



WROCLAW
INSTITUTE
OF CULTURE

SUMMARY
OF 2023



The Wrocław Institute of Culture is a new type of institution: one that supports niche, non-commercial initiatives; one that researches the cultural sector and develops the competences of its creators; one that creates networks; and one that organises out-of-the-box cultural events as a result of our experiments.

The activities of Wrocław Institute of Culture are situated between artistic institutions, focused on creating and animating art, and cultural centres whose main task is artistic and cultural education. We want to become a bridge between the institutional field of culture and active citizens, creators and artists and the non-governmental, business or public sector.

We want to be an institution with a flexible and agile programming structure which can be easily adapted to the challenges posed by a dynamically changing world.

In our programme we will focus on four areas: competences, support, networking and events:

—> The first area is to support your initiatives and ideas. We are here to help you realise smaller, local projects as well as those reaching far beyond the borders of our city and even our country.

—> One of our tasks is to stimulate the development of the cultural field. With our activities, we want to enable practitioners to raise their competences and research upcoming trends to allow us to spread our cultural wings.

—> We are also involved in the networking of the cultural sector. We have experience in cooperation with a diverse group of organisers – from local and regional partnerships with, among others, associations, foundations and institutions, to nationwide and international cooperatives.

—> The last, most extensive part of our programme consists of events that will be the result of the Institute's experimental profile and at the same time an opportunity to test in action fresh ideas for the spreading of culture. Here we will put into practice the ideas and concepts developed in other areas of our activity.

SUPPORT

Last year meant not only meetings, workshops, tours and concerts. It also meant we supported the organisation of integrating initiatives in Wrocław neighbourhoods and the concepts for publications. Besides this, we were building a safe space for free creative work and an inspiring exchange of experiences. For us, the hashtag *#wspieramkulturę* (*#ISupportCulture*) is not just an empty phrase but a slogan which symbolises many inclusive activities supporting development and casting a new light on what lies outside the mainstream.





Local Ground

Let's start with a support programme of grassroots local initiatives, **Microgrants**, which has just celebrated its 6th year! Three open calls conducted in 2023 brought about financial, organisational, logistical and promotional support for 40 out of 120 submitted initiatives for natural persons and informal groups, which the Wrocław Institute of Culture supervises. After many consultations, workshops, and briefings, residents managed to conduct various multi-generational and multicultural meetings outside the city centre. The most popular forms of spending time were crafts workshops, tours promoting local fauna and flora, and theatre, vocal and culinary classes. Among the people fulfilling their ideas, we had 14 new leaders and 14 new informal groups who had not participated in the programme before – if you want to start with local activism, it is best with the support of Microgrants.

Last year, we also managed to integrate people with the refugee and/or migrant experience. Wanting to expand the availability of the programme, the Microgrants team started cooperation with the Association for Multicultural Society Integration Nomada in Wrocław, which allowed for consultations interpreted into Ukrainian, Belarusian and English with new residents. We can expect similar meetings in the next edition of Microgrants.

Moving from the Wrocław neighbourhoods to literature rooted in the local community– it was the second year of the **Wrocław Publishing Programme** being under our wing. Its main task is the financial support of publishing houses and NGOs reaching outside the commercial market and connected to Lower Silesia through either authors or topics. For the 2023 edition, 17 titles were funded and published, e.g. *Harlander* by Cezary Kaszewski, Anna Markowska and Cezary Wąs, *AntenaKrzyku: Antologia 1986-1990* by Wojciech Kozielski and magazines: *ZAKŁAD.magazyn*, *Rita Baum* and *Nietak!t*. The results of the November open call for the 2024 edition (with 21 titles submitted) were announced at the end of January.





International Activities

Our operations also try to reach outside Wrocław and Lower Silesia and allow for artistic exchanges exceeding local levels. We have to admit the last twelve months were the most hectic in the calendar of the **AIR Wro programme** since Wrocław's European Capital of Culture 2016. Only last year did we execute residency and support programmes, thanks to which almost 50 people could embark on an artistic journey.

