

# The Arts and Culture Festival Annual Meeting 2020

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# The 26th Annual Crystal Awards

The Crystal Award celebrates the achievements of artists and cultural figures whose leadership inspires inclusive and sustainable change. Previous recipients of the award include Sir David Attenborough, Margaret Atwood, Sir Elton John, Shah Rukh Khan, Shirin Neshat and 85 others. Awardees are selected by the World Arts Forum.



Hilde Schwab, Chairwoman and Co-Founder, World Arts Forum

The recipients of the 26<sup>th</sup> Crystal Award are:

## **Theaster Gates**

*for his leadership in creating sustainable communities*



Theaster Gates is an artist who lives and works in Chicago. Drawing on his interest and training in urban planning and preservation, Gates creates works that focus on space theory, land development, sculpture, and performance. In 2010, Gates established the Rebuild Foundation to galvanize communities through neighbourhood regeneration and the development of educational and arts programming. Many of the foundation's initiatives are centered around the revitalization of Chicago's South Side, creating hubs and archives for Black culture, which serve as catalysts for discussions on race, equality, space, and history. Gates is a professor at the University of Chicago in the Department of Visual Arts and the Harris School of Public Policy, and is Distinguished Visiting Artist and Director of Artist Initiatives at the Lunder Institute for American Art at Colby College. His work has been exhibited internationally.

## **Jin Xing**

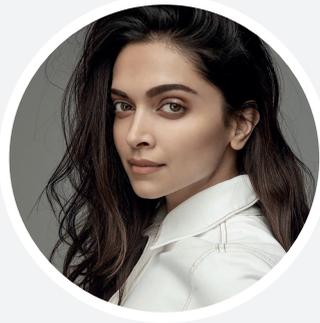
*for her leadership in shaping inclusive cultural norms*



Jin Xing is a choreographer, media personality and China's most popular TV host. She is a former male ballet dancer and army colonel, who was the first person, publicly, to undergo gender reassignment surgery in her country. She is the founder of the award-winning Jin Xing Dance Theatre, the country's first independent dance company. Her television shows, which have included Venus Hits Mars, The Jin Xing Show and Chinese Dating, draw more than 100 million viewers a week and create a space for discussion on contemporary life in China. She is a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres of the French Government and received an Honorary Doctorate of Dance from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

### **Deepika Padukone**

*for her leadership in raising mental health awareness*



Deepika Padukone is an internationally acclaimed actor, fashion icon and mental health ambassador from India. She has acted in close to 30 feature films across genres and won several awards for her iconic performances. Many of her films also rank among the highest grossing films of all time. Padukone was diagnosed with clinical depression in 2014 and sought professional help to aid her recovery. In June 2015, she founded The Live Love Laugh Foundation (TLLLF) to give hope to every person experiencing stress, anxiety and depression (SAD). The foundation's programmes and initiatives include nationwide public awareness and de-stigmatization campaigns, adolescent mental health programmes, funding support for treatment in rural communities, training general physicians in common mental health disorders, research and an annual lecture series featuring the world's foremost thinkers and achievers.

### **Lynette Wallworth**

*for her leadership in creating inclusive narratives*



Lynette Wallworth is an Australian artist whose immersive video installations, virtual reality and film works reflect on the connections between people and the natural world, as well as exploring the nature of resilience. She won an Emmy Award for her virtual reality film *Collisions*, which the World Economic Forum commissioned, premiered and executive-produced. She was named one of the "100 Leading Global Thinkers" by *Foreign Policy* magazine for immersing audiences in the destructive power of nuclear weapons. Her 2018 mixed reality film *Awavena*, the story of the first woman Shaman from the Yawanawa tribe in Brazil, as well as her most recent works, have been made at the invitation of indigenous communities. She is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Virtual and Augmented Reality and a member of the Board of Trustees for the Sundance Institute. She is the Artistic Director of the Forum's New Narratives Lab.

