



AZALAI - Laboratoire nomade

**MALI - EUROPE - MOROCCO: A cultural caravan
Closing conference at Festival Taragalte
M'hamid el Ghizlane - Morocco - 16 November 2013**

Promoted by

Fondazione Fabbrica Europa, Florence
Festival Exit, Novi Sad
Festival Roots/ Melkweg, Amsterdam
Festival Sfinks, Anvers
Festival Sziget, Budapest
Festival Wazemmes l'Accordéon, Lille

After two years of research, creative residencies and performances across France, Italy, Serbia, the Netherlands, Belgium and Hungary, a cultural conference in the Moroccan desert.

An exchange of views with experts and international professionals on the potentials of transcultural residencies for developing long-term awareness, peace and dialogue.

After two years of researches and activities, the project **AZALAI – Laboratoire Nomade**, supported by the Culture programme of the European Union, will end on **November 16** with a **conference** in **M'hamid el Ghizlane, Morocco**, during the Festival Taragalte (15-17 November). The conference will offer a moment of reflection – with the partners of the project and other professionals and international experts – on the role of culture in the economic and social development of African countries and in the pacification of conflicting areas, on interaction and collaboration strategies at an artistic level between institutions and professionals of culture from Europe and Africa, on the promotion of human rights and peace through forms of cultural cooperation and in particular through immaterial goods.

Azalai – Laboratoire Nomade is the result of the collaboration between six European cultural organisations: Fondazione Fabbrica Europa of Florence, Festival Sziget of Budapest, Festival Exit of Novi Sad, Festival Wazemmes l'Accordéon of Lille, Festival Sfinks of Anvers, Festival Roots/Melkweg of Amsterdam. Its objective is to create an interactive platform, for the building and the expression of African identities beyond the continent and at the light of new cultural relations with contemporary Europe through actions of musical creation in residency, training, concerts, conferences, cultural exchanges.

The conference will host the delegates of the six European festivals and others specialists. The

project also foresees a residency with some artists who have participated to the project AZALAI – Laboratoire Nomade, who will meet some Malian musicians from the Festival au Désert and some Moroccan artists from Festival Taragalte.

Programme

h 11:00 – 11:15

Welcome

h 11:15 – 13:00

Morocco: a cultural crossover. Experiences of encounter and mixing in the Sahara desert and beyond

Driss Alaoui Mdaghri (Morocco) – President of the World Cultures Foundation, poet, professor, ancient minister

Badara Seck (Senegal/Italy) – Culture professional, musician, griot

Saida Azizi (Morocco) – Founder of the Moroccan Center for popular patrimony and manuscripts

h 15:00 – 17:00

Festivals in the Sahara and AZALAI. For a cultural nomadism between Africa and Europe

Manny Ansar (Mali) – Festival au Désert director

Rockyatou Attaye (Mali) – Responsible for the environment and local development Festival au Désert

Halim Sbai (Morocco) – President of Zaila association and Director of Festival Taragalte

Hibrahim SBAI (Morocco) – Festival Taragalte artistic director

Marta Amico (Italy) – AZALAI Project Manager

Maurizio Busia (Italy) – Festival au Désert/Presenze d’Africa of Florence artistic director

Maurizia Settembri (Italy) – Artistic Director Festival Fabbrica Europa

Fruzsina Szep (Hungary) – Festival Sziget artistic director

Adrienn Hiller (Hungary) – Festival Sziget production director

Danka Van Dodewaard (Netherlands) – Festival Roots /Melkweg

Edo Wouter Bouman (Netherlands) – Festival Roots /Melkweg

Vladimir Vodalov (Serbia) – Program Production Festival Exit

Biljana Bilic (Serbia) – Stage manager Festival Exit

Patrick N’Kiala Siese (Belgium) – Festival Sfinks

Milena Dabetic (France) – Festival Wazemmes l’Accordéon

Dimitri Grechi Espinoza (Italy) – Musician

Said Tichiti (Morocco/Hungary) – Musician

Projection AZALAI photo reportage by Barbara Lomonaco

h 17:00 – 17:30

AZALAI unplugged. Dimitri Grechi Espinoza (sax) and Said Tichiti (guembri-voice)

h 17:30 – 19:00

Projection film “Woodstock in Timbuktu” by Désirée Von Throta

h 20:00

Concert/creation «Caravan Blues»

The AZALAI artists «Saïd Tichiti (Morocco-Hungary) and Dimitri Grechi Espinoza (Italy)» – Oum

(Morocco) – Khaira Harby (Mali) – Amanar (Mali) – Kiran Ahluwalia (India) – Lise Hannik (France) –

Aziz Fayet / Aflak (France/Morocco) – groupe Ganga (Morocco) – Mallal (Morocco) – Mariama Kone

(Mali) – Charky Blues (Netherlands) – Mariama Kone - Taragalte (Morocco)

azalai.wordpress.com

www.taragalte.org