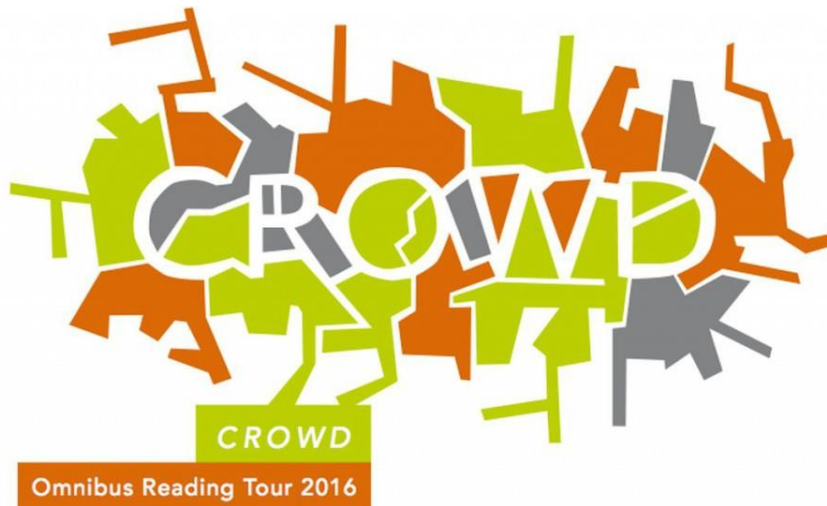


# Creating Other Ways of Dissemination

## A Bus-Readingtour through Europe



### **100 authors on a tour bus for 12 weeks: a reading series across Europe and Turkey - from May to July 2016**

**The tour starts on the 2nd May in Helsinki/ route covers 14 countries to 50 locations - starting in Finland, travelling through Germany, Austria, and along the 'Balkan route' to Cyprus, from megacities to mountain huts/ Literature as a travelling festival celebrating communication and interaction.**

*Berlin, 15 April 2016* - Over 12 weeks, more than 100 authors from all over Europe will be undertaking a bus tour for a reading series that will span across the continent - starting high in the North in Finland, travelling down through Germany, Austria, and then along the 'Balkan route' to Cyprus. In all, they will travel through 14 countries and stop in more than 50 different locations. The tour begins 2 May 2016 in Helsinki and ends 24 July in Limassol, Cyprus.

The tour will feature authors of all ages and genres, the well known as well as the yet-to-be-discovered (from the German side that includes Artur Becker and Maria Cecilia Barbetta). What was important in selecting the authors was not their name but rather their involvement and presence in their respective countries and communities. Many of them stand at a crossroad between cultures due to their heritage and multilingualism.

Under the motto: 'Creating Other Ways of Dissemination', CROWD wants to find ways of bringing authors into contact with one another as well as with others with different educational pathways and cultural experience from all four points of the compass. Literature thus becomes a way to meet people. The bus route will stop off at locations typically associated with literature as well as less conventional venues: literature houses and other literary institutions for example, but also schools, hospitals and universities, in villages, parishes and alpine cabins alike. We will be listening to each other, discussing with audiences and eating together; dozens of readings, performances, discussions and workshops are to be expected. It will be a large, eccentric 'travelling festival', a celebration of interaction and communication: literature as an opportunity for dialogue.

Over the course of the tour, the authors will write in a large scroll - their entries may be spontaneous or planned, individual or collaborative. This text, gradually growing over the 12 weeks, will symbolise the concept of literature itself: a cohesive work-in-progress to be unrolled, reworked and added to at each stopping place.

### **The legs**

2 May - 21 May: Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark

22 May - 12 June: Germany, Poland, Czech Republic

13 June - 4 July: Austria, Slovenia, Serbia, Bulgaria

5 July - 24 July: Turkey, Greece, Cyprus

### **The tour: who's travelling with whom and for how long?**

The authors will be on the road together in alternating groups of 8 for approximately one week. At each stop, local authors and artists will join in CROWD activities alongside the travelling authors, all of which represent different genres, age groups and linguistic backgrounds and come from each of the countries taking part. The idea behind it all: to maintain networking and synergy through face-to-face encounters as well as by digital means. An app for example will be made available for the bus tour to show all of the route's destinations and to provide information about the authors taking part and local organising partners, as well as multimedia content from the events (release date: 22 April 2016).

**The OMNIBUS Reading Tour** was initiated by **CROWD**, a network of literary activists founded by *Lettrétage* (Germany), *Forum Stadtpark* (Austria), *Nuoren Voiman Liitto* (Finland) and *Ideogramma* (Cyprus). As a non-profit organisation, the network promotes national and international exchange between event organisers, authors, translators, cultural mediators as well as politicians. Furthermore, CROWD offers a European audience insight into the multiplicity of current literary scenes in real time - digitally as well as in person. CROWD is a decentralised, non-hierarchical network that does not only hope to develop the European literary scene further, but moreover wants to discover what is new and the exciting within it.

CROWD is funded by, among others, the European Union's Creative Europe Program; the OMNIBUS Reading Tour is funded by the *Kulturstiftung des Bundes*, *Stiftung Preußische Seehandlung*, *Kulturministerium Brandenburg*, *Kulturamt der Stadt Frankfurt/Oder*, *Bundeskanzleramt Österreich* (Art), *Norden* (Nordic Culture Point), *Das Land Steiermark* (Culture, Europe, Foreign Relations), *Senatsverwaltung für kulturelle Angelegenheiten* (Berlin), *Hamburgische Kulturstiftung*, *Graz Kultur*, *Opetus- ja kulttuuriministeriö*, British Council, Cyprus Tourism, *Miðstöð íslenskra bókmennna* (Icelandic Literature Center), *Landesmittel Schleswig-Holstein*, *Norwegisch-Deutsche Willy-Brandt-Stiftung* (*Den norsk-tyske Willy-Brandt-stiftelsen*), Goethe Institute (Finland, Sweden and Czech Republic), Austrian Embassy Helsinki, FILI (Finnish Literature Exchange), Norwegian Embassy (Athens), Norwegian Institute at Athens, NORLA, CYTA, Heart Cyprus, The Danish Arts Foundation, *Le gouvernement du grand-duché de Luxembourg* (*Ministère de la Culture*), *Österreichisches Kulturforum Berlin* and *Verein Berliner Kaufleute und Industrieller*.

## Further information:

News and updates on the CROWD OMNIBUS Reading Tour can be followed with the hashtag #crowdlitbus on all popular social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.).

## Brief overview of the tour:

<http://crowd-literature.eu/omnibus-2/>

## Interviews and quotations from the travelling authors:

<http://crowd-literature.eu/tag/one-is-a-crowd/>

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