

# Spain, Guest Country of Honor of the 3rd Edition of ceramic brussels

ceramic brussels is pleased to announce that Spain will be the guest country of honor for the third edition of the fair, taking place from January 21 to 25, 2026 at the Tour & Taxis site.

In collaboration with the Spanish Embassy, and in the framework of EUROPALIA España 2025–26, this focus aims to further strengthen cultural ties between Spain and Belgium by showcasing the richness, diversity, and vitality of Spain's contemporary ceramic scene.

This spotlight aligns with the dynamic of the EUROPALIA España 2025–26 festival, which every two years celebrates a country through a multidisciplinary program in Brussels and across Belgium.

Launched during the second edition of ceramic brussels (January 2025 / focus on Norway), the guest country initiative offers a unique exploration of a vibrant artistic scene through a wide range of free public programmes during the fair.

# Maral Kekejian, Member of the Jury for the ceramic brussels art prize 2026

Maral Kekejian, artistic director of EUROPALIA ESPAÑA 25–26, will join the jury for the ceramic brussels art prize 2026. She will participate in selecting the ten prize laureates who will be featured in a group show at the entrance of the fair.

In addition to Maral Kekejian, the 2026 jury includes Jean-Marc Dimanche, co-director of ceramic brussels and general curator of the De Mains De Maîtres Luxembourg biennale, Wendy Gers, curator of modern and contemporary art at the Princessehof National Museum of Ceramics, Jean-Charles Hameau, director of the Adrien Dubouché National Museum, and Lionel Jadot, interior architect, artist, designer, and filmmaker.

Conceived as a springboard for new voices in contemporary ceramics, the prize highlights singular, committed, and exploratory artistic approaches. With her vision and expertise, Maral Kekejian will help uncover talents that are redefining the ceramic arts in Europe.

#### **Participation of Spanish Galleries**

In collaboration with the Spanish Embassy in Belgium, ceramic brussels will select proposals from a number of Spanish galleries to join the lineup of international participants at the fair. This selection process ensures a high level of quality, with a varied program showcasing regional diversity and the multiple approaches of contemporary ceramics in Spain. The galleries will present works by both established and emerging artists, offering the public an in-depth look at Spain's current ceramic scene.

#### **Thematic Conference programme**

Spain will also contribute actively to the 2026 ceramic brussels conference program through a half-day of talks featuring Spanish artists, curators, gallery owners, and researchers. These sessions will enrich a broader programme of conferences aimed at placing Spanish ceramic practices in a wider artistic and cultural context. The full program will be announced in October.

# Visit by a Spanish Delegation

A Spanish delegation will also attend the fair, comprising key figures from Spain's ceramic sector, including artists and institutional representatives. ceramic brussels will facilitate meetings and guided tours to encourage the delegation's engagement with the fair's international dynamic.

### About EUROPALIA España 2025-26

Since 1969, over 25 million people have attended an EUROPALIA festival, each edition inspired by a different country or theme. EUROPALIA's founding mission remains more relevant than ever: to bring people and cultures together through art.

This autumn marks EUROPALIA's 30th edition with a major Spanish biennale. Exactly 40 years after the first edition in 1985, EUROPALIA ESPAÑA will run from October 8, 2025 to February 1, 2026, presenting a multidisciplinary programme that blends heritage with contemporary art forms. The festival will offer fascinating insights into themes that connect and resonate with us.

# About ceramic brussels

ceramic brussels is the first international contemporary art fair dedicated to ceramics. The fair aims to promote ceramic art in all its forms and provides a unique platform for encounters and exchanges among artists, galleries, institutions, collectors, and art lovers.

ceramic brussels stands as an advocate for and promoter of ceramics worldwide. The focus on Spain for its third edition reinforces the fair's commitment to diversity, innovation, and cultural dialogue.

This year, ceramic brussels is also launching a new event — Manifest Paris — a creative and committed pop-up capsule dedicated to ceramic sculpture. It will take place from October 20 to 25, 2025 in the prestigious Galerie Charpentier (Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, Paris 8th). Imagined in dialogue with a dozen galleries and partners, the event will feature a bold and original scenography and will include a series of cocktail events, talks, and receptions.

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