



**ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL – REGARDING... – TO LAUNCH IN TEL AVIV
THIS FALL, RUNNING FROM OCTOBER 20 THROUGH NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

Featuring visual arts, opera, music, dance, film, and much more, the festival’s inaugural edition, REGARDING Goddesses, will activate more than 10 city cultural venues and public spaces throughout Tel Aviv



TEL AVIV, ISRAEL, July 7, 2021 – A new, international, interdisciplinary festival of contemporary culture, **REGARDING...**, will launch in Tel Aviv in October 2021 – the first-ever event of its kind and scale to take place in the city. Activating over 10 venues throughout Tel Aviv, including public spaces and cultural institutions, REGARDING... celebrates the art forms of installations, opera, ballet, contemporary dance, classical and contemporary music, theater, visual arts, public art, and film. The festival will also include workshops and special programming, encouraging dialogue and public engagement.

The annual festival is organized by [LOUD Foundation](#), a nonprofit European organization based in Riga, Latvia.

Designed to reconsider and reinterpret classical subjects and classical icons through a distinctly contemporary lens, the main events of the festival comprise new commissions, productions, and exhibitions, shown for the first time in Tel Aviv. Each annual edition of the festival will focus on a theme that probes timely questions relevant to modern society, inviting participating directors, choreographers, musicians, curators, and artists to interpret that theme.

The festival's inaugural edition, **REGARDING Goddesses**, investigates the gendering of power across mythologies and within contemporary society. Featured projects address such questions as: how, and by whom, is the power of women limited? Does power have gender? Who are the goddesses of today?" REGARDING Goddesses will showcase commissioned, original works by both established and emerging artists responding to the theme "Goddesses" in unexpected contexts throughout the city.

Maria Nasimova, Founder & Artistic Director of REGARDING... , explains: "We are thrilled to bring our vision for a truly interdisciplinary festival to life in Tel Aviv this year, and to share an incredible array of special projects and unique experiences with our audiences. With each of the festival's productions and exhibitions, REGARDING... aims to help further establish Tel Aviv as a leading arts and cultural hub, which will help to support tourism in the region and promote cultural exchange and education to its local audiences."

The confirmed 2021 venues include Cameri Theater, Suzanne Dellal Centre, Israeli Opera House, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Midron Yaffo Park and other engaging outdoor locations.

REGARDING Festival 2021 Highlights:

Highlights of the 2021 Festival, curated by Maria Nasimova, Founder & Artistic Director of Regarding Festival and Lorenzo Pappagallo, Associate Curator of REGARDING..., include the following events. A full schedule of programming information will be forthcoming, along with ticket information.

- **Opera:** the Festival will be inaugurated with the premiere of *Kundry*, an original monodrama commissioned by REGARDING... centered on the infamous Wagner's Parsifal female figure. Composed by **Avner Dorman**, with libretto by **Yael Ronen**, and directed by **Lotte de Beer**, the work will be interpreted by the **Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra** under the baton of **Steven Sloane**. Another highlight of the operatic programming will be the site-specific project *Message from Gaia* designed by **Anthony Heidweiller** in association with the renowned contemporary musical group **Meitar Ensemble** and the students of the **Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance**.
- **Dance:** highlights include **Boris Charmatz'** *20 Dancers for the XX Century and More*, an anthology of 20th and 21st century dance history that will span across the foyer, galleries, halls, and stairs of Suzanne Delall Centre. **Wang Ramirez'** *You-Me*, co-produced by Théâtre de la Ville, La scène Nationale d'Albi, Le festival Orienteoccidente of Rovereto, and LOUD Foundation, which connects the forms of hip-hop and flamenco in a duel and duet between two female dancers. The journey will continue with a contrasting ride through the history and ideas of dance via four style-defining female choreographers of different generations, Lucinda Childs, Tânia Carvalho, Lasseindra Ninja, and Oona Doherty, with a performance designed by the French media and choreography collective leading the Ballet National de Marseille, **(LA) HORDE**. Dance programming will be enriched by talks with guest choreographers and by a week-long multidisciplinary workshop, *Performing Gender*, led by the American visual and dance artists duo **Gerard & Kelly**.



One Of Four Periods In Time (Ellipsis) by Tânia Carvalho
21min

Choreography & costumes stylist: Tânia Carvalho - Music: Vasco Mendonça
Interpreted by Drumming GP: Miquel Bernai, Pedro Oliveira, João Cunha & Rui Rodriguez - Lights: Eric Wurtz

- **Music: Alondra de la Parra and Gabriela Muñoz** will debut a newly commissioned performance, *Silence of Sound*, which envisions the journey of life through the hand of a female clown whose life is transformed when she discovers the beauty of music, yet soon discovers that this marvelous new world has its own inherent dangers.
- **Film programming:** The festival will feature a very special film program highlighting notable women characters from cinematic history. The selection is curated by Laetitia Dosch, acclaimed French-Swiss actress, playwright, and theater director known for the films *My King* and *Summertime*, as well as starring in the comedy drama *Montparnasse Bienvenue* among others.
- **Public Installation and other events:** The festival's expanded programming will include the presentation of a pop-up installation on the beachfront by Russian architect **Olga Treivas**, inspired by the mysterious imagery of Hilma af Klint, as well other unique events including **Shabbat dinners** featuring local chefs, public talks, workshops and other collaborations with the city's local creatives.

The festival will be hosted in keeping with all medical and capacity regulations set forth by the Ministry of Health of Israel and follow the latest recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO).

Notes to Editors

Future Editions of REGARDING...

2022 | REGARDING Shame

Shame is the second theme of the Festival. Shame is an acute and painful feeling that typically develops into suffering and is prompted by thoughts of “improper” behavior. Shame is a complex and multifaceted emotion that has haunted mankind throughout its history, and yet talking about it is not considered seemly. This shame makes people think that their whole being is something reprehensible. A sense of shame is often based on the opinions of others or the attitudes of society. These emotions are destructive and can cause serious harm to the individual. Art often raises issues that are uncomfortable for discussion. Shame is precisely the kind of topic that demands turning inside out and looking at from a different angle.

2023 | REGARDING Faith

Faith is the third theme of the Festival. We all believe in something or somebody. Even though we barely need facts to support our beliefs. The belief becomes a knowledge, which moves us either forward or down. Faith unveils such a great energy that generations of people based on it war conflicts, created new countries and discovered new territories, explored cosmos or destroyed lives. What are you ready for the sake of your faith? The festival edition of 2023 is to explore the history of beliefs and what is faith in the contemporary world, how it is evaluated throughout the centuries.

About LOUD Foundation

Loud Foundation’s mission is to create and promote extraordinary projects and innovative partnerships in art and culture. We are open to new collaborations that will develop the art market and make culture accessible. Loud Foundation was founded in 2020 under the initiative of a group of curators and people of arts. The Foundation is supported by private sponsors and donations. Says Maria Nasimova, Founder & CEO, "Art should ask questions and bring harmony. Art defines humanity, and humanity is inseparable from its own past. We want to accept the past, seek in it the answers to today’s questions, analyze the stories told and write future ones on the basis they provide, and art is without doubt the best tool for this."

Website: <https://regardingfestival.com/>

Instagram: [@regardingfestival](https://www.instagram.com/regardingfestival)

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