## **World Arts Forum Foundation Board:**

**Hilde Schwab**, Chairwoman and Co-Founder, World Arts Forum

**Klaus Schwab**, Co-Founder, World Arts Forum, and Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum

**Alois Zwinggi**, Vice-President, World Arts Forum, and Managing Director, World Economic Forum

**Platon Antoniou**, Photographer, The People's Portfolio

**Irene Chu**, Senior Advisor, First Eastern Investment Group

**Martin Engström**, Founder and Executive Director, Verbier Festival

**Angélique Kidjo**, Musician and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador

# Cultural Leaders

More than 40 cultural leaders from 20 countries join the Annual Meeting to lend their unique voices and visions to the dialogues on key issues in dozens of sessions across the official programme, and through the co-development of a range of artistic experiences.



**Marin Alsop**

*Conductor  
2019 Crystal Awardee  
From the USA, lives in  
Baltimore*

Marin is one of the greatest conductors today and provides opportunities for everyone, adults and children, to access music.

**#women**



**Gina Badenoch**

*Founder, Ojos Que Sienten  
Young Global Leader  
From Mexico, lives in  
London*

Gina creates experiences that change mindsets and narratives in organizations to promote a work-inclusive environment that increases inclusive leadership.

**#accessibility**



**Caroline Baumann**

*Director, Cooper Hewitt  
Smithsonian Design  
Museum  
From the USA,  
lives in New York*

Caroline emphasizes the role design plays in our everyday life and its importance in the relationship between the human and the natural environment.

**#design**



**Mary Beard**

*Professor of Classics  
University of Cambridge  
From the UK, lives in  
Cambridge*

Mary weaves her knowledge of Ancient Rome and Greece into lessons on modern politics, culture and society, turning her into today's most famous classicist.

**#feminism**



**Carol Becker**

*Dean of Faculty,  
School of the Arts,  
Columbia University  
From the USA, lives in  
New York*

Carol writes on the impact of arts and artists on society and helped launch international programmes in screen, television writing, film production and art practice for global leaders.

**#leadership**



**Molly Burke**

*Social Media Star,  
Molly Burke Corp.  
From Canada, lives in  
Los Angeles*

Molly is a motivational speaker, commercial model and YouTube star reaching millions of people with content ranging from accessibility, technology, beauty and fashion.

**#accessibility**



**Lonnie Bunch**

*Secretary, Smithsonian  
Institution  
From the USA, lives in  
Washington D.C.*

Lonnie is the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and works to improve our shared global experiences through the increase and diffusion of knowledge.

**#inclusion**



**Caroline Casey**

*Founder and Director, The  
Valuable 500  
Young Global Leader  
From Ireland, lives in Dublin*

Caroline is building a global movement, working with the most influential businesses, to put disability on the global business leadership agenda.

**#accessibility**

## Cultural Leaders



**Rena Effendi**

*Photographer, National Geographic  
New Narratives Lab Fellow  
From Azerbaijan, lives in Istanbul*

Rena portrays post-conflict societies and the socioeconomic effects of globalization on marginalized communities around the world.

**#photography**



**Cruz Erdmann**

*Photographer  
From New Zealand, lives in Auckland*

Cruz started taking underwater photographs at the age of 12 and was awarded the 2019 Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year Award for his photography of a bigfin reef squid.

**#wildlife**



**Peter B. Gabriel**

*Founder, Real World  
2001 Crystal Awardee  
From the UK, lives in London*

Peter is a multi-award-winning musician and innovator with a long history as a human rights activist, including with his organization, Witness.

**#humanrights**



**Mehdi Ghadyanloo**

*Artist  
From Iran, lives in Tehran*

Mehdi has painted hundreds of large-scale murals throughout the world, questioning universal precepts such as fear, loss and hope.

**#iran**



**Thando Hopa**

*International Model, Thando Hopa Media Pty Ltd.  
New Narratives Lab Fellow  
From South Africa, lives in Johannesburg*

Thando promotes positive narratives on inclusion, diversity and representation, and is the first woman with albinism to be on the cover of *Vogue* magazine in April 2019.

**#fashion**



**Wanuri Kahiu**

*Film Director, AFROBUBBLEGUM  
New Narratives Lab Fellow  
Young Global Leader  
From Kenya, lives in Nairobi*

Wanuri is an award-winning filmmaker, speaker, science fiction writer and freedom of expression advocate.

**#freedomofexpression**



**Angélique Kidjo**

*Musician  
2015 Crystal Awardee  
World Arts Forum  
Foundation Board Member  
New Narratives Lab Mentor  
From Benin, lives in New York*

Angélique is an award-winning singer, social entrepreneur and an energetic campaigner for children, youth and women's right to access education.

