

**SAFE HAVENS**  
**5–7 December 2018**  
**Moriska Paviljongen**  
**Malmö, Sweden**



## SAFE HAVENS 2018 – WE HAD AN IDEA!

*We had an idea!* These words were the opening statement of the first Safe Havens newsletter, marking what had been a very successful conference. The newsletter went on to explain the ‘idea’ behind the creation of a central meeting point for artists, producers, representatives of non-governmental organisations and administrators from the culture departments of local and national governments. The Safe Havens conference also started from a distinctly Nordic perspective, as during the time leading up to that moment, there was a strong Nordic movement for building more cities of refuge as well as several strong advocates for the artistic freedom of writers, musicians and visual artists.

Year upon year, focus has shifted from issues concerning human rights defenders and organisations who provide aid to artists at risks, to issues facing the artists affected, whether they find themselves in the cities of refuge or at large but seeking safe shelter. The results of these conferences have helped build stronger interconnected networks between individuals and organisations, who share common goals whilst at the same time advocating different forms of protection for artists and academics at risk. The cumulation of ideas from the conferences has reached beyond the podium and tables of this hall to the ears of policymakers, who want to deepen their understanding of and engage with the important work we do.

So, in 2018 we had another idea for the Safe Havens conference. We analysed the feedback we received over the years from participants and patrons. An overwhelming number of you wanted Safe Havens to become more of a ‘working’ conference, with more time for active workshopping geared to coming up with practical solutions that organisations, groups, individuals and policymakers can use or refer to when tackling issues concerning artists/academics at risk. We listened. This year the conference is designed to revolve around workshop tables that will tackle issues raised at previous Safe Havens conferences. We have thus anchored the conference on three key questions:

1. *How do we create effective, target-led, issue-sensitive advocacy in the home countries of artists at risk?*

2. *What happens post-relocation? 3 key roles: institutions; artist-led initiatives; other civil society organisations*
3. *What are the legal frameworks that protect artists?*

Workshops on each of these questions will be preceded by short provocations. This will help set the tone, push us to reflect deeper on the issues and perhaps lead us to interesting new vistas where we find answers to the questions.

Designing the conference in this way has been both exciting and daunting. For the artists and organisations involved, we hope the questions and provocations will spark healthy debates and discussions around the tables. Everyone will get a chance to speak and have their views heard.

As in Safe Havens' inception year of 2013, Sweden again holds the presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers. So, this year, we will also take a retrospective look at the expansion of refuge cities within the Nordic region, and possible new innovations with regards social and creative freedoms for artists.

Last but not least, Malmö's new cultural institution, the Museum of Movements, Sweden's future National Museum of Migration and Democracy, makes its official debut at Safe Havens 2018. We will be meeting the project team, and hearing more about this exciting initiative.

The 2018 Safe Havens conference is organised by the City of Malmö, under the stewardship of the Museum of Movements, and in cooperation with the Swedish Arts Council, the Ministry of Culture, and Region Skåne. Safe Havens 2018 is one of the official events of the Swedish presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers.

We welcome you to Malmö, and look forward to your participation in Safe Havens 2018.

*Best Regards,  
Safe Havens 2018 team  
safehavens@malmo.se*

## WEDNESDAY 5 DECEMBER

**14.30–16:00 MORISKA PAVILJONGEN'S FOYER**  
**Registration.** Coffee is available in the Bistro.

**16:00–16:30 STORA SALONGEN**  
**Artistic Intervention.** Safe Havens 2018 begins with an artistic intervention.

**16:30–16:50 STORA SALONGEN**  
**Practical Information** from *Fiona Winders*, this year's Safe Havens host.

**16:50–17.10 STORA SALONGEN**  
**SafeMUSE Presents:** *Abazar Hamid*, a Norwegian-based musician from Sudan, featuring Norway's *Knut Reiersrud*.

**17:15–17:35 STORA SALONGEN**  
**Official Welcome**

**17:35–17:55 STORA SALONGEN**  
**Special Remarks** by *Karima Bennoune*, UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights.

**17:55–18:10 STORA SALONGEN**  
**Introduction to the Safe Havens Programme 2018** and the three key questions by *Mary Ann DeVlieg*, Safe Havens Content Consultant, and the Safe Havens team from Malmö.

