

SPARK: IMAGINING THE FUTURE OF BIG TOPS

April 27-30, 2022 / Tilburg (The Netherlands)



Festival Circolo Sfeer © Jostijn Ligtoet

SPARK IS ORGANISED BY

**CIRCO
STRADA**
EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR
CONTEMPORARY CIRCUS
AND OUTDOOR ARTS

**FESTIVAL
CIRCOLO**

WITH THE SUPPORT OF

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DutchCu|ture

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DAY BY DAY PROGRAMME - p. 3-7

PRACTICAL INFORMATION - p.8-9

PARTNERS AND CO-ORGANISERS - p.10-11

DAY BY DAY PROGRAMME

All sessions will be facilitated by Mara van Nes.



Mara van Nes (1993) is a theatre maker, program maker and moderator who often makes interventions in a social-artistic context. She often collaborates with experts who, in her opinion, are not yet visible enough in the public debate. Her performances are often participative and combine philosophical forms of conversation with visual experiences. As a program maker she mainly worked in the cultural sector, but through her social-artistic practice she is also increasingly broaching new connections and topics outside of this. She has often collaborated with Theater DEGASTEN, Oerol Festival, Building Conversation, Podium Mozaiek, Tolhuistuin and Theater Frascati.

DAY BY DAY PROGRAMME

DAY1
APRIL 27

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27TH

AFTERNOON (FOR EARLY BIRDS)

- Kingsday parties all over town
- **Show: Stickman (work-in-progress) of Darragh McLoughling (optional)**

20:00

@Hertogenbosch. Pick-up at 7pm at the hotel.

Contact Circolo team if you're interested!

THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH

Morning session

09:30-10:30

- Introduction of participants
- Presentation of the programme
- Energising activity

@ Nieuwe Vorst

Coffee break

10.30 - 11:00

@ Nieuwe Vorst

First session

11.00-12:15

Introduction by Tom Rack/NoFitState Circus about obstacles, threats and challenges for traveling circuscompanies. Discussion in small groups.

@ Nieuwe Vorst

Wrap-up

Wrap-up and discussing the main challenges / What are the priorities

12.15-13:00

@ Nieuwe Vorst



DAY2
APRIL 28

THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH

Lunch (covered)

13.00-14:30

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Second session

14.00-15:15

Introduction by Felix Chameroy and Anne-Agathe Prin about the creation of Les Fauves
Discussion of what we can learn from this case in small groups.

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

15.15-16:30

Introduction by designer Rik Maarsen of RikMakes about circular designing. Discussion of what we can learn from his approach

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Visits of several spots and venues in Tilburg

16.15-18:00

walk trough the Spoorzone; a new district around the railway station with the new venue for Festival Circolo and the new library in an old maintenance location for trains.

Visit Doloris Meta Meza

18:00-19:00

an individuals walkthrough art experience with over 40 rooms of surrealart.

@ [Doloris Meta Maze](#)

Dinner (not covered)

19:00-20:30

@ [Doloris Meta Maze](#)



FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH

09.00-09:30

Walk-in and Coffee

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Morning session

09.30-10:30

start morning session - Wrap-up insights, conclusions and end priorities of the first day.

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Coffee break

10:30

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Workshop

11.00-13:00

Workshop in groups. This session will follow in the footsteps of the morning session and will explore solutions for the challenged identified.

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Lunch (covered)

13.00-14:00

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Afternoon session (1/1)

14.00-16:30

continuation of the workshop

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH

Afternoon session (2/2)

16:30 -17:30

Conclusions and agenda for the next steps

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Drinks and dinner

18:00-19:30

Drinks and dinner in De Nieuwe Vorst garden

@ [Nieuwe Vorst](#)

Transport to ACAPA circus hall by bike

19:30-20:00

Groupshow of ACAPA graduates

20:00-21:30

@ [ACAPA](#)

Transport to city centre

21:30-21:45

Drinks

21:45



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

INFO
SECTION

Travel to Tilburg

The easiest way to get to Tilburg is to arrive at Eindhoven Airport. From there, it takes only 30 minutes by shuttle bus and train to Tilburg.

Trains from Amsterdam to Tilburg take 1:15. there is a train every 15 minutes.

Accommodation

You will be staying at [Mercure Hotel](#) in Tilburg city centre (10 minutes walk from the railway station).

Your accommodation is covered by Circostrada.

Address:

Mercure Hotel Tilburg Centrum

Heuvel 37

5038 CP Tilburg

Tel +31135354675

info@mercure-tilburg.nl

www.mercure-tilburg.nl

If you need parking, please contact the hotel: 0031135354675

For more information: steef@festivalcircolo.nl

Food

Circostrada and Festival Circolo will cover lunches for all participants.

Dinners are yours to cover, but we will organise a nice place and price.

Contact information

Contact info of the organisers (Circolo and Circostrada teams)

Circolo:

Stephan Biker: steef@festivalcircolo.nl

Marc Eysink Smeets (Director & Managing Director): marc@festivalcircolo.nl

Circostrada:

Laura Jude (Production & Administration): laura.jude@artcena.fr / +33684361555

Stéphane Segreto-Aguilar: stephane.segreto-aguilar@artcena.fr / +33785584625

PARTNERS & CO- ORGANISERS

PARTNERS
SECTION

Circolo

Festival Circolo is the biggest circus festival in the Netherlands. From 21 to 30 October, we present ten days of circus of the highest level. With international shows and a lot of Dutch creations of emerging artists, debates, exhibitions and presentations.

The heart of the festival is located in Tilburg's Spoorpark, close to the railway station and city centre. There you'll find several circus tents, food trucks, playgrounds and an outdoor stage where daily free circus performances can be seen. There are also performances at other locations in the city.

In 2022 you can expect: Groupe Acrobatique de Tanger (Me), MovedbyMatter (Be), Wes Peden (USA), Circus Ronaldo (Be), Zirkus FahrAway (Ch), Piet van Dycke (Be), Camiel Corneille (NL), Marta&Kim (NL), Company Soon (SE),

 <https://festivalcircolo.nl/>

Circostrada & ARTCENA

Circostrada is the European Network for contemporary circus and outdoor arts. 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.

Circostrada & ARTCENA

- 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

ARTCENA is the National Centre for Circus, Street Arts and Theatre. Created by the French Ministry of Culture, ARTCENA is a national rallying point that aims to strengthen the foundation and growth of circus, street and theatre arts. Keeping an open attitude and lively outlook, it works closely with sector professionals while also addressing the needs of teachers, students and researchers.

It coordinates Circostrada and has a permanent seat on its Steering Committee. ARTCENA works towards its missions in three main areas: sharing of knowledge and resources through a digital platform; supporting professionals via mentoring and training; promoting and strengthening the circus, street arts and theatre fields by carrying out international development projects.

 www.artcena.fr