **SUMMARY DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK**

SPACE 1 with all projects

In English/French with simultaneous interpretation in French/English

Flashlights of “Projects in Discussion #2”

Quick workshop summaries: What is the biggest challenge in the field / within the discussed context? How could things work out better?

Conference observers’ statements

Summary Discussion

On ideas of promoting intercontinental projects

13.30 Lunch

15.00 **Optional:** (Meeting point for all optional visits is the Courtyard of the Sophiensaele)

1. Guided visit to exhibition “The Incantation of the Disquieting Muse” (African Futures)

The exhibition at SAVVY Contemporary is part of the interdisciplinary festivals “African Futures”, which took place in Johannesburg, Lagos and Nairobi in November 2015. “The Incantation of the Disquieting Muse” (artistic direction: Bonaventure Ndikung) looks at how ,witchery‘ phenomena and practices manifest themselves within cultural and political spaces and discourses in Africa and beyond.

2. “9th Berlin Biennale” + sightseeing boat trip

The New York based collective DIS, composed of Lauren Boyle, Solomon Chase, Marco Roso, and David Toro, is appointed as curatorial team of the 9th Berlin Biennale, which will explore artistic developments and visions from within the art scene.

As part of the Biennale the sightseeing boat will double as an exhibition venue and location for events and performances.

3. Visit to the “Prinzessinnengärten” (urban gardening project)

In 2009 the non-profit company „Nomadisch Grün“ created a mobile urban farm in the middle of Kreuzberg (opposite of Motel One), producing vegetables locally and organically. Unused spaces are temporarily transformed into urban farmland and green meeting places.