

# CIRCOSTRADA

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROGRAMME

January 22-24, 2025



*Lignes ouvertes* - Compagnie Basinga, Marseille (France) 2019 © Jeremy Paulin

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## Disclaimer

The information provided for the programme might be subject to change.

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# FOREWORD

Welcome to Marseille, a city of connection and exchange, and to this inspiring moment where Circostrada's Annual General Meeting meets the 10th anniversary of the Biennale Internationale des Arts du Cirque.

It feels good to gather again when global uncertainties—geopolitical tensions, environmental crises, and economic challenges—dominate our news feeds, fueling anxiety and encouraging isolation. Shared creativity and international cooperation are more vital than ever when the temptation to turn inward looms large. The practice of circus embodies trust, solidarity, and mutual support—values essential to addressing today's challenges.

These same principles have fueled the BIAC's success over the years, made possible by over 50 committed partners collaborating to reflect, share, and pool resources. Each edition of BIAC attracts professionals from across the globe, drawn to Marseille to experience pioneering performances, tackle shared challenges, and forge connections that often lead to impactful international projects.

At Circostrada, we do believe in the transformative power of international cooperation by working together, across disciplines, geographies, and perspectives. These values are also at the core of Circostrada's newest project spanning from 2024 to 2028, CS VOICES counting on the renewed support of the European Union. Building on the success of CS BODIES, this initiative champions "situated and unannounced voices," amplifying local and marginalized perspectives through participatory research, training, and advocacy to foster meaningful change in cultural policymaking and artistic practices.

This year, aligning Circostrada's AGM with the vibrant energy of the Biennale creates a unique space for dialogue, inspiration, and collective action. Performances and roundtables will spark fresh ideas and connections. As a highlight, the first publications of CS VOICES provide insight into the French context of contemporary circus and outdoor arts, complemented by a toolkit on touring in France and a BIAC case study on sustainability.

This AGM is more than a networking opportunity—it's a call to action: how can we amplify the transformative values of circus to meet today's challenges head-on?

**Simon Carrara Deputy Director Archaos - Pôle National Cirque**

**Alice Brunot Circostrada Network Coordinator / Head of International Development at ARTCENA**

# DAY-TO-DAY PROGRAMME

## DAY#1 - Wednesday January 22nd - [@La Friche Belle de Mai](#)

14:00-15:30	<p><b>Steering Committee Meeting</b> (closed session) <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai, Room 'Salle du geste' (Manufacture building 1st floor)</a></p> <p>The Steering Committee and the coordination team of Circostrada will gather during the Annual General Meeting in France. This will be the occasion for the committee to evaluate and discuss the development plan of the network. The Steering Committee is currently composed of the following members: Bruno Costa (Bússola), Gwénola David (ARTCENA), Isabel Joly (FEDEC), Antonia Kuzmanić (ROOM 100, HALA 100 and contemporary circus festival Peculiar Families Festival), Kiki Muukkonen (Subtopia), Telma Luís (Imaginarium), and Māra Pāvula (Rīgas cirks).</p>
15:00-16:00	<p><b>Registration desk</b> <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai, Entrance of Room 'Grand plateau' (Plateaux building)</a> Come get your badge, welcome pack and a coffee!</p>
16:00-16:30	<p><b>Welcome words</b> <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai, Room 'Grand plateau' (Plateaux building)</a></p> <p>Opening words from the Annual General Meeting's co-organisers: Simon Carrara (Archaos), Lucie Duriez (La Friche Belle de Mai) Gwénola David (ARTCENA), Barbara Stacher (European Commission), and Alice Brunot (ARTCENA/Circostrada).</p>
16:30-18:30	<p><b>Newsround session</b> <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai, Room 'Grand plateau' (Plateaux building)</a></p> <p>The traditional newsround session is back! Members have the opportunity to take the mike and speak about current projects they are working on, share hot news about their organisations, raise your attention on upcoming sectoral events, initiatives or calls that you should know about! <b>A Group picture will be taken after this session, make sure to stay with us in the room!</b></p>
19:00-20:30	<p><b>Welcome Dinner</b> at <a href="#">Les Grandes Tables</a> (restaurant of <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai</a>) (covered)</p> <p>It's time to get together in the cozy atmosphere of the restaurant of La Friche. Enjoy good food and say cheers!</p>
20:30-23:00	<p><b>Welcome drinks</b> <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai</a></p> <p>Take a drink at the bar of <a href="#">Les Grandes Tables!</a> (not covered)</p>

To find out more practical information about access for La Friche, check out [this page](#).



Check out the [map of La Friche](#) indicating the different rooms used during the AGM [here](#).

Check out the AGM's venues' addresses on [p.23 \(Practical information section\)](#)

## DAY#2 - Thursday January 23rd - [@La Friche Belle de Mai](#)

10:00-12:00	<p><b>FRESH STREET # 5 internal committee</b> (closed session for committee members) <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai, Room 'Salle des tabacs' (Manufacture building 2nd floor)</a></p> <p>Committee members will work together with the coordination team and co-organiser <a href="#">Out There Arts</a> (UK) on the next edition of <a href="#">FRESH STREET #5</a> (May 28-30, 2025).</p> <p><a href="#">Alice Brunot</a>, Coordinator of Circostrada, and <a href="#">Joe Mackintosh</a>, Chief Executive of <a href="#">Out There Arts</a> are the referents for this session.</p> <hr/> <p><b>SPARK Collaborative Input Session</b> <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai, Room 'Salle du geste' (Manufacture building 1st floor)</a> - <i>Participatory Research Lab on Fair Practices and Equitable Working Conditions</i> (upon prior registration) - led by Dr. Matina Magkou, Researcher, welcome words of Barbara Stacher, Senior Expert, EU cultural and creative sector policies</p> <p>Fair Remuneration, Diversity and Inclusion, Parenting, Mental Health.... What if you could have a chance to shape the future of fair working practices across the contemporary circus and outdoor arts sector? This Collaborative Input Session is designed to map existing unfair practices and establish the key research questions and scope for a participatory research aimed at addressing the working conditions within contemporary circus and outdoor arts in Europe. Through facilitated discussions and breakout groups, you will connect with others in the field to discuss the challenges and needs faced by artists and professionals at all levels. Your insights and experiences will directly inform a policy brief focused on creating fair practices and equitable working conditions to be addressed at various stakeholders and policy makers in 2026.</p> <p><a href="#">Kinga Kecskés</a>, from the Circostrada Coordination Team is the referent for this session.</p> <hr/> <p>For the rest of the members, either <b>free time</b>, or check out what is happening in the frame of the <b>BIAC Professional Meeting</b> programme!</p>
12:15-13:45	<p><b>Lunch</b> (booked only for FRESH STREET#5 Committee members and SPARK Collaborative Input Session participants) at <a href="#">Les Grandes Tables</a> (restaurant of <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai</a>) (not covered)</p> <p>For the rest of the members, we recommend checking out the list of suggested restaurants on p.23!</p>



To find out more practical information about access for La Friche, check out [this page](#).  
 Check out the [map of La Friche](#) indicating the different rooms used during the AGM [here](#).  
 Check out the AGM's venues' addresses on [p.23 \(Practical information section\)](#)



