

Batuta received an award for its fantastic work in generating spaces of reconciliation and coexistence

The International Festival for Cultural and Social Promotion Fair Saturday launched its 2017 version with a day that included a press conference, the forum "Culture for a better world" and the Fair Saturday award ceremony, granted to institutions that transform the life of thousands of people through culture.

The day began with a press conference about the Fair Saturday organization, at the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao. The event was attended by the Mayor of Bilbao, Juan María Aburto; Lorea Bilbao, Ministry of Culture of the Bizcaia Area; Juan Ignacio Vidarte, General Director of the Guggenheim Museum of Bilbao; Jordi Albareda, Founder of Fair Saturday, and representatives of the international entities awarded.

On this occasion, international initiatives La Tarumba of Peru, the Edinburgh International Festival of the United Kingdom, the Yehudi Menuhim Foundation of Belgium, and the Fundación Nacional Batuta of Colombia had the opportunity to present their experiences face to the cultural development in their countries.



Subsequently, the forum "Culture for a better world" was held at the Euskalduna Palace with the participation of the 4 international organizations that would receive the recognition: La Tarumba (Peru),

Edinburgh International Festival (United Kingdom), Yehudi Menuhim Foundation (Belgium) and Fundación Nacional Batuta (Colombia).

In this Forum, the Executive President of the Fundación Nacional Batuta presented the experience of the Foundation and the social impact it has on 43 thousand children, adolescents, and young people of the country who year after year are part of the musical formation processes of Batuta.

It was highlighted how since its inception, Batuta has been focused on giving the opportunity to children and young people of the entire Colombian territory to achieve their individual potential through the learning of music and, at the same time, through the incorporation of values, such as teamwork, solidarity, discipline, respect, and tolerance.

She also mentioned the fact that music can return dignity to human beings in such a way that it takes away violence. Music humanizes: this is what we have been proving for the last 26 years.



The Fair Saturday award to Fundación Nacional Batuta

Fundación Nacional Batuta received the Fair Saturday award in the Guggenheim Museum of Bilbao as an acknowledgment "to its great commitment to the generation of spaces of reconciliation and coexistence through the use of culture and education as tools for social development, for transforming the lives of thousands of children and teenagers with music education, and for promoting the music itself as a bastion of reconciliation and construction of an inspiring future in Colombia".

Regarding the award, Maria Claudia Parias Durán, Executive President of Batuta, who received the award herself, observed that “Batuta has demonstrated that it is fundamental to include cultural and artistic practices to the notion of human development. We share the mission of Fair Saturday to generate deep reflections among the essential role of arts and culture for the future of human kind. I thank on behalf of the Executive Board of Fundación Nacional Batuta and myself, to the Fair Saturday Organization and to its founder and director Jordi Albareda, for recognizing the labour of Fundación Nacional Batuta in Colombia”

The School Orchestra model, methodology in which Batuta bases its musical and collective practices, allows us to validate on a daily basis the benefits that our programs generate in an individual and collective level, both in our beneficiaries and their communities. This experience helps us to recognize that team work is essential to achieve bigger effects, in the same manner as Fair Saturday pools efforts from organizations and individuals around the globe, that together achieve to transform the world through arts.