Let's start with **MagiC Carpets** – a platform co-funded by the Creative Europe programme and guided by Kaunas Biennial, which we joined in 2022. Its main principle is developing activities engaging up-and-coming talents (curators and artists) through a programme of residencies focused on integrating local communities and working with the urban space. In the second year of the programme, the curator of the residency, Paulina Brelińska-Garszka, invited four creators: **Stanca Soare** (RO), **Laura Adel** (PL), **Miruna Gheordunescu** (local supporting artist) and **Teresa Stillebacher** (AT). The residents met and worked with the Wrocław community at workshops, tours and dinners. We started with a series of workshops conducted by the Romanian artist – Stanca Soare, who, in the project **Household Industry**, decided to give seemingly unneeded and forgotten everyday objects new shapes and functions. Then, Laura Adel, a visual artist, planned workshops connected with artistic interventions around the theme of broadly understood urban typography. The cumulation of the series of June meetings and the individual work of the artist was the exhibition *Sediment* in IP Studio (11-25.01.2024). In the autumn, Teresa Stillebacher with the Aesthetic Athletics+ collective had her residency in Wrocław. The team built an architectural pavilion, "all.cake.all.night," in the Art Courtyard of HART hostel where an open kitchen was created – it invited the residents of Nadodrze (but not only) to cook together and talk sitting at the table.



Next, as part of the long-term partnership of **Dresden** and **Wrocław**, we had two residencies for artists specialised in fine art printing. In April, **Karen Koschnick**, painter and creator of creative printing techniques, visited Wrocław to develop classical print-making techniques at the Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design and at The Copperplate Engraver's House and created prints inspired by Wrocław architecture. As a revisit, during a four-week-long stay at Dresden studio **Grafikwerkstatt**, **Ioannis Anastasiou**, a graphic lab technician, produced a work titled ***The dawn was grey and bitter***. The stay ended with an exhibition of works touching upon sensitive topics of wounds and scars left after the war on bodies and souls.

And now, there is something new in our programme: a two-year-long international project aiming to support creativity and bravery in the cultural sector and create space for reflection over new formats of residency and transnational cooperation. ***What's next? Cultural safe spaces for multidisciplinary reflection on (post) war and (post)crisis European identity*** is an action co-created by organisations from five countries: Romania, Germany, Austria, Ukraine and Poland (Wrocław Institute of Culture). The envisioned programme includes meetings, residencies, and internships by providing a safe space for work and artistic activities for artists, activists and citizens in five European countries. We already know the first project team: Mariia Bakalo (UA), Ari David (RO), and Paulina Woźniczka (PL) will take part in a double artistic residency ***Culture Utopias*** in Bukarest and Wrocław. The research will focus on the European interdisciplinary cooperation and reflection on the "culture utopias" in the future.

However, the fifteen-month-long programme ***Whose Voices Are Being Heard?*** was the greatest residency project we have executed so far. And it was indeed crucial. It took up issues connected with the migration of artists, the inclusion of minorities in cultural activities as equal parts and the presentation of their art to the public. In 2023, alongside the Nordic partners, we executed **12 artistic residencies**, and the participants were selected from 160 submissions! In the open call, six artists from Poland were chosen: **Anastasia Jechorek, Dawid Puszyński, Kate Ngan Wa Ao, Saitip Majewska, Aleksandra Balytska, Viktoriia Tofan**; and from Norway: **Kine Michelle Bruniera, Lill Yildiz Yalcin, Aliona Pazdniakova, Yachi Shian-Yuan Yang, Ingrid Frivold**, who were invited for month-long residencies on both sides of the Baltic Sea. People from Poland went to Hvitsten, and people from Norway arrived in Wrocław. The effects of the Polish-Norwegian residencies were presented during an August festival, **HvitstenSalong 2023**, and during the exhibition ***Whose Voices Are Being Heard?*** as the finale of the artist exchange in **BWA Wrocław Główny Gallery** (10.11-31.12). Organised by us, HvitstenSalong (Hvitsten, NO) and Safe-muse (Oslo, NO), the meta-enterprise could not be possible without the curator support of Jon Lundell in Hvitsten and Agata Ciastoń in Wrocław. The project, ***Whose voices are being heard? Exchange program for foreign artists from Poland and Norway*** was co-funded by Island, Liechtenstein and Norway within the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 under the Culture Programme.