14:00-16:20	<p><b>Plenary session &amp; Steering Committee elections</b> <a href="#">@La Friche Belle de Mai, Room 'Grand plateau'</a></p> <p>Spotlights on the life of Circostrada network! This session will be dedicated to discussing CS VOICES, the current Circostrada project of activities, which will be running up until August 2028. It will also be a privileged time to catch up with the latest and upcoming network activities, resources and initiatives and to exchange with the Steering Committee members and the (partly) brand new Coordination Team. Make sure to be present for the Steering Committee elections. 5 seats are to be taken, so make sure to be present and make your voice heard!</p>
16:30-17:00	<p><b>Meeting point at 16:30 at the main entrance of</b> <a href="#">@La Friche, Belle de Mai, rue Jobin side</a> for the shuttle ride to <a href="#">@Hôtel de Ville, Espace Bargemon</a> meeting point for your next programme session (either the Welcome reception, or BIAC Parcours D/E/F).</p>
17:00-18:00	<p><b>Welcome reception with representatives of the city of Marseille</b> <a href="#">@Hôtel de Ville, Espace Bargemon</a></p>
<p><b>BIAC</b> Etang des Aulnes, Saint-Martin-de-Crau <i>Parcours D</i></p>	<p>17:00-18:15 Shuttle from <a href="#">240 quai du Port 13002 Marseille</a> near <a href="#">@Hôtel de Ville, Espace Bargemon</a> to <a href="#">@Etang des Aulnes, Saint-Martin-de-Crau</a></p> <p>18:15-19:15 Dinner (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a>)</p> <p>19:30-22:00 <b>TRILOKIA</b> - Cie Circo Aereo <a href="#">@Etang des Aulnes, Saint-Martin-de-Crau</a></p> <p>22:30-23:10 Shuttle back from <a href="#">@Etang des Aulnes, Saint-Martin-de-Crau</a> to the city centre of Marseille (<a href="#">@Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles</a>)</p>
<p><b>BIAC</b> Théâtre des Salins <i>Parcours E</i></p>	<p>17:45-18:50 Shuttle from <a href="#">240 quai du Port 13002 Marseille</a> near <a href="#">Hôtel de Ville, Espace Bargemon</a> to <a href="#">@Théâtre des Salins, scène nationale de Martigues</a></p> <p>19:00-20:00 <b>MACACADA</b> - Maïra de Oliveria Aggio followed by a DJ set <a href="#">Théâtre des Salins</a></p> <p>20:10-20:50 Dinner (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a>)</p> <p>21:00-22:10 <b>FACE AUX MURS</b> - Cie Hors Surface <a href="#">Théâtre des Salins</a></p> <p>22:30-23:10 Shuttle back from <a href="#">Théâtre des Salins</a> to the city centre of Marseille (<a href="#">@Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles</a>)</p>
<p><b>BIAC</b> Village Chapiteaux <i>Parcours F</i></p>	<p>18:10-18:40 Shuttle from <a href="#">240 quai du Port 13002 Marseille</a> near <a href="#">@Hôtel de Ville, Espace Bargemon</a> to the Village Chapiteaux <a href="#">@Village Chapiteaux (plage du Prado), Marseille</a></p> <p>18:45-19:20 Dinner at <a href="#">Village Chapiteaux</a> (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a>)</p> <p>19:30-21:00 <b>SABOTAGE</b> - Nofit State Circus</p> <p>21:30-22:00 Shuttle back from <a href="#">@Village Chapiteaux (plage du Prado), Marseille</a> to the city centre of Marseille (<a href="#">@Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles</a>)</p>

## DAY#3 - Friday January 24th



### Circus Path

#### Option 1

@Bibliothèque  
l'Alcazar

9:30-10:00 Welcome coffee

10:00-12:45 **Artists pitch session for projects in a 360° venue** organised by ARTCENA, followed by a cocktail (in French, English translation available)

To support contemporary circus creation, ARTCENA and Archaos are organising presentations of creative projects as part of the BIAC. This opportunity for professionals and artists to meet and exchange ideas will showcase artistic projects that are in the process of being created and whose performances will be presented to the general public.

12:45-14:15 **Lunch (not covered, you can check out suggested restaurants on p.23!)**

14:30-16:30 **Roundtable on Reflecting on the Sustainable Touring of Big Tops (roundtable in French, English translation is available)**

In a context where environmental, energy, and cooperation issues are becoming increasingly critical, ARTCENA, the French national centre for circus, street and theatre arts, is organising a roundtable bringing together French and international experts. This event aims to explore tools for designing big top tours in a sustainable and thoughtful way.

**Speakers:** Déborah Boëno (France), Simon Carrara (France), Richard Fournier (France), Danijela Jović (UE), Guy Périlhou (France), Lucho Smit (Netherlands). Opening words from Gilles Pelayo, Head of the Unit managing the 'Creative Europe - Culture' EU funding programme (UE).

The roundtable will be moderated by Gwénola David (France).



### Outdoor Arts Path

#### Option 2

@Cité des arts  
de la rue

*For this path, no public transport is available that day, please come by the shuttle if you have registered for it, or with Taxi/VTC service (not covered)!*

9:00-9:20: Shuttle from @Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles to the @Cité des arts de la rue

9:30-10:00 Welcome coffee @Salle des expositions

10:00-12:00 Presentation and visit of FAI-AR, Lieux Publics and IN SITU @Salle des expositions

12:00-13:30 Lunch onsite (not covered)

13:45-15:00 Artistic presentations of FAI-AR graduates Pauline Murris, Zoé Pannier, Zelda Soussan (also a Lieux Publics associated artist) and Nana Francisca Schottländer (IN SITU associated artist) and Begat Theater (Lieux Publics associated artist) @Salle des expositions

15:00-16:00 Time for an informal exchange with the artists and for networking!

16:00-16:30 Shuttle back from @Cité des arts de la rue to @2 rue Henri Barbusse, Marseille (near Bibliothèque Alcazar, main meeting point for the evening parcours shuttles).

On this day dedicated to outdoor arts professionals, we invite you to take an immersive tour of the Cité des Arts de la Rue. You'll have the chance to discover this emblematic institution and three of the structures that make it up: FAI-AR, In Situ, and Lieux Publics. The morning will be followed by a guided tour of the Aygalades stream, led by the Les Gamarres collective. The afternoon will be devoted to the presentation of projects by former FAI-AR apprentices, as well as artists from FAI-AR and Lieux Publics, offering an inspiring insight into creativity in this field.

