



## Culture as a means of local development: a new art project in Cosenza, Italy!

**VIVA | Performance Lab Cosenza is a contemporary art project supported by European network Trans Europe Halles. Through a festival (8th to 9th of December 2012) and capacity building workshops involving international artists and experts, and the local community, this project aims at developing the cultural offer of the city, its attractiveness for tourism and to professionalise the cultural actors and artists working in the city.**

From the 8th to the 9th of December, some of the main exponents of the contemporary performance scene are invited to a two days festival to be held in the city centre. This festival, curated by Tania Bruguera and Cristiana Perrella, will be preceded by an intensive workshop involving emerging artists: during seven days, participants will have the opportunity to reflect on their current work and develop an individual performance which will be presented during the festival.

The project also involves the community of Cosenza: students from the University will communicate on the festival and will take part in an art blogger competition. At the same time, around 100 youngsters from local highschoools will develop parallel activities of documentation, artistic production, hospitality and support for the artists.

Beside this artistic event, the local independent cultural scene will join a process of networking and capacity building in cooperation with Trans Europe Halles through a workshop with international expert Sandy Fitzgerald in November.

VIVA | Performance Lab Cosenza is developed in partnership with the Municipality of Cosenza, the MAXXI National Museum of Contemporary Art and the University of Calabria.

For more information: <http://www.fondazionemaxxi.it/2012/10/24/viva-performance-lab/>

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#### About Trans Europe Halles

*Trans Europe Halles is the representation of independent culture in Europe and is valued as such by European and national institutions. TEH enriches its members with knowledge, abilities and inspiration. - Jon Heemsbergen, Melkweg, The Netherlands*

Trans Europe Halles (TEH) is a network of 52 independent cultural centres and 19 friend organisations in 29 European countries. The member centres are mostly multidisciplinary, ranging from small squats to centres with multimillion Euros in turnover. TEH runs and coordinates projects such as artists' residencies, staff exchange programmes and capacity building programmes for cultural leaders. Many of the current activities are powered by the three-year network project Engine Room Europe.

[www.teh.net](http://www.teh.net)

Trans Europe Halles is supported by:



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