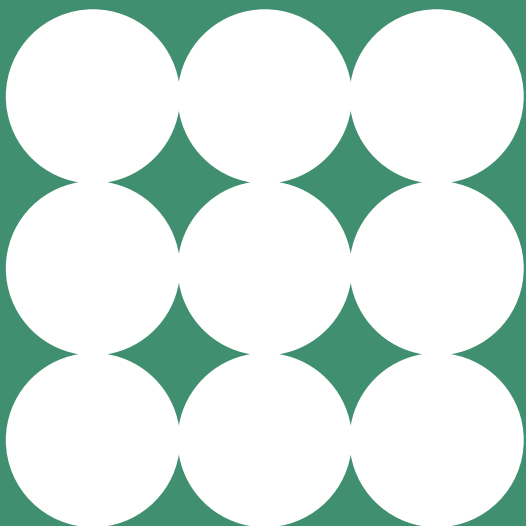


Going back to the known and liked – again, thanks to the **Culture of Mobility** programme (it was the 7th edition), only last year were 31 submissions made in an open call. The committee chose five propositions: a study tour and networking meeting with **Maciej Kowalczyk** and **Marcin Dominiak's** NUS COOPERATIVA, a culinary performance within the foodculturedays Art Biennale by **Maja Renn** and **Piotr Matkowski**, production of costumes with glass elements by **Ula Goldasz** for a dance performance of Vivian Fredich, participation in a musical group of Karol Lipiński Music Academy of Wrocław with **Karol Knapiński**, **Olgierd Żemojtel**, **Karolina Kułaga**, **Jan Styczyński** and **Michał Kram** in international concert using a prototype technology of networked music performance and an exhibition of **Tomasz Opania** in Boston.



COMPETENCES AND RESEARCH

It was the second year of the operation of the Wrocław Institute of Culture, and it was a year full of changes and challenges. It turned out that change is in our element – it allowed us to operate outside the box constantly. Constant are also the four pillars of our Institute. One of them is enabling the career development of people working in the culture sector and developing their competences. This is where we are starting the summary of 2023.



Culture in Practice

Study tours, workshops and meetings are integral parts of gaining knowledge by practitioners of culture. We have to mention ***Dwulatka. Szkoła Praktyk Animacyjnych*** – an all-year-round competence project that we launched at the beginning of last year together with its leader, **the ZAMEK Culture Centre in Poznań**, as part of the Poznań Cultural Education Programme. This two-year course is dedicated to everybody who wants to develop their skills, gain experience and broaden their knowledge in socio-cultural animation. Among the numerous applications we received in February and March, 24 people were selected to start classes in May 2023. It was the first year of Dwulatka, which aimed to train and inspire, so during the training sessions held in the spring and autumn, students learned about tools and methods to create responsible, engaging community projects. The year 2024, on the other hand, will be an excellent opportunity to try out newly acquired skills in the course of five intercultural projects.



Keeping in mind the topic of accessibility of culture for people with disabilities, together with the Katarynka Foundation and the Wrocław without Barriers Office, we organised the fourth edition of the ***Culture for All conference*** in May last year. This time, the topics of discussion centred around mental health crises among audiences, and the main theme of the conference was good practice in institutions creating cultural life. The most crucial part of the lectures – given by staff members who, on a daily basis, develop solutions to make cultural activities accessible – were the stories about the experience of cooperation and the opening up of institutions to people in crisis.

Acquiring knowledge, learning solutions and inspiring each other were also present at the next edition of **the forum for local artistic activities *Art of the Neighbourhood***, in October. The participants of the event could not only hear the stories of the creators and artists of over a dozen socio-artistic associations, unique art galleries or activist collectives but also listen to a lecture by Bogna Świątkowska, the initiator and chair of the board of the Bęc Zmiana Foundation, and see unconventional Wrocław art initiatives during study tours.



