

CURRENT UTOPIA

We are not in balance. Not in agreement as migrating birds are. Late and overtaken, we hurriedly try to catch the wind and fall into a random swamp.

Rainer Marie Rilke

Among Romans, birds and storms brought signs of change. Are we able, in our current situation to navigate the landscape as we perceive it and at the same time dare to imagine what comes next?

"CURRENT UTOPIA" is a project, initiated by the European N.O.W network. We are seeking artists who are ready to question the status quo; artists who are able to envision the possible and embrace the unknown. How can we transcend the already known strategies for the performing arts in order to develop further its poetic side? Which community or communities should be involved and why? How can artists apply creativity, aesthetics and style as a tool of social transformation?

This is an invitation to investigate your practice. Beat your pillow and hang your sheet, wrinkled with dreams after a night sleep, read the possible in-between-the-lines of present times. Be bold, be selfish, be generous. Propose to us an imagined future!

CURRENT UTOPIA – a series of new work and live research outcome on the methodology and contents of contemporary performance – will be presented at Fabbrica Europa in May 2017.

General framework

An artistic inquiry involving public participation

Geography

Residency and research locations: any place in the world and beyond

Please note that the final presentation of the project takes place in Florence and requires a site-specific adaptation

Commission schedule and stages

Step 1 Applicants submit a project description (max. 1 page) and join one biography and links to audios or videos **Deadline: January 20, 2016**

The call will be sent to a selected group of artists

Step 2 After a first selection, the applicant will be asked to submit a more detailed project description (presentation, proposed methodology, plan & budget). **Deadline: April 10, 2016.** A fee of €350 will be proposed for the project preparation

Step 3 The selected proposal announced, **May 2, 2016**

Step 4 Residency and research, **May 2016-April 2017**

Step 5 Preparation for site-specific adaptation in Florence, **May 2017**

Step 6 Presentation in Florence, **May 2017**

The proposals shall be sent to the following N.O.W partners, in charge of the project coordination;

Ragnheiður Skúladóttir (ragnheidur@lokal.is)

Chiara Organtini (chiara@indisciplinarte.it)

Agnès Henry (agneshenry@extrapole.eu)

Financial framework

- From 10, 000 € to 30, 000€, according to proposed budget.

(Fee incl. salaries and all costs related to residency and research)

- Before the final presentation at *Fabbrica Europa*, a 10 days (max.) residency is planned in Florence, including a specific budget for technical requirements and accommodation.

Elements of context, NOW, Labs & partners

N.O.W is a European network which aims to build the groundwork for a transnational competency cluster. Starting from a common expertise (managing the implementation of an artistic project and its reception by audiences), the **7 partners** are engaged in an exploration within an experimental setting.

They aim to develop a long-lasting prospective reflection in regards to their artistic and cultural mediation practices.

This experimental structure is made up of **4 labs** that shape the project and determine the **3 years** program of activities.

LAB 1 - Strengthening producers 'competencies

In order to prospect towards new development paths, this reflexive lab will be mapping, the skills we have all developed in regards to respective national contexts and we will examine how they affect our jobs.

LAB 2 - A management structure based on networks; 5 artists will be accompanied by 2 to 3 partners over a period of 1, 5 year, allowing an open exchange between the parties and allowing artists to work on specific issues of their choice.

LAB 3 - Innovating tools of production: investigating commission

A commission will be written by the partners and the proposal sent to a selected group of artists. This framework will allow the commissioners to stay in contact with the artist during the process and aid its implementation;

LAB 4 - Outreach and representation tools as restitution of the creative process

Over the working sessions hosted by the seven partners, local artists and operators will be invited to expose their research and or practices in order to guide us in approaching the issues related to the restitution of the creative process. . The documentation of the commission will be also experimented within this lab.

Partners

EXTRAPOLE – France
FABBRICA EUROPA – Italy
INDISCIPLINARTE – Italy
LATITUDES CONTEMPORAINES - France
LÓKAL - Iceland
MOM / ELVIVERO - Spain
TRAFÓ - Hungary
WP ZIMMER – Belgium

Associate partners

Ann Olaerts - (coordinator) - Belgium
Roger Christmann - (admin supervisor) - Germany
Laure Fernandez - NoTHx (young team THALIM-CNRS)
Valerie Pihet – (documentation)
Carole Salis - CRS4 - Italy
SISMÓGRAF – festival - Spain
With the support of Arcadi Ile-de-France, “Fund for Initiative and Research”

