

2015 Ufa Arts Festival

Bashkortostan - Netherlands

3 - 6 December

exhibitions | performances
lectures



In 1813 Bashkir regiments joined the Russian army to defeat Napoleon in Europe. As part of that campaign, the regiments entered the Netherlands. They went along the IJssel river, Harderwijk and finally liberated Amsterdam as well as the rest of the country.

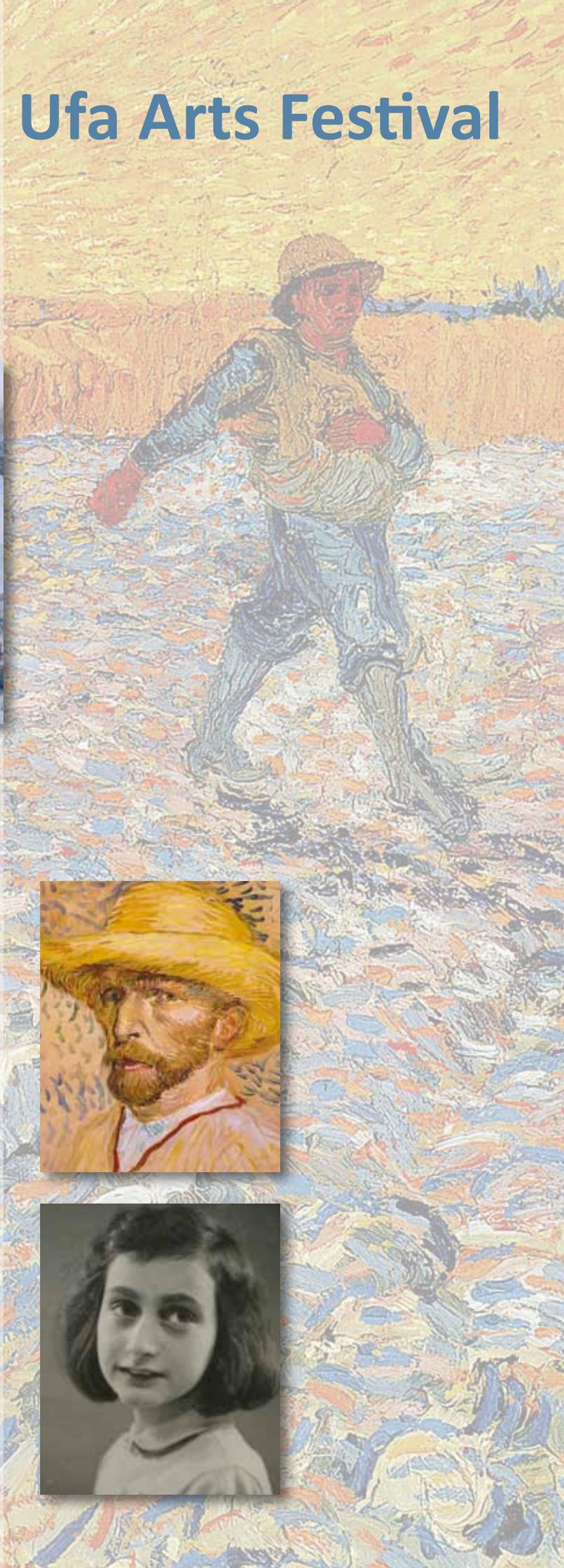
A commemoration of this military victory was held in 2013 in the Netherlands. In March 2014 the Dutch Hexagon Ensemble was invited by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic Bashkortostan for a performance in Ufa. The program included music in combination with visual arts and a visual show. Students and teachers from the Arts Gymnasium, other young talented visual artists and the musicians from Hexagon Ensemble cooperated and made the performance a great success.

In July 2014 a delegation of artists and art teachers from Ufa went to Amsterdam and visited the Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh Museum, the Stadsschouwburg and Museum Geelvinck Hinlopen. During this visit a plan was developed for further cooperation.