In 2023, we also organised a workshop touching on the topic of a dynamically changing society and migration in the context of the operation of cultural institutions. In August, the Institute invited Aneta Osuch and Arkadiusz Wierzbza – educators from EkoCentrum Wrocław, who conducted a training course for our employees, ***We. You. Them. The host society and the challenges of integration***, during which we were able to reflect on the power and role of stereotypes in everyday work. It aimed to identify and discuss issues shaping our perceptions of people with a migration or refugee experience and factors influencing the social integration process. Continuing the theme of multiculturalism in a changing working environment, in the autumn, we organised an open workshop on ***Diversity, Equality and Inclusion in Culture and the Arts***, conducted by Dora Molodyńska-Küntzel, for people active in the cultural sector and creating educational projects. The participants of this meeting collectively attempted to define inclusion and what a diverse, responsive, and supportive workspace is, and as a result, created a mind map of good practice in this field.

Researching the Needs

Closely linked to area of our competence-related activities is the research that analyses various aspects of the cultural environment and thus define its needs. So far, the biggest project of this type for the Wrocław Institute of Culture has been **the Diagnosis of Wrocław Culture**, which is a large-scale study coordinated since 2022 by the Institute, acting on behalf of the Department of Social Affairs of Wrocław's City Council. In the second half of 2023, a report summarising the Diagnosis was published as an introduction to the process of creating a multi-year programme for the development of local culture. The previous one – Culture Present – was prepared in 2017 and pinpointed areas which needed attention and strengthening after the Wrocław European Capital of Culture 2016. Twenty experts with different specialisations were invited to participate in the extensive survey in 2022, more than 120 culture creators took part in deep discussions and focus interviews, and almost 300 people joined the first-ever community self-report. The report, ***The Diagnosis of the Local Government Field of Wrocław Culture for the Years 2019-2023***, confirms how a wide variety of events in recent years – on a global and local scale – have influenced the current situation of Wrocław's cultural scene.

One of the most significant changes that awaited our institution in 2023 was the merger of the Wrocław Institute of Culture with **Klub pod Kolumnami**, which had been operating since the 1960s. Working on this process, we devoted the first half of last year to researching the needs of audiences and their expectations towards a place that has been on the cultural map of Wrocław for decades.

The research process took several months of analysis to define the role that the club plays for the residents of Nadodrze and to learn more about the cultural needs of the neighbourhood. In addition to the Institute's team, both current and potential participants of the events, the Nadodrze community council and the Nadodrze cultural institutions were invited to take part in the research. The study was also supported by an external expert and researcher who has been designing processes to help understand needs, resources and potentials for more than a dozen years – Dr Katarzyna Chajbos-Walczak. The analysis that resulted from this process allowed us to create an updated and better programme for Klub pod Kolumnami.

Marketingowa 2018

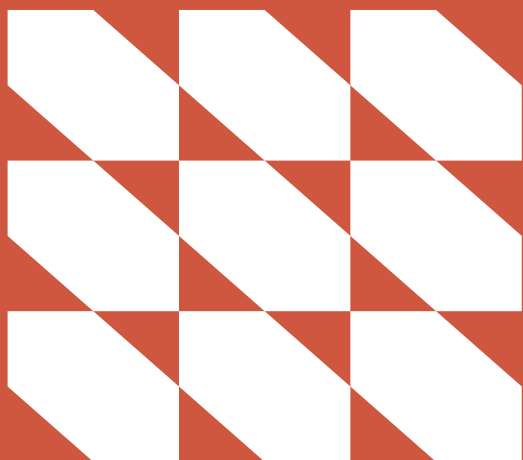
CECHY
WARTOŚCI
ZJAWISKA
MARKI

KTÓRE ASOCJACJE WARTO WZMACNIĆ?
to dotyczy tego, co relewantne dla interesariuszy



NETWORKING

Networking activities conducted by the Wrocław Institute of Culture are not always visible on a daily basis – meetings with local and foreign partners, phone calls and emails, conferences, debates and presentations are not spectacular. At the same time, these local, national, and international contacts are often the starting points for our support and competence projects and events. In this regard, the year 2023 was hectic for the Wrocław Institute of Culture.



