



EUROPEAN  
CULTURAL  
FOUNDATION

# Princess Margriet Award

## BACKGROUND AND GUIDELINES

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# ECF PRINCESS MARGRIET AWARD

An annual award for cultural changemakers in Europe.

The European Cultural Foundation's (ECF) Princess Margriet Award is presented to European artists and thinkers whose work brings new possibilities in the way people engage with Europe's diverse cultural landscape. Award laureates are active in highly divergent cultural fields including performing and visual arts, literature, music, cultural activism, critical thinking, architecture and digital and media culture.

Each year the Award honours two laureates with 25.000 euros each and presents elements of their work at the ceremony and in different moments (such as debates, publications, exhibitions and screenings) throughout the year. The ceremony and related public activities set the stage for conversations that can catalyse new debate and exchange between the cultural, the political and the social. Princess Margriet of the Netherlands and current ECF President, Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands, are present at this celebrated event in Brussels held in spring each year. Guests from local and international cultural communities, business stakeholders, policy makers and politicians from Europe and neighbouring regions attend to learn how art and culture plays an important role in invigorating democracy for an inclusive Europe.

For more information on former Laureates, please visit the ECF website: [2008 Award](#), [2010 Award](#), [2011 Award](#), [2012 Award](#), [2013 Award](#), and [2014 Award](#).

# SELECTION PROCEDURE

Each year ECF invites a changing network of around 30 nominators across wider Europe. This network of nominators are experts in different regions, disciplines and areas of cultural practice, including people from ECF's network as well as new contacts beyond ECF's own spheres.

The nominators for the 2015 ECF Princess Margriet Award are: • **Alex Adriaansens** Director, V2\_, Rotterdam • **Imre Azem** Director, Ekumenopolis: City Without Limits, Istanbul • **Michel Bauwens** Founder of the P2P Foundation, Chang Mai • **Merve Bedir** PhD candidate, Delft University of Technology, Faculty of Architecture and partner Land+Civilization Compositions, Rotterdam • **Daniela Berghahn** Professor of Film Studies, University of London, London • **Michał Bilewicz** Associate Professor, Director of the Center of Research on Prejudice University of Warsaw, Warsaw • **Rosi Braidotti** University Professor & Director of Centre for the Humanities, Utrecht University, Utrecht • **Keti Chukhrov** Art theorist and philosopher, Moscow • **Birgitta Englin** Director and senior advisor at Global Challenge, Stockholm • **Maja & Reuben Fowkes** Curators & co-founders, Translocal Institute for Contemporary Art, Budapest • **Juan Freire** Founding partner, Teamlabs and mmodulUS, Madrid • **Pascal Gielen** Ass. Prof. Sociology of Art and Cultural Politics, University of Groningen, Groningen • **Jo Glanville** Director, English PEN, London • **Igor Kovačević** Architect & founding member of CCEA / MOBA, Prague • **Pierre Korzilius** Director, Institut Francais Düsseldorf & Cologne, Düsseldorf • **Solvita Krese** Director, The Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art LCCA, Riga • **Andrea Lissoni** Curator Film & International Art, Tate Modern, London / Curator Pirelli HangarBicocca, Milan, London/ Milan • **Sarita Malik** Lecturer in Media, Sociology and Communications, Brunel University, London • **Massimiliano Mollona** Senior Lecturer, Department of Anthropology at Goldsmiths, University of London, London • **Berno Odo Polzer** Artistic director, MaerzMusik, Vienna • **Andrea Phillips** Professor of Fine Art and Director of PhD programmes in the Art Department at Goldsmiths, London • **Beatrix Ruf** Director, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam • **Bernd M. Scherer** Director, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin • **Erzen Shkololli** Artist/curator & director National Gallery of Kosovo, Prishtina • **Socrates Stratis** Architect, Urbanist, Assistant Professor at the Department of Architecture, University of Cyprus, Cyprus • **Sophia Tabatadze** Artist and Co-founder of GeoAir Tbilisi, Tbilisi/Berlin • **Pelin Tan** Sociologist & Art historian, Mardin • **Minna Tarkka** Director, m-cult, Centre for New Media Culture, Helsinki • **Ece Temelkuran** Journalist and author, Istanbul • **John Thackara** Director, Doors of Perception, Ganges • **Egid van Houtem** Curator, Social Beta, Heerlen • **Indira van't Klooster** Editor-in-chief, A10 new European

architecture, Amsterdam • **Matthias von Hartz** Director, Foreign Affairs Berliner Festspiele, Berlin • **Miljenka Buljevic/Teodor Celakoski/Tomislav Domes/Katarina Pavic** on behalf of Culture2Commons Zagreb; **Joanna Tokarz/ Agnieszka Wiśniewska** on behalf of Krytyka Polityczna, Warsaw; and **María G. Perulero, Enric Senabre, Olivier Schulbaum** on behalf of Platoniq Cultural Association, Barcelona.

## CONDITIONS AND CRITERIA

To be eligible the nominee must be living and working in broader Europe (this includes non EU member states). Their work has a significant impact locally, but also points to greater questions that are relevant to a wider European context.

The Award is open to all cultural disciplines including performing and visual arts, literature, music, cultural activism, critical thinking, architecture and digital and media culture. Artistic and cultural excellence is a *sine qua non*.

This year we are especially seeking nominations that proactively rethink the use and design of the public sphere which includes the cultural, philosophical and economical implications of the common(s)\*.

