

# The inauguration events of San Sebastian 2016 reach the halfway point

**The strong points of the third day of the inauguration celebrations have been the opening of the 1966 | *Gaur Konstelazioak* | 2016 exhibition, the inauguration of the Babel Library and the presentation of DSS2016's itinerant embassies.**

The third day of the inauguration events for San Sebastian 2016, European Capital of Culture, have started with the presentation of the 1966 | *Gaur Konstelazioak* | 2016 exhibition at the San Telmo Museum. With Fernando Golvano as the curator, the exhibition contains two artistic contexts separated by 50 years: the Gaur movement and the contemporary Kairós.

The presentation was directed by Susana Soto, director of the San Telmo Museum; Miren Azkarate, deputy councillor of San Sebastian 2016, Culture, Basque Language and Education; Pablo Berástegui, director-general of San Sebastian 2016 and Fernando Golvano, curator of the exhibition.

More information [here](#)

## **The Babel Library**

Soon after another exhibition, the *Babel Library*, was opened. This installation, located in the hall of the Carlos Santamaría Centre, is the work of artist José Ignacio Díaz de Rábago. Thus, the University of the Basque Country has joined the inauguration events of San Sebastian 2016, European Capital of Culture.

The installation, which can be seen throughout this year, is structured around books as an artistic object and highlights the value of the spatial and architectural features of this emblematic building of the Gipuzkoa Campus, which houses, in addition, its main library.

## **San Sebastian starts its journey across Europe**

To end the first part of the day, San Sebastian 2016 has presented its mobile embassies, with which it aspires to cross borders and reach European audiences. In total, DSS2016EU has designed three embassies with which it will travel throughout the continent: Biziz, Europa Transit and Tosta.

For this official presentation, the Europa Transit embassy, a bus whose mission will be to investigate the current situation of ten conflicts in 20th-century Europe, has been present in the city and has been parked in Alderdi Eder from 12.00 pm to 3.00 pm. Immediately afterwards, it has embarked on its journey, which will take it to stop in ten European cities:

Ceuta, Belfast, Dresden, Wrocław, Kaliningrad, Pristina, Sarajevo, Plovdiv, Istanbul and Paphos.

The presentation included a speech by the Mayor of San Sebastian, Eneko Goia, the director-general of San Sebastian 2016, Pablo Berástegui and the cultural director of San Sebastian 2016, Xabier Payá. In addition, members of the Basque consular body as well as representatives of the San Sebastian City Hall and of the Regional Government of Gipuzkoa were present

More information [here](#)

## **San Sebastian 2016 opens an information point in Alderdi Eder**

DSS2016EU has just opened an information point in Alderdi Eder, which during the coming months will be the place where the public can receive information in four languages (Basque, Spanish, French and English) on the cultural project of San Sebastian 2016 European Capital of Culture, as well as the schedule of activities planned for the coming months. The building that houses the information point is temporary and has been [proposed and made by the Zuloark collective](#).

The information point will open daily from 11.00 am to 7.00 pm.

## **Tomorrow's agenda**

You can consult the schedule of activities for tomorrow, 23 January, [here](#)

## **Photos of the day**

You can see them [here](#)

## **Calls and communications for the media for tomorrow, 23 January**

### **DRUM FESTIVAL GATHERING**

**12.00 pm, La Concha Beach (the print media are called to be there)**

A mass gathering of almost 4000 members of the tamborradas (drum festival participants) with the aim of calling citizens to participate in the inauguration events. The companies will leave from different points of the city at around 11.30 am.

### **PRESS CONFERENCE:**

### **Iturriak / Fuentes (Fountains) - 1.30 pm Ondarreta Gardens**

Presentation and inauguration of the Fountains installation, by Mainer López, which consists of recovering fountains from the city that were removed many years ago with the intention of restoring the memory of these places.

Attending:

- Mainer López, artist and author of the Fountains installation.
- Pablo Berástegui, director-general of San Sebastian 2016.
- Denis Itxaso, minister of Culture, Tourism, Youth and Sports.

### **INSTITUTIONAL EVENT TO HAND OVER THE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE PLAQUE**

**Victoria Eugenia Theatre**

**The event will start at 6.00 pm, but the media are asked to be there at 5.15 pm.**

A representative from the European Commission will hand over a plaque which will ratify that San

Sebastian will be the European Capital of Culture 2016. With accreditation.

Intervening at the event will be Eneko Goia, mayor of San Sebastian; Iñigo Urkullu, lehendakari; Iñigo Méndez de Vigo, minister of Education, Culture and Sports; Markel Olano, regional president; and Martine Reicherts, director-general of Education and Culture of the European Commission. In addition, Pablo Berástegui, the director-general of San Sebastian 2016 and Xabier Paya, the director of the cultural programme of San Sebastian 2016, will make a speech.

The gala will have an artistic part that has been directed by the actor, director and producer Patxi Barco. Under his direction, the event will include music, dance and plastic arts performances, with the participation of Demodé Quartet, Txema Esteban, Kukai Dantza Taldea and cello players Clara Muñoz and Maialen Egiazabal.

### **PRESS RELEASE: SUMMARY 23 JANUARY + INSTITUTIONAL EVENT**

Time: 7.00 pm

Headline:

San Sebastian receives the official European Capital of Culture plaque

Contents:

- Explain what the official investiture event proclaiming San Sebastian as the European Capital of Culture 2016 consisted of.
- Summary of the activities on the 23rd.
- Preview of the main communication activities of 24 January.
- Photo gallery.

### **PRESS RELEASE: BRIDGE FOR COEXISTENCE SPECTACLE**

Time: 9.00 pm

Contents:

- Account of the spectacle designed by Hansel Cereza.
- Declarations by those responsible for the San Sebastián 2016 project.
- Photo gallery.