London Festival of Europe 2009

April 30 - May 10
London, Various Locations
www.festivaleurope.eu
LONDON FESTIVAL OF EUROPE 2009
30 April-10 May 2009 / London, Various locations

For additional events, to join our newsletter, and for further material visit our website: www.festivalofeurope.eu
2009 has been the year of both global hope and global outrage, some of it focussed on London. The London Festival of Europe tries each year to engage critically and artistically with contemporary issues, promoting a transnational politics and culture that speaks to the era of globalisation.

The two key themes of this third edition of the festival are the meaning of the City and the meaning of transnational politics and culture. The first of these themes is dealt with in the opening weekend of the Festival, in discussions, theatre performances, street processions, walks, picnics and film screenings. The second theme is the subject of the second weekend of the festival at our ChangeUtopia! congress, which brings to a close a transnational series of events that have run through 2008 and 2009 and mixes political, artistic, and philosophical voices.

In the year of the European Elections, we also host a keynote debate setting out the democratic options available, and throughout the festival we welcome all of those who recognise that politics must be done differently and who want to take part in imagining a better society.

The London Festival of Europe is organised by European Alternatives, an independent group of writers, artists and activists. In addition to the Festival, we publish the magazine The Myth of Europa and organise regular events and projects throughout Europe and in other continents.
CITY 2009: BRINGING DOWN THE BARRIERS

Four days of events on the meaning of the contemporary city and its life, torn between globalisation and the emergence of new borders.
The Festival opens with a discussion between curator and Serpentine Gallery director of international projects Hans Ulrich Obrist, architect and editor Stefano Boeri, and architect Markus Miessen, on the meaning of the European and the Global City, and the emergence of new barriers as flip-side of the globalisation process.

Kenneth Clark Lecture Theatre, Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset House, Strand, WC2R 0RN
5.30 – 7.30pm, FREE
LOCUS SOLUS

Organised by theatre company Out Of the Box, Locus Solus is a intermedia project exploring the idea of science in relation to accounts of contemporary and historical utopic imagination. This performance based installation project draws on the novel Locus Solus (‘Solitary or Unique Place’, 1914) by Raymond Roussel (1877-1933), a proto-Surrealist text in which a scientist named Martial Canterel fits out luxurious laboratories in a villa near Paris. Each room demonstrates one of the ingenious inventions of his encyclopaedic mind.

Shunt Vaults, 20 Stainer Street, SE1 9RL (by London Bridge)
8.00 – 11.00pm
£10
FRI MAY 1: WALKING, WORDS, THEATRE
MIDNIGHT PROCESSION

Concluding the performance of Locus Solus, artists, dancers, musicians, poets, writers, and philosophers will walk from London Bridge (outside Shunt Vaults) going for a night procession through Brick Lane and up to Shoreditch.
The procession will include choreography, music, readings recitals and performances! An artistic, political, and poetic night.

London Bridge to Shoreditch
Friday Midnight
FREE

SAT MAY 2:
FLÂNEURS SANS FRONTIÈRES

Discussion with artists, architects and flaneurs.

Cafe Oto, 18-22 Ashwin St, Dalston E8 3DL, 3.00pm, FREE
FRI MAY 1:  
TRANSNATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY

What form should a transnational civil society take in Europe? 
What is its relation to development and human rights demands? 
Panel discussion and debate.

Toynbee Studios, 
28 Commercial Street, 
London E1 6AB 
2.00 – 5.00pm 
FREE

MON MAY 4:  
STRANGERS INTO CITIZENS RALLY

Rally for the legalisation of migrants without papers
11.30am: Tothill Street meeting for march to Trafalgar Square.
12.00pm: Trafalgar Square, acts by Asian Dub Foundation and others.

www.strangersintocitizens.org.uk
SUN MAY 3:
UTOPIA CITY URBAN GAMES

A day of films, walks, picnics and discussions on the idea of a utopian city, and the Olympic site.