Following the events in 2013 and 2014 the historic friendship between Bashkortostan and the Netherlands will be established with the 2015 Ufa Arts Festival.

The festival includes a commemoration of the 125th anniversary of the death of the Dutch painter Vincent van Gogh (1890) and the 70th anniversary of the death of Anne Frank (1945). Artists from Bashkortostan and the Netherlands will join and contribute to harmony and respect in the world.

Ensemble in residence: Hexagon Ensemble





Festival Program

Thursday 3 December

State Academic Drama Theatre

18.30 | foyer Opening exhibition and lecture about the life of Anne Frank.

19.00 | small hall Theatre play about the life of Anne Frank by the State Academic Drama Theatre.

Friday 4 December

National Museum of the Republic of Bashkortostan

15.30 Commemoration and exhibition 'Netherlands liberated by the Bashkirs 1813'.

Philharmonic Hall n.a. H. Akhmetov

17.00 | foyer Exhibition of paintings by students of the Republican Art Gymnasium inspired by the work of Vincent van Gogh.

19.00 | main hall Concert 'An encounter with Vincent van Gogh'. Hexagon Ensemble plays music from the impressionist period combined with a visual show including paintings by Vincent van Gogh and works of the students of the Republican Art Gymnasium. Paintings will be projected on a huge screen.

Saturday 5 December

State Academic Drama Theatre

17.00 | foyer Exhibition and lecture about the life of Anne Frank.

17.30 | foyer Opening exhibitions of paintings by students of the Art Academy, students of the Republican Art Gymnasium and disabled people from several institutions in Ufa. These paintings are inspired by the works and life of Vincent van Gogh and the music of his era.

18.00 | main hall Music theatre production 'The yellow sun of Van Gogh': drama, music, ballet, visual show. Performance about the life of Vincent van Gogh. Coproduction State Academic Drama Theatre and Hexagon Ensemble.

Sunday 6 December

State Academic Drama Theatre

12.00 | foyer Exhibitions of paintings by students of the Art Academy, students of the Republican Art Gymnasium and disabled people from several institutions in Ufa. The paintings are inspired by the works and life of Vincent van Gogh and music of his time.

13.15 | foyer Lecture about the life and works by Vincent van Gogh.

14.00 | main hall Music theatre production 'The yellow sun of Van Gogh': drama, music, ballet, visual show. Performance about the life of Vincent van Gogh. Coproduction State Academic Drama Theatre and Hexagon Ensemble.

17.30 | foyer Exhibition and lecture about the life of Anne Frank.

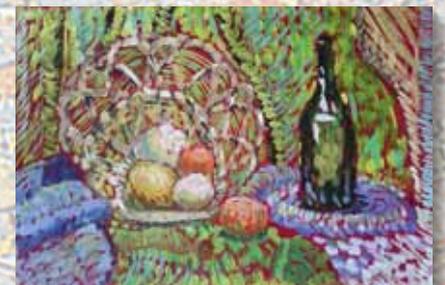
18.00 | small hall Theatre play about the life of Anne Frank by the State Academic Drama Theatre.

2015

Reservation tickets and detailed information about the performances:

State Academic Drama Theatre
www.rusdram.ru

Philharmonic Hall n.a. H. Akhmetov
www.bashgf.ru



Anne Frank

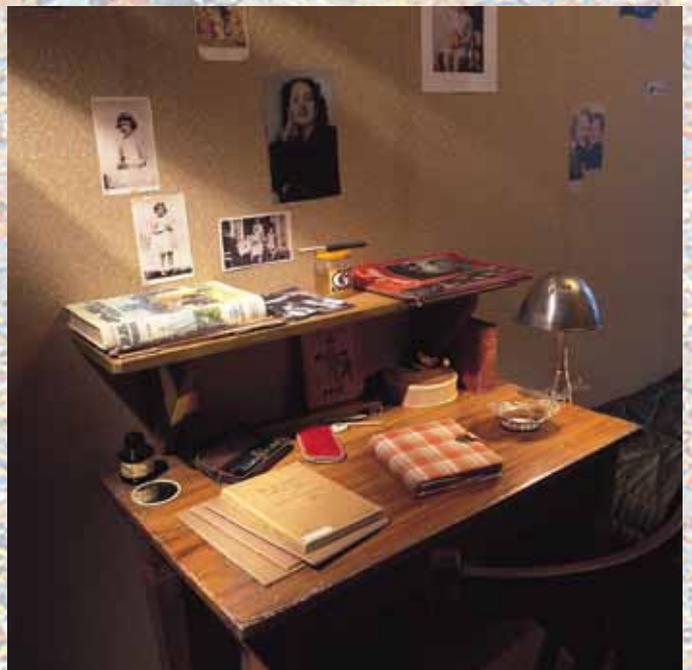
Anne Frank was a Jewish girl and was born in 1929 in Germany. The economic crisis, Hitler's rise to power and growing antisemitism put an end to her and her family's carefree life. Otto Frank and his wife Edith – Anne's Parents – decided in 1933, just as many other German Jews, to leave Germany. The family went to The Netherlands.

For a while there was hope that The Netherlands would not become involved in the war, but on 10 May 1940 German troops invaded the country. Five days later The Netherlands surrendered and became officially occupied by Germany. Anti-Jewish regulations soon followed.

On 5 July 1942 Margot Frank, Anne's sister, received a call to report for a German work camp. The next day the Frank family went into hiding. The Van Pels family followed a week later and in November 1942 an eighth person arrived; dentist Fritz Pfeffer. They remain in the secret annex of a house on the Prinsengracht in the centre Amsterdam for just over two years.

Shortly before going into hiding, Anne received a diary for her birthday. She starts writing straightaway. During her time in hiding she writes about events in the secret annex and about herself. Her diary became a great support to her.

After almost two years in hiding, the family was discovered and deported to concentration camps. Anne's father, Otto Frank, would be the only one of the eight people to survive. Anne Frank died in February 1945. After her death, Anne became famous all around the world because of the diary she wrote while she was in hiding. The annex of the house where she hid with her family was later transformed into a museum, which has since been visited by almost 30 million people.



Vincent van Gogh

Vincent van Gogh, one of the most well-known post-impressionist artists – for whom color was the chief symbol of expression – was born in Holland on 30 March 1853.

The son of a pastor, brought up in a religious and cultured atmosphere, Vincent was highly emotional, lacked self-confidence and struggled with his identity and with giving direction to his life. He believed that his true calling was to preach the gospel to people; however, it took years for him to discover his calling as an artist. The works of his early Dutch period are somber-toned, sharply lit, genre paintings of which the most famous is “The Potato Eaters” (1885).

In 1886, he went to Paris to join his brother Théo, the manager of Goupil’s gallery. In Paris, van Gogh studied with Cormon, where he met Pissarro, Monet, and Gauguin. Having met these new Impressionist painters, he tried to imitate their techniques; he began to lighten his very dark palette and to paint in the short brushstrokes of the Impressionists’ style. Unable to successfully copy the style, he developed his own style, which was more bold and unconventional.

In 1888, Van Gogh decided to go south to Arles, a village in the south of France, where he hoped his friends would join him to help found an art school. At “The Yellow House”, van Gogh hoped that like-minded artists would be able to work together in a stimulating environment. Gauguin did join him, but with disastrous results. Van Gogh’s nervous temperament made him a difficult companion and night-long discussions combined with painting all day undermined Gauguin’s health.

Near the end of 1888, an incident led Gauguin to ultimately leave Arles. Van Gogh pursued him with an open razor, was stopped by Gauguin, after which Van Gogh ended up cutting a portion of his own ear lobe off. Van Gogh then began to alternate between fits of madness and lucidity and was sent to the asylum in Saint-Remy for treatment.

Self portraits of Vincent van Gogh In May of 1890, after a period at the asylum, show that he felt much better. He went to live in Auvers-sur-Oise, near Paris. Two months later, he died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. During his brief career, he did not experience much success – he sold only one painting – lived in poverty, malnourished and overworked.

