

Press release

***Archipelago*, a flagship exhibition for the Europalia Indonesia festival 2017 at La Boverie**

Between 25 October and 21 January 2018, La Boverie will welcome the Europalia Festival to Liège with the ***Archipelago*** exhibition.

An area of confluences and meetings, the Indonesian has always been one of the most important global trade hubs where Austronesian ships, Arab dhows, Chinese junks, Iberian caravels and other vessels from the East India Companies were moored before today's container ships and oil tankers.

The history of this archipelago is based on a multitude of links and connections, where the near and far coexist, brought to prominence by an omnipresent maritime world. The sea unites more than it divides and the monsoon winds have made this hub a compulsory stop for foreign merchants, clerics and diplomats with their presence leaving traces in the myths, monuments, arts and traditions of modern Indonesia.

Superimposed, mixed, reinterpreted by rich and complex societies, these foreign contributions have created multiple worlds whose relationship with the sea is finely coloured and carved.

The discovery of these worlds is the focus of this exhibition covering 2,500 square metres with the sea as the link and almost 300 major works as markers of a history to be discovered and admired. The partners of this exceptional exhibition are, of course, the National Museum of Indonesia in Jakarta who agreed to allow these national treasures to leave Indonesia for the first time; the Royal Museum of Mariemont (Belgium); the National Navy Museum in Paris, as well as various other French and Dutch institutions.

Related events (music, shadow theatre, conferences) scheduled for La Boverie, offer visitors other perspectives.

This exhibition complements the two other major events part of the Europalia festival taking place in Brussels, at BOZAR "Ancestors and Rituals" and "Power and other things".

"Archipelago" exhibition

Europalia Indonesia

Dates: 25 October 2017 – 21 January 2018

Location: La Boverie Museum – La Boverie Park – Liège

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