<p><b>BIAC</b> Village Chapiteaux <i>Parcours G</i></p>	<p>17:00-17:25 Shuttle from <a href="#">@2 rue Henri Barbusse, Marseille (near Bibliothèque Alcazar)</a> to <a href="#">@Village Chapiteaux (plage du Prado), Marseille</a>  17:30-18:30 Dinner if you wish to eat before the show onsite (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a>)  18:30-19:45 <i>HOURVARI</i> - Cie Rasposo <a href="#">@Village Chapiteaux (plage du Prado), Marseille</a>  20:00-21:30 <i>SABOTAGE</i> - Nofit State Circus <a href="#">@Village Chapiteaux (plage du Prado), Marseille</a>  21:45-22:45 Dinner if you wish to eat after the show onsite (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a>)  23:00-23:30 Shuttle back to <a href="#">@Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles</a></p>
<p><b>BIAC</b> KLAP/Théâtre Joliette <i>Parcours H</i></p>	<p>16:40-16:55 Shuttle from <a href="#">@2 rue Henri Barbusse, Marseille (near Bibliothèque Alcazar)</a> to <a href="#">@KLAP, Marseille</a>  17:00-17:30 <i>MIETTES</i> - Jules Sadoughi <a href="#">@KLAP, Marseille</a>  18:00-19:00 <i>ARMOUR</i> - Arno Ferrera &amp; Gilles Polet <a href="#">@KLAP, Marseille</a>  19:05-19:10 Shuttle from <a href="#">@KLAP, Marseille</a> to <a href="#">@Théâtre Joliette, Marseille</a>  19:15-19:55 Dinner (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a>) <a href="#">@Théâtre Joliette, Marseille</a>  20:00-21:15 <i>LA BÊTE NOIRE &amp; PETITES REINES</i> - Cie L'Oublié(e) <a href="#">@Théâtre Joliette, Marseille</a>  To get back to the city centre, no shuttles are planned, you can walk back by your own means.</p>
<p><b>BIAC</b> Aix-en- Provence <i>Parcours I</i></p>	<p>17:30-18:30 Shuttle from <a href="#">@Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles</a> (it's from a 15-minutes walk from Bibliothèque Alcazar) to <a href="#">@Théâtre du Bois de l'Aune, Aix-en-Provence</a>  19:00-19:50 <i>FORA</i> - cie AR <a href="#">@Théâtre du Bois de l'Aune, Aix-en-Provence</a>  20:00-20:10 Shuttle from <a href="#">@Théâtre du Bois de l'Aune, Aix-en-Provence</a> to <a href="#">@3 bis f Centre d'art contemporain</a>  20:15-20:55 Dinner (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a>)  21:00-22:00 <i>EVERY_BODY</i> - Alexander Vantournhout <a href="#">@3 bis f Centre d'art contemporain, Aix en Provence</a>  22:10-22:55 Shuttle back from <a href="#">@3 bis f Centre d'art contemporain, Aix en Provence</a> to <a href="#">@Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles</a></p>



OPTIONAL SATURDAY BIAC PROFESSIONAL MEETING PROGRAMME *	
10:00-12:00	Circus and digital arts - Roundtable <a href="#">@Archives et Bibliothèques Départementales des Bouches du Rhône</a>
12:30-13:30	Lunch (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a> ) <a href="#">@Restaurant MundArt</a>
14:00-15:00	<i>Décrochez-moi-ça</i> - cie Bêtes de foire <a href="#">@La Vieille Charité, Marseille</a>
16:00-16:40	<i>Le récit des yeux</i> - cie Sombra <a href="#">@MUCEM</a>
16:40-18:00	Free time!
18:00-18:45	Shuttle from <a href="#">@MUCEM</a> to <a href="#">@Théâtre du Centaure</a>
19:00-20:00	<i>Entre chiens &amp; loups</i> - cie Théâtre du Centaure <a href="#">@Théâtre du Centaure</a>
20:10-20:50	Dinner (not covered, booked upon prior registration through <a href="#">BIAC Professional Meeting</a> ) at <a href="#">@Théâtre du Centaure</a>
21:00-22:10	<i>L'Absolu</i> - cie Les choses de Rien <a href="#">@Théâtre du Centaure</a>
22:45-23:15	Shuttle from <a href="#">@Théâtre du Centaure</a> to <a href="#">@Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles</a>

\*The BIAC Professional Meeting are taking place until January 25 included. Circostrada members are welcome on the Saturday programme, although it is outside of the official AGM programme.

# ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

DAY 2. / Jan. 23

## Étang des Aulnes - Parcours D



©Vincent Muteau

19:30-22:00 at Saint-Martin-de-Crau  
8€, not covered (professional rate applicable within the framework of the BIAC Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

### *TRILOKIA* - Circo Aereo

Three short plays performed in three different venues (indoor, big top, outdoor) and forming a single show. Trilokia is a poetic exploration of man's relationship with the living world. Teau, Ferfeu and Harbre are all performed by alchemist Jani Nuutinen.

Composed of chimerical images, we plunge into these creations as if in a dream, between dance, acrobatics and the manipulation of objects. Like a magician, the artist tries to master the elements. He transforms a space into a sheet of rippling water, defies fire, seeks to enter into communion with a tree.

In each of these paintings, he tells us a story about humanity. And he appeals to us to take our time, away from the urgency of the world.

In co-production with Théâtre d'Arles, Festival Les Élancées, Scène conventionnée Scènes et Cinés le Citron Jaune & Archaos, Pôle National Cirque.

## Théâtre des Salins - Parcours E



©Serra Grande

19:00-20:00 at Théâtre des Salins  
5€, not covered (professional rate applicable within the framework of the BIAC Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

### *Macacada* - Maïra de Oliveria Aggio

Macacada is much more than a show; it's a sensory experience in three acts. Maïra de Oliveira Aggio created it after reading Franz Kafka's short story "A Report to an Academy," which tells the tale of a monkey who becomes human. Before an assembly of scholars, he explains how he integrated into human society by adopting its codes. Embracing her identity as a monkey, the artist blends personal narratives with decolonial reflections on stage. She begins by leading us to a tree transformed into an apparatus for acrobatics. This is followed by a performance-lecture exploring the concepts of Nature and Culture, where she cites quilombola philosopher Nego Bispo, a cornerstone of her creative research. She concludes with an intoxicating DJ set, inviting us to dance and celebrate our ancestral heritage. Maïra de Oliveira Aggio is a Brazilian artist-researcher. Having lived in Europe for thirteen years, she maintains a deep-rooted connection to the northeastern region of Brazil where she grew up (Salvador, Bahia). Macacada is her first solo performance, supported by the Antigone association, a collective that champions works created by women in the performing arts.

# ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

DAY 2. / Jan. 23

## Théâtre des Salins - Parcours E



©Loriane Moranton

21:00-22:10 at Théâtre des Salins  
8€, not covered (professional rate  
applicable within the framework of the BIAC  
Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

### *Face aux Murs* - Cie Hors Surface

In an ever-evolving set design, two large trampolines face plexiglass walls that act as mirrors. Seven circus artists fall and rebound continuously, all defying the laws of gravity.

These acrobats push the “wall trampoline” technique to new limits, integrating it with other acrobatic disciplines (such as hand-to-hand, banquine, and counterweight). They break traditional codes with imagination, showcasing both their individuality and collective spirit. Face aux murs is a mirror: reflecting our present against our future, our human condition against an unpredictable world, and our ego against the Other. For the past ten years, the Toulon-based company Hors Surface has championed a new, multifaceted form of circus with high acrobatic standards. Poetic and visually striking, this company, led by Damien Droin, creates extraordinary set designs and expresses a unique language that blends original musical composition with high-flying choreography. Its artistic vision: to question the shifting space around us and our relationship to reality.

## Village Chapiteaux - Parcours F



©Sigrid Spinnox

19:30-21:00 at Village Chapiteaux  
10€, not covered (professional rate  
applicable within the framework of the BIAC  
Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

### *Sabotage* - NoFit State Circus

After impressing us with Lexicon, a show brimming with boundless energy, the Welsh company NoFit State Circus returns with a new creation that's just as wild. Beneath a big top, in an atmosphere of shadow and light, nine extraordinarily talented performers push the traditional boundaries of circus, joined by three musicians.

In a series of breathtaking scenes, they interweave different aerial acts: acrobatics, hand-to-hand, aerial hoop, Chinese pole, slackline... These high-flying acts address a world facing tough challenges, grappling with various power struggles: population displacement, climate crisis... Delicate topics tackled here with boldness.

