

# International Forum 'Mexico City and the Condition of Creators'



**E**n the Auditorium Divino Narciso of the University of the Cloister of Sor Juana, the Inauguration Ceremony of the International Forum 'Mexico City and the Condition of the Creators' (Forum FICA 2018) was held, which it was celebrated on August 16 and 17 in this venue, as part of the celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Friendly Cultures Fair (FICA per its initials in Spanish).

The inaugural event was headed by the Mayor of Mexico City, José Ramón Amieva Gálvez, who was accompanied by the Coordinator General of International Affairs, Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas Solórzano and the Minister of Culture, Eduardo Vázquez Martín. The Director and Representative of UNESCO in Mexico, Nuria Sanz; the Rector of the Cloister of Sor Juana, Carmen Beatriz López-Portillo Romano; and Marie Madeleine Fol, Director of Mobility TransArtist and one of the international speakers also participated in the ceremony.

The FICA 2018 Forum was organized by the Mexico City Government, through the Coordination General of International Affairs (CGAI), in collaboration with the UNESCO Office in Mexico, and with the support of Aeroméxico. It counted with the participation of 30 artists, professionals from the creative industry and specialists in culture from Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Costa Rica, the United States, France and the United Kingdom.

For two days and over six talks entitled "Artists: trade, employment, profession, vocation, talent?", "Social rights and artistic creation", "Mobility of artists", "Creativity, digital technologies and the internet", "Individual rights and collective rights, the protection of traditions" and "Creative freedom and cooperation", a broad debate was developed to propose actions that strengthen the social status of creators in Mexico City.



## The sculpture 'Wings of Mexico' is inaugurated in San Jose, Costa Rica



On August 1<sup>st</sup>, the 'Wings of Mexico' inauguration ceremony was held in San Jose, Costa Rica for the donation of this sculpture to the Costa Rican capital, with the support of the Mexico City Government and the objective of enhancing the ties of friendship and cooperation between both Latin American capitals.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor of San José, Johnny Araya Monge and Paula Vargas Ramírez attended the unveiling of the work; the Coordinator General of International Affairs of Mexico City, Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas Solórzano; as well as the artist Jorge Marín, the Ambassador of Mexico in Costa Rica and the Director

General for Latin America of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico.

From 2013 to 2018, the 'Wings of Mexico' have also been donated to cities such as Berlin (Germany), Quebec (Canada), San Antonio (USA) and Nagoya (Japan). Nevertheless, it should be noted that the piece in San José is the first to have access for people with disabilities.

Its installation allows the approach of citizens of other nationalities to an aesthetic and recreational experience, integrating itself into the public space and becoming part of the cultural heritage of the cities to which it has been installed.

### 2018 METROPOLIS ANNUAL MEETING IN JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Under the theme 'Metropolitan Cities and Inclusive Cities-Regions', the 2018 Metropolis Annual Meeting was held from August 26 to 29 in Johannesburg, South Africa, in collaboration with the Province of Gauteng, with the objective of discussing the elements, policies, processes and practices necessary to build inclusive cities.

The Mexico City Government, through the International Affairs Office, participates in this annual meeting as a member of Metropolis and headquarters of the Regional Secretariat for North America.