



# NIGHT OF IDEAS

## CLOSER

28/01/21

PRESS KIT

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# THE NIGHT OF IDEAS 2021, 24 HOURS TO FEEL CLOSE(R)

SEE YOU ON JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> 2021

Annual gathering dedicated to the free circulation of ideas and knowledge, the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Night of Ideas, coordinated by the Institut français, will be held on Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 on the topic “Close(r)”. It will be reinforced in its digital dimension with the creation of “24 hours of night and ideas”.

More than 200 Nights of Ideas are expected internationally, from Finland to Kenya and from Fiji to Peru, with increased resonance between countries and geographical areas. In Sydney as well as in Mexico City, Seoul, Beirut, Lomé or Toronto, it is essentially local voices that will come to explore the “Close(r)” thematic.

The 2021 edition will take on special significance in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The theme “Close(r)” has been chosen to question the transformation of our relationship to space and mobility, the new forms of solidarity that the crisis in our economic and social models calls for, and the place of digital technology in our societies, which is increasingly shaping our relationship with the world. “Close(r)” also invites us to question the evolution of contemporary sociality and, more than ever, our relationship to each other.

While the health crisis is limiting international gatherings and people’s mobility, the Institut français offers everyone the opportunity to live an unprecedented experience, 24 hours of Night and Ideas, on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and on [www.lanuitdesidees.com](http://www.lanuitdesidees.com). Thanks to the richness and diversity of the French cultural network in the world, this event will cross time zones from Oceania to the West Coast of the United States, promote the free circulation of ideas and knowledge and bring local experience to life in a great global live event.

Thus, for 24 hours, the upcoming Night of Ideas will be an opportunity to feel “closer” than ever, to strengthen global connections, to interact with other audiences and to celebrate a thinking without borders.

**See you on January 28<sup>th</sup> for 24 hours of non-stop live action!**



## GUEST OF HONOR OF THE NIGHT OF IDEAS 2021 : HARTMUT ROSA

Hartmut Rosa is a German sociologist and philosopher, who is in line with the critical theory of the Frankfurt School.

He teaches at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena and leads the Max-Weber-Kolleg in Erfurt, Germany.

He is internationally known for his studies on acceleration, which he developed in his books *Acceleration* (2013), *Resonance* (2018) and *Making the World Unavailable* (2020).

A Thinker of modernity, Hartmut Rosa questions our relationship to time and the acceleration of the global progress, and explores alternatives. He is the ambassador of the 2021 edition of the Night of Ideas.

### 3 QUESTIONS TO

## EROL OK

PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUT FRANÇAIS

## JUDITH ROZE

HEAD OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE, BOOKS AND KNOWLEDGE DEPARTMENT OF THE INSTITUT FRANÇAIS

## VINCENT MANO

FRENCH LANGUAGE, BOOKS AND KNOWLEDGE DEPARTMENT, COORDINATOR OF THE NIGHT OF IDEAS

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### What role can cultural diplomacy play in pandemic times?

**EROL OK:** The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures that have been taken to slow its spread - containment, closing public spaces, curfews- have plunged cultural actors and institutions around the world into an unprecedented crisis. By limiting the international mobility of people, it has also profoundly transformed the way in which cultural diplomacy can work towards the free circulation of creators and their works, particularly French-speaking creators.

In this context of crisis and the redefinition of our modalities of action, cultural diplomacy continues to play a major role, first of all by helping to **maintain the relationship between the players in the world of culture and their audiences at the international level**. This is notably the reason why, from the very beginning of the crisis, the Institut français and the entire cultural network have actively relayed, through their dedicated sites and platforms, the online cultural offers of the major French cultural institutions.

More than ever before, the Institut français stands **alongside our cultural network around the world, and its foreign partners** - theatres, film producers, museums, publishers or universities: it is by continuing to develop cooperation projects, even in hybrid formats for the moment, that the world of culture will be able to project itself effectively into the future. It is customary to say that it is in times of crisis that one recognises one's true friends: from this point of view, it is essential to maintain our help so that the most fragile cultural players, affected by the fall in their income, can weather the storm. This is what we have been doing in recent months and will continue to do in 2021.

Finally, I believe that the pandemic makes exchanges and dialogue, on an international scale, between players in the cultural, artistic, and intellectual fields, all the more necessary. This unprecedented situation leads each citizen to reflect on what makes the flavour and the very essence of their relationship with the world and with others: creators, authors and thinkers, who are also confronted with this unexpected upheaval, can shed light on this situation, help us take a step back and assess the consequences. This is the whole meaning of an event like the Night of Ideas, at a time when the exchange of points of view, the confrontation of looks, from one point of the world to another, seems to us more than ever a wealth, almost a necessity.

**The health context implies a hybrid version of the next “Night of Ideas” between face-to-face and online with a large digital event of 24 hours of non-stop debates and ideas around the world. How is the debate of ideas transformed for this unprecedented edition?**

**JUDITH ROZE :** Since its creation, the Night of Ideas has been a laboratory for inventing new forms of debate of ideas, demanding in terms of content, but participatory and open to the general public. This year’s wager, which consists of offering this new digital experience of 24 hours of debate, in addition to the Night of Ideas organized by the cultural network in person, aims first and foremost to innovate in terms of formats. Digital technology makes it possible to articulate concepts, images and movement. The Night of Ideas 2021 thus proposes urban walks with intellectuals, exchanges with representatives of civil society on a train, a boat or a cab, and speeches anchored in a landscape. It is an invitation to take a trip around the world of thought and shows ideas that are intimately linked to a place, a space.

