

Future challenges for local arts and cultural policy

29 april 2024 –

Fonds Cultuurmanagement - UA



Culture Ghent weaves art and culture in the city in interaction with passionate players, creators and enthusiasts. This is how we work together to create a 'content' Ghent.

GHENTIAN ECOSYSTEM

- Creative city
- Sense of engagement: participation and connection
- Educational institutions (Ugent, Hogent, ..)
- Smart City: innovation and technology
- Heritage and a rich history
- 8 museums and a state-of-the-art library
- > 1000 (social -) cultural organizations
- Eco – friendly, focus on sustainability
- Divers: > 162 languages
- European Youth Capital 2024
- European Capital of Culture in 2030?
- Ghentians are rebellious, stubborn, open minded...



ghent:



GHENT, A 2- SPEED CITY

Things are going too well in Ghent - Oeink ? ...

- and the winner is... Spotlight on Ghent, Bravo!
- Ghent is becoming greener, more sustainable, ... is a popular tourist destination
- It's going fast in Ghent, leader of progressive thinking and prize winner

Every coin has a flip side:

- Alienation, energy and mobility poverty, urban exodus due to high housing prices
- Burn-outs, effect on our mental health, ...
- Ghent is becoming to clean.
- Superdiversity - how do we deal with it together?

= **DISCONNECTION**

WHY ?

As the European Capital of Culture, we work together to create a resilient city where we create physical and mental space for a new cultural and active citizenship



A collective recharge for Ghent as inspiration for Europe

CULTURAL POLICY

2018 - NOW

COMMON FOCUS: Social cohesion and participation, age – friendly, diversity

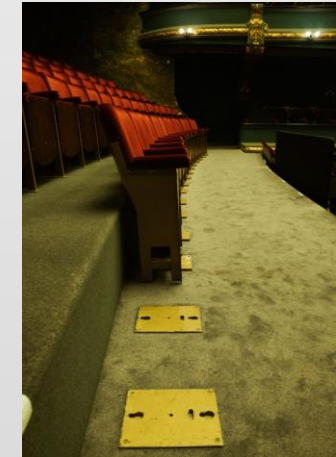
AMBITIONS:

- Music & literature, visual arts, circus & urban arts,
- Presentation for individual artists,
- Ghent as breeding ground,
- Arts in leisure time and social artistic work
- major infrastructure projects, heritage & museums

TODAY'S CHALLENGES:

- Talent retention,
- Budget cuts & energy crisis,
- Lowering thresholds to be more inclusive

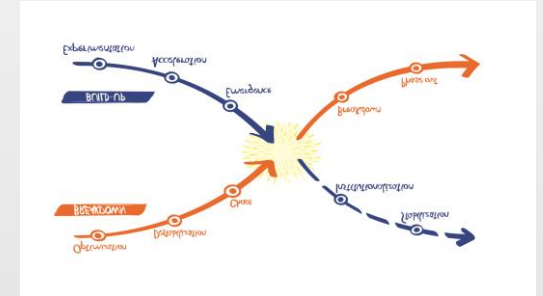
2025 – 2040





HOW?

- Recognize culture as a public good and honor it with appropriate resources as well.
 - A renewed financial model at all levels.
- Foundation = school and education.
- Rethink the role of our institutions > system shift
- Tear down the walls and build bridges:
 - Integrate culture in all policy areas.
 - Culture at the table in urban development and transition plans.
- Embrace 'cross-thinking' as an answer to toxic polarization
 - Save the artistic process.
- Lower the uncertainty for artists, performers and new organizations.
 - Rethink statutes, the administrative burden, rebuild the trust and stimulate growth.
 - Language procedures <> diversity and inclusion.
- Game changers = support and decision making!



DO WE DARE TO GIVE POWER TO IMAGINATION?





Ghent 2030

candidate
European Capital of Culture

   @cultuurgent

www.gent2030.eu :
gent2030@stad.gent



CULTUUR
GENT