



Press release

## 6 days left until the Festival of the New European Bauhaus

*Starting next week, the second edition of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) Festival will kick off, welcoming visitors from 9 to 13 April at the Parc du Cinquantenaire and the Art and History Museum in Brussels. The Festival includes musical performances, dance, theatre, movie nights, along with engaging debates and discussions on how to shape together a more beautiful, sustainable and inclusive future. On the line-up, we will have speakers such as Paola Antonelli, Senior Curator of the Museum of Modern Art, sound, and installation artist Emeka Ogboh, and Pritzker Prize-winning architect Shigeru Ban. Furthermore, attendees can participate in hands-on workshops focusing on fashion, construction materials, or social inclusion, featuring a Sustainable Fashion Show.*

**Brussels, 03/04/24 – For five days, the NEB Festival freely opens its doors to all visitors with a diverse programme. Visitors can attend the *Fest* section, to enjoy authentic artistic performances and concerts, the *Fair* to discover innovative projects transforming Europe, and the *Forum* where they can engage in exciting debates with recognised opinion leaders such as EU representatives, the Senior Curator of MoMA Paola Antonelli or the Director of Fedora and Forbes 30 under 30 awardee Edilia Ganz. The event will be officially opened on 9 April by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, EU Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo, European Commissioners Iliana Ivanova and Elisa Ferreira, Belgian State Secretary Thomas Dermine and the Director General of IIASA Hans-Joachim Schellhuber.**

### **For a sustainable European Fashion**

Visitors will delve into the efforts aimed at fostering sustainability in the European fashion. The objective is to heighten awareness regarding the repercussions of fast fashion and to gain insight into the lifecycle of textiles.

On Thursday, 11 April, the event will feature a keynote on Slow Fashion presented by Katrin Thorvaldsdottir; a panel discussion moderated by Agnieszka Oleksyn with insights from Paul Kerssens, Mária Štraneková, and Pascal Morand.

The centrepiece of the day will be a Sustainable Fashion Show, with a catwalk in the esteemed "Grand Narthex" hall of the Museum of Art & History, followed by an exhibition in the "Petit Narthex." The Fashion show will feature 10 designers from abroad and 6 from the Atelier Saint-Luc in Brussels.

### **Enjoy the [Fest](#)**

In addition to the enriching cultural experiences, festivalgoers can discover emerging artists and immerse themselves in diverse cultural offerings, including concerts every evening, movie nights, escape games, or dance performances. To name just a few, we can count on the presence of Besac Arthur (BE), Commando Jugendstil (IT/UK), Pepe arts (GER), Threads (PT), or Sibil•la Ensemble (NL).



### Experience the [Fair](#)

Beyond the festivities, visitors are encouraged to actively participate in a multitude of engaging experiences, spanning more than 70 workshops, labs, and exhibitions. Throughout the Festival, the Art and History Museum will feature 50 exhibitors providing visitors with opportunities to engage with innovative projects and solutions that integrate design with societal and environmental needs, all grounded in the NEB's core values, fostering a collective commitment to forging a more sustainable and equitable future.

### Debate in the [Forum](#)

There will also be in-depth debates and discussions on topics such as architecture, construction, sustainability, adaptation, creating a sustainable fashion world, and art like the panel discussion on "Driving climate action: Embracing the change in the built environment" on 10 April or "Education and training for changed/changing behaviours" on 11 April. The discussions will be led by high-level speakers from around the world, recognized experts on their respective fields.

### Discover architectural masterpieces

Visitors will have the chance to explore three groundbreaking architectural masterpieces, created by esteemed architectural teams to present their vision for a sustainable and inclusive future. Visitors can take photos inside the "Caterpillar Pavilion" by Jerzy Latka and beneath the "Bamboo Trilix Pavilion" by Brian Wennersten or explore the "Portable City" designed by ENORME.

For more information on the entire program, please follow this [link](#).

### Background information

The New European Bauhaus (NEB) was launched by the European Commission to translate the European Green Deal into tangible change on the ground that improves our daily lives. It brings about sustainable solutions for transforming the built environment and lifestyles for the better under the green transition, matching sustainability with good design that needs less carbon. At the same time, it makes these solutions inclusive, accessible, and affordable for all, while respecting the diversity of places, traditions, and cultures that we have in Europe and beyond.

In only three years after its launch, The NEB has inspired a strong grassroots movement on the ground and the active involvement of Member States, regions, and municipalities across the EU. It brought forth numerous activities in every Member State – almost 150 dedicated projects in total – in the areas of research and innovation, cohesion, regional and urban development, skills development, and culture. There is now a vibrant NEB Community in place with almost 1,400 members to date, reaching several millions of Europeans.