**#africa**



**Fernando Laposse**

*Product and Material Designer  
From Mexico, lives in London*

Fernando transforms natural materials that are often considered as waste into refined design pieces, to showcase possible solutions for the loss of biodiversity, food waste and community disenfranchisement.

**#mexico**

## Cultural Leaders



**Hao Li**

*CEO of Pinscreen, Inc.  
From Germany, lives in  
Los Angeles*

Hao Li works in computer graphics and computer vision, and focuses on making AI-driven virtual humans accessible to everyone.

**#deepfake**



**Julia Lohmann**

*Designer and Researcher  
From Germany, lives in  
Helsinki*

Julia explores marine plants' potential as a design material to investigate the ethical and material value system behind our relationship with flora and fauna.

**#sustainability**



**Yo-Yo Ma**

*Cellist  
2008 Crystal Awardee  
Board of Trustees,  
World Economic Forum  
From the USA,  
lives in Boston*

Yo-Yo is one of the most recognized cellists of all time and creates musical collaborations and education programmes across cultures.

**#inclusion**



**Cara Mertes**

*Project Director, Moving  
Image Strategies,  
Ford Foundation  
From the USA, lives in  
New York*

Cara champions the leadership role of artists in society and harnesses the power of cultural expression to amplify awareness and accelerate positive change.

**#freedomofexpression**



**Sharmeen  
Obaid-Chinoy**

*Creative Director, SOC Films  
2013 Crystal Awardee  
Young Global Leader  
From Pakistan, lives in  
Karachi*

Sharmeen is a two-time Academy Award-winning filmmaker and documents stories of refugees, women's advocacy and human rights.

**#freedomofexpression**



**Platon**

*Photographer, The People's  
Portfolio, World Arts Forum  
Foundation Board Member  
New Narratives Lab Mentor  
From the UK, lives in  
New York*

Platon uses visual storytelling to celebrate human rights defenders and advocate responsible global citizenship.

**#humanrights**



**Winslow Porter**

*Co-Founder and Director,  
New Reality Company  
From the USA, lives in  
New York*

Winslow uses virtual reality and immersive media to create global awareness of crucial social and environmental issues.

**#sustainability**



**Geena Rocero**

*Founder, GenderProud  
From the USA, lives in  
New York*

Geena is an international model, producer and campaigns to advance the rights of all transgender individuals.

**#transgender**

## Cultural Leaders



### Daan Roosegaarde

*Artist, Studio Roosegaarde  
Young Global Leader  
From The Netherlands, lives in Rotterdam*

Daan explores the relationship between people, technology and space, and contributes to a more sustainable future through his nature-inspired work.

**#sustainability**



### Anant Singh

*Film Producer, Videovision Entertainment  
2001 Crystal Awardee  
From South Africa, lives in Umhlanga*

Anant is a recognized film producer known for his films and documentaries addressing topics ranging from Apartheid to human rights issues and social responsibility.

**#humanrights**



### Sam Van Aken

*Contemporary Artist  
From the USA, lives in Syracuse*

Sam merges traditional modes of art and the technique of grafting to develop new perspectives on agriculture, climatology and technology.

**#sustainability**



### will.i.am

*Founder and CEO, I.AM.PLUS  
2016 Crystal Awardee  
From the USA, lives in Los Angeles*

will.i.am is a musician, tech entrepreneur and creative innovator and funds STEAM-centric learning programmes for disadvantaged students.

**#STEAM**



### Harry Jeff aka Reeps100

*Artist  
From Ireland, lives in London*

Harry, aka Reeps100 is an internationally renowned vocalist and researcher, specialising in the relation and evolution of the human voice, art and science.

**#AI**



### Milica Zec

*Co-Founder and Director, New Reality Company  
From Serbia, lives in New York*

Milica uses virtual reality and immersive media to create global awareness of crucial social and environmental issues.

**#sustainability**



### Andria Zafirakou MBE

*Teacher, Arts and Textiles, Alperton Community School, London  
From the UK, lives in London*

Andria is the recipient of the 2018 Global Teacher Prize in recognition of her contribution to education and for changing the lives of young people.