By limiting the mobility of people, the pandemic also strengthens the local dimension of speeches. The Night of Ideas 2021 brings together researchers, politicians, activists, writers and artists from all over the world. Some of them are well known: Johnnie To, Patti Smith, Vandana Shiva, Lyudmila Ulitskaya, London Breed or Jaïli Amadou Amal. Others are emerging on the international scene, whether it is an Egyptian researcher specializing in the Arab revolutions or the director of a South Korean NGO. By enabling these speeches to echo each other, these “24 hours of night and ideas” promote a form of horizontality that shows that the debate of ideas is everyone’s affair.

**This year’s thematic “Close(r)” questions our relationship to the world and to each other. What deep issues does the topic of this year’s edition raise?**

**VINCENT MANO :** The topic of the Night of Ideas 2021 was defined during the first lockdown, when it became clear that apart from the questions it raised from a global point of view - the contours of the world to come - this crisis drew its specificity from the fact that everyone, at the same time and all over the planet, was directly affected, in very dissimilar ways, in their daily life, and even in their intimacy: relationships with our loved ones, couples, family and friends, work habits, dependence on digital technology.

To the extent that the crisis is accelerating changes that have been underway for many years, this edition gives a strong place to stakes such as the construction of contemporary solidarities, issues related to the place of digital technology in our modes of sociality, or the question of the relationships we have with animal and vegetable.

However, the theme “Close(r)” invites us to think about the consequences of the health, economic and social crisis, in both global and “micro” terms, within the framework of this Night of Ideas. This applies, for instance, to the question of our relationship to space, which is at the heart of this edition: what lasting impact does the crisis have on the flows of goods and people that characterize globalization? How can we think about the dynamics of withdrawal along national borders? But also: what are the consequences of lockdowns, in the medium and long term, on the family unit? What are the prospects of remote work and education ? How to find the right distance to people and things? How can we “resonate” with them, to quote one of the questions that runs through the works of Hartmut Rosa, ambassador of the 2021 edition ?

By giving voice to people from all over the world, the Night of Ideas offers a unique opportunity to think, collectively, about what we are going through and to find solutions to face this crisis that is bound to last.



## 2021 THEME

# “CLOSE(R)”

While it is open to multiple interpretations, this theme intersects five lines of strength.

It raises the question of our individual and collective relationships to space: the testing of lockdown, a more acute awareness of dependencies between countries, the paradoxical reinforcement of the dynamics of withdrawal withing national borders and the questioning of the circulation of goods and people, the cornerstone of globalization.

It brings us to think about the new solidarities that our economic and social models in crisis call for: at a time when our era reminds us that the events that affect us here and now can be distant in space and time, our commitments take on a new value and underline the singularity of our relationship to the world.

It questions the place of digital in our societies, in our social relations and in our work habits: while modernity is characterized by access to an ever-expanding world, it is difficult to find the right distance to information, people and things.

It explores the construction of contemporary socialities, the way in which the concentric circles of our social life are constituted and the importance of the relationships we have built and that we share, closely or at a distance, with our loved ones.

It is also a way, following the debates fostered during the 2020 Night of Ideas under the theme ‘Being Alive’, to explore our relationship to the otherness of machines, animals and plants.



The theme of this edition draws on the experience of civil societies and the expertise of the social sciences to think through the health, social and economic crises. It calls for the creation of forms of debate that make it possible to break, thanks to the diversity of the media, with the isolation imposed by the pandemic.

# 24H OF NIGHTS AND IDEAS

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From Suva to San Francisco, via Seoul, Tel Aviv or Bogota, as the night goes on, embark on a real world-trip of thought!

This great global digital event is a unique opportunity to celebrate a thought without borders and an opportunity to imagine new forms of sharing and exchange, to continue to gather.

See you on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for new digital experiences: In-Depth Conversation will be joined by dialogues across borders, readings in unusual places, nightly walks with activists, micro-trotting, boat or cab trips, and musical and artistic performances.

## AMONG EXPECTED PERSONALITIES

Many personalities will be present next to the German philosopher and sociologist Hartmut Rosa, ambassador of this 2021 edition: the philosophers **Souleymane Bachir Diagne**, **Daan Roovers** and **Christia Mercer**, the writers **Djaili Amadou Amal**, **Iman Mersal**, **Liudmila Oulitskaïa**, **Gong Ji-young** and **Julia Baird**, the singer and writer **Patti Smith**, the activists **Vandana Shiva** and **Alexia de la Seiglière**, **Sally Rugg**, **Amira Yahyaoui** and **Susmita Mohanty**, the physicist **Etienne Klein**, the food activist and restaurateur **Claus Meyer**, the historian **Lonnie Bunch**, the architect **Jeanne Gang**, the director **Johnnie To**, or the artists **Philippe Quesne**, **Olga Tsvetkova** and **Kapwani Kiwanga**.



## Dialogues across borders

In the midst of the health crisis that we are going through, "Close(r)" brings at the heart of the Night of Ideas 2021 the question of individual and collective relationships to the world, of living together and contemporary communities.

Our topic also reminds us of the urgent need for new forms of solidarity and the quest for new balances. This is what is at stake in the dialogues that will be held across borders.

