



REGERINGSKANSLIET

Ministry of Culture Sweden

[www.norden2008.se](http://www.norden2008.se)

## How Soon is Now? The Politics of Interculture

12-13 of November in Stockholm at Södra teatern, Stockholm

Welcome to *How Soon is Now?* a conference which focuses on intercultural dialogue in a national, Nordic and European context. It aims to sum up conclusions and recommendations on all these levels both from the civil society and from the policymakers.

The conference is originally an initiative from the Swedish Ministry of Culture in connection with the Swedish chairmanship in the Nordic Council of Ministers, The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue and the civil society represented by The Rainbow platform (European level) and The Nordic forum for interculture (Nordic level). Representatives from all these organisations and networks will be present at the conference.

However this is not an exclusively cultural affair. The conference will also address issues like democracy, human rights, multilingualism, media and education. This is an opportunity to meet, listen and talk to practitioners, policymakers, artists and look forward.

*How Soon is Now?* also includes the critically acclaimed theatre performance *Head On* based on the award winning film by Fatih Akin, a guided tour of *Restore Hope* by Selda Asal, meals and a nightclub arranged by Re:Orient.

To register for the conference please send an email to

[ku.konferensregistrering@culture.ministry.se](mailto:ku.konferensregistrering@culture.ministry.se)

For more information contact Tomas Bokstad or Stina Emanuelsson at

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Shedule - Wednesday 12 November

**9.00 – 9.30**

Registration and Coffee

**9.30 – 10.00**

**Welcome – Lena Adelsohn-Liljeroth** (Minister of culture, Sweden)

**10.00 – 11.00**

**Recommendations from the Nordic working group on cultural complexity and co-existence.** The presentation will take its start in the current situation and try to identify what the common Nordic ground could be. Concrete recommendations and proposals. **Trevor Davies** (Copenhagens International Theatre/Århus 2017), **Shanti Brahmachari** (Skuespillersenter), **Pasi Sukkonen** (Cupore), **Tomas Bokstad** (Communications Secretariat for Sweden's EU Presidency 2009).

**11.00 – 11.30** Coffee break

**11.30 – 12.30**

**Nordic Forum for Interculture.** Findings and recommendations from the Nordic civil society following the experiences from the two previous conferences in Copenhagen (March 2008) and Oslo (August 2008). Including short presentations of best practises. **Eli Borchgrevink** (Du store verden), **Niels Righolt** (Co-ordinator NFI, previously head of Dunkers culture house).

**12.30 – 14.00** Lunch

**14.00-15.00**

**Where do we go from here? Panel**

Representatives from the Nordic countries will shortly present their work/thoughts on where and how we are heading into the future. Following the presentations an exchange of views, including the audience.

Moderator and participants (partly to be confirmed): **Yvonne Rock** (foremr co-ordinator of the Swedish year of cultural diversity), **Mogens Jensen** (Chairman of the Culture Committee at The Nordic Council/DK), **Rasoul Nejad-Mehr** (The Committee of Inquiry on Cultural Policy), **Trond Giske** (Minister of Culture/NO), **Bente Guru Möller** (Year of cultural diversity Dialogue/NO), **Ahmed Akar** (Director of CAISA/FIN), **Jette Sandahl** (Museum director/DK).

**15.00 – 15.30** Coffee break

**15.30 – 17.00**

**Debate:** Is policy in sync with practise?

Conclusions on the national and Nordic level.

Moderated by **Catharina Bergil** (SE) and **Chris Torch** (SE)

**17.00 – 19.00** Break

**19.00 – 20.30**

**Head On.** Theatre performance by Dritero Kasapi based on the award winning film by Fatih Akin. Part of the Swedish national project during The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue. See [www.homenothome.se](http://www.homenothome.se)

**20.30 – 00.00**

Buffet dinner and nightclub by **Re:Orient**

Thursday 13 November

**9.00-9.30** Coffee

**9.30 – 10.00**

**Reflections on EYID 2008:**

What have we learned, how do we move forward? Representative from the European Commission. Speakers: **Vladimir Sucha/Alison Crabb** (tbc).

**10.00 – 10.30**

**A wider perspective from the Council of Europe.**

A whitebook on intercultural dialogue was published during the summer by the CoE. Presentation could focus on human rights, democracy and/or multilingualism. **Robert Palmer** or **Gabriella Dragoni-Battaini** (CoE, tbc)

**10.30 – 11.00** Coffee

**11.00 – 12.30**

**Platform for Intercultural Europe** which has followed EYID and will give their recommendations encompassed in **The Rainbow Paper**, which was recently published online for sign up by European organisations focusing on interculture. <http://rainbowpaper.labforculture.org>

Presentation by **Isabelle Schwarz** (European Cultural Foundation) and **Chris Torch** (Intercult), followed by discussion and some case studies.

**12.30 – 13.30** Lunch

**13.30 – 15.00****Four breakout sessions.**

1. Urban re-invention/neighbourhoods
2. Mainstream/institutions
3. Arts/artistic sector
4. Education/media:

Moderators and speakers: **Rasoul Nejad-Mehr, Alejandra Fuentes** (Sprong), **Birgitta Englin** (Head of Riksteatern), **Shanti Brahamachari, Leif Magnusson** (The Multicultural Centre), **Ida Burén** (Intercult) , **Niels Righolt, Eli Borchgrevink, Katherine Watson** (Lab for Culture).

The basis for each of the sessions will be a series of questions/topics taken from all recommendations presented during the two days. The idea is to translate policy recommendations into practise. To be as concrete as possible is one of the instructions for the moderators.

**15.00 – 15.30** Coffee**15.30 – 17.00****Final debate.** Conclusions, reflections, future...

With participation from speakers and moderators that have been present during the two days. Personal reflection from **Oivvio Polite** who will follow the conference during the two days.

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During the two days:

**Lab for Culture** will have a space/room for their project Open lines to Intercultural Dialogue.

**Selda Asal** will present her video installation Restore Hope which also is a part of Home not Home.

***During the conference coffee, lunches and one dinner will be served to all participants. The cost for this is 750 SEK, otherwise the conference is free of charge including the theatre performance.***

*The conference is a part of the Swedish chairmanship in the Nordic Council of Ministers and is arranged in close collaboration between the Swedish ministry of Culture, Nordic Council of Ministers, Nordic forum for interculture, The Rainbow Platform, Lab for Culture, Södra teatern, Riksteatern, The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue, Re:Orient and many more...*