**#artseducation**

Additional Friends from the Arts and Culture include:

**Regina Bonifasi,**  
Performing Artist, Global Shaper  
From Guatemala, lives in Guatemala City

**Patrick Chappatte,**  
Founder, Globe Cartoon, Young Global Leader  
From Switzerland, lives in Geneva

**Micky Engel,**  
Philanthropist  
From France, lives in Houlbec-Cocherel

**Jane Goodall,**  
Founder, Jane Goodall Institute  
From the USA, lives in Arlington

**Philip Tinari,**  
Director and CEO, UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, Young Global Leader  
From the USA, lives in Beijing

# The Festival

The Forum presents the equivalent of an arts festival, with more than 20 performances, exhibitions, installations and special experiences, integrated within the fabric of the Annual Meeting experience and intended to inspire hope and action around the great issues of our time.

## Performances



## Opening Concert

### An International Call for Unity and Joy

With a message of freedom, joy and unity, conductor **Marin Alsop** leads the **European Union Youth Orchestra** with the **São Paulo Symphony Orchestra Choir** and four exceptional soloists – **Luisa Francesconi**, **Ao Li**, **Eri Nakamura** and **Zwakele Tshabalala** – in a powerful rendition of the Scherzo and Finale of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, Ode to Joy.

The performance presents a unique moment for reflection on what we can do to strive for a more joyful world in this time of uncertainty. Sung with a newly created text in Portuguese by Brazilian composer Arthur Nestrovski, it presents 120 people from five continents, representing 20 nationalities.

This performance is part of Alsop's Global Ode to Joy initiative, a year-long project celebrating the 250th birthday of Beethoven and the ideals of the Enlightenment expressed in the Ode to Joy poem by Friedrich Schiller celebrating freedom, equality and fraternity. In 2020, new texts inspired by Schiller's poem will be performed in Zulu, Mandarin, Māori and English.

Developed in collaboration with Intermusica.

The Opening Concert is generously supported by **Intesa Sanpaolo**.

*Location: Congress Hall  
Monday, 20 January, 18.15 - 19.00*

*The São Paulo Symphony Orchestra Choir will also perform a concert of Brazilian music at the Open Forum on Tuesday 21 January, 12.00-13.00*



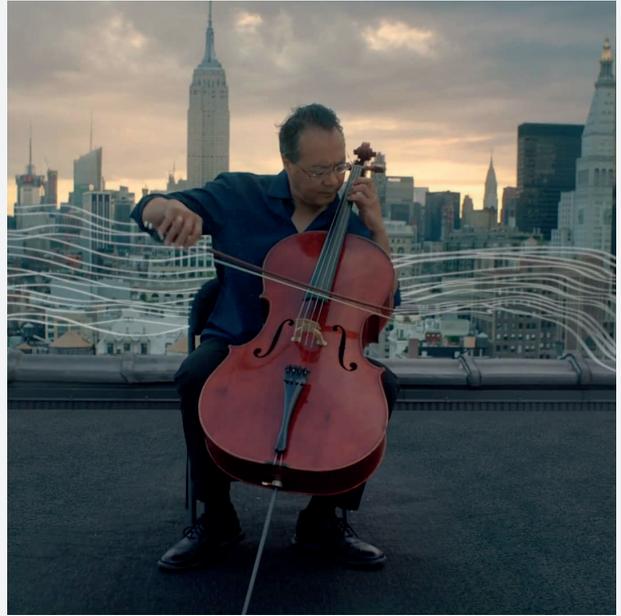
## Closing Concert

### Voices of Light

As we look to the future, we must imagine better ways to communicate. Voices of Light is an original audio-visual collaboration between internationally renowned vocal artist and researcher **Harry Yeff, aka Reeps100**, and members of the **London Contemporary Voices Choir**.

Through an immersive sonic and visual journey, Voices of Light seeks to expand our understanding of the capacity of the human voice and the boundless opportunities for more expressive connection with each other.

*Location: Congress Hall*  
*Friday, 24 January, 12.45-13.00*



### Musical Pop-Ups: Yo-Yo Ma plays Bach

Cellist Yo-Yo Ma, 2008 Crystal Awardee and a member of the Forum's Board of Trustees, will give six pop-up concerts during the Annual Meeting — one for each of J.S. Bach's six suites for solo cello.