**Dialogue between Greek and Turkish youth on common concerns** related to culture, environment, major social issues and their desire for the future in the light of the Covid 19 pandemic.

**Dialogue between the Syrian director Ossama Halal, based in Beirut, and the Egyptian playwright Ahmed El Attar**, about their theatrical practice and life across the countries in a time of multiple crises.

**Dialogue between Chad Richardson in the United States and Victor Zúñiga in Mexico, with Rubén Hernández-León, sociologists specialized in the border between the two countries** and those who cross it every day or once in their lives.

**Dialogue between the Seine River and the two banks of the Congo, around Romuald Fonkoua, President of the Scientific Council of the Foundation for the Memory of Slavery**, and the work of the transnational music group Beat Box Kongo Jazz.

## In-Depth Conversations

**How can we stay close and share ideas in times of pandemics?**

The Egyptian poetess **Iman Mersal**, now living in Canada, will question this relationship of distant proximity to her country of origin and how to stay close to her culture while being far away.

In Russia, the novelist and screenwriter **Lioudmila Oulitskaïa** will look back on her career and the role that the question of proximity plays in her multifaceted work.

The Cameroonian novelist **Djaïli Amadou Amal**, finalist for the Prix Concourt 2020, will echo the words of the women of the Sahel: a woman's perspective on family relationships, the violence they can involve, writing, gender in Africa.

In Hong Kong, the director **Johnnie To** will discuss the notion of "Close(r)" in his work and the consequences of the current crises for the seventh art.

In South Korea, the novelist **Cong Ji-Young** will evoke the themes that run through her work, namely human frailty, the fight against injustice and caring for others.

In India, **Etienne Klein** and the famous activist **Vandana Shiva** will evoke our contemporary relationship to nature, time and space.

**And the ambassador of the Night of ideas 2021, the German philosopher Hartmut Rosa, will speak on contemporary changes in our relationship to the world.**



## Nightly Walk

These debates and perspectives will find a singular echo in the course of nightly walk, which will bring us to the heart of cities and natural spaces.

On the Lomaiviti Princess, the ferry that connects Fiji's main islands, the Night of Ideas will give a voice to the women and men who, every day, bring closer to the people separated by the ocean.

In the streets of Libreville, Gabon, men and women involved in helping the most destitute will talk about their daily lives during the night shift.

In India, the chief Manish Mehrotra will show us the alleys of Old Delhi. In the Dominican Republic, interviews will follow one another in the cable car, the subway and on the bridges of the capital.

In the disaster-stricken districts of Beirut, in the city of Rome or Dushanbe, in the United States or Brazil, those who think and built the city will give it to see and understand.

In Nepal, young filmmakers will hold their microphones out to the people of Kathmandu to question them about their relationships with family and friends in light of the diaspora experience and the health crisis.

While on the streets of Colombo, Sri Lanka, researcher and writer Sarah Kabir will speak about inter-ethnic conflicts and the dynamics of reconciliation in the country.

## Performances

Artists, personalities or civil society members will lend their voices for readings in unusual or unexpected places.

In several cities of Israel, discover texts read in Hebrew, Arabic and French by young amateurs or professionals.

In Russia, Salvador or Nigéria, discover dancers, musicians, choreographers, filmmakers investing urban space: a way to encourage the reappropriation of places abandoned by culture.



## A night to feel closer

For 24 hours, the next Night of Ideas will be a privileged moment to forge ties around the world, to strengthen these relationships between people and ideas that build communities, and thus feel "closer" than ever.

The issues explored by this edition will remind us of this: the countries of the Andes will explore a shared Amazon, while Sri Lanka will talk about reconciliation in the aftermath of the civil war. In Ivory Coast, it is the question of independence that will fuel the debates, while in Denmark we will question the relationship to farming, conviviality and hospitality.



# KEY EVENTS OF THE 24H DEBATES

Watch live on [Facebook](#) and [Youtube](#). The updated version of the programme is available online at <https://www.lanuitdesidees.com/la-nuit-en-live/>.

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**09:00 AM**  
FRANCE - OPENING

**09:45 AM**  
FIJI - REPORTAGE

## Relationship to the environment and nature

Report on the ferry linking Suva to Kandavu on the peculiarity of island life.

**11:35 AM**  
FRANCE - IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION

## Our relationship to the world

First in-depth conversation given by the ambassador of the 2021 Night of Ideas, the philosopher **Hartmut Rosa**.

**12:05 PM**  
SOUTH KOREA - URBAN WALK AND IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION

## Care in times of health crisis

Stroll in Seoul, performance by artist and activist **Choi Taeyoon**, and conversation with writer **Gong Ji-young**.

**01:15 PM**  
HONG KONG - TOUR AND IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION

## The role of art in our contemporary societies

After a guided tour of the Hong Kong Museum of Art by its director, **Maria Mok**, the director **Johnnie To** will talk about his artistic practice.

**01:50 PM**  
CAMBODIA - INTERVIEW

## Filming your loved ones

Interview with the French-Cambodian director **Davy Chou** about his experience of lockdown with elder people, interviewed by high school students and directed by **Kavich Neang**.

**03:05 PM**  
TAJIKISTAN - WALK

Cab ride in Dushanbe in the company of two civil society actors.

**03:30 PM**  
INDIA - ROUND TABLE

## Relationship to time and space

Debate between **Étienne Klein**, entrepreneur and environmental activist **Susmita Mohanty**, who founded the spaceship design start-up Earth2Orbit, and feminist and environmental activist **Vandana Shiva**.

