

INSPIRING IMPRESSIONS OF MOMENTS OF PRAYER.

INTER-RELIGIOUS ENCOUNTERS

BRUSSELS, FEBRUARY 2018



CONCEIVING THE PROJECT:

I.T.OUCH' Alameda and Chapel for Europe are 2 religious non-profit organisations based in Brussels. They aim at promoting ecumenical and interfaith dialogue and organise different types of events (Prayers, Conferences, Concerts, Debates....) to raise awareness about the crucial issue of living together in a multicultural and multi-religious environment such as Brussels is.

As members of Plateforme Interconvictionelle Brussels, that coordinates the various initiatives within the framework of the WIHW, we decided to innovate by developing a long running activity, rather than organising a single event: interfaith encounters linking Christians, Muslims, Jews and people of other faith traditions in a spiritual journey exploring what Prayer means to them.

Bearing in mind all the above and trying to materialise the motto of the WIHW : **“Love of God and Love of the Neighbour or Love of the Good and Love of the Neighbour”**, we conceived a project in 4 stages focusing on individual and community experiences of “Praying – En Prière – In Gebed”, connecting people in various ways (gathering together, reaching out with publications, sharing in Social Media), and inviting them to express their faith and feelings in inspiring and artistic ways (photo contest, concert, Prayer...).



DEVELOPING THE PROJECT:

- 1st Stage: ORGANISING A PHOTO CONTEST
- 2nd Stage: INTERFAITH PRAYER AND CONCERT
- 3rd Stage: PHOTO EXHIBITION
- 4th Stage: INTERRELIGIOUS CALENDAR



1ST STAGE: ORGANISING A PHOTO CONTEST

- Preliminary Interfaith Meetings debating on the project.
- Elaboration of the project: setting topic, dates, terms and conditions, constitution of the Jury, prizes, etc...

Photo Competition 2017-2018
"PRAYING.
Inspiring impressions of moments of prayer"
Terms and Conditions

Article 1 – Organizers
L'ONCF, activity programme of Centre Alameda ASBL and Chapel for Europe ASBL in the framework of World Interfaith Harmony Week with the support of Plateforme Interconictionnelle Bruxelles launch the first Photo Competition "Praying, Inspiring impressions of moments of Prayer" on the 1st of December 2017.

You can follow the campaign on our Facebook and websites:

- L'ONCF:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/170242414664/>
 - <https://www.l'oncf.be/en/>
- Chapel for Europe:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/chapelforeurope/>
 - <https://www.chapelforeurope.eu>

More information about the contest can also be found on our partner organizations' Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/plateforminterconictionnellebruxelles/>

Article 2 – Conditions for Participation & Eligibility
Participation to the photo competition is free and open to any person who is 18 years old or above.

Theme
This photo competition will focus on impressions of moments of prayer, in all religions and beliefs, both in comments and individually.

Each participant shall submit an entry following this guideline:
Share with us what praying means for you.

Each participant can only submit one entry during the period of the competition (December 1st 2017 – January 15th 2018).

Entries will only be accepted by filling the form.

*The participation to the competition implies the acceptance, without reserve, of the integrity of these Terms and Conditions. The non-respect of these rules will result in the disqualification of the participant.

Starting date: The competition will open at 00:00 (GMT +1) on December 1st 2017.
Closing date: The competition will close at 23:59 (GMT +1) on January 15th 2018.

Contest Terms & Conditions EN

Concours photos 2017-2018
" EN PRIÈRE. Praying.
Inspiring impressions of moments of prayer."
Termes et Conditions

Article 1 – Organisateurs
L'ONCF, programme d'activités du Centre Alameda ASBL et Chapel for Europe ASBL, dans le contexte de la World Interfaith Harmony Week et avec le soutien de la Plateforme Interconictionnelle Bruxelles, lancent un concours photos " EN PRIÈRE. Praying, Inspiring impressions of moments of prayer" le 1^{er} décembre 2017.

Vous pourrez suivre la campagne sur nos pages Facebook et nos sites web :

- L'ONCF:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/170242414664/>
 - <https://www.l'oncf.be/fr/>
- Chapel for Europe:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/chapelforeurope/>
 - <https://www.chapelforeurope.eu>

Vous trouverez également de plus amples informations sur le concours sur la page Facebook de notre partenaire : <https://www.facebook.com/plateforminterconictionnellebruxelles/>

Article 2 – Conditions de Participation & Éligibilité
La participation au concours est gratuite et ouverte à toute personne de 18 ans ou plus.

Thème
Ce concours photos vise des impressions de moments de prière, dans toutes les traditions religieuses et spirituelles, aussi bien individuelles et communautaires.