Coming in the midst of his Bach Project, a journey to perform the cello suites in 36 locations on six continents, Yo-Yo Ma offers these gifts of music to inspire a conversation about how culture helps us to seek truth, build trust, and act in service of one another.

*Location: Various locations throughout the Annual Meeting*

### Le Ranz des Vaches

Eight Swiss tenors who performed at the 2019 Fête des Vignerons, Switzerland's most important traditional festival that takes place only every 25 years, will perform a rendition of the iconic "Ranz des Vaches" to open the first session of the Annual Meeting. Originally a herding call, Ranz des Vaches inspired works by Haydn, Rossini, Liszt and Beethoven, and has become one of Switzerland's unofficial hymns.

*Location: Congress Hall*  
*Tuesday, 21 January, after the Welcome Message*

# Exhibitions and Installations

## Main Exhibition

### Partnering with Nature

with Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum

*Partnering with Nature*, developed in collaboration with Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, is an interactive, site-specific restaging of four projects from the *Nature—Cooper Hewitt Design Triennial* (2019). Each installation calls us to reconsider what we think we know about, and how we interact with, material and its production. The exhibition is an invitation to experience the symbiotic relationships in nature; think about how adopting a different mindset can hold new promise for approaching the climate and biodiversity crises; and imagine how we can all be partners and collaborators in creating a more cohesive and sustainable world.

The exhibition includes:

The **Algae Platform**, by Atelier Luma/Luma Arles, which investigates the potential of algae as an alternative to conventional materials such as plastic and synthetic textile in the fields of architecture and design. Algae is a renewable resource found in natural, urban and industrial landscapes with many possible applications still being explored. Participants are invited to explore algae and its transformation into vessels and textiles.

The **Department of Seaweed prototyping workshop**, by Julia Lohmann and the Department of Seaweed team, who experiment with the fabrication processes and material properties of seaweed. The Department of Seaweed seeks to reshape our thinking about the applications and possibilities of this plentiful and renewable resource. For the installation, Lohmann stretches seaweed and combines it with rattan and aluminium rings to create a portal for viewing and contemplation. Participants are invited to experience the properties of seaweed for themselves.



**Totomoxtle**, which means “corn husk” in the Nahuatl language and refers to the brilliantly coloured veneers made from native Mexican corn by designer Fernando Laposse. Laposse has collaborated with farmers, agronomists and scientists to reintroduce native varieties and restore indigenous farming practices. This has spawned initiatives beneficial to the local economy, including jobs and a resurgence of craft and food traditions, while also ensuring the sustainability of local agricultural production by prioritizing diversity over industrial standardization. Participants are invited to help complete the Totomoxtle mosaic.



The **Tree of 40 Fruit**, by artist Sam Van Aken, who collapses an orchard of fruit trees into a single tree using centuries-old grafting techniques. Local fruit varieties are his raw materials, and his design process includes researching lost heirloom varieties and reintroducing them to their native environment. Van Aken worked with Fructus, the Swiss Association for the Protection of Fruit Heritage, to identify a six-year old apple tree and collect apple varieties that originated, are historically grown or are important commercial varieties in Switzerland. He then grafted 40 of these varieties to the tree. Van Aken maps the tree grafts with hand-drawn sketches that are colour-coded to each blossom’s season. Participants are invited to try their hand at grafting.

*Location: Main Corridor, Congress Centre*



### Partnering with Nature

Originally organized by Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, this adaptation is a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the World Economic Forum.



**Projection Mapping:  
Wildlife Photographer of the Year**  
*with the Natural History Museum, London*

Produced by the Natural History Museum in London, the renowned Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition showcases the world's best nature photography and photojournalism. These images focus our attention on the beauty and fragility of the natural world, allowing us to encounter the diversity of life on Earth and reflect on humanity's role in its future.

A selection of images from the 2019 competition are presented in a projection-mapping installation in the Congress Centre Gallery. Each photograph is accompanied by the story behind it, revealing fascinating animal behaviour, the beauty of rare and fragile environments, and photographers' passion for their subjects. Raising awareness of the threat humanity poses to the natural world, these powerful images remind us of our crucial role in its protection.

The installation, designed by Zsolt Balogh for New Visual Paradigm, appears on the wall across from the Gallery at regular intervals during the Annual Meeting.