**05:00 PM**  
TURKEY / GREECE - CONVERSATION

## Be 20 years old in 2021

A conversation between committed young people from Greece and Turkey on the major issues of their time.

**05:05 PM**  
RUSSIA - INTERVIEW AND PERFORMANCE

## Understanding the world

Interview with the writer **Lyudmila Ulitskaya**, followed by a performance with the Russian choreographer **Olga Tsvetkova** and the French director **Philippe Quesne**.

**07:50 PM**  
DENMARK - INTERVIEW

## From the Earth to the table

Interview with the influential **Claus Meyer**, co-founder of Noma, and one of the fathers of the new Nordic gastronomy.

**08:05 PM**  
NIGERIA - WALK

## Culture and remote audiences

Workshop and performances by dancers from the Lagosian company Ennovate Dance House (directed by **Hermes Iyele Chibueze**).

**08:20 PM**  
CAMEROON - IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION

## A woman's word

**Djaïli Amadou Amal**, Prix Goncourt des lycéens in 2020. A woman's perspective on family relationships, the violence it can involve, writing, gender in Africa.

**09:25 PM**  
ITALY - WALK

## All the streets start from Rome

A tour of Rome with the Villa Medici guests and the former mayor of the city and former Italian Minister of Culture, **Francesco Rutelli**.

# KEY EVENTS OF THE 24H DEBATES

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**10:45 PM**  
**MOROCCO - WALK**

## The Medina and social ties

Nightly walk with the art historian **Bouaabid Bouzid** in the streets of the Medina of Tetouan, to explore the social ties that bind in this particular architecture.

**11:00 PM**  
**EGYPT - IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION**

## Places of sociability

Meeting with **Iman Mersal**, a figure of contemporary Egyptian poetry.

**11:40 PM**  
**LEBANON-EGYPT - DIALOGUE**

Dialogue between the directors **Ahmed El Attar** (Egypt) and **Ossama Halal** (Lebanon/Syria).

**12:00 AM**  
**NETHERLANDS - Conversation**

## The public debate

Conversation between journalist **Margot Dijkgraaf** and philosopher **Daan Rovers** on the role of moderate voices in public debate.

**12:25 PM**  
**UNITED STATES - IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION**

## Socio-cultural diversity

In-depth conversation: **Patti Smith's** view of the links and differences between the United States and Europe.

**01:00 AM**  
**ARGENTINA - READINGS**

## When feminism brings us closer

Exchange of experiences between novelists from France and Argentina around writing workshops in prison.

**01:20 AM**  
**BRAZIL - IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION**

## Defending Indigenous Peoples

In-depth conversation with **Ailton Krenak**, writer and emblematic figure of the fight for indigenous peoples' rights.

**03:00 AM**  
**MEXICO - DEBATE**

## The species issue

Dialogue on the bond of proximity between humanity and other animal species.

**4:25 AM**  
**UNITED STATES / WASHINGTON - INTERVIEW**

## Art synonymous with solidarity

Interview with **Lonnie Bunch**, founder and former director of the Museum of African American History and Culture and Secretary of the Smithsonian.

**4:40 AM**  
**UNITED STATES / NEW YORK - DIALOGUE**

Dialogue between the philosophers **Souleymane Bachir Diagne** and **Barbara Cassin**.

**07:25 AM**  
**UNITED STATES / HOUSTON - INTERVIEW**

Visit of the Space Center in Houston and conversation with **Thomas Pesquet**.



# NIGHTS TO EXPERIENCE ON THE FIVE CONTINENTS

In addition to the “24h of Night and Ideas” program, which will relay some of the highlights around the world, many cities are hosting their own events, either online or in person. A complete panorama to be found on [www.lanuitdesidees.com](http://www.lanuitdesidees.com). Here is a selection of these events:

## ASIA

### BURMA RANGOON

Philosophical walk to reflect on containment and workshops to raise awareness about disability.

### CAMBODIA PHNOM PENH

Freeing oneself from distances: relationship to the other and new forms of sociability.

### CHINA BEIJING, SHANGHAI, WUHAN, CANTON AND CHENGDU

“The relationship to oneself and to others in the contemporary world”. Debate divided into sub-themes: family, environment, economy, humour, technology and social sciences.

### HONG KONG

“ST[ART] AGAIN”. Evening of debates on the power of art with the participation of **Laurence des Cars** (President of the Musée d’Orsay), **Johnson Chang** (curator), **Laurent Le Bon** (President of the Musée Picasso), **Catherine Pégard** (President of the Château de Versailles) and other representatives of cultural institutions.

### SOUTH KOREA SEOUL

“Paradigm for a new social ethic”. Debate “Finding words, giving voice” on the issues of “care” and “taking care”, with writer **GONG Ji-Young**, anthropologist **CHO HAN Haejong** and activist and performer **CHOI Taeyoon**.

### TAIWAN TAIPEI

“A Guide to Post-Pandemic Life”. With contributions of **Clément Mabi** (UTC Compiègne), **Claude Kirchner** (National Pilot Committee for Digital Ethics), **Rudy Cambier** (Liberté Living Lab) and **Léa Klein** (MakeSense).

