

SAFE HAVENS

SAFE HAVENS GLOBAL STREAM 2020 **(Closing Round Table | 3 December 2020** **Freedom Talks | ongoing)**

Safe Havens Global Stream 2020 continues its series of online events with an open access Safe Havens Webinar, on **3 December 2020** from **13:30 to 17:45 CET**.

Following four days of rich discussion and 164 international registered participants during the Safe Havens Global Stream 10 – 13 November, the Safe Havens Webinar will host 24 international resource-givers and policy makers in fields pertinent to freedom of artistic expression and the protection and defence of at-risk artists. Twelve key funders and policy institutions are invited to directly comment on the report, the recommendations and tendencies highlighted in November's Global Stream. An additional twelve discussants will add further perspective. Two Round Tables will be introduced and moderated by **Karima Bennoune**, current UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights, and **Farida Shaheed**, the first and former UN postholder.

Confirmed panellists and discussants to date include the Swedish Arts Council; the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Martin Roth Initiative; Prince Claus Fund; IFACCA (International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies); EU Protect Defenders; El Mawred; Freemuse, ICORN; the Artists at Risk Connection; Culture Action Europe; Freedom House; University of Hildesheim UNESCO Chair; York University Centre for Applied Human Rights; Artist Freedom Initiative, Perpetuum Mobile/Artists at Risk; Artists Protection Fund and others.



Photo: Yasmine El Baramawy

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This year, the conference is based on two foundational principles as elaborated in 2018 by Safe Havens participants and Karima Bennoune, UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights. First, it was a call to this 'emerging sector' combining arts and free expression, from international NGOs to local initiatives, to collaborate strategically and effectively. At the same time, the sector should prioritise people and initiatives working on the ground, wherever they are, to ensure they have greater voice and visibility.

The Report of the November conference will be discussed in **a one-day webinar** at Round Tables on **Thursday, 3 December** for international NGOs, institutions, policy-makers and funders. Reacting to the recommendations from Safe Havens in November, they will respond regarding their collective vision for the way forward. The Round Tables will be introduced and moderated by **Karima Bennoune**, current UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights, and **Farida Shaheed**, the former UN postholder. A series of artistic interventions curated by **Safemuse** will be presented throughout the afternoon. Details of this event can be found in the **programme** below.

The Programme (December)

Thursday, 3 December

13.30 - 13.35 – Musical Welcome courtesy of Safemuse

13.35 - 13.45 – Welcome and Introduction

13.45 - 14.55 – Round Table 1 – Moderated by **Farida Shaheed**, Director, Shirkat Gah; first and former UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights

“On ensuring the less visible voices, and smaller on-the-ground initiatives are made visible, supported, heard, and valorised”

Panellists:

- **IFACCA** (International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies) – Magdalena Moreno Mujica, Executive Director; former Head of International Affairs at the National Council for Culture and the Arts, Chile (CNCA)
- **Intro Afrika** – Ayodele Ganiu, Program Director; formerly Nigerian national coordinator and continental coordinator for Artwatch Africa
- **el Mawred** Culture Resource – Helena Nassif, Executive Director. Ph.D. in Media and Cultural Studies from University of Westminster
- **Prince Claus Fund** – Joumana el Zein, Director; former director of the Lutfia Rabbani Foundation for Euro-Arab exchange
- **Swedish Arts Council** – Bongji MacDermott, Director Communication Division



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- **Martin Roth Initiative** – Maik Müller, Director of MRI, a project IFA (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen) and the Goethe-Institut founded the Martin Roth-Initiative as a joint project to enable temporary protective relocation and work stays in Germany as well as in safe third countries for artists and civil-society actors at risk

14.55 - 15.25 – Feedback to Round Table 1

Discussants:

- **EU Protect Defenders** – Xavier Roura Blanco, Communication and Reporting Officer
- York University **Centre for Applied Human Rights** – Sanna Eriksson, Centre Co-ordinator for the Centre for Applied Human Rights
- **University of Hildesheim** – Julius Heinicke, Professor of Cultural Policy and UNESCO Chair in Cultural Policy for the Arts in Development
- **Freedom House** – Sheryl Mendez, Senior Program Manager and Emergency Assistance Programs
- **NCAC** (National Coalition Against Censorship) – Svetlana Mintcheva, Director of Programs

15.25 - 15.40 – Artistic intervention by **Mai Khoi**, Vietnamese celebrated pop star, singer and musician

15.40 - 16.50 – Round Table 2 – Moderated by **Karima Bennoune**, professor of international law at the University of California–Davis School of Law, current UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights

“On the artistic freedom sector becoming more collegiate, working more effectively and collaboratively, sharing information more effectively and undertaking cooperative joint initiatives that benefit all partners and prioritise those who may be marginalised”

Panellists:

- **ARTICLE 19**, Office for Mexico and Central America – Martha Tudón, Programme Coordinator, Digital Rights
- **Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs** – Claire Annette Hubert, Deputy Director
- **Artists at Risk Connection** (ARC) – Julie Trébault, Director; formerly director of public programs at the Museum of the City of New York
- **Freemuse** – Srirak Pliapat, Executive Director; former regional director for Asia Pacific at Transparency International
- **ICORN** – Helge Lund, Executive Director; formerly Director at Stavanger’s International Festival of Literature and Freedom of Speech
- **Culture Action Europe** – Tere Badia, Secretary General; formerly Director of Hangar center for artistic production and research, Barcelona

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16.50 - 17.05 – Artistic intervention by **Lavon Volski**, icon of Belarusian rock music, cultural figure and author

17.05 - 17.30 – Feedback to Round Table 2

Discussants:

- **Tamizdat** – Matthew Covey, Director, lawyer and founder of Covey Law
- **Artists Protection Fund** – Alison Russo, Executive Director; former Program Officer at The Rockefeller Foundation
- **Artists Freedom Initiative** – Ashley Tucker, Director of Programs; former posts include the United Nations Human Rights Committee in Geneva
- **Perpetuum Mobile/Artists at Risk** – Marita Muukkonen, Co-Founding Co-Director of Perpetuum Mobile (PM) and internationally active curator
- **PEN International** – Cathy McCann, Writers at Risk Protection Manager for PEN International
- **ICORN** – Elisabeth Dyvik, Programme Director and former Head of the Secretariat for Freedom of Expression in the Municipality of Stavanger

17.30 - 17.45 – Closing remarks

Notes:

About Safe Havens

The annual Safe Havens conference is a global network meeting between artists, activists, NGO:s, lawyers and intergovernmental organizations - sometimes referred to as the Arts Rights Justice sector, on topics related to artistic freedom and the support to artists, writers and other culture producers who face threats, persecution and censorship. The conference has its starting point in a human rights perspective and aims to be a meeting place for human rights defenders within the arts and academia as a way to make visible cultural operators. The conference is organized in a process of collaboration between different cultural operators and organizations, where focus is directed on the connection between culture and human rights. Furthermore, the conference is a way of visualizing the significant position of culture and academia in human rights advocacy and moving towards sharing and using knowledge between cultural operators, scholars and major human rights and cultural organizations.

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About Freedom Talks

Our new programming series **Safe Havens - Freedom Talks** series is closely connected to the annual global Safe Havens conference which we have organized in Malmö since 2013, and in Cape Town, South Africa in 2019. The monthly Freedom Talks series will focus on issues regarding threats towards artistic freedom, free press and intangible heritage. Guests in the Freedom Talks series are highly knowledgeable and prolific actors in the global Arts Rights Justice sector – fighting for artistic freedom.

You will be able to watch live-streamed versions of the talks through our website and social media channels, and step by step we will open for an audience and on-site participants when the Covid -19 risks and restrictions are over. You can follow our channels for updates. The talks will be in- or translated to English.
<http://rorelsernasmuseum.se/en/publikationer/safe-havens-freedom-talks/>