5.00pm: Film Showings at Arcola Theatre: ‘The Games’, ‘Village Underground’ and ‘Finisterre’.
6.00pm: Discussion: ‘Urban Regeneration and Artistic Resistance’
Discussion on the Olympic site, urban geographies and urban art at Arcola.
7.00pm: Urban Walk: ‘Blue Movies On The Greenway’.
Join us for a guided artistic walk near the Olympic Site, followed by a picnic and video projections after sunset. Meet at Arcola at 7pm or Hackney Wick Station at 7.30pm

Arcola Theatre, 27 Arcola St, London E8 2DJ
2.00 – 10.00pm
FREE
EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVES

The London Festival of Europe is organised by European Alternatives, a trans-national organisation based in London with offices in several European cities. We are devoted to exploring the potential for a post-national or transnational politics and culture, and promoting intellectual and artistic engagement with the idea and future of Europe.

We run several projects on cultural and political themes throughout Europe and on other continents, and also publish a regular magazine *The Myth of Europa*. 
In a globalised world progressive politics must be articulated and fought for beyond the nation state. The European construction has the potential to be a transformative power for social and cultural progress both inside and outside the European Union, but that potentiality has yet to be realised.

European Alternatives attempts to articulate a new politics and culture that speaks to the age of globalisation in several crucial areas:

- Transnational Democracy and engaged citizenship
- Transnational Equality, including *migrant rights, gender equality, social* and *human rights* both *inside* and *outside* Europe
- The relationship between politics and the arts.

You can join European Alternatives online: [www.euroalter.com](http://www.euroalter.com)
MAY 8: FRIDAY DOUBLE BILL

KAPUSCINSKI AND THE OTHER

 Literary discussion of the legacy of Ryszard Kapuscinski (d.2007), celebrated journalist and photographer and one of Europe’s most cosmopolitan writers.

Purcell Room, Southbank Centre,
7.45pm
£10 (£5 conc.)

In partnership with the Polish Cultural Institute, Polska Year and the Southbank Centre
KEYNOTE POLITICAL DEBATE
EUROPEAN CHOICES

Senior figures from the leading European political parties come to London for a lively debate one month ahead of the European elections. The evening will stimulate political dialectic and show the different transnational political alternatives available at the European level.

Old Theatre, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, WC2A 2AE
Friday May 8th, 7.00 – 9.00pm
FREE
The Congress for new transnational politics and culture is an annual appointment exploring the meaning and potentiality of a post-national approach to the most burning political, philosophical, and artistic questions of our time.

**DAY 1 PROGRAMME: SATURDAY 9th MAY**

**10.30am:** Opening Address / A UTOPIA OF CHANGE AND CHANGING UTOPIA

**11.00am:** Opening Plenary / TRANSNATIONALISM, INTERNATIONALISM, GLOBALISATION AND EUROPE

**Boyan Manchev**, College International de Philosophe / New University, Sofia

**Ghislaine Glasson Deschaumes**, editor of *Transeuropéennes*
1.30pm: **EUROPE AND THE NEOLIBERAL INEVITABILITY**  
Scott Lash, Goldsmiths College  
Yann Moulier-Boutang, economist and director of *Multitudes*

3.30pm: **EUROPE: TRANSNATIONALISM AND SOLIDARITY**  
Neal Lawson, Compass  
Andrea Nahles, German MP – tbc

5.30pm: **THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH; TRANSNATIONALISM AND GLOBAL JUSTICE**  
Gilbert Achcar, SOAS  
Oscar Guardiola (tbc)  
Sonia Dayan Herzbrun, Paris VII

7.30pm: **EVENING IS FOR ART**  
Poetry recital followed by music and performance art by Orion Maxted and Protoway

Rich Mix  
35-47 Bethnal Green Road  
(top of Brick Lane)  
Saturday and Sunday, all day, FREE
DAY 2 PROGRAMME: SUNDAY 10th MAY

11.00am: Opening Plenary / FOR A TRANSNATIONAL FEMINISM
Sonia Dayan Herzbrun, Paris VII
Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez, University of Manchester
Eric Fassin, ENS, Paris