### INDIA NEW DELHI

A panel of guests will debate our individual and collective relationship to space and time. With the activist **Vandana Shiva**, the entrepreneur **Susmita Mohanty**, the physicist **Etienne Klein** or the minister **Barbara Pompili**. The evening will be punctuated by artistic interludes and an aerial night stroll over Hyderabad.

### INDONESIA JAKARTA

Online debate “Are we too close? What the emergence of zoonoses teaches us”.

### JAPAN TOKYO

Laugh! French and Japanese laughter specialists will discuss our relationship to laughter and humor. Has laughter brought us closer to each other or, on the contrary, has it driven us apart?

### KIRGHIZSTAN BICHKEK

Webinar on Research in the time of COVID-19.

### LAOS VIENTIANE

Literary treasure hunt and public readings.





# NIGHTS TO EXPERIENCE ON THE FIVE CONTINENTS

## NÉPAL

### KATMANDOU

Family in Nepal: Being close, moving away, staying close. Issues of migration and remoteness when studying abroad and its impact on the Nepalese family unit.

## PHILIPPINES

### MANILE

“Pedaling to be close”: exchanges on the emergence of the bicycle as a new mode of transportation in Manila since the beginning of the pandemic.

## SRI LANKA

### COLOMBO

Reconciliation between communities since the end of the civil war.

## TADJIKISTAN

### DOUCHANBÉ

After the projection of a nightly walk in Dushanbe, debate on contemporary proximities.

## IRAK

### ERBIL

Opening of the exhibition “So near and yet so far” by **Rabel Betshmueel, Jason, Salam** and **Ismail Noah**. Poetic performance of the dancer **Sarina Baqi Panahideh**.

## THAILAND

### BANGKOK

Debate on citizen and ecological transitions in Southeast Asian cities.

## NORTH AMERICA

### CANADA

#### EDMONTON

Edmonton’s River Valley (online).

#### HALIFAX

The Immigrant Journey in Canada (online).

#### MONCTON

Close to the digital age (online).

#### OTTAWA

So far away, so close.

#### TORONTO

Reconciliations.

#### VANCOUVER

Citizen 2.0: Towards a fairer world for nature and humans? (online)

#### VICTORIA

Close to the digital age (online).

#### WINNIPEG

Close to the First Nations of Canada.

## QUEBEC

The Quebec Night of Ideas will bring together 15 partners in 6 cities around diversity in the arts and sciences.

## QUEBEC

Close(r): literature and expatriation.

## MONTREAL

Humanity in proximity: conversations with committed women.

## TROIS-RIVIÈRES

“I am elsewhere, the center is here”: being close with technology.

## SAGUENAY

Rethinking otherness and social structures.

## UNITED STATES

### NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO, CHICAGO, LOS ANGELES, ATLANTA, HOUSTON, BOSTON, WASHINGTON, MIAMI

A 100% virtual American Night of Ideas that will alternate urban walks with personalities (singer **Patti Smith**, journalist **Patt Morrison** in Los Angeles, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution **Lonnie Bunch** in Washington, the architect **Jeanne Gang** in Chicago or the astronaut **Thomas Pesquet** in Houston), transatlantic and cross-border dialogues between philosophers and public figures (**Souleymane Bachir Dagne** and **Barbara Cassin**) and artistic performances.



# NIGHTS TO EXPERIENCE ON THE FIVE CONTINENTS

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## MEXICO

### MEXICO CITY

The Night of Ideas “Cerc@nos, lo que nos une” will take place thanks to two virtual dialogues, one on relationships with other species, the other on digital technologies, as well as two sessions of five online role-playing tables to explore relationships of proximity through fiction.

## NICARAGUA

### MANAGUA

Close: reinventing artistic culture.

## SAINTE-LUCIE

### CASTRIES

Close: against winds and tides.

## SOUTH AMERICA

### ANDEAN NIGHT OF IDEAS

#### ECUADOR, VENEZUELA, ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA

Andean countries come together to explore through three online meetings the proximity within the Amazon. The first round table will be devoted to anthropology and nature, the second to the role of museums and digital technology, and the third to the work of filmmakers committed to the Amazon.

## ARGENTINA

An all-digital Night of Ideas that will celebrate, in the past and the present, Franco-Argentinean relations of proximity through performances and cross testimonials.

## BRAZIL

### BELEM

Closer: Panamazonian identities.

### BRASILIA

Thinking about the spaces of proximity: society, economy, urbanism.

### PORTO-ALEGRE

Crossing the border: Brazil and Uruguay.

## CHILE

### SANTIAGO

With the festival Santiago a Mil, reflections on cultural and urban policies of proximity.

## COLOMBIA

### BOGOTA

In 12 Colombian cities (Bogotá, Medellín, Cali, Cartagena, Barranquilla, Bucaramanga, Manizales, Pereira, San Andrés, Puerto-Carreño, Tumaco and Leticia), the Night of Ideas will explore the challenges of democracy and human rights, with performances, testimonies, debates and readings.

## CUBA

### HAVANA

Ageing and solidarities: from the Cuban revolution to the present day.

## PERU

### LIMA

Living together in the context of religious plurality in Peru and Bolivia.

## VENEZUELA

### CARACAS

Close to the Amazon (online).



# NIGHTS TO EXPERIENCE ON THE FIVE CONTINENTS

## NORTH AFRICA - MIDDLE EAST

### ALGERIA

#### ALGIERS, HYDRA, BAB EL OUED

Events planned in Algiers and in several Algerian cities: conferences, writing workshops, short films, exhibitions, philosophy workshops, as well as the conception by the Alpha Tango collective of a collaborative work entitled "Vitale" on art as a factor of unity.

