

INFORMATION SHEET

" *ENTRETIENS DE BIRACTE-MORVAN* "

WHAT ROLE CAN ARTISTS PLAY IN THE TERRITORIAL PROJECT?

AT THE GRAND SITE DE FRANCE BIRACTE – MORVAN DES SOMMETS

For the past 16 years, the yearly conference *Entretiens de Biracte-Morvan* (Biracte-Morvan Talks) aims to debate the challenges facing the territory with the help of scientists and, for the latest editions, the mediation of artists. The conference is open to everyone. It explores subjects as the notions of Commons, climate change, solidarity between humans and non-humans and agro-ecology, etc., and it questions these notions in a practical way through sessions organised in the field. Thanks to the *Entretiens*, the territory and its actors have thus built up over the years a **shared cultural reference system** that enables a **shared territorial project** to be developed further.

On 15 and 16 September 2023, the 17th edition of the Talks explored the notion of heritage and the involvement of artists in building a territorial project in the face of climate changes. Lectures, walks and meetings in the forest, sharing of experiences and engaged debates gathered more than 100 participants.

The Grand Site de France of Biracte - Morvan des Sommets brings together residents, elected representatives, cultural players, those responsible for preserving natural landscapes, entrepreneurs and researchers concerned with the changes affecting agriculture, forestry and water management. It is a territorial laboratory for experimentation, where research-action programmes take place in a wide range of fields **to question and analyse the conditions under which the territory can be inhabited, and how people can live together.**

For this edition, organisers proposed to debate on **how can artists become part of a local project** while playing a role in the changing world. At a time when humanity is facing the unprecedented and vital challenge of climate change, can the arts and culture succeed in cultivating the attachment of local people to their region, and thus become levers for territorial transformation? **How can artists encourage local people to form an active heritage community?**

On 15 September morning, anthropologist Jean-Louis Tornatore gave to the public a conceptual framing lecture on the topic: **What can heritage do at the time of the Anthropocene?** According to Jean-Louis Tornatore, heritage is to be understood not only as the legacy of monuments from the past (nineteenth-century meaning) and the legacy of human cultures (twentieth-century meaning), but also as the legacy of the living world, the terrestrial world, of which humans are an integral part. **This broadening of the concept, which is the premise of the *Entretiens*, radically changes the notion of heritage, which now includes not only what we inherit from previous generations, but also, and above all, the "heritage in the making", that which we will bequeath to future generations.** This approach, which brings together nature and culture, past, present and future, places the heritage approach at the heart of our lives, where art becomes involved in what we are watching.

In the afternoon, an ephemeral **"forest archipelago"** set up on the summit of Haut-Folin showcased 10 artistic experiments carried out in the territory or in France. These artists and cultural players told about their commitments to act on the political, economic and social issues facing their region.

On 16 September morning, a **gourmet cultural walk** on the ancient paths of the village of Roussillon-en-Morvan with the intervention of scientists, artists and farmers focused attention on a plant emblematic of the acid soils of the Morvan, **the fern**. The participants were invited to have lunch on a **farmers' market** organised by the pilot's agriculture working group.

The *Entretiens de Bibracte-Morvan* are organised in partnership with **BIBRACTE EPCC and the Morvan Regional Nature Park**. This 17th edition benefited from the collaboration of the *Maison du Patrimoine oral de Bourgogne*, as well as the support of the *Direction régionale des Affaires culturelles de Bourgogne-Franche-Comté* and the European research-action project INCULTUM, which focuses on the role of heritage in the development of rural areas.

> **Lear more about how Bibracte uses the attachment of the inhabitants for heritage and landscape as a vector for social cohesion and action, through the constitution of an active heritage community:** <https://www.digitalmeetsculture.net/article/bibracte-innovation-factsheet/>

> **See the whole program in French**

https://bo.bibracte.fr/sites/default/files/media/Bibracte_Entretiens_2023_programme_0.pdf

Press coverage : <https://www.lejsl.com/culture-loisirs/2023/09/15/17e-entretiens-de-bibracte-morvan-c-est-bien-parti-et-ca-continue-aujourd-hui>

Pictures @ Claude Artier 2023





