

Press Announcement: 20.12.2024

## ÉDOUARD GLISSANT Hans-Ulrich Obrist's archive

Exhibition: 28.02.2025 — 01.03.2026 Opening: 28.02.2025, 20:00 hrs.

Location: West Den Haag in the former American Embassy, Lange Voorhout 102, The Hague

**The internationally renowned curator Hans Ulrich Obrist presents an archival exhibition dedicated to the Martinican philosopher and poet Édouard Glissant (1928–2011). Glissant is one of the most influential thinkers of the 20th century, whose concepts such as 'Relation', creolization, and 'Mondialité' offer a powerful lens through which to understand the complex dynamics of globalization, cultural diversity, and identity in the 21st century.**

His philosophy advocates for a global dialogue centered on diversity and exchange. In a world where globalization threatens cultural diversity and populism and nationalism are on the rise, Glissant emphasizes the importance of connection and mutual enrichment without homogenization. He envisions a 'One-World' where cultural exchange does not lead to the loss of identity but rather to its enrichment. Glissant's ideas continue to inspire artists, writers, and thinkers to work more inclusively, offering guidance and perspective in the world of today.

This long-term exhibition highlights the intellectual and artistic collaboration between Glissant and Obrist. Over six hours of video recordings, including public and private interviews where Glissant recites his poetry and further develops his philosophy, provide profound insights into the thinker's ideas. Additionally, archival materials, such as books, and a series of posters by contemporary artists influenced by Glissant's thought, are presented and expanded upon throughout the exhibition.

Édouard Glissant (21 September 1928, Martinique – 3 February 2011, Paris) was a celebrated novelist, poet, and philosopher whose work explored cultural diversity, identity, and global interconnectedness. Glissant's work is rooted in the Caribbean experience, addressing themes of cultural diversity and identity. Glissant also founded cultural institutions in Martinique and Paris, leaving a legacy that continues to inspire discussions on globalization and cultural solidarity.

For Obrist, Glissant was not only a mentor but also a guiding figure in his curatorial practice. His projects are directly inspired by Glissant's vision of global connectedness as a process where cultural identity is celebrated and enriched.

Throughout this year-long project at West Den Haag, a series of activities will be organized, including lectures, workshops, and panel discussions, to further explore and make Glissant's ideas accessible to a broader audience.

More information will follow soon.

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For more information, please contact us: [info@westdenhaag.nl](mailto:info@westdenhaag.nl) or +31(0)70.3925359

'Hans Ulrich Obrist Archive — Chapter 1: Édouard Glissant' is a project initiated at LUMA Arles and LUMA Westbau at the invitation of Maja Hoffmann to Hans Ulrich Obrist, conceived and curated by Arthur Fouray and Hans Ulrich Obrist, under the direction of Vassilis Oikonomopoulos, Artistic Director at LUMA Arles.

The program of West is made possible by the Municipality of The Hague and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

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