



PRESS RELEASE
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FLEMISH MINISTER FOR CULTURE, MEDIA, YOUTH AND BRUSSELS AFFAIRS
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BRONKS wins Flemish Culture Award for Cultural Education 2013-2014

Today, Flemish Minister for Culture Sven Gatz presented BRONKS with the Flemish Community Award for Cultural Education 2013-2014. The jury appreciates the non-patronising approach to children and young people with productions that are never mere entertainment, but always give food for thought. The presentation took place at the end of the sector moment 'Quality in cultural education' in Brussels with, amongst others, Michael Wimmer of the Austrian EDUCULT as keynote speaker.

The sector event 'Quality in cultural education' was a great day for all cultural and youth organisations that fully support cultural education. The programme consisted of a substantive debate, inspiring exchanges and informal networking. The participants learned about the results of the 'Growing in Culture' committee, namely the self-scan and the cultural education toolkit. *Vitamine C* invited keynote speaker Michaël Wimmer of the Austrian EDUCULT and organised a number of discussion tables with international guests. The sector event is an initiative of the Flemish Ministry for Culture, Youth, Sport and Media, in collaboration with *Vitamine C*.

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Right from the beginning BRONKS chose to structurally embed cultural education within its activities. Thus they succeeded in making children, young people and even adults experience the complex modern reality in a pleasant, self-willed, critical, sustainable and even absurd manner. BRONKS looks at the world with an open mind, and is not afraid to address taboos in its productions, such as autism, suicide, the Roma gypsies or the hostage drama in Beslan. BRONKS organises programmes in which children and young people from various sections of society can, under the supervision of artists, experiment with theatre but also with other media such as music, dance, images and editing.

The jury praises BRONKS' thorough vision and commitment in the field of cultural education, as well as their international approach. BRONKS builds bridges with the French-speaking youth theatre in Brussels and, for many years already, has been inviting Dutch theatre companies to perform in Brussels. Ever since the annual BRONKSfestival was transformed into

EXPORT/IMPORT, it even focuses completely on international work and on translated or non-spoken performances from our own country.

Flemish Minister for Culture Sven Gatz said: “BRONKS inspires, causes astonishment, makes people laugh, cry, shiver, think, and holds up a mirror ... not only to children and young people, but just as easily to adults. This Flemish Culture Award rewards the perseverance and enthusiasm of Oda Van Neygen and her entire crew.”

Flemish Culture Awards 2013 -2014

At the proposal of a jury of experts, the Flemish Minister for Culture pays tribute to a person or an organisation that made a notable contribution to cultural life in Flanders in the course of the past season. The Flemish Culture Awards jury announce the laureate at an important event organised by the sector where both the sector and the winner receive attention and recognition. A Culture Award carries the amount of 12,500 euros. For the General Cultural Merit Award of the Flemish Community, an amount of 20,000 euros is appropriated by the Government of Flanders. Each laureate receives the bronze statuette 'La ultima isla' by Philip Aguirre.

For more information, please visit: www.cultuurprijzen.be