In European Family

In 2016, as everyone remembers well, Wrocław held the title of the European Capital of Culture (so did the Basque town of Donostia-San Sebastián). Even though the Wrocław Institute of Culture was founded at the beginning of 2022, its roots reach the times of preparation for the event. To this day, we are one of the institutions taking care of the legacy of **the European Capital of Culture** and continuing the projects initiated then. The Wrocław Institute of Culture also represents the capital of Lower Silesia within the European Capitals of Culture Family – an informal association of previous, present and future capitals of culture. Last year, we all celebrated the capitals of 2023: Hungary's Veszprém, Romania's Timișoara and Greece's Eleusis. We also welcomed to the EcoC Family newly-announced capitals of 2028: Czech Republic's České Budějovice, France's Bourges and North Macedonia's Skopje, as a candidate to the UE.

But mostly, **we met with teams from other European Capitals of Culture and shared our experiences.** Just in September, in Wrocław, we hosted delegations from, e.g., Umeå 2014, Timișoara 2023, Veszprém 2023, Trenčín 2026 and Chemnitz 2025. Of particular importance was a study tour by representatives of Chemnitz, the Saxon state government and the managing director of the European Capital of Culture 2025, who spent several days in our city to find out how Wrocław had prepared for its role as the European Capital of Culture. In the autumn, we also attended the ECoC Family's annual general meeting, this time held in Tartu (ECoC 2024), where we discussed the future of culture.



This year, the theme of the European Capital of Culture resonated particularly loudly in other Polish cities and towns. Until mid-September, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage had been accepting applications from cities and towns wishing to become the **European Capital of Culture 2029**. Twelve local governments entered the competition – during the months of preparation, many of them contacted us to find out more about **the behind-the-scenes organisation of the ECoC in Wrocław**. Employees of the Wrocław Institute of Culture talked about the process of organising the event. Moreover, they answered questions from the towns preparing the applications, e.g., Lublin, Katowice, Rzeszów, Kielce and Pszczyna. On 27th October, the finalist cities were announced – congratulations to Katowice (together with the Upper Silesian metropolitan area), Lublin, Bielsko-Biała and Kołobrzeg! We will find out which city will be awarded the title of the ECoC 2029 in mid-2024. The second capital of 2029 will be a town in Sweden, most likely Kiruna or Uppsala.

The year 2023 was also a time of intensive cooperation with European partners, with whom we created international residency projects implemented under **the AIR Wro** programme. In March, in Wrocław, we hosted curators from more than a dozen European countries taking part in **MagiC Carpets** – a platform co-financed by the **Creative Europe** programme and led by the Kaunas Biennial, which aims to develop artistic and social activities involving young talent. A month later, we organised a "kick-off," **the first meeting of the What's Next? project**, whose team consists of animators from Romania, Germany, Austria, Ukraine, and Poland. It is a programme funded by the European Commission to support good, brave cultural practices in the cultural sector.

In October, we visited Gdańsk, where the **conference Partnership for Culture and Heritage – Experiences and Results from the Culture Programme of the EEA Financial Mechanism** took place, during which we not only talked about the project **Whose Voices are Being Heard? Exchange programme for foreign artists from Poland and Norway**, but we also learned about the experience of other beneficiaries of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 under the Culture Programme. At the end of November, we travelled to Malta **to plan the next year of activities** for the MagiC Carpets project with a broad group of partner organisations from 20 different countries.



