

# 1000+ PAIRS OF RED SHOES IN 40+ CITIES ACROSS THE GLOBE

INSPIRED BY ELINA CHAUVE'S  
"ZAPATOS ROJOS" (RED SHOES)



**iwin**

Issue 11

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CLOSING THE YEAR TOGETHER

REFLECTION, COMMUNITY, AND COLLECTIVE CARE

Dear Community Members,

As we reach the end of the year, we are offering ourselves — and our community — a slightly different kind of December newsletter. Instead of listing many upcoming events, this issue is intentionally created as a moment of reflection, reporting, and collective breath. It is also our way of reporting back to those of you who may not follow our daily updates on social media but are deeply part of our extended IWIN community.



## A GLOBAL ART ACTION: REPORT BACK

IN LATE NOVEMBER, SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY HAPPENED.

On November 25, communities across the globe came together simultaneously for a unified public art action addressing violence against women.

On that single day, **More than 1,000 shoes hand-painted in red appeared simultaneously across 40+ cities in multiple countries.**

Installations took place in **university campuses, art galleries, public plazas, libraries, and community spaces**, made possible through the leadership of local organizers and the participation of hundreds of volunteers, artists, students, and community members.

Thousands more encountered the work through public spaces and digital storytelling.

This global action was the **result of months of coordination, trust, and collective care, culminating in one shared day of visibility and solidarity.** The installations have now concluded, and documentation from cities around the world is currently being archived and organized.

# WHAT MADE THIS MOMENT HISTORIC

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**We turned shared pain into shared action; in the most creative way.**

Across countless nationalities, generations, and communities, each city held one **common symbol the red-painted shoes** and shaped it through its own voice.

With **live music, dance, choirs, lectures, and collective presence**, communities came together to raise their voices and call for an end to violence against women.

**This was solidarity made visible — not spoken about, but lived.**

**This is just the beginning. Our circle will grow wider, and our voices will grow louder.**



## WHERE TO SEE THE VISUAL STORY

📸 To explore photos, short videos, and reflections from the installations, we invite you to visit our website and follow us on Instagram and YouTube.

### NEWS

#### Visual Library:

- Reels Collage of Participant Cities [Click Here](#)
- YouTube Global Movement [Click Here](#)
- YouTube Embarcadero En [Click Here](#)
- YouTube SF [Click Here](#)
- YouTube Embarcadero FA [Click Here](#)



# A Yalda Moment to Share



As part of this season of light and gathering, we invite you to watch the recording of our Full Moon – Yalda Special, held on December 4, featuring **Dr. Farima Berenji**.

In this special gathering, **Dr. Berenji** introduces the ancient ritual of Shab-e Yalda, sharing its cultural roots, symbolism, and meaning – and how this tradition has carried wisdom, resilience, and hope across generations.

**Watch the full program on YouTube:**

We hope this offering brings warmth, reflection, and connection into your Yalda celebration.

## A Year of Milestones, Movement, and Meaning

As we close this year, we pause with deep gratitude and pride in what 2025 has brought to IWIN. We celebrated our **10th anniversary** at Golden Gate Park – a meaningful milestone that honored a decade of community, resilience, and collective growth. Another highlight we are especially proud of is receiving the **California Arts Council award**, recognizing our art-based work with vulnerable and underserved communities. On **November 25**, IWIN stepped into a new chapter by serving as a conduit for many nationalities and communities to raise a collective voice against violence toward women – **expanding our global call** and reminding us of the power of shared action. As we look ahead to 2026, we are inspired to deepen our impact, widen our circle, and continue serving more communities through art, creativity, and connection.



# We Celebrated a Decade of Art, Action, and Community



December invites reflection across cultures – a time shaped by moments such as **Human Rights Day** and the **Winter Solstice**, reminding us of our shared humanity, care, and renewal. At IWIN, this season resonates deeply with our work: **creating spaces where women and communities are seen, supported, and connected through art**. As we close the year, we carry **gratitude** for what has been built and step into the new year with intention – **ready to deepen our impact and expand circles of creativity, healing, and collective voice**.

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# We Celebrated a Decade of Art, Action, and Community

**On December 5, International Volunteer Day, we honor the volunteers who make IWIN's work possible.** From holding space and facilitating programs to supporting behind the scenes, **our volunteers are the heart of this organization.** Their time, care, and commitment sustain our community and allow art, connection, and impact to grow. With deep gratitude, **we thank every volunteer who stood with us this year.**



**Empowering Women Through Art**

# More than 1000 Red Shoes in 40 Cities!

