

"Parad'Eur" CHARTER

European citizen's cultural Parades

The civic Parades, like the Brussels Zinneke Parade, the Lyon's Défilé, the Bologna's Par Tót Parata, the Belfast Carnival are leading manifestations combining cultural and artistic, educative and social emancipation approaches by collective creation and its demonstration in public space. They take part into the urban revitalizations policies, by a strong non profit act. The Parade is the most visible moment but is just the result of all that funny, critical and enthusiastic process combining contemporary artistic creation and inhabitants to day's creativity.

Those "Citizens Parades" include the notion of intercultural participation into the cities, with its aspect of common celebration and awareness. They are based on a citizenship, on the way inhabitants are taking over their city, their public spaces. It happens in relationship with artistic creation, building a new cultural, popular and urban space, a new collective imaginary (which owes a lot to the artistic domain) but worked by the inhabitants.

They have cultural, social, environmental and economical effects. This kind of project encourages the collective efforts, the mutual help, the team spirit, the (re)knowledge of the others cultures. You don't see ethnical groups in the parade. You can find signs from the different involved cultures, but the goal is an original creation in a wide freedom from the cultural origins. Those multiple contributions are mixing and drive in a contemporary form the human values sustaining the diverse cultures traditions. People from different social origins, ages and communities are cooperating. The cultures express by many ways. Everybody find his position in relation with his roots, his competences and his aspirations.

« Parad'Eur »

« Parad'Eur » is composed as an international network by bringing together **professionals** involved in a **critical thought** on the cultural, artistic, social and urban action. They express **shared principles which are the founding «charter" for their practices**.

As they organize as well parades (strolling acts) or still manifestations in the public spaces, the members of "Parad'Eur" give the priority to projects based on **intercultural imagination**, contributing to the **reduction of inequalities** and to the fight against exclusions, intending to let emerge **artistic forms** linked with the many expression ways involved populations have; those projects

- Are shown in a **spectacular production**, contributing to their communication, highlighting and measuring them
- win the **public space**
- consider the **artist** as an artist, so that he can be helped for his artistic projects despite the exceptional environment
- are working in a **long term perspective**.

The " Parad'Eur "s members are developing **transversal approaches** in particular about **urbanity**, helping innovative projects, open to **artistic and social experimentation**.

Moreover, " Parad'Eur "s members consider as central for their projects the exchanges dimension and the **intercultural opening**, in a logic of **solidarity**, reciprocity and « going and coming », as well at the level of a district as in a **interregional cooperation** including an **international dimension**, necessary for the success of long term actions.

Principles:

The «Parad'Eur "s partners affirm their ambition to respect the following principles leading their interventions.

1. Global approach:

The «Parad'Eur» partners want to take **in account all the realities** of the considered populations.

- The global approach of the projects asks to be invested with **many partners**, each of them bringing their exact part to the achievement of the actions : communities, public services, social centers, teaching corps, long time education groups, local employment missions, diverse associations expressing the inhabitants expectations, companies, artistic schools, libraries, museums or opera houses...
- The partnership with all the actors is considered like a **vital necessity** for the good success of the projects, not like a way for city marketing, or like a tool for an individual artist r for a policy having nothing to deal with them.
- This conscience for everybody's role is crucial. The «Parad'Eur "s partners consider that it contributes strongly to the development of the **participative democracy**, no enough in use.
- To reach such a complex and delicate approach, a **deep dialogue** is needed. **It needs time, adapted support, specific knowledge and validated education.**
- They wait, particularly from public authorities, **clear indications** about the importance given to the **cultural and artistic facets into the global policies for urban developments.**

2. Coaching the populations' cultural expressions:

The priority must be given to the "**route**" that people participating to the actions are following (or might be able to follow).

- That approach in term of "route" is, for " Parad'Eur " an **obvious source of innovations, experimentation and artistic emergence** contributing to enrich everybody's cultures and is not only reduced to a pass for official culture.
- One of the favorite tools is "**sharing creation**" building an adapted situation between artists an involved people, prospecting **emancipation and detailed artistic practices.**
- The other dimension for **accompanying routes** concerns the function of **resources center** Parad'Eur members are fulfilling, adapting their propositions and interventions about what the **populations are questioning** with the will to answer to concrete situations and artistic evolutions.
- In that coaching work, «Parad'Eur " mentions that routes engaged by the most inventive people, the voluntary and non profit actions are hampered by the **requirement for direct return** from the leisure market.
- Moreover, «Parad'Eur" considers that it is important to propose **education's modules to favor the understanding of artistic emergence into cultural diversity.**

3. Evaluation:

For «Parad'Eur» members, evaluation is a constant process having to consider **all the facets of a project and being part of the action.**

As **initiatives laboratories**, "Parad'Eur» partners consider that the **constant attendance of a researchers staff** is required, coaching the progress of the operations, implicated in the project and contributing to its evolution.

- They ask that public adapted support would be allowed to integrate the de research-action dynamic to the development of cultural projects.
- As well as the conception phase, that **research-action dynamic is conditioning the quality of the projects as their adaptation to the complex realities** cultural actors are facing. «Parad'Eur " considers that it is essential for **feeding the public debate about the cultural projects relevance.**

4. European dimension: the European citizens' parades.

Considering that there is not enough European **collective imaginary**, Parad'Eur is planning to let feel via the "citizens' cultural parades" the mutual influence of the diverse cultures on the citizens in their own city, in Europe.

Therefore, the network **will tent to be recognized by Europe in its characteristics: creating a culture together with European citizens in diversity** and

organizing

- **Exchanges** between
 - *artists*, with the help of artists residences disposals, as well that working condition for creation is particular
 - *citizens*, young people specially, but not only: older people have to be included as knowledge, costumes keepers, a still living base for culture
 - *practices*, knowledge and know how, researches
 - *methodologies* according to the shared values.
- A large scale **realization**
- **Information** bases
- **education modules** for specialized bodies.

assuming the coaching-research:

- coordinating resources centers in order to provide to each other the data brought together following the local research-action activities
- establish a pluridisciplinary team able to translate and interpret the local actions to global support on European level.

Theses principles and projects express the founding ambitions of «Parad'Eur» and the commitment wanted by the members that are of or want to be part of the network.