Friends from the City, the Region, the Whole of Poland

In our summary, it is time to return from the long-distance travels and look at initiatives where we joined forces with local partners. Our employees were active in numerous networking initiatives in 2023 – the Wrocław Institute of Culture once again took part, e.g., in **the Museum Think Tank**, a nationwide platform for the exchange of inspiration and practice created by **POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, BWA Wrocław Contemporary Art Galleries, the European Solidarity Centre and the Goyki 3 Art Incubator**. The theme of this year's meetings (in Wrocław, Warsaw, Gdańsk and Sopot) was "Pleasure." At the end of the year, in Barbara, we hosted **"Reagujemy!" – the open network of people of culture**, which provides a space for the exchange of ideas and experiences on the topic of working in the cultural sector from an intercultural society perspective. Representatives of the Wrocław Institute of Culture also participated in, e.g., **the Non-Congress of Cultural Animators** in Gdańsk or the **Animation + Future Congress** in Warsaw.

We had another year of moderating cooperation between cultural institutions and local governments affiliated with the Coalition of Cities. This initiative was founded as an association of candidate cities for the title of the European Capital of Culture 2016 and today functions as a space for coming up with answers to the challenges the local cultural sector faces. In addition to numerous internal meetings, the **Coalition of Cities** was also visible in public forums. In November, it sent an **Open Letter to the Leaders of the Democratic Opposition**, drawing the attention of future members of the government to the power of urban culture.



It was a precious experience for us to oversee the activities of neighbourhood communities of nearly 40 cultural entities operating in the **neon-lit courtyard of ul. Ruska 46**. The culmination of the cooperation between NGOs, cultural institutions, clubs and artists with studios here was the organisation of a three-day-long **Courtyard Celebration** in mid-June – about which you will read more in the summary of the “Events” section. For a review of our competence and research activities, we refer you to more information about **Dwulotka. Szkoła Praktyk Animacyjnych** (which is realised thanks to a fruitful bilateral partnership with **the ZAMEK Cultural Centre in Poznań**) and **the forum for local artistic activities Art of the Neighbourhood**, an initiative organised by the Wrocław Institute of Culture that enables meetings of artists working with local communities. The doors of Barbara, Klub pod Kolumnami

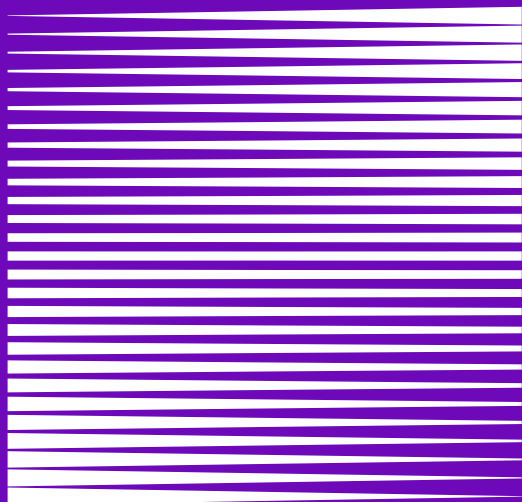
and **Recepcja** were open all year round to cultural practitioners from various cities in Lower Silesia and Poland. For example, we hosted the **Lower Silesian Exchange of Inspirations**, organised by the Agora Cultural Centre. We also accommodated the participants of the **PL-UA Essentials for Activism** project created by the Umbrella Foundation, and the representatives of the town hall and institutions in Łódź and people involved in setting up Młyny Rothera in Bydgoszcz. And this is just the beginning of a long list of our guests and visitors.



A different type of activity, but one that is extremely important in terms of networking, is the publication of the **Wrocław Cultural Guide** by the Wrocław Institute of Culture. This free bi-monthly magazine presents a broad spectrum of cultural activities in Wrocław – each time, the calendar features more than 100 events submitted by dozens of Wrocław institutions, NGOs, informal groups or independent artists. In the middle of the year, the Guide celebrated an exceptional occasion – the 50th issue of this unique magazine!

EVENTS

Totally new thematic series, tens of meetings, discussions, tours and – finally – the opening of third location of the Wrocław Institute of Culture. The year 2023 was full of events – the audience frequented them in numbers, so we do hope we managed to fulfil your cultural needs!



What disappeared in the city, and what is new?