Despite the lack of success during his own lifetime, van Gogh’s legacy lives on. He has left a lasting impact on the world of art. Van Gogh is now viewed as one of the most influential painters in history: he helped lay the foundations of modern art.



Hexagon Ensemble

Wout van den Berg, flute | **Bram Kreeftmeijer**, oboe |
Arno van Houtert, clarinet | **Marieke Stordiau**, bassoon |
Christiaan Boers, horn | **Frank Peters**, piano

The Hexagon Ensemble is a piano sextet consisting of five wind players and a pianist. The ensemble has performed many successful concerts since 1991, in venues such as the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Wigmore Hall in London and the Flanders Festival. The Hexagon Ensemble also toured the United States, where they played concerts and initiated masterclasses. Other tours: France, United Kingdom, Slovenia, Germany and Italy. In March 2014 the Hexagon Ensemble made a successful concert tour in Russia with the program *The Imagination*. In 2017 the ensemble will go on tour in Japan.

No musical archive is safe for the six members of the Hexagon Ensemble. They look all over the world for little known or forgotten repertoire. During this quest they have amassed a unique catalogue that includes over 4000 works: little known works from famous composers, but also pieces by unknown composers. This idiosyncratic approach is also clearly apparent in the many CD's which the ensemble has recorded.

In addition to their regular performances, the Hexagon Ensemble also produces multidisciplinary programmes. In 2011 they performed, together with renowned Dutch actors, *The Lady Macbeth from the Mtsensk District*. In 2012 they presented *The Red Kimono* in the Holland Festival, which included dancer Michael Schumacher and a video projection. The ensemble also adapted Rossini's opera *La Cenerentola* for six musicians and an actor/singer. This production was aimed at both young and older audiences and continues to be performed in concert halls throughout the Netherlands. *The Imagination* is a programme that combines the musical talents of the Hexagon Ensemble with those of amateur painters. During the concert, paintings by local painters are projected onto a screen above the ensemble. These paintings are directly inspired by the music that is played by the Hexagon Ensemble: an adaption of Modest Mussorgsky's *Paintings at an Exhibition*. The result is a powerful bridge between music and the visual arts.

In 2015 the Hexagon Ensemble is 'Ensemble in residence' at the Ufa Arts Festival.



Educational sessions about Anne Frank

On 2/3/4 December students from several schools in Ufa will visit the Anne Frank exhibition in the State Academic Drama Theatre. Members of the Anne Frank Foundation will explain the young generation about the dark period 1939-1945 and give inspiration and hope for the future.



Creative disabled people

On 2/3/4 December mentally and physically disabled children as well as adults will join music therapy sessions by music therapists from Bashkortostan and Jeannette Landré from the Netherlands. Paintings of the participants, inspired by music from the impressionist era and the life and works by Vincent van Gogh, will be shown in the exhibitions in the foyer of the venues.



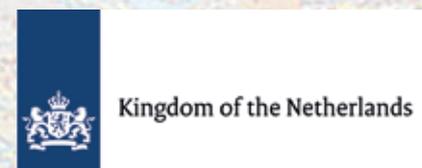
Partners

Republic Bashkortostan

State Academic Drama Theatre | Philharmonic Hall n.a. H. Akhmetov | Republican Art Gymnasium n.a. K.A. Davletkildeev | Art Academy n.a. Zagir Ismagilov | Bashkortostan Independent State Institution of Post Professional Education | National Museum of the Republic of Bashkortostan | The House of Friendship of the Republic Bashkortostan | Ministry of Culture of the Republic Bashkortostan

Netherlands

Hexagon Ensemble | Anne Frank Foundation | Van Gogh Museum | Ranja | Wilhemina E. Jansen Foundation | Museum Geelvinck Hinlopen | Foundation Art connects People | Performing Arts Fund NL | Netherlands Embassy in Moscow



www.hexagonensemble.com
www.artconnectspeople.com