Chaque participant enverra une photo, suivant cette consigne :
Partagez avec nous ce que prier signifie pour vous.

Chaque participant ne peut envoyer qu'une seule photo pendant la période du concours (décembre 2017 – 15 janvier 2018).

Les photos participantes ne seront acceptées que si le formulaire a été rempli.

*La participation au concours implique l'acceptation sans réserve de l'intégrité de ces Termes et Conditions. Le non-respect de ces règles aura comme conséquence la disqualification du participant.

Date début : La compétition commencera à 00:00 (GMT +1) le 1^{er} décembre 2017.
Date fin : La compétition terminera à 23:59 (GMT +1) le 15 janvier 2018.

Contest Terms & Conditions FR

Photo Competition
"PRAYING.
Inspiring impressions
of moments of Prayer."
Share with us what praying means to you.

L'ONCF and Chapel for Europe ASBL invite you to participate in this photo contest, which takes place in the framework of World Interfaith Harmony Week with the support of Plateforme Interconictionnelle Bruxelles.

We would like to discover what praying means to you! Be creative! Be inspiring! Be artistic!

Wrong photos should:

- illustrate an inspiring moment of prayer (in all religions and beliefs, both in community and individual)
- be artistically appealing
- be accompanied by a description/caption of no more than 100 words explaining why this image is representative of what praying means to you.

Interested in joining the competition?
Participation to the photo competition is free and open to any person who is 18 years old or above.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Take a photograph that can illustrate different ways of praying, and comment on your approach. If you take a photo with a camera, make sure that the photograph is High Resolution (1600 x 1200 pixels minimum). If you take a photo with a smartphone, make sure that the photo is Full Size (3MMP minimum).
2. Fill in the online submission form with your name, last name, age, email, address, country. Link to form: <https://www.l'oncf.be/fr/formulaire/170242414664/>
3. Write a description/caption on the submission form of no more than 100 words (500 characters including spaces) describing what the image is, where it was taken, and how it illustrates an inspiring moment of prayer for you.
4. Submit the image in .jpg/jpg format, indicating the name of the photographer on the picture's metadata. Example: surname_name.jpg
5. Name of photographer, agency or publication must not be visible on the picture itself.
6. Read the terms and conditions and check the box on the online submission form to agree before uploading your photo. Once done, upload your image in .jpg/jpg format on the form.

Abstract for website EN

Concours photo
" EN PRIÈRE.
Praying. Inspiring Impressions
of moments of Prayer."
Partagez avec nous ce que prier signifie pour vous.

L'ONCF et Chapel for Europe ASBL vous invitent à participer à ce concours photo, qui a lieu dans le cadre de World Interfaith Harmony Week avec le soutien de la Plateforme Interconictionnelle Bruxelles.

Nous voudrions découvrir ce que prier signifie pour vous ! Soyez créatif ! Inspirant ! Artistique !

Les photos gagnantes doivent :

- illustrer un moment inspirant de prière (dans n'importe quelle religion et tradition spirituelle, en communauté ou individuel)
- faire preuve d'une bonne qualité artistique
- être accompagnées d'une description/légende de maximum 100 mots qui explique en quel l'image est représentative de ce que la prière signifie pour vous

Intéressé-e à tenter votre chance ?
La participation au concours photo est gratuite et ouverte à toute personne de 18 ans ou plus.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Prenez une photo qui peut illustrer une façon de prier, et expliquez votre approche. Si vous prenez une photo avec un appareil photo, faites en sorte que la photo soit de Haute Résolution (1600 x 1200 pixels minimum). Si vous prenez une photo avec un smartphone, faites en sorte que la photo soit Full Size (3MMP minimum). Lien vers le formulaire: <https://www.l'oncf.be/fr/formulaire/170242414664/>
2. Remplissez le formulaire en ligne: prénom, nom, âge, adresse, pays. Lien vers le formulaire: <https://www.l'oncf.be/fr/formulaire/170242414664/>
3. Rédigez une description/légende sur le formulaire d'au maximum 100 mots (500 caractères, espaces inclus) qui décrit ce que représente l'image, où la photo a été prise, et en quel elle est pour vous une illustration d'un moment inspirant de prière.
4. Envoyez la photo en format .jpg/jpg, et indiquez le nom du photographe dans les métadonnées de l'image. Exemple: nom_prenom.jpg
5. Le nom du photographe, ni l'agence ni la publication ne peuvent apparaître sur la photo elle-même.

