



THE NIGHT OF IDEAS

Power to imagination

January 25th, 2018

- A unique night in France and in the world
- A night to swap ideas, learn and chat
- An invitation to explore in another way the places where ideas come alive

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A NIGHT IN THE WORLD... TO THINK TOGETHER

On January 26th, 2017, the Night of Ideas brought together from Tokyo to Los Angeles for the first time and during the same evening, different cultural centers, libraries, universities and prestigious institutions, museums, art centers, cinemas, hospitals, associations sharing a same theme « A world in common »

All partners were invited to interpret this theme in their own distinctive ways, taking into consideration :

- Local issues
- Expertise and audience
- Technical constraints (duration, accessibility)

Through the diversity of proposals, the aim was to value:

- Interdisciplinary, international, inter-generational exchanges
- The intersection between « serious » issues and festive atmosphere
- The discovery of unexpected places and the mobilization of local partners

Created by the French Institute, this vast event of intellectual debates brought together :

- 51 countries on 5 continents
- 80 cities in France and around the world
- Over a hundred events
- 180000 participants
- 7 million Internet users using the hashtag #lanuitdesidees

The 2017 Night of Ideas rallied nearly a thousand speakers from all countries and disciplines, and received the support of prestigious sponsors (Robert Badinter, Patrick Boucheron, Barbara Cassin, Hélène Carrère d'Encausse, Michaël Foessel, Esther Duflo, Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Achille Mbembe, Pierre Rosanvallon, Anne Cheng, Maylis de Kérangal, Cédric Villani...)

The success of this event can also be attributed to partners serving as a sounding board (BETC, RATP) and media partners (Le Monde, France Média Monde, Télérama, Courrier International, Philosophie magazine)

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2018 THEME : « POWER TO IMAGINATION »

Every year, the Night of Ideas gives partners an opportunity to craft their own programme around a same chosen theme as to include as many fields as possible, generating an array of possibilities

« All Power to Imagination ? »

In 1968, it was a slogan chosen by demonstrators who covered the walls of Paris with it. After half a century, its worldwide destiny is immense.

In fifty years...

- Yearning for utopia has undergone metamorphoses, impetus and disappointments according to places and moments, economic crisis and political upheavals.
- The call to be « creative » has swarmed in the most serious areas, from technology to management, from urban planning to information systems.
- To act, human societies had to and still have to adapt to the unthinkable – melting of the poles or human genome decoding, fall of the Berlin wall or artificial intelligence.
- To understand the world to come, science fiction literature turns out to be as useful as prospective works, and "1984" written by Georges Orwell is on top of the US best sellers' list.
- The digital upsurge provides new opportunities for the exercise of citizenship. Yet, it generates obstacles in communication, blurring the boundary between the real and imaginary, giving fantasies an unprecedented grip at the risk of confusing facts and hallucinations.
- For their part, from 3D to RV, from sharing photos to scientific imagery or graphic novel, images themselves are constantly changing in nature and scale : whether they are "augmented" or "virtual", reality transforms fiction.

Empowering the imagination ? Rephrasing the slogan into a question is to ask if the prediction became reality, for the worst or for the best... From poetics to politics, from the scientific to the artistic, from the literary to the visual, how to probe and revive the reality of the imagination?

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THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The editorial board of the Night of Ideas will be composed of personalities from all walks of life and will be invited to : Imagine programme tracks (thematic variations, formats, guests, places ...). They will also be invited to take part in the event at one of the partners' location and to relay the project and to echo its scope

These people have accepted to be part of the editorial board :

Mark Alizart (Philosopher, associate coordinator of the 2017 Night of Ideas) - **Hortense Archambaud** (director of MC93) - **Philippe Artières** (Historian, CNRS, co-writer of « 68, une histoire mondiale ») - **Gilles Babinet** (entrepreneur, specialist of digital issues) – **Patrick Boucheron** (Historian, professor at Collège de France) - **Anne Cheng** (Sinologist, professor at Collège de France) - **Julie Clarini** (journalist, le Monde) - **Sophie de Closets** (publisher, CEO of Editions Fayard) - **Jean-Max Colard** (curator, Centre Pompidou) - **Jean Duprat** (astrophysicist, CNRS) - **Frédéric Ferrer** (stage director and geographer, Vertical Détour theatre company) - **Philippe Quesne** (stage director and manager of Centre dramatique national Nanterre-Amandiers) - **Stéphane de Freitas** (filmmaker, creator of the competitive event Eloquentia) - **Aliocha Imhoff et Kantuta Quiros** (curators, form « le Peuple qui manque ») - **Maylis de Kerangal** (Novelist) - **Emmanuel Laurentin** (Journalist, producer of « la fabrique de l'histoire » on France-Culture) - **Camille Louis** (philosopher, curator of « La fabrique du commun ») - **Florence Martin-Kessler** (filmmaker, co-founder of Live Magazine) - **Lionel Naccache** (Neurologist, Head of Department at the Pitié-Salpêtrière) - **Fabienne Servan-Schreiber** (producer, co-founder of « Fraternité générale ») - **Sandrine Treiner** (director of France-Culture) - **Rémi Babinet** (co-founder of BETC)

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TAKE PART IN THE EVENT

The Night of ideas is first of all an invitation to partner sites :

WHY ?

Taking part in the Night of ideas means :

- Signing up for a high visibility event in France and in the world
- Having people discover a scientific, artistic, educational, political place in a different way...
- Being open to new, diverse and curious audiences
- Building relations with other international partner sites on this occasion

HOW ?

Each place is invited to imagine its own programme

- Depending on its own capacity (the event doesn't have to last all night long !)
- By expanding the theme depending on "the spirit of the place" (its identity, its expertise, its implantation ...)
- In varying its formats – from a big colloquium to a participatory forum, from a stage reading to performance ...

WHEN ?

- From now on it is now possible to contact the Night of ideas coordinators :
nuitdesidees@institutfrancais.com
- Sites which are wishing to participate will be invited to present its program, via the call for proposals, available online, from 15 September to 30 November 2017 on
www.lanuitdesidees.com

Throughout the fall, the submitted projects will be selected by the programme committee. Each participating site will have its programme posted on the Night of ideas site, and geo-located on the worldwide map of the event. A communication kit will be at the disposal of all participants.