Hailing from Wales, NoFit State Circus plays a pioneering and iconic role in the development of contemporary circus in Britain. Their shows, directed by Firenza Guidi, combine music, theatricality, and special effects in gargantuan performances executed with absolute precision.

# ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

DAY 3. / Jan. 24

## KLAP/Théâtre Joliette - Parcours H



©GV-Studio

17:00-17:30 at K LAP

5€, not covered (professional rate applicable within the framework of the BIAC Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

### *Miettes* - Jules Sadoughi

In this acro-dance solo presented as a preview, dancer and circus artist Jules Sadoughi offers a poignant reflection on the passage of time and its impact on the body.

Through an expressive choreography of tight, rapid movements, the artist embodies a body that is at times vibrant, at times constrained. There is no set here—only a dancer-acrobat and a few symbolic objects explored for their meanings.

Having suffered multiple injuries, Jules Sadoughi has developed a paradoxical relationship with pain, experiencing a young body tinged with a sense of wear. This solo delves into the peculiar feeling of being both five and eighty years old, like a frenzied pup and an old, weathered bark. His performance lies at the intersection of these two extremes.



©Florian Hetz

### *Armour* - Arno Ferrera & Gilles Polet

Dressed as wrestlers, the three acrobats delve into questions of masculinity, aiming to offer a fresh perspective. The audience surrounds them, observing scenes of deep intimacy through intersecting gazes, in a tender and natural connection that makes them approachable.

In this physical engagement, the performers touch, grasp, and lift each other. They use armour made from sports protective gear not to keep one another at a distance, but rather to draw closer and connect.

Through captivating balances and hand-to-hand movements, they slip into relationships of redefined masculinity and seduction, presenting an image of love that is open, generous, universal, and multifaceted.

Performers Arno Ferrera and Gilles Polet first collaborated in 2021 on the duo *Cuir*, a piece by the company *Un loup pour l'homme* that explored masculinities. With *Armour*, produced by Les Halles de Schaerbeek, a cultural centre in Brussels, they expand on this theme, developing an acrobatic language focused on the notion of exhaustion.

18:00-19:00 at K LAP

5€, not covered (professional rate applicable within the framework of the BIAC Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)



# ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

DAY 3. / Jan. 24

## KLAP/Théâtre Joliette - Parcours H



©Pierre Planchenault



©Christophe Raynaud de Lage

### ***La Bête Noire* - Compagnie L'Oublié(e)**

Becoming nothing but a body. A dehumanised body. In this solo, Raphaëlle Boitel engages in a performative choreography. As a metaphor for her past as a contortionist, this piece tells the story of a female acrobat whose work both damages her body and brings her joy.

In a beautiful set design, with play between shadow and light, she sketches out the battles she fought daily against her inner demons. On the ground or on an apparatus like a column representing her 24 vertebrae, she twists and contorts herself in countless ways, like a thread on the verge of snapping.

Her performance is a physical feat—a haunting mirror of the suffering we sometimes inflict upon ourselves.

Founded in 2012, Compagnie L'Oublié(e) is directed by theatre director and choreographer Raphaëlle Boitel. This company has a highly recognisable identity, blending various art forms (theatre, circus, dance, music, cinema) in each piece and inventing new apparatus. Each time, tragedy and comedy are evoked through a metaphorical narrative.

### ***Petites Reines* - Compagnie L'Oublié(e)**

This biting, clown-inspired piece about control was born from the collaboration between director Raphaëlle Boitel and acrobatic cycling specialist Fleuriane Cornet. We follow Edith, a bright and optimistic young woman, as she grapples with the conflicting demands of the man she loves.

In an effort to free herself from her troubles and finally live with a clear mind, she embarks on a wild race. On stage, her bicycle becomes her playmate and confidant, the one to whom she reveals the pressure she feels.

In this sensitive narrative, we find all the hallmarks of Raphaëlle Boitel's work: acrobatic performances, an offbeat script, all brought to life in a remarkable interplay of light and shadow.

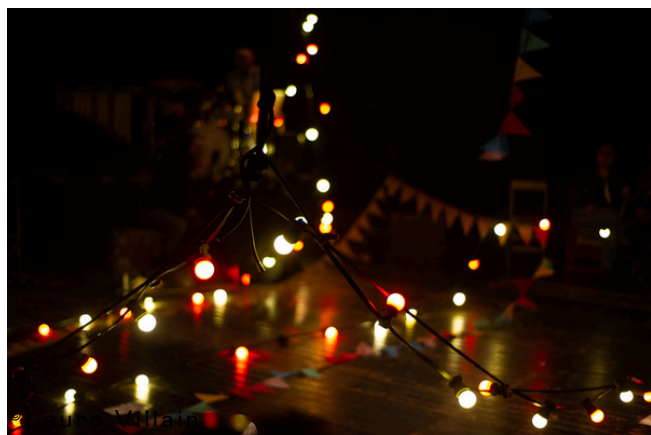
20:00-21:15 at Théâtre Joliette  
10€ for the two shows, not covered  
(professional rate applicable within the  
framework of the BIAC Professional  
Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)



# ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

DAY 3. / Jan. 24

## Village Chapiteaux - Parcours G



18:30-19:45 at Village Chapiteaux  
10€, not covered (professional rate applicable within the framework of the BIAC Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

### *Hourvari* - Compagnie Rasposo

In this grand-scale show, crafted as a storybook tale, enigmatic characters blur the line between reality and illusion. Created by the renowned company Rasposo, Hourvari takes a close look at our world, tossed between artifice and authenticity, illusion and tangible truth.

A "Hourvari" is a trick used by game animals when they retrace their steps to mislead the hounds. It also represents confusion, disorder, an unexpected difficulty, or a ruckus—a cacophony, clamour, uproar, or chaotic agitation. A "hourvari" can also mean a violent gust, a storm wind, or a tempest. Through theatrical staging and powerful imagery, this piece reflects on the fleeting nature of life, the passage of time, our vanities and intoxications, while also celebrating their beauty.

Marie Molliens is a true "child of the circus." From a young age, she was part of the shows by the Rasposo Company, founded by her parents. Trained at the Annie Fratellini National Circus School, she took over the artistic direction of Rasposo in 2012. Emerging from street theatre, this company advocates for a vibrant, intense, and radical circus-theatre, performed exclusively under a big top.



©Sigrid Spinnox

### *Sabotage* - NoFit State Circus

After impressing us with Lexicon, a show brimming with boundless energy, the Welsh company NoFit State Circus returns with a new creation that's just as wild. Beneath a big top, in an atmosphere of shadow and light, nine extraordinarily talented performers push the traditional boundaries of circus, joined by three musicians.

In a series of breathtaking scenes, they interweave different aerial acts: acrobatics, hand-to-hand, aerial hoop, Chinese pole, slackline... These high-flying acts address a world facing tough challenges, grappling with various power struggles: population displacement, climate crisis... Delicate topics tackled here with boldness.