### TUNISIA

#### TUNIS

Radio debates organized at the International School of Carthage.

### KUWAIT

The individual within society.

### EGYPT

#### CAIRO

A full week of programming, including 3 interviews: "Describing", with the novelist **Maylis de Kerangal** on the ethics of literary description. "Translating", with the theorist **Tiphaine Samoyault** on translation and intercultural dialogue. "Density", with sociologist **Agnès Deboulet** on urban density.

### ISRAEL

#### TEL AVIV

Projection of the documentary "Read, you are filmed": readings of texts in Arabic, Hebrew and French, translated into the different languages, by amateurs and professionals, in unusual places, including outdoors, with musical interludes.

### MOROCCO

#### MARRAKECH AND TETOUAN

"Close: What kind of world for tomorrow?": round-table in Marrakech followed by the restitution of the dance creation residency that took place at the Maison Denise Masson. Debate at the National School of Applied Sciences in Tetouan.

### INSTITUT FRANÇAIS OF JERUSALEM & ROME SAINT-SIÈGE

#### JERUSALEM, ROME

"Rome and Jerusalem, between heaven and earth". Series of conversations in the field of education, ecology, dialogue of religions, conflict mediation, heritage preservation or digital revolution.

### TURKEY

#### ISTANBUL

Debate "Close(r) in Philosophy" with **Maxime Rovère** (ENS) in partnership with the senior classes of the Lycée Charles de Gaulle and the Philosophy Department of METU University (Ankara). Dialogue "Turning 20 in 2021 in Greece and Turkey".

## AFRICA

### BURKINA FASO

#### BOBO-DIOULASSO

Individual and collective relationships to space: artistic performances.

#### OUAGADOUGOU

Close to social networks.

### CAMEROON

#### BANDJOUN, DOUALA, YAOUNDÉ, GAROUA

One night, one week, ideas, four cities from January 28 to February 3. Screening of "Letters from the Continent", a conference on the notion of friendship in the digital age, a concert by the artist **Majnun**.

### IVORY COAST

#### ABIDJAN

With the Museum of Contemporary Cultures Adama Toungara, a Night around independences, decolonizations and identities.

### ETHIOPIA

#### ADDIS-ABEBA

Exhibitions and workshops for all-night discussions about the relationship of the body to space and issues of food, language and family circles.





# NIGHTS TO EXPERIENCE ON THE FIVE CONTINENTS

## MADAGASCAR ANTANANARIVO

Opening of the exhibition "Nous et les autres". Debate moderated by the Human Rights Club and **Yes Tafita**.

## KENYA NAIROBI

"The Contactless Society". An evening of debates inspired by François Saltiel's book *La société du sans contact - Selfie d'un monde en chute*.

## MAURITIUS ROSE HILL

"Neighbors, Neighbors", a poetic and aesthetic night honoring the residents of the Rose-Hill neighborhood.

## NIGER NIAMEY

"Cities and travel": the impact of urbanization on migration. Do cities curb flows, what is the impact of travel on cities? With several specialists working in Agadez, a border city at the gateway to the Sahara, heavily impacted by the issue of travel.

## NIGERIA LAGOS

"Night of Ideas: Circles of Solidarity": the new solidarity in Nigeria, a country affected by deep inequalities, conflicts and deficiencies in governance. With the founders of start-ups working with disadvantaged communities in Lagos. Performance by the Ennovate Dance Collective House.

## REPUBLIC OF CONGO BRAZZAVILLE, POINTE NOIRE

Round table in Brazzaville on new solidarities in Congo, while Pointe-Noire will address the issue of regional solidarity and the strengthening of cultural and historical ties with neighboring countries.

## TANZANIA DAR ES SALAM

"Pamoja - Together": creation of works of art.

## TOGO LOMÉ

Human relations, current forms of solidarity in Lomé. With the writer **Kossi Efoui**, the Afuma Company, RFI Theatre 2018 **Giovanni Houansou** Prize.

## EUROPE

### FRANCE

#### MARSEILLE -MUCEM

On the occasion of the opening of the exhibition "Déflagrations", a night dedicated to the practice of drawing and children's rights, with an online round table around actors committed to the defense of children's rights.

#### GRASSE-TIERS LIEU STE MARTHE

Online round table: Proximity and diversity: how to "make territory" ?

#### PARIS-COLLÈGE DE FRANCE

Round tables led by journalists with the participation of two professors from the Collège de France and two guests: "Who is my neighbor" with **Samantha Besson**, "Which cartographies for which distances" with **Françoise Combes** and **Stéphane Mallat**, and "Is there a good distance" with **William Marx**.

#### PARIS-CHAIR OF PHILOSOPHY AT THE HOTEL DIEU

"Close (in the pandemic)": How has the relationship with relatives, proximity, been impacted by the pandemic? Three highlights in which a caregiver and a social sciences and humanities speaker will intervene before discussing with the public.



# NIGHTS TO EXPERIENCE ON THE FIVE CONTINENTS

## FRANCE

### PARIS-MUSÉE DES ARTS & MÉTIERS - ARTS & SCIENCES CHAIR- POMPIDOU CENTER

With the Museum of Science and Technology in Milan and Concordia University in Montreal, to explore behind the scenes of revolutionary inventions and prospective creations. With **Cynthia Fleury**, **Lionel Dufaux**, **Claudio Giorgione** and **Marie-Laure Estignard**.

