

FORUM D'AVIGNON BILBAO

THE CITY AS A CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM

5-8 MARCH 2014 – ALHÓNDIGABILBAO



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THE CITY AS A CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM



For the first time, Bilbao is the venue for the **Forum d'Avignon**, the prestigious debate forum on culture in Europe. An international meeting in which art, architecture, politics and entrepreneurship professionals will analyse the different aspects of 'The city as a cultural ecosystem'.

Bilbao is currently a cultural ecosystem where enriching meetings and events take place every day for the citizens and visitors. Since its economic and urban transformation, the city's name began to be associated with concepts such as excellence, economic activity, growth, art, technology, design and creativity.

The **Forum d'Avignon Bilbao** will show how culture can help boost economic development and the wellbeing of citizens in general, how it can increase the degree of innovation and creativity and how it is decisive when facing global attraction and competition. Through some positive practices, this international meeting will analyse the different ways in which a city becomes a cultural environment which makes the most of its diversified resources, showing how creativity can contribute to the hybridization of prospects both of artists and urban planners.

The Forum d'Avignon Bilbao will be preceded by a workshop named **RAW (Research Action Workshops)**, where artists and local cultural agents will take part.

Forum d'Avignon Bilbao is part of a European cultural programme named **Catalyse** in which the cities of Essen (Germany), Bilbao and Avignon are involved. The Catalyse project, which is inspired by the Forum d'Avignon, has the aim of enhancing the contribution of culture and of the creative industries and catalysing it for the future throughout Europe.

At Essen, the subject matter was 'Culture is the key' and it took place on 27 and 28 June 2013. In Avignon, the event was held from 21 to 23 November with the theme 'The powers of culture'.

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 5 March

9 pm. Welcome cocktail-dinner and cultural event.

Thursday, 6 March

10 am. Debate 1. Institutions and artists: an essential collaboration.

12 pm. Debate 2. Artists as promoters of cultural and social change in our cities.

2 pm. Lunch and visit to Zorrotzaurre, Bilbao's latest major urban regeneration operation.

4.30 pm. Experiences in the city: visits to different spaces in Bilbao with cultural agents.

Friday, 7 March

9 am. Debate 3. Cities as a driving force for cultural change in Europe.

11.30 am. Debate 4. The city in progress, a future ecosystem.

Saturday, 8 March

Visits to Santander, San Sebastian or Biarritz accompanied by local agents.

SIGN UP

For further information on the programme visit: <http://forum-avignon-bilbao.com>

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