

Press release

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Montpellier 2028 qualified for the second round!



We're immensely proud that Montpellier-Sète's bid to become European Capital of Culture has been selected as one of the four finalists for the second round. It's a wonderful recognition of the work accomplished by the association's team and all the local authorities involved in this project (Region, Département, City of Montpellier, Metropolis of Montpellier, City of Sète and Sète Agglopôle Méditerranée and their partners representing 142 communes in the Hérault). This is proof that the momentum generated in our region, which has brought together a very large number of players in an unprecedented way, is bearing fruit on a national and European scale.

The artistic line presented around the pillars of **CONNECT, ACT** and **CELEBRATE**, and the cross-cutting theme of water and change, were the hallmarks of our project, which was approved by the jury.

Montpellier 2028 has made the question of links the epicentre of its artistic reflection, by examining its three components: the link to space and territory, the link to time and the future, and finally the link to others. The artistic and cultural projects proposed in the bid and the prospects for urban transformation linked to the title of European capital are our assets, as is the unity and coherence of the delegation representing the challenges of the bid for a territory that is peaceful, equal, young, urban and rural, artistic, international and innovative.

From this evening, a new phase begins. All the forces of Montpellier and all its partners will be able to step up the momentum and involve our cultural, political, economic and social players and, more broadly, the people of the region. We want to show Europe that the best city is the one that unites as many people as possible, the one that already has all the assets it needs to promote this continent, and the one that knows that, through this bid, it must invent the culture of tomorrow and new relationships with all its audiences. A new, even more substantial application will be submitted in November.

This second round is the first act of a successful gamble.

Michaël Delafosse : « Montpellier continues to attract attention, full of talent, strong in its convictions and determined to defend culture and Europe. When all the players are united around the same dynamic, Montpellier succeeds. This announcement testifies to the strength of a collective and the power of the imagination to invent a city and a territory that are creative and respectful of their environment. It shows the prospects for a community built around the European values of freedom, tolerance and the free movement of goods and people. We will continue to defend culture with our partners on the road to victory.

Montpellier
capitale
européenne
de la **Culture**
2028

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