### PARIS - UNIVERSITY PARIS 8

Round tables and artistic performances: "Academic and social life through new technologies", "Community despite geographical distance". An event shared between several universities in France, Germany, Denmark, Greece and Bulgaria.

### PARIS - SCIENCES PO

Online debate with Oxford University on "Division or Solidarity in Times of Lockdown", with **Fran Bennett**, **Hélène Périvier**, **Mary Daly** et **Emanuele Ferragina**, moderated by **Clé Chakraverty**.

### POITIERS - ESPACE MENDÈS FRANCE

"Nuit en ligne" with **Régis Debray**, **Laure Adler**, **Georges Vigarello** et **Alfredo Pena Vega**, followed by a radio show on the topic of the year.

### MEUDON - MAISON DE LA PAROLE

"Terre des hommes". Exchanges of experiences, tour of the exhibition and film screenings on the theme of proximity between human beings and what connects us.

### ROMAINVILLE - YOUNG CREATION GALLERY

"Léwoz or next time, the fire that brings people together". With **Chris Cyrille** and **Olivier Marboeuf**, around the othernesses, proximities and interdependencies between France and the West Indies, through the prism of colonial history and globalization.

### UNIVERSITÉ TOULOUSE CAPITOLE & PACTE CIVIQUE

Colloquium with sociologists, university professors, researchers, and actors in the field on the way in which the giving creates the link, and the links promote dynamism, such as the resilience of the territories, in a context of transition.



## GERMANY BERLIN

Debate "The world after: Together or separately". Dialogue on eco-feminism, with the journalist **Fritz Habekuß**, the curators **Liberty Adrien** and **Julie Crenn**, the artist **Nadira Husein** and the theorist **Nelly Y. Pinkrah**.

## TÜBINGEN

Debates on the theme "Close: the lived experience and the phenomenon".

## BELGIUM BRUSSELS

Show-debate "Intimacy and Space" on the BOZAR stage. 5 journalists, photographers, artists tell the world. Stories shared in images, sounds, words and music.

## LOUVAIN

"Boundaries: our limits?": three sessions of exchanges and reflections: "(De)crossing borders" (socio-political approach), "Living on the border" (urban planning approach) and "Pushing back borders" (technological and digital approach), with guests from all over the territory of the Eurometropole Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai.

# NIGHTS TO EXPERIENCE ON THE FIVE CONTINENTS

## DENMARK COPENHAGEN

The ecological crisis and its various consequences on the social bond. The short food supply chain model with the example of gastronomy. Debates filmed in the central library of Aarhus with historians, sociologists, economists, agronomists, entrepreneurs and farmers. A press cartoonist will illustrate the highlights of the conversation.

## NORWAY OSLO

Debates at the Climate House on the notion of sustainable neighborhoods and their uses.

## SPAIN BARCELONA, MADRID, BILBAO, VALENCIA, POMEGRANATE, SARAGOSSA, SEVILLE

Conferences: physical distance in Barcelona, ecological challenges in Bilbao, the Covid-19 pandemic in Valencia, the post-covid city in Granada, living beings in Madrid.

## GREECE ATHENS

"Close: to oneself, to ours, to others". Cross-border dialogue, interviews and round tables: "Men, women: so close, so far away!" and "#Let's stay home!?"

## HUNGARY BUDAPEST

A shared writing project by two authors around the lockdown, based on very short absurd stories.

## IRELAND CORK, DUBLIN, LIMERICK, GALWAY

"Green Night of ideas" entirely dedicated to climate: a series of digital projections followed by debates on climate change from January 26, 2021 to February.

## ITALY ROME

"Building the world of tomorrow together": series of live dialogues: "New European solidarities", "United and unequal in the face of Covid", "Borders, walls, conflicts", "Alternatives to collapsology", "For an open memory", "The urgent need for artistic alliances".



## NORTHERN MACEDONIA SKOPJE

Debates on "Digital technology: so far away, so close" / "What new practices after the pandemic?"

## NETHERLANDS AMSTERDAM

"Close. How to become a community?". With the philosophers **Michael Foessel** and **Maarten Doorman**, and political advisor **Samira Bouchtibi**. Video capsules with **Boris Cyrulnik**, **Dominique Schnapper** and **Patrick Boucheron**. Musical and stage performances. Live humorous illustrations by cartoonist **Eliane Gerrits**.

## POLAND VARSOVIA

The relationship to space and urban proximity. Cross-border dialogue with Hungary: "Solidarity in a time of new mistrust". (online)

## UKRAINE KIEV

Testimony from civil society partners. Debate with personalities of the Ukrainian literary, academic and cultural scene.



# NIGHTS TO EXPERIENCE ON THE FIVE CONTINENTS

## PORTUGAL

### LISBON

5 French thinkers and 5 Portuguese thinkers will intervene around three sub-themes: otherness, solidarity and interpersonal relationships.

### COIMBRA

“Solitary or solidary ?” : debate with representatives of social sciences, communication, moral theology, and philosophy.

## ROMANIA

### BUCAREST

“Being close in the city” : virtual walk to interpret the notion of proximity. With two booksellers from “Doua Bufnite”, an actress and a director, an architect, and the mayor of the city, **Dominic Fritz**. Zoom conversation between sociologist **Eva Illouz** and journalist **Mihaela Dedeoglu** about the definition of the word “close” in the dictionary.