**18.10–18:40 SPEGELSALEN**  
**Mingle** and welcome drink.

**18:40–20.00 STORA SALONGEN**  
**Dinner**

**20.30 SPEGELSALEN**  
**SafeMUSE Presents:** Live performances, artists to be confirmed.

## THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER

**08:30–09:30 BISTRO AND FOYER**

### **Coffee and Slow-Dating**

**09:30–10:10 STORA SALONGEN**

**Artistic Intervention** by *Kagiso Lesogo Melope*, award-winning Canada-based, South African author, and *Maha Nasser*, journalist from Yemen based in Växjö as ICORN residency.

**10:10–10:30 STORA SALONGEN**

**Keynote Speech** by *Hassan Mahamdallie*, theatre director, playwright, political and investigative journalist. He outlines a provocation for Safe Havens, based on “the Creative Case” approach to diversity and equality in the arts and how it relates to migration, focusing on aesthetics, representation and artistic autonomy.

**10:30–11:00 SPEGELSALEN**

### **Coffee Break**

**11.00–11:40 STORA SALONGEN**

### **Key Question 1)**

*How do we create effective, target-led, issue-sensitive advocacy in the home countries of artists at risk?*

Provocateurs: *Georgy Mamedov*, Tadjik/Russian art curator and LGBT activist, formerly artistic co-director of STAB (School of Theory and Activism, Bishkek), *Evgeny Shtorn*, Kazakh-Russian sociologist and LGBTQI activist, formerly the Centre for independent Social Research, *Oliver Spencer Shrestha*, human rights defender specializing in the freedom of expression and Asia, and *Meriam Bousselmi*, Tunisian theatre director, lawyer, cultural expert.

**11:40–13.10 STORA SALONGEN AND SPEGELSALEN**

### **Round Table Problem Solving**

Participants break into 10–12 small groups to discuss the key question, sharing their expertise and proposing concrete recommendations for improving policies and practices. The results will be edited into a common document we can all use for advocacy, following the conference.



The Forbidden Orchestra

Photo: Helena Ponelli



**13:20–14:00 BISTRO AND THE FOYER**

**Lunch**

*Two parallel sessions:*

**14:00–14:40 STORA SALONGEN**

**Network** – meet your partners, colleagues and friends! All over the place!

**14.00–14:40 SPEGELSALEN**

**Freemuse presents their Report “Women and Artistic Freedom”**

*Dr Srirak Plipat*, Executive Director of Freemuse on a report that examines how women artists’ rights to freedom of artistic expression are denied and marginalised.

**14:45–15:25 STORA SALONGEN**

**Nordic Retrospective – Looking back at five years of Safe Havens**

With *Bongi MacDermott*, Swedish Arts Council, *Karolina Catoni*, coordinator for the Swedish section of Scholars at Risk, SAR-Sweden, *Helge Lunde*, Executive Director of ICORN, *Kerstin Brunnberg*, journalist, and *Marita Muukkonen*, Co-Director of Artists at Risk (AR) and *Ole Reitov*, former Executive Director of Freemuse.

**15:30–16:15 STORA SALONGEN.**

**Key Question 2)**

*What happens post-relocation? 3 key roles: institutions, artist-led initiatives, and other civil society organisations.*

Provocateurs: *Rana Yazaji*, founder of Ettijahat-Independent Culture and former Director of Al Mawred al Thaqafy, *Khaled Barakeh*, Syrian conceptual artist and cultural activist, *Daniel Gorman*, Executive Director of Shubbak – A window on Contemporary Arab Culture festival, *Elisabeth Dyvik*, Programme Director of ICORN, responsible for the residency programme for persecuted writers and artists, and *Áine O’Brien*, Co-founder and Co-Director of Counterpoints Arts UK, founder of Forum on Migration and Communications.

**16:30–18.00 SPEGELSALEN AND THE FOYER**



## **Round Table Problem Solving**

Participants break into 10–12 small groups to discuss the key question, sharing their expertise and proposing concrete recommendations for improving policies and practices. The results will be edited into a common document we can all use for advocacy, following the conference.