Abstract for website FR



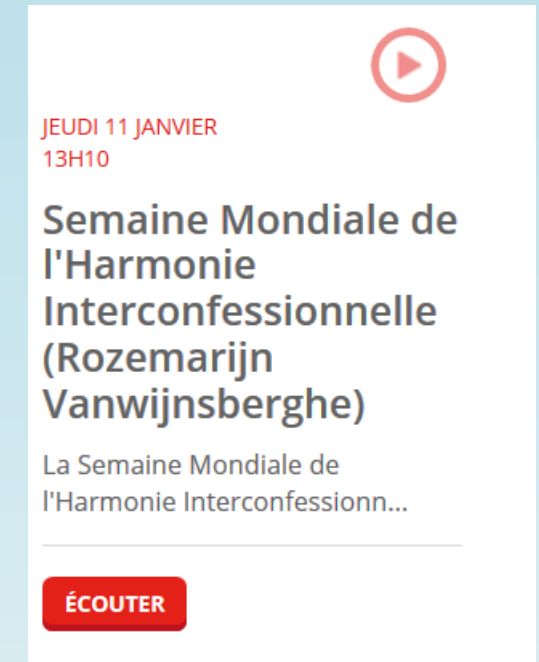
- Setting up communication of the Contest: poster, invitations, Social Media, radio interview, etc...



Poster to promote contest



Sharing on Social Media




Radio Interview – RCF Belgique




- Establishing a shortlist of the participating pictures; choosing the 12 finalists





WIHW 2018 PHOTO CONTEST



Description for each of the 12 finalist photos /
Description pour chacune des 12 photos finalistes

#1 This lovely girl was very much into meditation in St. Gilles cathedral in Edinburgh.

1# Cette charmante fillette en méditation à la cathédrale Saint Gilles à Edimbourg.

#2 -School children meditating at interior court of Wat Pho Temple in Bangkok last September. Impressive to experience silence for more than half an hour.

2#Elèves méditant dans la cour intérieure du temple Wat Pho à Bangkok en septembre dernier. Expérience de silence impressionnante pendant plus d'une demi-heure.

Description of the 12 finalists photos EN & FR



- Meeting and deliberation of the Interfaith Jury

Member of the Jury
 NAME: _____
 LAST NAME: _____
 DATE: _____

PHOTO EVALUATION CRITERIA

	J1	J2	J3	J4	J5	J6	J7	J8	J9	J10	J11	J12
I. TECHNICAL QUALITY AND AESTHETICS - MAX. 4 POINTS												
Good framing - 1 point												
Good focus - 1 point												
Sufficient luminosity - 1 point												
Outsize format for what the photo intends to express - 1 point												
II. SYMBOLIC AND SCENARIOS/SCENES OF THE IMAGE - MAX. 3 POINTS												
Image full of information - 1 point												
Business of the symbols and iconography - 1 point												
III. ADAPTATION TO THE TOPIC REQUESTS - MAX. 2 POINTS												
The photograph clearly reflects the proposed theme - 1 point												
Description to give and explain impressions of photographs regarding topic - 1 point												
IV. ORIGINALITY OF THE PERSONAL AND SUBJECTIVE - MAX. 3 POINTS												
Image represents a new way of approaching the subject in question - 1 point												
Original techniques and work - 1 point												
Original colour palette - 1 point												
V. THE COMPOSITION IS SENSITIVE AND EVOKES PHILOSOPHICAL REFLECTION - MAX. 3 POINTS												
Photo allows us to broaden our reflection on the proposed theme - 1 point												
Creates emotions and sensations - 1 point												
Innovative aesthetics to spark reflection - 1 point												

Final score: _____

Criteria for evaluation



Voting



1st Prize, 2nd Prize and 3rd Prize



2ND STAGE: INTER-FAITH PRAYER AND CONCERT

On the 1st of February 2018, to open the WIHW in Brussels, we held an Interfaith Prayer, integrating the performance of a choir of young mentally challenged Muslim girls (Haby Lumina) and hang drum solo, creating an atmosphere of prayer and interiority.

About 100 people attended the event.

Consolation
Ask, and it shall be given you;
seek, and you shall find;
knock, and it shall be opened to you.
For whoever asks, receives;
and he who seeks, finds;
and to him who knocks, the door is opened.

Demandez, on vous donnera ;
cherchez, vous trouverez ;
frappez, on vous ouvrira.
En effet, quiconque demande reçoit, qui cherche trouve,
à qui frappe on ouvrira.

