

PRESS RELEASE 26.05.2016

'Engaging though Art and Enabling Communities' is a social art and cultural initiative aiming to create social cohesion between the different communities in the neighborhood of the Marolles in Brussels through artistic creativity.

This artistic project for young people in the Marolles is launched by the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Brussels, Arts Lab Brussels and the gallery TAG bxl.

The non-profit association Arts Lab Brussels and the art gallery TAG bxl are located at the Place du Jeu de Balle in the Marolles. A part of the Marolles is in constant development with its antiquity and vintage shops, art galleries, bars and restaurants. It is a vibrant area, which livens up at weekends. However, the lower part of the Marolles has another reality with social housing, low incomes and a high level of immigrated residents. These two parts of the Marolles do not interact and La Place du Jeu de Balle is "on the border" between them. There are very different perceptions about the neighborhood, its development and gentrification.

The aim of this project is to contribute to the merging and interaction of both communities in an artistic project, which will, mainly, take place in the gallery TAG bxl through Arts Lab Brussels at 71 place du Jeu de Balle.

The youth from the Marolles will be offered free workshops with the artist and painter, Adil Haouata. Together they will discuss art, the Marolles, and decide on the theme for the work produced. Thereafter, the artworks created by the youngsters will be exhibited art in the gallery TAG bxl.

"We have chosen to engage in this project because we believe that art is a meaningful and humane way to allow societies to interact with each other, and to help create understanding between people. The UAE believes in the effective role of the arts in promoting cultural exchange and effective communication amongst communities because art has always been an important and universal facet of human expression. We are happy to be able to, hopefully, contribute to a healthy development of the communities for a celebration of talent, creativity, cultural diversity and innovation in this old part of Brussels..." Sheikh Hamad Bin Majid AlQassimi, UAE Embassy in Brussels.

This collaboration project will be announced at the opening of International Emerging Artist Award of Dubai on 26 May 2016 at the gallery TAG bxl by the UAE Embassy in Brussels and Johanna Suo, founding member of Arts Lab Brussels and Director of TAG bxl. The announcement will take place at 7 pm.



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For further information

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Thu - Sun 11:00 > 18:00 And by appointement