

EXD'13 Lisboa
No Borders

The 8th edition of experimentadesign's Biennale, Portugal's preeminent showcase for world-class innovation, inspiration and cutting-edge design, architecture and creativity, returns to Lisbon from November 7 – December 22, 2013.

A constantly evolving work in itself, EXD'13 Biennale will offer a program of exhibitions, forums and open talks that kick off a new international perspective and ongoing interactive presence. Presented inside of some of the lisbon's leading historical landmarks, including the centuries-old masterpiece of Portuguese architecture, the Jerónimos Monastery, the amazing Calouste Gulbenkian Planetarium and the brand new Coach Museum designed by the Brazilian architect and Pritzker Prize Laureate, Paulo Mendes da Rocha.

Featuring its main projects at the waterfront of Belém, the place from which Portugal's "discoveries" of new worlds were once launched, this year's theme for EXD'13 is NO BORDERS. Furthering Buckminster Fuller's vision of a 21st-century in which old categories of nationality and race have become irrelevant, the theme will focus on change, evolution and blurring boundaries.

Guta Moura Guedes, director of experimentadesign, says "the theme is all about how design, culture and creativity can help to dismantle barriers we created within a too complex and non efficient world. It is also about redefining collaboration, networks, protagonists and power. Lisbon will be hosting the starting point of this ongoing discussion and one of the highlights will be the Opening Week, from 7 to 10 November. This brainstorm of creativity shall blend into the programme happening in São Paulo's edition of 2014"

NO BORDERS is especially fitting because EXD'13 will continue and merge into an edition in São Paulo, Brazil, scheduled for 2014. In addition, this year will mark the launch of a new project, EXD MAG, a living worldwide online extension of the Biennale, available through the APPLE App Store and Newsstand.

EXD'13 will bring together a remarkable gathering of globally acclaimed architects, artists, designers, manufacturers, critics, philosophers, curators and theorists. Some among those are: Alejandro Aravena, Álvaro Siza, Amanda Levete, Eduardo Souto de Moura, Jacques Herzog, Joseph Grima, Jasper Morrison, Manuel Aires Mateus, Kieran Long, Mateo Kries and Naoto Fukasawa.

Among the highlights of this year's programme are the following exhibitions:

UNMAPPING THE WORLD, an exploration in the field of socially engaged map-making practices, organized in partnership with the Instituto de Investigação Científica Tropical (Tropical Research Institute), taking place at the Palácio dos Condes da Calheta at the top of the Jardim Botânico Tropical (Tropical Botanical Garden), curated by Annelys de Vet and Nuno Coelho;

METAMORPHOSIS, presented amidst the impressive Jerónimos Monastery Cloister and produced in partnership with Amorim, world's leading producer of cork, will highlight the visions of 10 distinguished designers and architects, from Jacques Herzog to Álvaro Siza, for a brilliant exploration of this natural material and its limits;



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NEOASTERISMS, curated by Joseph Grima and Tamar Shafir, will propose a new exhibition venue, dazzling inside the Calouste Gulbenkian Planetarium, which will re-examine Mankind's ancient relation with the stars within the context of contemporary astronomy in the 21st century. It challenges creators from all over the world, either in person or through the web platform wikistars.org, to devise new constellations, imagine new mythologies and rediscover primordial astronomical traditions. This exhibition is part of a larger project geared towards an international network of planetariums around the globe.

IDENTITY will take place at the main hall of the Trindade Convent in the scenic and historic Chiado district, drawing on 10 different events from Mumbai to Moscow, Belo Horizonte to Barcelona, in a critical analysis of cross-cultural communication, augmented by morning debates at MUDE (Museum of Design and Fashion);

EXD'13 will also feature the Lisbon Conferences, during opening week afternoons, which will be housed in the auditorium of Belem's spectacular new Coach Museum, still not open to the public. These events will have the participation of Ben Evans, co-founder of the London Design Festival, and Bruce Sterling, renowned science fiction author, amongst others. Aimed specifically at a broad audience, from young creators to opinion makers, the conferences will have a counterpoint in the mornings with the specialized debates Open Talks, taking place at Torre Oca in Museu da Marinha - the Navy Museum. As such, EXD'13 Lisbon will host Galit Gaon, chief curator of the Design Museum Holon, Kieran Long, curator of the Victoria & Albert Museum and Mateo Kries, curator of the Vitra Design Museum. The strong educational and research trait of the Biennale will also be highlighted at the symposium THE FUTURE OF THE FUTURE, happening at FIL (Feira Internacional de Lisboa), emphasizing the links between creativity and economy, aiming at promoting public participation.

The vast, open-air terrace, Lounging Space back in Chiado will remain open for all participants to mingle, network, discuss, exchange and collaborate.

As part of its Special Projects, EXD'13 kicks off in 1st October with FROM HERE TO SOMEWHERE, the first design-centered exhibition ever located in the central space of the brand new redesigned Lisbon Airport's main hall at Terminal 1.

New interactions with the public and between creators, designers, curators and architects, new interventions with spaces and geography, new tools for ongoing debate and innovation – look for all of these and more in EXD '13.

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For image resources:

<http://www.experimentaldesign.pt/press/en/images/exd.htm>

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