Join scientists from the Natural History Museum at the Talk Nature booth on the Gallery across from the projection to find out more about the cutting-edge research that could help tackle some of the most urgent challenges facing our planet.

*Location: The Gallery, Congress Centre*



**Stories of Health. Stories of Humanity.**  
*With the Wellcome Trust*

The Wellcome Photography Prize celebrates compelling imagery that captures stories of health, medicine and science. This special exhibition presents a selection of photographs, the stories behind them, and highlights the important work the Forum and its partners are doing to advance change, from new vaccines to personalised medicine.

The exhibition complements a range of sessions that uncover the role of health in society and the impact health issues have on people and communities worldwide.

*Location: Plenary Lobby, Congress Centre*



**Deepfaked**  
*with Hao Li*

As AI-generated videos spread disinformation, major tech companies, start-ups and academics battle to stay one step ahead.

An interactive installation will present the implications for business, politics and society of this fast-developing technology and how we can go about knowing true from false.

*Location: The Gallery, Congress Centre*



## Finding Hope

by Mehdi Ghadyanloo

This site-specific, monumental 175m<sup>2</sup> artwork by Mehdi Ghadyanloo, which the artist donated to the Forum, aims to help us see both hope and fear for the future through a child's perspective.

The work invites participants to consider the shared universality of our existence. It is meant as a timely reminder of the need to reckon with the complexity and contradictions of society while remaining hopeful.

*Location: Main Corridor, Congress Centre*



## Tree VR

by Milica Zec and Winslow Porter

What is it like to be a tree? The award-winning Tree VR invites participants into the rainforest to become a tree. With their arms as branches and their body as the trunk, participants will experience the tree's growth from a seedling to its fullest form and witness its fate first-hand in this 10-minute multisensory, virtual-reality experience.

Tree VR returns to the Annual Meeting after great success at the Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2018, the Annual Meeting 2019 and the World Economic Forum on Africa 2019.

*Location: The Ice Village*



## 9 Symphonies

by Nissan Engel

This series of paintings is artist Nissan Engel's visual response to Beethoven's nine symphonies. Beethoven's iconic works, which taken together are meant to express the range of human emotions, had a transformative effect on the painter.

Engel responded to Beethoven by offering his own interpretation of his own true self in this series. 2020 marks the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composer's birth. *Generously loaned by Micky Engel*

*Location: Main Entrance, Congress Centre*



## Immersive Experience: Sensory Dinner in the Dark with Capaxia and Sight of Emotion

Back by popular demand, the dinner in total darkness gives a powerful collective experience where surprises and sensory alteration may well transform what we think we know about ourselves and others.

*Location: Basecamp at Rinerhorn Mountain  
Tuesday 21, Wednesday 22, Thursday 23  
January, evening*



## The Friendship Bench

In the face of a massive shortage of mental health services in his native Zimbabwe, Dixon Chibanda had the idea of training grandmothers – traditionally loved and revered – to provide appropriate and effective support.

It is an example of a low-cost, scalable and effective intervention that can enhance mental well-being for millions of people.

Participants are invited to sit on the bench and engage in conversations about mental health.

*Location: Jakobshorn lobby, Congress Centre*



## 5G Interactive Experience

Will 5G technology help improve the state of the world? 5G networks are expected to help power a huge rise in internet of things technology, providing the infrastructure needed to carry huge amounts of data, allowing for a more connected world.

As participants draw, a robot located remotely will copy the identical drawing in real-time, opening up questions about the implications of 5G in business and in society.

*Location: Central Lounge and Registration*



# New Initiative: The New Narratives Lab

Developing the next generation of Cultural Leaders



The New Narratives Lab is a year-long fellowship dedicated to fostering a new and diverse generation of Cultural Leaders. Through one-to-one mentorship by members of the World Economic Forum's network of Cultural Leaders and supported by a network of supporters, Fellows will develop leadership skills to navigate circles of power and decision-making to bring about change. The Lab is developed in collaboration with 2020 Crystal Awardee **Lynette Wallworth**, who serves as Artistic Director of the Lab, and with major support from the **Ford Foundation**.

