



Press release Paris, 20th of January 2023

## EUROPE-UKRAINE FORUM: CULTURE AND RESISTANCE

11 European cities are mobilizing on February 24, 2023

A press release from the associations *For Ukraine, for their freedom and ours!* and *Defense of Democracy in Poland.* 

On February 24, the anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian army, the world of culture will reaffirm throughout Europe its solidarity with the Ukrainian people.

Responding to a call from Constantin Sigov (Kyiv) and Alexis Nuselovici/Nouss (Aix-en-Provence), more than thirty internationally known artists and thinkers will speak in ten European cities, replying to the question: "How help Ukraine and Europe win the cultural war that Russia is waging against them?".

In France, Robin Renucci (Artistic Director of the theatre *La Criée*, Marseille), **Marcel Bozonnet** (actor), **Jonathan Littell** (writer) and **Omar Souleiman** (poet) will speak during this public event which will **create a chain of visible cultural solidarity for all.** 

From universities to theatres, from publishing houses to cinema and visual arts, European cultural actors are mobilizing with what they know how to do: their words, their ideas and their imaginations.

These cultural actors will speak to show that they stand alongside the Ukrainian people in their daily trials, to help them win the war and prepare for their future.

This February 24 event will lay the foundations of a permanent FORUM as part of the "new humanist movement bringing together intellectuals and activists from different countries" claimed by Oleksandra Matviichuk in her Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech.

One year after the start of the invasion, we must repeat that the war Putin's Russia is waging against Ukraine is a war against its culture and against culture in general. In addition to the brutal denial of Ukrainian identity, the Kremlin declares decadent the values of democracy, freedom and critical thinking that shape European culture. De facto, Ukraine is forced to defend them, on behalf of all of us, against Russia.

# February 24, 2023 6-10 p.m.

Event broadcast by zoom <a href="here">here</a>
And by YouTube, live and in replay, by following this link

In Paris, with Marcel Bozonnet, Omar Souleiman...
at the agency of artists in exile
6 rue d'Aboukir, 75002 Paris

. . . .

## **MOBILIZED CITIES:**

KYIV, with Sophia Androukhovych and Volodymyr YERMOLENKO (writers) ...

**TBILISI**, with Guram Odisharia and Beka Kurkhuli (writers) ...

**SOFIA**, with Theodora Dimova (novelist), Yordan Eftimov (essayist) ...

**BUCHAREST**, with Mihaela Pop (philosopher), Vladimir Cretulescu (historian) ...

**WARSAW**, with Agnieszka Holland (filmmaker), Joanna Kos Krauze (filmmaker), Andrzej Seweryn (actor, member of the Comédie Française) ...

**CRACOW**, with Krystian Lupa (director), Oksana Zaboujko (philosopher), Sergiy Jadan (Ukrainian novelist and rocker) ...

BERLIN, Gerd Koenen (historian), Camille de Toledo (writer) ...

**ROME**, with Nicolas Martino (philosopher and art critic), Francesca Bellino (writer and journalist) ...

**MADRID**, with Esther Bendahan (novelist), Juan Miguel Hernández León (architect, Director of the Círculo de Bellas Artes) ...

BRUSSELS, with Sophie Muselle ...

**PARIS**, with Robin Renucci (Artistic Director of La Criée, Marseille), Marcel Bozonnet (actor), Jonathan Littell (writer), Omar Souleiman (poet) ...

### About us:

- For Ukraine, for their freedom and ours!, an NGO established by 130 academics and joined by many supporters of the Ukrainian cause, publishes op-eds and conducts actions supporting the cause of Ukraine.
- The Association for the Defense of Democracy in Poland (ADDP) was created in 2016 in Paris to defend European democratic values (women's rights, refugees, etc.). In collaboration with the Dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation, it provides support to women victims of sexual violence perpetrated by Russians in Ukraine.

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