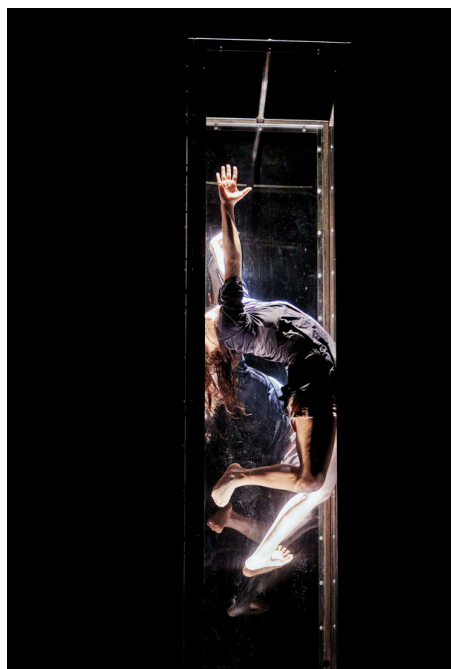
Hailing from Wales, NoFit State Circus plays a pioneering and iconic role in the development of contemporary circus in Britain. Their shows, directed by Firenza Guidi, combine music, theatricality, and special effects in gargantuan performances executed with absolute precision.

20:00-21:30 at Village Chapiteaux  
10€, not covered (professional rate applicable within the framework of the BIAC Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

# ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

DAY 3. / Jan. 24

## Aix-en-Provence - Parcours I



©Christophe Raynaud de Lage

19:00-19:50 at Théâtre du Bois de l'Aune  
Free entrance, to be booked on the BIAC  
Professional Meetings online platform [here](#).

### *Fora* - Compagnie AR

Contorting oneself within a space that's too small. Struggling and then escaping. In this solo performance, Alice Rende uses her flexibility to excel in two disciplines: enterology (the art of fitting one's body into a space smaller than oneself) and escapology (the art of escape).

Inside a Plexiglass box, the artist appears trapped. Relentlessly, she moves up and down, pressing her body against the transparent surface. Through ascents and at times seeming levitations, she battles.

Yet, once free, torn between the fear of seeing herself as monstrous and the surprise of transformation, she continues to challenge these walls.

In Portuguese, *Fora* means "outside." In this performance, the word embodies the quest for freedom.

Through Compagnie Ar, based in Aix-en-Provence since 2022, Alice Rende explores contortion as a sensitive act, one capable of questioning and reshaping the pressures we face, which manifest in our bodies.



©Tom Van der Borcht & Senne Praczyk

21:00-22:00 at 3 bis f Centre d'art  
contemporain  
9€, not covered (professional rate  
applicable within the framework of the BIAC  
Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

### *Every\_body* - Alexander Vantournhout

A major figure on the Belgian scene, choreographer and circus artist Alexander Vantournhout invites us to explore, even dissect, everyday gestures. With dancer Emmi Väisänen, he skillfully breaks down and magnifies simple actions into a thousand images.

Together, they transform an ordinary handshake into an intricate sequence involving arms, elbows, and shoulders, and a seemingly endless walk into a multitude of leg movements.

A rich choreographic display in a psychedelic atmosphere, where the most subtle gestures are transformed into something remarkable. This performance is enriched by a soundscape created by Geoffrey Burton, guitarist for Arno and Iggy Pop.

Originally from Belgium, Alexander Vantournhout first trained at the École Supérieure des Arts du Cirque (ESAC) in Brussels before attending P.A.R.T.S. to study contemporary dance. Founder of the company not standing, he has created several pieces that merge these two disciplines.

# ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

optional: Saturday / Jan. 25

## Parcours K



©Philippe Laurençon

### ***Décrochez-moi ça* - compagnie Bêtes de Foire**

Immerse yourself in a whimsical fairground fantasy, a marvellous world beneath the big top. Following their captivating show Bêtes de Foire, this new piece by Laurent Cabrol and Elsa De Witte is once again a waking dream.

Beneath a suspended set, on a round stage in an intimate arena, you are invited into a unique world where clumsiness meets skill, and appearance mingles with illusion.

On stage, bodies float and sway. Hats are manipulated by a man who is himself manipulated. There are stacks of coats, jackets being shrugged off, and frock coats in flight.

You'll also find violins, guitars, quirky objects, and delightful accidents—all woven together to form a timeless, dreamlike circus that touches the depths of the human soul.

14:00-15:00 at Vieille Charité, Marseille  
3€, not covered (professional rate applicable within the framework of the BIAC Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)



©Mati Gentillon

### ***Le récit des yeux* - compagnie Sombra**

For over 20 years, Carlos Muñoz, a masterful juggler, has devoted himself to a form of visual and sculptural juggling inspired by photography, thus offering a discipline rarely explored in the circus. With The Tale of the Eyes, we are drawn into a hypnotic performance alongside him.

"The soul has two eyes," as they say, "one looks at time, the other rises towards infinity." This piece tells the story of a man's journey to Nowhere—a futuristic voyage.

In his quest, he is accompanied by circular objects representing eyes. These are living beings of sorts, manipulated by the artist to electronic rhythms. They move, distort, and create mesmerising optical illusions. A sci-fi atmosphere is guaranteed.

The Franco-Chilean company Sombra specialises in choreographic juggling. Carlos Muñoz develops projects here that revolve around object manipulation, music, and imagery. Attentive to detail, his creations are born from the meticulous observation of life and its movements.

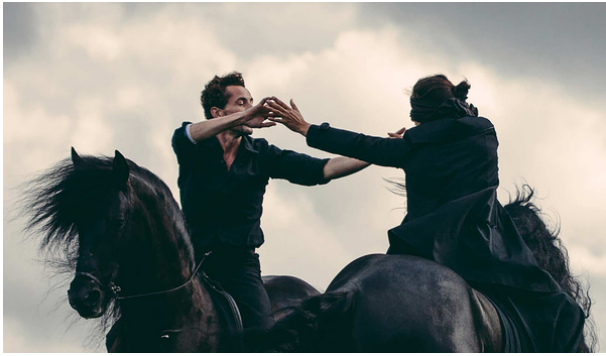
16:00-16:40 at MUCEM, Marseille  
7€, not covered (professional rate applicable within the framework of the BIAC Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)



# ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

optional: Saturday / Jan. 25

## Parcours K



©Francesca Todde

19:00-20:00 at Théâtre du Centaure,  
Marseille

10€, not covered (professional rate  
applicable within the framework of the BIAC  
Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

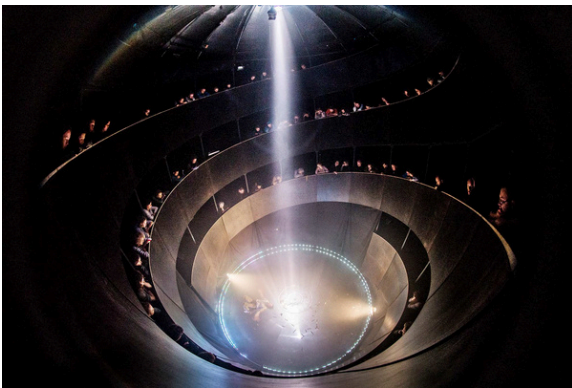
### *Entre chiens et loups* - Théâtre du Centaure

Premiered at BIAC 2025, this poetic performance is a quest for connection. Camille and Manolo are exceptional artists. For thirty years, they have been nurturing an intimate relationship between humans and horses. To them, the centaur is a poetic creature, a way of life, and a utopia.

Between Dogs and Wolves is a journey into the heart of their approach, navigating between the wild and the domestic. Accompanied by four stallions, these two artists embark on a mesmerising journey set to entrancing music. In bursts of energy or slow-motion embraces, they perform exquisite routines filled with vaulting and repetitive loops.

