



# mahalla

**Malta Festival**

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## Mission

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*The general vision of the festival is to question a dystopian reality of excluding “the other” in the form of the migrant, the poor, the opposite sex, the animal, the environment, the unknown.*

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*The Title, Mahalla, refers to the word mahalla used in many languages and countries meaning neighborhood or location originated in Arabic mähallä.*

*Mahalla as a title for the festival is a metaphor for a space of diversity and inclusion in the field of arts and culture.*

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## Generating New Narratives

**NOV 18 - 25 - 2018**

A Festival of film, literature, contemporary art and several activities combining events that invite local and international artists and creative’s to mobilize visitors to explore communities under new aspects. The Festival is located in venues around Valletta, St. Lucija and Zabbar in Malta.

Maltese and international artists are presented in exhibitions, concerts, performances and talks displaying different topics: *language and migration, communities and diversity, new city cultures, mobile citizenship and future demands.*

*All events of the Mahalla Festival are Free of Charge.*

## Venues

Muza. Museum for Art and Community,  
Auberge D'Italie, Merchants St, Valletta

Museum Fortress Builders,  
St. Mark Street, Valletta

Studio 87  
Liesse, Valletta

Valletta Contemporary  
East Street, Valletta

Palazzo,  
Triq is Sanrwarju 51, Zabbar

Chinese Garden, St. Lucija - in cooperation with Utopian Nights  
November 23, 24, 25

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## Program and Formats

### Supported by

Art Council Malta  
Vodafone Malta  
Foundation  
Allianz Kulturstiftung for  
Europe  
Embassy of the Federal  
Republic of Germany  
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Chancellor of Austria  
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SAHA - Supporting  
Contemporary Art from  
Turkey  
The Flanders department  
of cultuur, jeugd, sport  
and media

### In Cooperation with

Sustainable Design  
Collective  
Heritage Malta  
MUZA: National Museum  
for Art and Community  
Museum Fortress Builders  
Studio 87  
Utopian Nights  
Valletta Contemporary  
African Media Association  
Malta

### Sponsors

Frank Salt Real Estate  
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### Muza

The Museum Muza is hosting a permanent Screening of Video-Works from Maltese and International authors, a program of the African Diaspora Cinema Festival selected by Villa Romana in Florence and the filmmaker Fide Dayo, a literature event dedicated to mobility and language with Antoine Cassar and other international writers, a public screening of short movies from the Mahalla Community Video Workshop and debates about New City Cultures, Cultural Institutions, Mobile Citizenship and Future Demands.

The Festival will be opened with a Contemporary Art Exhibition at different venues and a reception at Muza at the 18<sup>th</sup> of November. The detailed program will be announced in November. The closing event will be in the Chinese Garden in St. Lucija 25<sup>th</sup> of November in cooperation with Utopian Nights.

### Palazzo Zabbar

An unconverted Palazzo in Zabbar is serving as a venue for site specific interventions. After having been the home of a noble family the Palazzo served as a police-station and was partly burned down during the anti-colonial uprisings in the 1958. Some locals still have personal memories. Later the Palazzo served as a depot for one local band-club. Today it is for sale awaiting a new destiny.

### Valletta Contemporary and Studio 87

Two artists will have Solo-presentations in these two new Venues in Valletta

### Museum Fortress Builders

The Museum is hosting artists positions around a globalized world-economy in the Conceptual Mahalla Share-House-Shop. Installations from objects out of recycled materials, Photo-documentations and interactive works are inviting for reflections of various topics central in Malta and Europe right now. Drawings, Clothing, Design Objects and high-quality handcraft will be for sale. They are pleading in a witty way for Fair-Trade, Sustainability, Slow Food and Diversity in Design. The visitors have the opportunity to access high quality, unique products representing the spirit of the Mahalla Festival to fair prices.

### Chinese Garden of Serenity in St. Lucija in Cooperation with Utopian Nights

A Theatre-Performance, Music, Debates, Food and Drinks will be offered in the pleasant atmosphere of the Chinese Gardens.

### Open Call

Within the Mahalla Festival the Istanbul based association DIYALOG and the Sustainable Design Collective Malta are organizing a community video workshop in Malta. So far the workshop took place at the Sudanese Migrant



Association in Hamrun, at Gzira Local Council and at the Volunteer Centre in Valletta.

The multicultural video-workshop is conducted by the curators of the Festival, Sabine Küper-Büsch and Thomas Büsch. A diverse group is producing short videos in Malta since March. A selection of the results is going to be shown at a public screening in Muza.

The workshop is still open for new participants and is open to beginners. Every Saturday at 9am Giacomo Giacomoni is present at Museum Fortress Builders to help with the productions and to offer instructions in editing.

(Contact: Giacomo Giacomoni, [giacomo.oni@gmail.com](mailto:giacomo.oni@gmail.com), +356 999 08 394)

#### Contact in Malta

Fortress Builders, Mo-Fr, 9am - 4pm and Sa, 9am - 12am  
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The first Mahalla Festival took place in Istanbul 2017 in the frame of the Istanbul Biennial. Istanbul is the base of the association Diyalog Derneği as the organizer of the Mahalla Festival. The main Curators, Thomas Büsch and Sabine Küper-Büsch, are in the board of the association.

Information about the first Mahalla Festival 2017 in Istanbul:  
<http://mahalla.inenart.eu/>

The activities of the association Diyalog Derneği: [www.diyalog-der.eu](http://www.diyalog-der.eu)

The websites of the curators: [www.doc-film.de](http://www.doc-film.de); [www.inenart.eu](http://www.inenart.eu)

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