### TIMIȘOARA

Dialogue on the notion of proximity with the sociologist **Eva Illouz**.

### CLUJ-NAPOCA

Online Debate “Close. Let’s break the walls” on urban regeneration and street art.

### IASI

Online debate “Identities revisited”.

## UNITED KINGDOM

### LONDON

A 4-day online Night of Ideas, from January 26 to 29, around the theme “Reinventing new ways of being together”. A vast program with the participation of **Christie Watson, Tinnekee Beckman, Sandra Laugier, Fay Bound Alberti, Manuel Arias Maldonado, Clémentine Lalande, Olivette Otele, Pierre Singaravélou, Samir Puri, Stephen Clarke, Robert Tombs, Ulrike Guerot, Louis Williams, Lionel Shriver, Anastasia Colosimo, Thomas Chatterton Williams Camille Morineau, Laure Prouvost, Fatos Ustek, Patrice Naiambana, Chi-Chi Nwanoku, and Pap Ndiaye**.

### EDINBURGH

“Together for the Planet”, “Living Together in Post-Brexit Scotland”, “Reinventing Together our lifestyles: can science fiction help us forge a future together?” A series of debates on the theme “Close” taken in the sense of “together”.



## SERBIA

### BELGRADE

“Close - new solidarities in Serbia, Europe and the France of tomorrow”. Three live interactive meetings.

## SWEDEN

### STOCKHOLM

Conference on the culture and reception of migrants in Sweden, Germany and France. How to create a fruitful cultural exchange beyond the traditional concept of integration? Round tables: “The right to cultural exchange” / “Cultures in the working environment”.

## OCEANIA

## AUSTRALIA

### SYDNEY

On the roof of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney, exchanges on the future with the singer **Lili Alaska**, the anthropologist **Geneviève Bell**, the sociologist **Jean Bogais**, but also the activist **Melati Wijsen and Jennifer Tierney** of Médecins sans Frontières.

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The Institut français is the public institution in charge of France's external cultural action. Under the dual supervision of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture, it actively contributes to France's diplomacy of influence. Its projects and programs are based on a unique capacity for deployment through the vast network of cultural services of French Embassies, French Institutes and Alliances françaises present on the five continents.

In the field of intellectual exchanges, the French Institute strives to foster a renewed dialogue between academic research and public debate: in coordination with the cultural network, its objective is both to make French voices heard at the heart of the questions that run through foreign civil societies, and to make French current events in the human and social sciences better known throughout the world. While supporting the international projection of leading French academic and scientific institutions, it broadens its intervention to the diversity of cultural, artistic, and citizen places that are today open to the debate of ideas, and the inventive forms it takes.

Every year, the French Institute supports some sixty cycles of debates, meetings, forums and seminars on the five continents through the d'Alembert Fund; it initiates and coordinates the Night of Ideas, an international event dedicated to the free circulation of ideas and the sharing of knowledge; through its "Labs" programs, it supports more than a hundred new actors of citizenship around the world in their efforts to give concrete expression to their ideas, via their commitment and their initiatives.



## MINISTRY OF EUROPE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEFA) represents, defends and promotes the interests of France and French people in all fields with foreign countries and within international organizations.

- Acting in the world for peace, security and respect for human rights
- Promote French companies on foreign markets and the attractiveness of France abroad
- Contribute to the organization of a globalization that ensures a sustainable and balanced development of the planet
- Ensuring the presence of French ideas, language and culture while serving cultural diversity
- Manage the security and administration of French people abroad

The Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs relies on an extensive network of 178 embassies and permanent representations, 88 consulates that work in permanent contact with the central administration located in Paris and Nantes. France is the third most represented country in the world after China and the United States.

[www.diplomatie.gouv.fr](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr)



## MINISTRY OF CULTURE

The mission of the Ministry of Culture is to make accessible to the greatest number of people the capital works of humanity and particularly of France.

As such, it conducts the policy of safeguarding, protecting and enhancing cultural heritage in all its components, it promotes the creation of works of art and spirit, the participation of all in cultural and artistic life and the development of artistic practices and teaching.

The Ministry also prepares and implements the French language and languages of France policy, media and architectural policy. It is also responsible for ensuring the development of cultural and creative industries, new technologies for the distribution of works and digital cultural content and services.

The Ministry is also in charge of transversal missions that it carries out in liaison with the ministries concerned, such as artistic and cultural education policy or actions contributing to the influence of French language, culture and artistic creation in the world.

For the accomplishment of its missions, the Ministry of Culture has a central administration comprising a general secretariat, a general directorate of heritage, a general directorate of artistic creation, a general directorate of media and cultural industries and a general delegation for the French language and the languages of France. It also has decentralized services, the regional directorates of cultural affairs, which are responsible for implementing the State's cultural policies in the regions in liaison with the local authorities. Finally, it relies on a network of operators in its different fields of action, services with national competence and public institutions.

[www.culture.gouv.fr](http://www.culture.gouv.fr)



## THE NIGHT OF IDEAS 2021 IN FIGURES

103 countries on the 5 continents  
200 cities throughout the world  
200 events  
A 24-hour worldwide live  
41 million Internet users with the hashtag  
#lanuitdesidees



**The Night of Ideas - January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
Online and free access  
24h Live on : [www.lanuitdesidees.com](http://www.lanuitdesidees.com)  
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