In our headquarters, **Barbara**, the year 2023 was the year of architecture and broadly understood urbanism. Thanks to a series of meetings with experts, we shed light on **Fading City**. During the events, participants exchanged knowledge and experiences on the gradual fading of various elements of the Wrocław landscape. The programme of the series was opened with a workshop by Michał Duda and Mikołaj Smoleński, where people worked on future visions of iconic, sometimes unfortunate, Wrocław buildings. Almost at the same time, a series of lectures on Wrocław in the following decades started. The first story of the 1940s was told by Maciej Wlazło (also known online as Beard of Breslau). In 2023, we could also listen to lectures of, e.g., Joanna Majczyk, Iwona Kałuża, Adam Pacholak, Anka Bieliz, Tomasz Sielicki, Anna Lewińska and many, many more experts of various fields. In the case of some of the meetings, they were not only for listening to, but we hit the town together with our guests – with Tomasz Sielicki, we went to explore all the tracks in Wrocław.

The leitmotif of Barbara's programme was also an inspiration for **the gallery in the window facing ul. Świdnicka** – for over a year, the transparent façade of our HQ had been presenting the art of Wrocław graphic designers. This year, we presented works by Anna Woźniakowska, Paweł Szlotawa and Joanna Gniady, and all of them somehow took the passers-by to **Fading City**. But we did more than just fade – besides the meetings for the popular series, we managed to introduce embroidery, illustration and collage to our audience. During holidays, you took part in **creative camps** where the tutors were Olga Budzan, an embroidery artist, and Zuza Tokarska and Aleksandra Abramik, illustrators.

At the beginning of October in Barbara, we had a new element which, to a greater extent, made the space more accessible for people with disabilities: **komfortka** (changing place) – a room where people with disabilities can change clothes comfortably and with dignity. This way, the Wrocław Institute of Culture became the first cultural institution in Lower Silesia to join the national social campaign **Przewijamy Polskę**.





When we were dealing with fading places in Barbara, on 1st January, we welcomed a new place in the structure of the institution – at the beginning of 2023, our Institute merged with **Klub pod Kolumnami** located at plac świętego Macieja. The first half of the year was dedicated to a thorough examination of the needs (what you can read about in “Competences and Research”). In the summer, we spent many days renovating, so in the autumn – on 27th October – we invited people from Nadorze and Wrocław for the **re-opening** of Klub pod Kolumnami.

The patrons can still find their favourite events, but Klub pod Kolumnami is also open for the new! The programme includes, e.g., comedy performances **by Improwizowane Poniedziałki, Klub Sympatyka Kamienicy** and **weekly Figle-migle** (classes for whole families). The exhibitions held there stand out more now – they focus on presenting local illustrators (the first artist to show her works was Gosia Herba with her series *Lodorosty i bluszczary*). The club now is a combination of tradition and modernity, mostly visible in the **new interior design**: it is inspired by the mid-20th century and refers to the six decades of the club’s history.

Friends from the Playground

Our third premises is in the neon-lit courtyard of ul. Ruska 46. In 2023, the coffee bar club **Recepcja** was filled with, e.g., electro, hip-hop and jazz. Eight times we hosted **concerts by young, experimental musicians**: starting with Ukainian band Junket, through Franek Warzywo & Młody Budda, to Wrocław band Sneaky Jesus. Besides live concerts, Recepcja, as it often happens, was a place where local DJs provided unforgettable sound experiences, and you had a chance to spin the vinyl during the remarkable DJ workshops run by well-known people from the club.



But Recepcja is more than music – the club presented new great **exhibitions** of paintings, illustrations and photographs (of such artists as Gosia Kulik, Justyna Łaciok and Marta Zdulska), and the up-and-coming illustrators could express their creativity at **collage and zine-making workshops** with Justyna Łaciok. In the coffee bar club, the other half of the year brought about **Otwarta Czytelnia Zakładu** – a series of monthly literary mini-residencies organised by *ZAKŁAD.magazyn* and pop culture quizzes with one of the most popular Wrocław drag queens – **Twoja Stara**. On top of that, you had a chance to participate in events taking place at ul. Ruska 46 every year: vintage markets and meetings of SocjoPercepcja. Our coffee bar club was also a space for festival afterparties during mbank New Horizons, the American Film Festival and the Festival of Photography.

