
Dear cultural sector, We have an offer to make you.

We believe in the magic, the wonder and the connecting power of the arts. That is why we want to turn the cultural wasteland of the Abattoirs into an open meeting space for everyone, including artists!

That is why we are now launching **OMTA** - the Abattoirs as **Open Meeting Space for Temporary Art**.

There is a need for places in the city where we can enjoy art in an inclusive and accessible way. The pandemic has proven this once again: just when all the art houses were forced to close their doors, the need for connection, imagination and encounter has never been higher. With OMTA we formalise our will to transform our site into an open meeting space for the (temporary) arts: a place where the casual passer-by can be touched and questioned by the power of the arts.

In doing so, we want to remain true to our role in the city: Brussels has an exceptionally large, diverse and high-quality cultural landscape. Cultureghem does not wish to become an additional open-air cultural house. We want to **focus on what we do best: connection, accessibility and participation**. On our unique site, many social issues come together unseen: from economic interests, to poverty, hunger, migration issues, education issues, etc. The most unlikely people cross each other every day on this spot in the city: local residents, market vendors, butchers, car dealers, experts in circular economy, people with or without disabilities, etc. Actively involving this - incredibly mixed - audience, that is our role. Inviting artists, providing them with a framework, supporting them financially and production-wise to create projects that question the world and the city, that is the role of our art houses, cultural and community centres.

That is why we are looking for partnerships to create a mutually beneficial situation - by sharing our space and know-how:

WE OFFER

- a **gigantic open-air space of 10,000 m²** under the city's largest (historical) covered market,
- a **place with an incredibly diverse audience**, with whom we have been actively collaborating for years and with whom we have established a relationship of trust;
- **one of the most relevant places in the city to start work**: in the middle of the arrival city Cureghem; at the particularly fascinating intersection of the Rue Ropsy Chaudron and Rue Heyvaert; along the canal; in the middle of a neighbourhood in full urban transition.

WE INVITE

- **cultural partners** who wish to invest artistically in our site,
- and are not afraid to face the **reality of this particular place!**

We are looking for artists who are genuinely interested in this particular site, who wish to **engage in an active dialogue** with its various users and who are not afraid to make their work an integral part of it: the works and performances will not be protected - they will blend into the wonderful world of Abattoir. Cultureghem wants to be a place open to all and therefore the site will not be privatised in any way (e.g. by selling tickets).

summer 2021 - LaboOMTA

In the summer of 2021, we want to **show what our site has to offer** in terms of hosting the arts: we will temporarily transform the covered market into a concert hall, an open-air cinema, a seminar room or an exhibition space. We are **testing the first partnerships** and laying the foundation stone for OMTA.

We are currently developing the summer programme in collaboration with, among others:

Abdoulay Gueye Badji, BOZAR, Brusselbinnenstebuiten, Collectif Ne Mosquito Pas, Lasso, Micha Goldberg, Nabil Barssa, Orfeo Art, Pierre de Lune, Thomas Linthoudt, Wild Goose Chase Records, ...

We link cultural activities to our existing activities and put our fantastic dreamteam, our enthusiastic group of volunteers, at the centre of every project.

Keep an eye on our website in June for the full programme!

**So,
Let's talk?**

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