They offer us an organic dance choreographed for six bodies, until horse and human become one.

In Greek mythology, a centaur is a half-human, half-horse creature. In every production, Théâtre du Centaure draws from this legend. Founded in 1989 and based in Marseille, this company is led by Camille and Manolo, two unique and complementary artists—different yet inseparable.



©D. Matvejevas

21:00-22:10 at Théâtre du Centaure, Marseille

10€, not covered (professional rate applicable  
within the framework of the BIAC  
Professional Meeting). [Book your ticket!](#)

### *L'Absolu* - compagnie Les choses de Rien

A virtuoso artist, Boris Gibé blends circus, dance, and magic in this surprising and imaginative creation.

It all begins at the entrance to the big top. Inside a strange 12-metre-high silo, you're invited to take a seat along a spiralling staircase. Leaning against this dizzying structure, you witness a breathtaking, hypnotic ballet that tests the limits of the human body.

In a play of light and shadow, set to an entrancing soundtrack, an acrobat, suspended in mid-air, twists and spins. He performs astonishing movements, creating stunning tableaux. In a search for truth, the man battles against the elements—water, air, fire—pushing his boundaries to the extreme. *L'Absolu* tells an intimate journey, a flamboyant embrace of risk.

Each of Boris Gibé's creations is an immersive, sensory, and poetic experience. As part of the company Les Choses de Rien, the circus artist designs performances staged within travelling structures. True spectacles, they combine acrobatic and aerial techniques with dance and dramaturgy.

# SPEAKERS/ARTISTS BIOS

## JAN. 23 - SPARK COLLABORATIVE INPUT SESSION



### Matina Magkou (Facilitator)

Dr. Matina Magkou is a researcher, lecturer and consultant in cultural and creative industries, cultural policies and international cultural cooperation. She holds a PhD in Leisure, Communication and Culture (University of Deusto) and is currently a post-doc researcher at the University Côte d'Azur. She often collaborates with cultural networks and organisations on evaluation (eg. Keychange, MUSICAIRE) and research projects (eg. fair cultural relations for EUNIC and audience development for IN SITU). She currently serves at ENCATC's Board.

## JAN. 24 - CIRCUS PATH - ARTISTS PITCH SESSION

Find out all about the artistic projects and the companies on ARTCENA's website [here](#). (link updated soon)

The 6 presented projects are:

- *Tout-monde* (provisional title) - Compagnie La Fauve
- *Faune* - Compagnie Libertivore
- *Nos baisers seront trempés de liberté* - Groupe Noces / Florence Bernad
- *Plume* - L'Envolée Cirque
- *Bleue Volute* - Minuit Compagnie
- *Chapitelles* - Projet.PDF

## JAN. 24 - CIRCUS PATH - ROUNDTABLE



### Déborah Boëno (Speaker)

She began her career as a production manager for a conventionally organised stage in France, before devoting herself entirely to supporting artistic companies from 2017 onwards, when she joined the circus collective Cheptel Aleïkoun. In 2021 she joined ARTCENA - Centre national des arts du cirque, de la rue et du théâtre, where she continues to offer professional training workshops. Since 2022, she has been working with artistic teams including Les Malunés Collectif franco-belge and MMFF - Mathieu ma Fille Foundation. She also works with Circostrada to develop practical tools for artistic dissemination (such as Touring, Programming, and Funding Big Tops in Europe co-authored in 2024 with Axel Satgé)



### Simon Carrara (Speaker)

After studying sociology, Simon Carrara joined Cie Archaos in 2001, helping to set up the company in Marseilles as administrative and financial director, before setting up BIAC with Raquel Rache de Andrade and Guy Carrara in 2015. From 2019 to 2022 he also coordinated the CircusLink European cooperation project. He is currently deputy director of Archaos, Pôle National Cirque and BIAC - Biennale Internationale des Arts du Cirque.



# SPEAKERS/ARTISTS BIOS

JAN. 24 - CIRCUS PATH - ROUNDTABLE



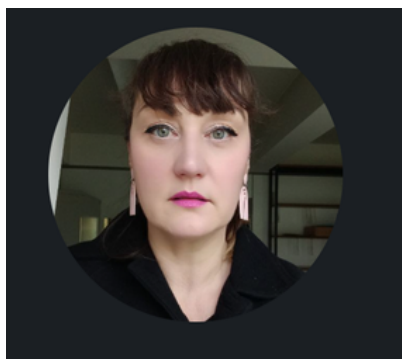
## Gwénola David (Facilitator)

A graduate of Sciences Po Paris and Université Paris Dauphine, Gwénola David has been a journalist and critic since 1998. She was deputy director of the Centre National des Arts du Cirque, then general coordinator of La Belle Saison with children and young people, a national event initiated by the Ministry of Culture and Communication. Gwénola David was responsible for designing the merger between the Centre National du Théâtre and HorsLesMurs. She is now general manager of ARTCENA - Centre National des Arts du Cirque, de la Rue et du Théâtre, a structure that came into being in 2016 at the end of this prefiguration mission.



## Richard Fournier (Speaker)

Richard Fournier is the director of Le Plongeur, the National Circus Centre in Le Mans. At the helm of Le Plongeur since 2022, he is responsible for an artistic and social project entitled 'le cirque au quotidien' (the circus in everyday life), with which he will be awarded the Pôle national Cirque label by the French Ministry of Culture in 2023. He was previously artistic director of the Soirs d'été festival (street arts and circus) in Le Mans from 2016 to 2019, and has been artistic director of the Le Mans fait son Cirque festival since 2016.

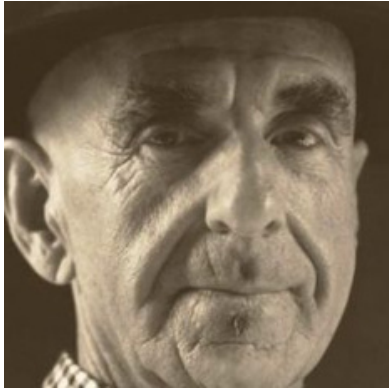


## Danijela Jović (Speaker)

Danijela Jović, originally from Yugoslavia and based in Brussels, is a Performing Arts Project Officer and Call Coordinator for Perform Europe, promoting sustainable, inclusive touring and the Cooperation projects in Western Balkans. She works for the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) and has contributed to initiatives like Culture Moves Europe. As former coordinator of the Structured Dialogue Access to Culture platform and the FEDEC network, she specializes in performing arts, artists' working conditions professional skills, and residency programs. A founding member of the female OKUP collective, she produces participative projects for urban regeneration and public space reappropriation.

# SPEAKERS/ARTISTS BIOS

## JAN. 24 - CIRCUS PATH - ROUNDTABLE



### Guy Périlhou (Speaker)

Guy Périlhou, with a background in economics and a passion for the performing arts, especially circus, has championed French cultural policy for over 30 years. He served as a consultant and evaluator for the Ministry of Culture (1988–1994), production director of Cirque Gosh (1995–2002), co-founder of Hangar des Mines (1995–2003), and founder of La Verrerie d'Alès / PNC Languedoc Roussillon (2004–2015). Since 2017, he supports three artists: Marie Molliens (Cie Rasposo), Julien Candy (Cie La Faux Populaire), and Sébastien Le Guen (Lonely Circus).