1.30pm: NEW GEOGRAPHIES OF ART
Rasheed Araeen, artist and founder editor of Third Text
Stephen Wright, writer and theorist
Bhaskar Mukhopadhyay, Goldsmiths College

MAY 9 AND 10: TRANSNATIONAL CONGRESS

For more information and updated programme check: www.euroalter.com/congress
3.00pm: MIGRATION AND ARTISTIC STRATEGIES
Speakers to be announced

4.30pm: ENVIRONMENT
Speakers to be announced

6.00pm: Closing Plenary / FOR A TRANSNATIONAL LEFT

7.30pm: ARTISTIC CLOSING
A performance of contemporary music followed by an eclectic party.

Rich Mix
35-47 Bethnal Green Road (top of Brick Lane)
Saturday and Sunday, all day, FREE

Supported by:
The Festival includes a transnational series of events across five European countries preparing the ground for many of the key themes of this year’s Festival and Congress.

All information on:
www.euroalter.com/changeutopia

Barcelona: Art and Migration
The symposium in Barcelona brings artists and curators who have approached the theme of migration in their work to discuss artistic responses to one of the key phenomena of our time.

Paris : The End of History ?
The event in Paris invites artists and intellectuals from Europe and China to discuss the significance of 1989, the role of civil dissent and the meaning of artistic engagement.
Berlin: Art and Power in a Transnational Sphere
The discussion in Berlin focuses on the question of the political potential or function of art and its relation to the question of transnational struggle and globalisation.

Bologna: The Migrant And/As the Other
The appointment in Bologna directly responds to the worsening political situation in Italy and the emergence of racist and xenophobic responses to the phenomenon of migration.

Warsaw: Art and Feminism
The meeting in Warsaw looks at how art can exercise a politically beneficial force reasoning around questions of human rights, with a particular reference to feminism and civil liberties.
CITY 2009: BRINGING DOWN THE BARRIERS

APRIL 30: CITY 2009 OPENING SYMPOSIUM
Courtauld Institute of Art, 5.30 – 7.30pm, FREE

MAY 1: THEATRE, ART, SOUND LOCUS SOLUS
Shunt Vaults, London Bridge, 8.00 – 11.00pm, £10

MAY 1: WALKING, WORDS, THEATRE MIDNIGHT PROCESION
London Bridge to Shoreditch, Friday Midnight, FREE

MAY 2: WALKING FLANEURS SANS FRONTIERES
Cafe Oto, 18-22 Ashwin St, Dalston E8 3DL 3.00pm, FREE

MAY 3: DISCUSSION AND OLYMPIC SITE TOUR UTOPIA CITY
Arcola at 6pm or Hackney Wick Station at 7.30pm, FREE

MAY 8 FRIDAY DOUBLE BILL
KAPUSCINSKI AND THE OTHER
Purcell Room, Southbank Centre, 7.45pm, £10 (£5 concessions)

MAY 9 CONGRESS DAY ONE TRANSNATIONALISM, NEOLIBERALISM, GLOBALISATION
DAY 1 PROGRAMME: Saturday May 9th
10.30am: Opening Address / A Utopia of Change and Changing Utopia
11.00am: Opening Plenary / Transnationalism, Internationalism, Globalisation and Europe
1.30pm: Europe and the Neoliberal Inevitability
3.30pm: Session 1 / Europe: Transnationalism and Solidarity
5.30pm: The North and the South; Transnationalism and Global Justice
7.30pm: Performance Art and Music

MAY 10: CONGRESS DAY TWO ART, FEMINISM, POLITICS OF THE LEFT
DAY 2 PROGRAMME: Sunday May 10th
11.00am: Opening Plenary / For a Transnational feminism
1.30pm: Session 1 / New Geographies of Art
3.00pm: Session 2 / Migration and Artistic Strategies
4.30pm: Session 2 / Environment
6.00pm: Closing Plenary / For a Transnational Left
7.30pm: Artistic Closing
Rich Mix, 35-47 Bethnal Green Road

AT A GLANCE