**18:10–18:30 SPEGELSALEN**

### **Summing Up**

**18:30 SPEGELSALEN**

### **Mingle and drinks**

**19:00–20:30 STORA SALONGEN**

### **Dinner**

**20:30 STORA SALONGEN**

### **Open concert with the Forbidden Orchestra**

*Emilia Amper, Liliana Zavala, Nadin Al Khalidi, Sousou Cissoko and Simona Abdallah* are five powerful, brilliant and ground-breaking artists. Together they explore musical paths, spread equality and unite people through music. Special guest, *Farzane Zamen*.

## **FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER**

**08:30–09.00 THE FOYER**

**Coffee** served.

*Two parallel sessions:*

**09:00–09:50 SPEGELSALEN**

### **How do we find ways to expand the artistic exchange?**

Conversation between *Cecilia Hörnell-Sunar*, Co-director Re:Orient, *Mikael Ribbenvik*, director of Swedish Migration Agency, *UNICORN* – Artists in Solidarity residency in Malmö, and *Kerstin Brunnberg*, journalist.

*This session will also include an artistic intervention:*

**Case No 118952xx – Better Safe and Sorry**, a collaborative installation and performance by *Bahareh Mirhadi* and *Arash Mirhadi*.

**09.00–09:50 BISTRO**

**Freemuse presents the report “The State of Artistic Freedom in Europe”.**

*Dr Srirak Plipat*, Executive Director of Freemuse, shares his experience and discusses the next steps for advocacy on this front. Finally, Freemuse are crunching numbers for “The State of Artistic Freedom Report 2019” which will be launched in Oslo in March 2019, and share highlights of some figures, trends and analysis they have seen in 2018.

**10:00–10:45 STORA SALONGEN**

**Key Question 3)**

*What are the legal frameworks that protect artists?*

Provocateurs: *Svetlana Mintcheva*, Director of Programs at National Coalition Against Censorship and co-editor of *Censoring Culture: Contemporary Threats to Free Expansion*, *Mahmoud Othman*, lawyer, and writer for the Association of Freedom of Thought and Expression (AFTE), Egypt, *Aruna Chawla*, lawyer, heads the Indian operations of Cultural Intellectual Property Rights Initiative, and *Andra Matei*, human rights lawyer, founder of Avant-Garde Lawyers and formerly the European Court of Human Rights.

**10:45–11:15 THE FOYER**

**Coffee Break**

**11:15–12:45 STORA SALONGEN AND SPEGELSALEN**

**Round Table Problem Solving**

Participants break into 10–12 small groups to discuss the key question, sharing their expertise and proposing concrete recommendations for improving policies and practices. The results will be edited into a common document we can all use for advocacy, following the conference.

**12:45–13:30 SPEGELSALEN**

**Lunch** and networking – meet your partners, colleagues and friends!

*Two parallel sessions:*

**13:45–14:30 SPEGELSALEN**

**International rescue archives** – a new organised approach to protect the work of artists, writers and human rights defenders at risk?

*Lisa Ott*, Co-Head of the Dealing with the Past programme, Swisspeace, and *Emelie Wieslander*, Project Manager at the Malmö Rescue Archives, City of Malmö, talk about international and local perspectives in the collaboration between Swisspeace and the Malmö Rescue Archives.

**13:45–14:30 BISTRO**

**People and ideas in motion**

A presentation of the new Museum of Movements (MoM), by *Roxana Ortiz*, co-manager and *Armando Perla*, project leader. MoM is Sweden's new National Museum of Migration and Democracy, now in its development stage in Malmö. Learn how MoM strives to develop new methodologies that will democratise its processes, while sharing this authority with the communities that it intends to serve.

**14:30–15:15 SPEGELSALEN**

**Summing Up** and looking forward, including film time.

**15:15–15:30 THE FOYER**

**Coffee Break**

**15:30–15.50 SPEGELSALEN**

**Artistic intervention**

**15.50 SPEGELSALEN**

**Farewell toast**

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Image front page: Shakrokh Moskin Ghalame, photo: Ava Hanning.



**KULTURRÅDET**



Nordiska  
ministerrådet



**Museum of Movements**