### Lucho Smit (Speaker)

In 2007, Lucho Smit co-founded the Galapiat Cirque company, with which he creates shows, organises festivals and develops social and cultural activities on a structural basis in Brittany. Since 2016, he has been regularly asked to act as an outsider and director for creative projects. In 2023 he will also take over as artistic director of Festival Circolo in the Netherlands.

# SPEAKERS/ARTISTS BIOS

## JAN. 24 - OUTDOOR ARTS PATH - ORGANISATIONS



### Rosalie Gonzalez (IN SITU)

Specialised in the management of international cultural initiatives, Rosalie coordinates IN SITU, the European platform for artistic creation in public space. In the past she monitored cultural projects in various fields such as Mediterranean cooperation and safeguarding museums and intangible heritage in the Middle East.



### Loïc Magnant (FAI-AR)

Since 1998, Loïc Magnant has worked for several projects in various territories with cultural engineering. He is the president and co-founder of the Bureau des guides du GR2013, a unique cultural organization anchored on the metropolitan hiking trail born from the European Capital of Culture. Since May 2023, he has been director of the FAI AR, higher education course in art in public spaces, certified by the Ministry of Culture.



### Alexis Nys (Lieux Publics)

In 2007, Alexis Nys founded Productions Bis, a production company dedicated to live performances and unconventional projects, supporting public space artists and developing international cooperation initiatives. At the same time, he joined the association Animakt, a 'living workshop for the arts, connections, and culture,' where he took on the role of artistic coordination and institutional development until 2022. In January 2023, he was appointed director of Lieux Publics, CNAREP, which oversees the Cité des Arts de la Rue, a space for artistic, ecological, and social experimentation located in the northern districts of Marseille.

# SPEAKERS/ARTISTS BIOS

## JAN. 24 - OUTDOOR ARTS PATH - ARTISTS



**Karin Holmstrom - Begat Theater (Lieux Publics)**

Since 1992, Begat Theater has been devising performances that use public space as a venue to explore private and subjective experiences, producing work that defies street theater conventions as they are practiced today. Highly immersive, the work blurs the boundaries between the real and the fictional and places the spectator in an active role.



**Pauline Murris (FAI-AR)**

During her philosophy studies, Pauline narrowed her field of research to cinema. She then joined the École Supérieure d'Art Dramatique of Paris as an actress, before working with various artists and companies. With Janette Cie, she explores the boundaries between the real and the fictional, and places the spectator in an active role. With « Se Sauver », she tries to introduce fictional characters "on the run" in the daily life.



**Zoé Pannier (FAI-AR)**

Zoé has assiduously practiced contemporary dance and music at a conservatory in the outskirts of Paris. After high school, she launched multiple cross-disciplinary projects, and then organised various events. Since leaving the conservatory, she has worked in a street company, created collectives, and opened squats and creative research laboratories.

Her work develops around the notion of performative pedagogy, she works with participating audiences to intervene in the place of practice. She questions the non-rule and the game through choreographic tools of improvisation to explore our communication and interaction systems.



**Nana Francisca Schottländer (IN SITU)**

Based in Copenhagen, Nana Francisca Schottländer is working with emerging hybrids in the intersection between dance, performance, installation- and conceptual art.



**Zelda Soussan (Lieux Publics/FAI-AR)**

Zelda Soussan is a director of participatory performances in public space and a performer. Trained in Brazil with the Erro Grupo, she graduated in 2017 from the 6th promotion of the FAI-AR (Higher Training of Art in Public Space, Marseille) and created the LUIT - Urban Laboratory of Temporaries Interventions. She works on developing theatrical practices born from the observation of the territory, to reflect on participation in theatre, as a sign of participation in democracy.



# MEET THE CIRCOSTRADA TEAM

## TAKE A MOMENT TO GET TO KNOW THE (PARTLY) NEW CIRCOSTRADA COORDINATION TEAM!



**Alice Brunot**

Circostrada Network Coordinator

Head of International Development at ARTCENA

Alice Brunot has been working in cultural cooperation and diplomacy for 25 years. Throughout her professional journey across France, Spain, Italy, the US and India, she has consistently combined cultural expertise with unwavering international commitment at the service of the public good. Early 2025, she joined Artcena – as head of international development and coordinator of the Circostrada Network. She brings a particular focus to network facilitation and support missions, as well as a deep understanding of European dynamics, enriched through cooperation project coordination, European program evaluation, and teaching activities.



**Coline Etesse**

Circostrada Network / Production & Administration

International Projects Officer at ARTCENA

Coline, with a master's from Sciences Po Rennes, has rich experience in international project management. She has worked on cooperation and research projects with African countries and cultural initiatives, contributing to European programs like Horizon 2020 and Creative Europe. As Cultural Affairs Officer at the French Institute of Congo, she fostered artistic development. Fluent in English and Spanish, and a passionate dancer, she joined Circostrada in September 2024, combining her love for performing arts with her international expertise in production and administration.



**Kinga Kecskés**

Circostrada Network / Communication & Dissemination

International Projects Officer at ARTCENA

Kinga Kecskés joins ARTCENA in 2022 as International Projects Officer and Officer for Communication and Dissemination of the Circostrada Network. With a Master's degree in cultural projects management from Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Kinga's professional journey is enriched by practical experiences gained through collaborations with galleries, theatres, and cultural institutions in France, Italy, and Hungary. Her expertise lies in the realms of international cooperation and communication management. Proficient in Hungarian, French, English, and Italian, Kinga brings a multilingual and dynamic skill set to her role, facilitating effective communication and fostering connections within the cultural landscape.

Circostrada is more than just its members and Coordination team—it also benefits from the invaluable contributions of its **Steering Committee!**

The current Steering Committee is composed of: **Bruno Costa** (Bússola), **Gwénola David** (ARTCENA), **Isabel Joly** (FEDEC), **Antonia Kuzmanić** (ROOM 100), **Telma Luís** (Imaginarium, International Street Theatre Festival and Creation Centre), **Kiki Muukkonen** (Subtopia), **Māra Pāvula** (Rīgas cirks).

To find out more about the governance of Circostrada, check out [this page](#).



# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## Venues of the AGM

### **La Friche Belle de Mai (20 min. walk from Gare Saint-Charles)**

41 Rue Jobin, 13003 Marseille

Find out more practical information about the venue, check out [this page](#).

If come by car, you can use the la Friche Parking. Go to 12 rue François Simon, the parking on on the left. It costs less than 2 € / hour.

To join the AGM sessions from there, go to the Friche entrance at 12 rue François Simon and follow the red line.

### **Bibliothèque l'Alcazar (7 min. walk from Gare Saint-Charles)**

58 Cr Belsunce, 13001 Marseille

### **Hôtel de Ville, Espace Bargemon (17 min. walk from Gare Saint Charles)**

6 Rue de la Guirlande, 13002 Marseille

### **Cité des arts de la rue (15 min. taxi/VTC ride from Gare Saint-Charles)**

225 Av. Ibrahim Ali, 13015 Marseille

### **Main shuttle meeting points are:**

→ 240 quai du Port 13002 Marseille near Hôtel de Ville, Espace Bargemon

→ 2 Rue Henri Barbusse, 13001 Marseille

→ Place Victor Hugo, Gare Saint-Charles 13003 Marseille

Check out the [Google Maps](#) with the main venues and meeting points.

## Meals and restaurants

Some meals are booked within the programme of the AGM and BIAC, however, here you can find some suggestions for restaurants to eat at in order to keep the best to the schedule. These lunch are not booked and not covered!