## Fellows Profile

Fellows are artists in any medium who have shown excellence in their creative work, promise in narrative-shaping and are deeply committed to societal issues. They are on a trajectory of leadership but may not have yet had the access to opportunities afforded to others. Special emphasis is on artists from under-represented communities, including but not limited to, women, people with disabilities, LGBTI people, young people, indigenous people or people who have faced discrimination based on their race, ethnicity, political or religious identity.

## Resources

Throughout the course of 2020, Fellows will benefit from the following resources: ongoing access to their Mentor; a residency at their Mentors' location; active participation in World Economic Forum events; targeted introductions to business leaders, policy makers and media influencers in line with their development goals; a coordinated social media, media and documentation strategy; and a \$15,000 stipend.

## Why This Matters

All the intractable issues we face today, from inequality to climate change, have central cultural dimensions: they may be rooted in prejudice, entrenched beliefs, a collective failure of the imagination, or exclusionary narratives. Narratives can lead a nation to war and keep communities in poverty, but they can also dismantle discrimination and energize movements for justice. As we reach the 10-year mark before the 2030 deadline for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, the world needs new narratives. We need more artists as leaders who can shape new narratives, and we need more diverse leaders to better represent the world. There is arguably no more influential leadership platform on the world stage than the World Economic Forum to generate new narratives, create coalitions and advance sustained change.

## 2020 Cohort and Pairings

For biographies, see pages 4-7.

### Wanuri Kahiu (Fellow, Nairobi)



**Wanuri Kahiu's** latest film *Rafiki* was banned by her government for depicting a joyful love story between two women. The ensuing uproar has resulted in a constitutional case on creative rights and freedom of expression.

**Fellowship Goal:** Kahiu will be supported by Jin Xing and the Lab family in navigating the legal landscape and developing the narratives that will empower artists in Kenya and beyond to advocate effectively for their freedom of expression.

### Jin Xing (Mentor, Shanghai)



**Jin Xing's** television shows, which have included *Venus Hits Mars*, *The Jin Xing Show* and *Chinese Dating*, draw more than 100 million viewers a week and create a space for discussion on contemporary life in China.

### Rena Effendi (Fellow, Istanbul)



**Rena Effendi's** current photography work is focused on the plight of children of European nationals who joined Isis and are now left behind in Syria.

**Fellowship Goal:** Effendi will be supported by Platon and the Lab family in her quest to combine powerful storytelling with real-world impact through the creation of multi-stakeholder coalitions.

### Platon (Mentor, New York)



**Platon** has focused his efforts for the past 10 years on the power of photography and storytelling to celebrate human rights advocates with his NGO, the People's Portfolio.

## 2020 Cohort and Pairings

For biographies, see pages 4-7.

### Thando Hopa (Fellow, Johannesburg)



**Thando Hopa** made history by becoming the first person with albinism to appear on the cover of *Vogue*. Her career and voice have challenged the fashion industry's values and notions of diversity and inclusion.

**Fellowship Goal:** Hopa will be supported by Angélique and the Lab family in her development as a leader in advocating for more inclusive representation in media to benefit and support all bodies and identities.

Follow the Lab journey on our [webpage](#) and at [#newnarrativeslab](#).

### Angélique Kidjo (Mentor, Paris/New York)



**Angélique Kidjo** works tirelessly to support girls' education in Africa in her role as UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and through her Batonga Foundation. In 2019 she accompanied President Macron of France to the G7 to launch a \$251 million fund to support women entrepreneurs in Africa.



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Find out more about the Cultural Leaders network here:

See our web page: <https://www.weforum.org/communities/cultural-leaders>

Read our blogs: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/archive/arts-culture-974dd4fb-8ca3-4fb0-b4ee-509713fe506c>

Watch Annual Meeting sessions: <http://wef.ch/live> or <http://wef.ch/youtube>

Access our photo archive: <http://wef.ch/pics>

Become a Facebook fan: <https://www.facebook.com/wefculture>

Follow us on Twitter: <http://wef.ch/twitter> and <http://wef.ch/livetweet> (hashtag **#wef20**)

Follow us on Weibo: <http://t.sina.com.cn/davos>

Find us on WeChat: davos\_wef



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COMMITTED TO  
IMPROVING THE STATE  
OF THE WORLD

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The World Economic Forum, committed to improving the state of the world, is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation.

The Forum engages the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

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