



The Biennale ExperimentaDesign wins application to European funds

The positive outcome of Experimenta's application to the European Funds concerning its main project, the biennale ExperimentaDesign Lisboa/Amsterdam, was officially announced this week.

One of the 23 selected from a total of 162 applications from all over Europe, the proposal concerning the 2009 edition in Lisbon was submitted in September 2008 to the Executive Agency for Education, Audiovisual and Culture of the European Commission, under the European Festivals support program (Strand 2 - Annual Operating Grants). Scoring 26,5 out of a maximum 30 points, it has made ExperimentaDesign one of the few European Festivals financed under this program and was awarded funding in the amount of 100.000 euros for the year 2009.

This was Experimenta's first application directly submitted to and evaluated by the European Agency in Brussels, and the positive result underlines the international import and drive of its cultural project in the areas of design, architecture and contemporary culture.

The evaluation committee experts acknowledged the biennale as a project that "promotes innovation and creativity, as well as mobility of creators and their work at a European level". Among the evaluation's most positive aspects reference is made to the Biennale as an example of "how culture and design can constitute the grounds for a collaborative process between different cultural contexts, on multiple levels". In addition to the "professionalism and reliability" the proposal reflected, the Biennale's "added value" was widely recognized, especially its contribution to "strengthening the European identity". Finally, the panel of experts also praised the Biennale's communication, considering that "the increased impact of ExperimentaDesign is largely the result of skilled, high quality work in generating visibility and promotion of its activities, both in terms of planning and communication policy".

Following 2008 edition in Amsterdam, the protocols signed in 2008 with the Lisbon City Hall, the Ministry of Economy and Innovation/Tourism of Portugal and the Ministry of Culture and the mounting support of several private partners, Experimenta's latest achievement in Europe further highlights the importance of ExperimentaDesign, contributing for its long-term consolidation.

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It's About Time

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