The nominee is — an individual or collective — who exhibits the following criteria:

- **Exceptional body of work:** which has been influential in and beyond the cultural field. Their work shows us skills that are vital to a democratic culture such as open-mindedness and a powerful imagination.
- **Changemaking\*\*:** their work bears a positive impact on the way people are redefining and shaping the (European) public sphere.
- **Defying categories:** their work 'plays' across (traditional) cultural categories and engage with cultural difference as a creative force (i.e., they practice culture as a living system of values and not as a representation of a fixed identity).
- **Cross-border solidarity:** their artistic sensibility and/or intellectual rigor enable new forms of cooperation between disciplines, cultures and communities; across demographic, geographic, economic, political and social divides.

In addition, the jury is asked to consider the European relevance of the nominee's work: whether an artistic, creative production or theoretical discourse, the nominee forges alternative perspectives which are able to be communicated to a broader public Europe-wide.

Each nominator can make up to 2 proposals. Once eligible nominations are received by 20 June 2014, ECF staff put together a portfolio in close consultation with the nominators. The long list is presented to the international jury in August 2014 in advance of the jury meeting in October 2014.

Once the selection is made, the laureates are informed by the director of ECF and asked if they accept the Award. There are no restrictions regarding the use of the Award money, although the laureates are requested to attend and contribute to shaping the Award Ceremony to ensure a presentation that best reflects their work.

The nominators can not nominate themselves or an organisation they are affiliated with. Furthermore, ECF maintains a policy of strict confidentiality. During the selection process, the nominator's name is not disclosed in connection with the nominees. The names of the nominees are never published and the ECF does not inform a nominee about his or her nomination. After the jury selection, the identity of the laureate(s) remains confidential until a press announcement is made. ECF asks that the nominators and laureates comply with this policy of confidentiality.

### NOTES TO CRITERIA

- \* The common(s) is that which we own, produce, manage and use in common, not only material resources like water, air and the earth we share, but also immaterial resources like the languages we create and social practices we establish.
- \*\* A changemaker is an individual or collective who, through their cultural work, brings about social change and transformation.

# JURY

A prestigious, interdisciplinary jury, chaired by ECF director Katherine Watson will gather together on 2-3 October 2014 to assess the merits of the nominations and select the two laureates of the 2015 ECF Princess Margriet Award. The invited members of the jury are:

**Bojana Cvejic**, Performance theorist and maker, *Brussels/Belgrade*

**Chris Dercon**, Director, Tate Modern, *London*

**Christian Esch**, Director, NRW Kultursekretariat, *Wuppertal*

**Saskia van Stein**, Artistic Director, Bureau Europa, *Maastricht*

**Rana Zincir Celal**, Program Manager, Columbia Global Centers | Turkey and Executive Board Member, Anadolu Kultur, *Istanbul*

# PREVIOUS LAUREATES

The ECF Princess Margriet Award has previously been awarded to:

**2008** eminent cultural theorist and activist Professor **Stuart Hall**, whose hugely influential work has helped make sense of our multifarious, multicultural societies; **Jérôme Bel & Pichet Klunchun** for their performance 'Pichet Klunchun & Myself', a bold yet eloquent encounter that unravels the cultural differences between the two choreographers;

**2010** dramaturg **Borka Pavićević** who has optimistically sustained public discourse under truly difficult conditions, taking a firm stand against intolerance and cultural homogenization; theatre-maker **Stefan Kaegi**'s documentary theatre explores the unseen networks between cultures, cities, countries and continents, revealing both the central and peripheral lives of globalisation;

**2011** artist **Šejla Kamerić** who, in her photography, sculptural works, films and public installations, connects intimate perspectives to a wider social context and urgency; artist and film-maker **Kutluğ Ataman** for his video installations that form a rich tapestry of voices that refute the generalising effect of cultural stereotypes;

**2012** film-maker **John Akomfrah** was chosen for his ground-breaking film oeuvre woven from perspectives often hidden from the mainstream narratives of European history; **Charles Esche** for his exceptional leadership in rethinking cultural centres and museums of art as public spaces that show us the power and value of art in engaging with the contemporary world.

**2013** visual artists **Lia & Dan Perjovschi** from Romania were honoured for the active role that their art has played in Romanian culture and community building since the late 1980s, as well as its wider European relevance and global impact; conductor **Yoel Gamzou** was chosen for his exceptional talent and energy in challenging the conventional structures of the classical music genre and in so doing uncovering its democratic potential.

**2014** cultural activist **Teodor Celakoski** was awarded for his pivotal role in shaping Croatia's independent cultural scene and praised his commitment to making real democratic processes possible; **Teatro Valle Occupato** was awarded in recognition of its collective energy in making culture as a space for people to join in, where culture becomes a shared process that produces new values and forms of social life.



EUROPEAN  
CULTURAL  
FOUNDATION

Jan van Goyenkade 5  
1075 HN Amsterdam  
the Netherlands

[www.culturalfoundation.eu](http://www.culturalfoundation.eu)  
[ask@culturalfoundation.eu](mailto:ask@culturalfoundation.eu)

t +31 (0)20 573 38 68

f +31 (0)20 675 22 3 1

## EUROPEAN CULTURAL FOUNDATION

The European Cultural Foundation believes that culture connects people as Europeans and helps to build a shared future. We initiate and support cultural exchange and creative expression across wider Europe. We do this because culture inspires, empowers and engages people to create democratic societies. We achieve our aims through our wide-ranging activities, advocacy, grants and co-publish and create new content both online and offline, building tools for the cultural sector.

The Award is presented by ECF's former President, HRH Princess Margriet of the Netherlands, in whose honour it was established by the ECF with the support of the Dutch Ministries for Foreign Affairs and Education, Culture and Science.

The annual prize money is € 50,000.



PRINS BERNHARD  
**CULTUURFONDS**

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