Meals are to be organised on your own mainly on Day 2 (check out the programme).

### **Lunch**

[Grisbi](#) 20 Rue Bénédict, 13004 Marseille

[La marmite Joyeuse](#) 33, boulevard National 13001 Marseille

[Café l'Ecomotive](#) 2 Place des Marseillaises 13001 Marseille

### **Lunch & dinner**

[Belleville sur mer](#) 18 boulevard Montricher 13004 Marseille

[Ashourya](#) 26 Cr Julien, 13006 Marseille / 3 Bd National, 13001 Marseille

[Les Danaïdes](#) 6 Square Stalingrad, 13001 Marseille

[Robato](#) 63 All. Léon Gambetta, 13001 Marseille

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## Artistic programme

You can check out the artistic programme of the BIAC (January 9. to February 9.) [here](#).

## Hotels

Check out all the information on the [practical information section](#) of the Circostrada website.

## Travel to / Transport in Marseille

How to get to Marseille?

→ By train: arrival at the [Marseille Saint-Charles train station](#).

→ By plane: to the [Marseille Provence Airport](#). For the shuttles between the city centre and the airport, you can check out the schedule [here](#).

How to get around the city during the BIAC Professional Meeting?

→ Free shuttles are set up by Archaos between the different BIAC Professional Meeting locations that will follow the schedule of the official itineraries.

If you choose not to follow the full itinerary, please be sure to make your own travel arrangements.

→ To organise your trips with public transportation, you can consult the RTM website: [www.rtm.fr](http://www.rtm.fr)

→ If you would like to book a Taxi online: [www.allocab.com](http://www.allocab.com)

## Emergency numbers

Police: 17

SAMU (for medical emergencies): 15

Firemen: 18

General: 112

## Circostrada Team contacts/WhatsApp community

It is very important to join the [AGM 2025 Marseille Whatsapp Community](#) to be updated on the latest infos regarding the event.

You can reach out to the Coordination Team through it if you have inquiries.

The Coordination Team is composed of:

- Alice Brunot - Coordinator
- Coline Etesse - Production & Administration
- Kinga Kecskés - Communication & Dissemination

*Flash this QR code or  
click [here](#) to join the  
AGM 2025 Marseille  
Whatsapp community!*



# ABOUT ARTCENA & CIRCOSTRADA

## Circostrada

Circostrada is the European Network for contemporary circus and outdoor arts, coordinated by ARTCENA, co-funded by the European Union and supported by the French Ministry of Culture. Created in 2003 with the core mission of furthering the development, empowerment and recognition of these fields at European and international levels, over the years the network has become an important anchoring point for its members and a key interlocutor in the dialogue with cultural policy makers across Europe.

In a few words, Circostrada is:

- A community of contemporary circus and outdoor arts professionals linked together by common values and aspirations, who advocate for greater recognition and more structured cultural policies.
- The voice and reference network of contemporary circus and outdoor arts in Europe.
- A group of passionate and committed individuals who meet several times a year at the network's events.
- A network dedicated to its members, engaged in facilitating the exchange of experiences, knowledge, and good practices at European and international levels.
- A digital resource platform that provides thematic publications, observation tools and news on contemporary circus and outdoor arts, available to all free of charge in English and French.

[www.circostrada.org](http://www.circostrada.org)

## ARTCENA

ARTCENA is the National Center for Circus, Street and Theatre Arts, supported by the French Ministry of Culture. It coordinates Circostrada and is a permanent member of its steering committee. It works in close collaboration with professionals in the sector and offers them both publications and digital resources via its web platform. It also develops mentoring and training actions, tools and services to help them in their everyday practices. It supports contemporary creation through national support programs and encourages the international development of these three sectors.

[www.artcena.fr](http://www.artcena.fr)

# ABOUT OUR PARTNERS

## Archaos - Pôle Nationale Cirque & BIAC

Archaos, an emblematic contemporary circus company, moved to Marseille in 2001. It quickly opened up its space to other artists. Archaos became a National Circus Centre in 2012, and its main missions are :

- Supporting circus creation through residencies and co-productions with contemporary circus companies.
- Maintaining an artistic and cultural presence in the southern region by programming shows, organising cultural events and supporting contemporary circus professionals.
- Organisation of the BIAC - Biennale Internationale des arts du Cirque throughout the Southern Provence-Alpes- Côte d'Azur region

[www.archaos.fr](http://www.archaos.fr)

Organised by Archaos, BIAC - Biennale Internationale des Arts du Cirque is a festival held every odd-numbered year for a month in January/February. A not-to-be-missed international festival, BIAC attracts over 110,000 spectators to the PACA region over the course of a month. BIAC is a collaborative festival organised with 55 of the region's cultural organisations. 66 shows are programmed for 230 performances. Archaos supports the creative process, and for the 2025 edition, 30 of the shows programmed were co-produced by Archaos. BIAC is an international event that attracts more than 600 professionals each year, including more than 300 during the week of professional meetings.

[www.biennale-cirque.com](http://www.biennale-cirque.com)

## FAI-AR

The FAI-AR is the leading school for artistic creation in public space. It runs a post-secondary programme designed for young artists wanting to develop their professional skills for creating and producing artistic productions in public space. The FAI-AR also offers continuing education courses, masterclasses and MOOCs (free and bilingual). FAI-AR aims to foster innovative, cross-disciplinary artistic development: practices including arts and public space, site-specific approaches, contextual arts, locally-focused writing, landscape theatre, participatory arts, and relational aesthetics. FAI-AR's objective is to pursue high-level training and help create bridges between different disciplines.

[www.faiar.org](http://www.faiar.org)

IN SITU is the European platform for artistic creation in public space. It is led by Lieux Publics, European and national centre for artistic creation in public space, located in Marseille, France and co-funded by European Commission. It takes the form of an international consortium of 20+ programmers that, since 2003, supported more than 300 artists working outside conventional venues. IN SITU PLATFORM 2025-2028 PLATFORM is an innovative and efficient support programme that will run from 2025 to 2028. It aims to identify and support 200 emerging artists creating in public space and non-conventional venues in Europe.

[www.in-situ.info](http://www.in-situ.info)

## LIEUX PUBLICS

Lieux publics is a National Center for Art in Public Space and European production hub, located in the Cité des arts de la rue in Marseille, France. Funded by the Region, the City Council and the Department, Lieux publics also benefits from the continuous support of the European Union since 2003. Lieux publics acts as project leader of the European network IN SITU, bringing together more than 20 partners worldwide. The activities of Lieux publics include hosting and coproducing unique artistic projects, distributing regional creations and of off-site events in Marseille and its surroundings, managing the Cité des arts de la rue and ensuring the general coordination of IN SITU, the European platform for the artistic creation in public space as well as other international projects.

[www.lieuxpublics.com](http://www.lieuxpublics.com)

# TO GO FURTHER / RESSOURCES

- Contemporary Circus and Outdoor Arts in France, January 2025, Circostrada
- Case Study of BIAC as Festival Under Big Top Through The Prism Of Eco-responsibility, February 2025 (new article written in the frame of 'Touring, Programming, and Funding Big Tops in Europe', January 2024, Circostrada)
- DIVE International Touring Toolkit on France (February 2025)



Find all the publications by Circostrada as well as many other online resources and news from the network and its member on: [www.circostrada.org](http://www.circostrada.org)