Recepcja is also a hub for networking of local communities of the courtyard at ul. Ruska 46 – almost 40 organisations have their headquarters there (you can read more about this in the summary in the “Networking” section). And the most crucial joint enterprise organised by the courtyard partnership is, of course, the **Courtyard Celebration**. Last year, it took place on 16-18th June, and the programme included, e.g., music events (concerts of Kapusta Band, Konkret, Laminat and Embrase), exhibitions, drag queen shows, flea market and slam poetry event.

Wonders and weirdness (not only) in Huby

Undoubtedly, the most incredible event organised annually by the Wrocław Institute of Culture is the **European Night of Literature**. The 12th edition of this unique encounter with literature being read live by outstanding artists (and a chance to see normally inaccessible places in the city) took place on 19th August. Last year, we were taken to **Cabinet Of Curiosities**, whose programme had been prepared by Sylwia Chutnik. Following Maria Janion's belief that a story is the foundation of humanities, the writer, feminist and social activist focused her choices on acts of resistance and trespassing, aiming at finding sense in the chaos of meaning. The background for all the reading sessions was Huby in Wrocław. The readers included, e.g., Piotr Cyrwus, Magdalena Kumorek and Mirosław Zbrojewicz, and the list of ten books featured, e.g., *The summer my mother had green eyes* by Tatiana Tîbuleac, *Before the pomegranates are ripe* by Rene Karabasz, and a local author – *Ten kto się śmieje, ma zęby* (*Only Those with Teeth Can Smile*) by Zyta Rudzka. Last year's night was surprisingly hot, but it did not scare away the devoted fans of the literary festival – the 12th edition of the European Night of Literature had the **highest attendance record** – 13,000 people participated in all the reading sessions!



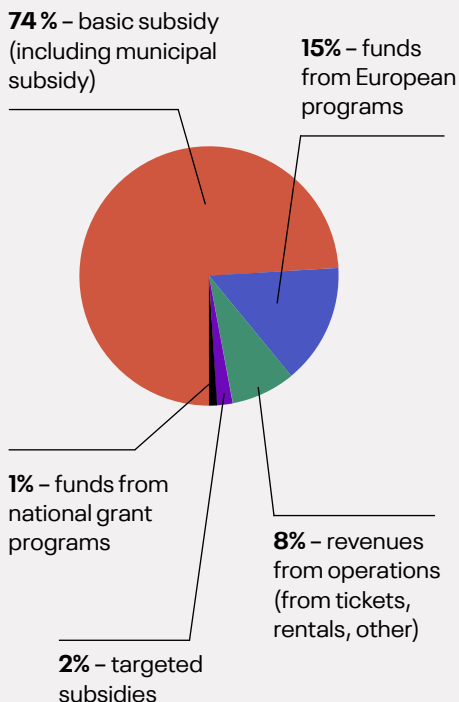
The European Night of Literature also means tours by the iconic experts of Wrocław history and architecture. We met with Maciej Czarnecki, Szymon Maraszewski, Kalina Zatorska and Agata Gabiś, who shared their stories about each part of Huby. We also had a chance to get to know multiple districts of Wrocław, such as Borek, Nadodrze and Nowy Dwór, because of the annual **Sąsiedzkie Spacerzy** ("**Community Walks**"), which had become an integral part of our calendar.



Total budget of the institution:

6 674 264,78 PLN

Structure of the Institution's budget in 2023 by source of funding:



Audience:

- participants in educational, artistic, workshop activities: **27 499**
- participants in events (performances, concerts, meetings, etc.): **1034**
- visitors: **7 021**
- **2 595** participants took part in **181** Microgrants events

Events:

- educational / artistic activities / workshops: **472** (+ **181** as part of Microgrants)
- meetings: **60**
- festivals: **1** (European Night of Literature)
- performances, concerts: **21**
- exhibitions: **36**





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