Matthew 7:7-8, Jesus of Nazareth - Matthew 7, 7-8, Jésus de Nazareth

Confidence - Confiance
Inch'Allah, choir - chorale Lumino, direction Habiba Hamdaoui

**Chapel for Europe**
Chapel of the Resurrection

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

PRAYING - EN PRIÈRE
1 - 2 - 2018
L.T. OUCH' & Chapel for Europe
World Interfaith Harmony Week

Introduction
Au centre de notre être, il y a un point de néant qui n'est pas touché par le péché ni par l'illusion, un point de vérité pure ; c'est un point ou une étincelle qui appartient totalement à Dieu, qui n'est jamais à notre disposition, d'où Dieu dispose de notre vie, qui est inaccessible aux fantaisies de notre propre mental ou aux brutalités de notre volonté. Ce petit point de néant et de pauvreté absolue est la pure gloire de Dieu en nous. C'est, pour ainsi dire, son nom écrit en nous, en tant que notre pauvreté, notre indigence, notre dépendance, notre filiation. C'est comme un diamant pur, brillant de la lumière invisible du ciel. Il est en chacune et chacun et si nous pouvions le voir, nous verrions ces milliards de points se rassembler dans la brillance d'un soleil qui ferait complètement disparaître ses ténèbres et la cruauté de la vie... Cette vision est seulement donnée. Mais la porte du ciel est partout.

At the center of our being is a point of nothingness which is untouched by sin and by illusion, a point of pure truth, a point or spark which belongs entirely to God, which is never at our disposal, from which God disposes of our lives, which is inaccessible to the fantasies of our own mind or the brutalities of our own will. This little point of nothingness and of absolute poverty is the pure glory of God in us. It is so to speak His name written in us, as our poverty, as our indigence, as our dependence, as our sonship. It is like a pure diamond, blazing with the invisible light of heaven. It is in everybody, and if we could see it, we would see these billions of points of light coming together in the face and blaze of a sun that would make all the darkness and cruelty of life vanish completely ... I have no program for this seeing. It is only given. But the gate of heaven is everywhere.

Thomas Merton

Interfaith Prayer



Haby Lumina Performance



Hang Drum solo



3RD STAGE: PHOTO EXHIBITION

The Interfaith Prayer and concert, were followed by the Prize Award Winning Ceremony and the Vernissage of the Photo Exhibition.

At this occasion the winners shared their reflections on their photo, the message they wanted to convey to the audience.

This event served as a platform for exchange among people and representatives of different faiths in a laid-back atmosphere.



Poster Vernissage



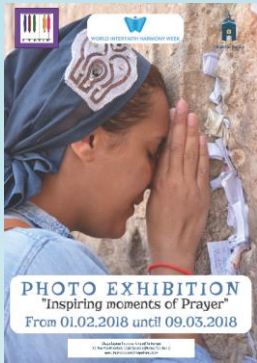
Award Winning Ceremony



Chapel for Europe

The Photo Exhibition is still running until 9th of March 2018.

There are several requests to exhibit these pictures in other places in Brussels and abroad (for i.e. Paris – Espace Poveda).



Leaflet Exhibition

Exhibition Photo Album



2nd PRIZE



1st PRIZE



3rd PRIZE



The event of February 1st : Vernissage, interfaith prayer and photo exhibition in images and podcast

MARDI 30 JANVIER
13H10

Concours Photo iTouch-Chapelle pour l'Europe (Rozemarijn Vanwijnsberghe)

La Semaine Mondiale de
l'Harmonie Interconfessionn...

ÉCOUTER

Radio Interview – RCF Belgique



WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK



The Official UN Observance in the 1st Week of February



Chapel for Europe

4TH STAGE: INTERRELIGIOUS CALENDAR

The 2018-19 interfaith 12-month calendar, published yearly by “El Kalima” (member of the Plateforme Interconvictionelle Bruxelles), will host the 3 winning pictures and the 9 finalist with the description given by the authors. We are currently preparing the lay-out of it.

Descriptions refer to their experience of prayer, in terms of: peace, mutual understanding, diversity, inclusiveness, intergenerational solidarity, beauty, nature...



CONSIDERING THE IMPACT OF THE PROJECT:

The initiative was successful in many regards.

It brought together people from various countries, backgrounds and beliefs.

About 50 photos were submitted, more than 100 participants took part in the event of 1st of February, numerous visitors came to the exhibition, there was a high Social Media interaction, the Interfaith Calendar will reach many households, the exhibition will travel abroad, etc...

At the different stages the initiative has increased the awareness about the importance of *interfaith dialogue and harmony*.

Moreover, the participants were incited to explore the benefits of interior life for better mutual understanding and ***“love of the neighbour”***.

We believe that our initiative can serve as a model for other organisations around the world who would like to promote the same values. We hope the report is sufficiently explicit about the procedure and all the organizational details.



We remain available to supply further information and advice.

We sincerely thank you for creating this opportunity for exchange and advancement in the field of interfaith peaceful coexistence, crucial for nowadays society.

The organising team: Christiane, Irmina, Juani, Krystian, Rozemarijn, Sabina – Chapel for Europe, I.T.OUCH’

