



POLO DIFFUSO PER LE
IDENTITÀ
E L'ARTE
CONTEMPORANEA
IN SICILIA
WWW.I-ART.IT



I Art: Diffused Pole on the Identities and Contemporary Arts of Sicily

Program for Artist in residence

Date: 30th March- 28th April 2015

Venue: Sicily

Deadline: 6th February 2015

Applicants: Artists resident in Europe or other Mediterranean countries

Info: www.i-art.it/en/

The residency program involves the participation of a maximum of thirty artists coming from Europe and other Mediterranean countries. The artists will move to Sicily for a month to create new art works, coherent with the I ART mission. The main objective of the residency is to bring the artist out of the normal artistic circuit: an experience outside of the traditional institutions will give the artist a chance to establish a more authentic and direct relationship with a territory and its inhabitants, who will be the audience for the finished work.

Another way of connecting the artists with the area is through meeting local representatives: artists, activists, experts in local traditions and institutional delegates will take the artist through the knowledge of the territory and its history.

The whole experience of the residency and the creation of site specific and community specific art work will be recorded in a web documentary via images, videos and an individual info sheet for each artist and there will also be a short documentary film produced.

The Project

I ART is a project which involves some 100 Sicilian Municipalities, leaded by the Municipality of Catania, ideated and directed by *I WORLD: International Association for the Safeguarding and the Valorisation of the Identities of Humanity*, and funded by the PO FESR Sicily 2007-2013, Third axis, Operational Objective 3.1.3. Intervention line 3.

I ART is a new artistic and cultural movement based on the renewal of tradition through contemporary art.

A synopsis of the principles of the I ART Manifesto:

- *Art is Identity*: an expression and celebration of the identity of individuals, communities and places
- *Art is Life*: the artistic act in the present, poetry of action; the expressive totality of being can only be expressed through life, in the moment where it becomes manifest
- *Art is Intangible*: it reveals the invisible and the intangible as essential components of reality; a celebration of tradition and the invention of tradition itself





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- *Art is Unity*: an integration of different art forms composed as an open language made of other languages
- *Art is Diversity*: a rejection of stereotyped and standardised images and celebration of unique and unrepeatable forms; proclamation of the omnipresence of art, which can happen at any time and anywhere, because it is a free expression of identity.

Article 1 // Residency Description

All of the artists will arrive on the same day in Palermo where they will stay for two nights. Meetings will be organized during these two days. The participants will have the opportunity to get to know each other and to talk about their work with the help of visual support. The artists will also be presented to journalists during a press conference. This period will also be used to film some interviews with the artists to be used in a documentary film.

At a later stage, the artists will be separated and transferred to the different territories involved in the project. Once there they will create their work, which will be left as a gift to the district that hosts them. Throughout the duration of their residency, the artists will be assisted by the local council and by the manager of the residency program.

Article 2 // Art disciplines

The disciplines admitted to the contest are:

• Visual arts

The admitted disciplines are painting and sculpture. In particular, sculpture must be related to the cycle of stone.

• Tactile arts and design:

The admitted disciplines in this section are: textile art (with knowledge of working with natural fibres and traditional weaving techniques) and ceramic design.

• Photography and audio-visual arts:

The admitted disciplines in this section are: photography, documentary, video art, digital art, animation.

The original photography and visual projects will focus on the free reinterpretation of images, visual documents or filming of the local traditional life in a contemporary style, in order to reframe the intangible cultural heritage of Sicily in the present day. The proposed artistic work must take into consideration the documentation and contemporary interpretation of the lifecycle of principal productions (e.g. fishing, wheat, grapes and oil, including the related traditional celebrations). Also in this category, the artists will be put in contact with experts on local customs and traditions.





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• **Music and sonic art**

The musical projects will focus on the contemporary reinterpretation of rhythms, songs and sounds from Sicilian ethnomusicology, seen as a living musical expression whilst taking into account the cultural context, full of different influences and fusing many different styles. The proposed pieces must be original and although they should refer to past styles, they must not merely repeat them.

The artists will be put in contact with builders of traditional musical instruments and with exponents of the local musical traditions.

All work realised within the program must be original and will have to use related iconography, images, materials, techniques and processes from the Sicilian traditions, but they should be revitalised using their aesthetic DNA.

Each candidate must provide a summary of their proposed project to be realized during the residency. The project must somehow be related to historical and anthropological aspects of Sicily, and in particular its intangible cultural heritage. Inspiration for this could be found in the list of intangible cultural resources identified in the Register of Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Region of Sicily (*Registro delle Eredità Immateriali della Regione Siciliana - REIS*) and in the Registers of Intangible Heritage of Local Interest (*Registri delle Eredità Immateriali di Interesse Locale*), established in around 100 Sicilian municipalities, designed and developed by I WORLD and annexed to the present call.

Each candidate's proposal is to be considered as a guideline that can be subsequently modified in relationship to the territory and the specific theme assigned to it.

Article 3 // Facilities

I ART **offers** the participants:

- **Travel**
- **Meals and accommodation**
- **Assistance** from the curator and the local organization
- **Technical support** and access to archives, libraries, collections and public or private research centres
- **Production costs**, in line with the budget and its division between the different artists (about 500 euros)
- **Promotional support to the art work and to the artist** through all the information channels of the project, such as press releases, editorials, brochures, documentaries, social media etc.
- **Production of a web documentary** showing all phases of the residency.





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Article 4 // Admissible Candidates

The call is open to Italian and foreign artists who fulfil **the following requirements:**

- Be of 18 years and over
- Resident in one of the EU member states or countries of the Mediterranean Basin
- A good level of English, both written and oral and preferably a basic level of Italian as well

The program does not provide any insurance coverage. It is recommended that participants take out a policy individually, the organization will not be held liable for any damage or injury caused to individuals or third parties.

Article 5// Conditions of attendance

Participants must fill in all parts of the online application form found on the website www.i-art.it/en/artist-in-residence/

Documents required are as follows:

- Photocopy of a valid ID document
- Cover letter
- Summary of the project proposed to be carried out during the residency, which should be coherent with the theme of the competition
- Artistic CV and if possible, a link to a website of or featuring the artist and their work
- Digital documentation of the most recent and most representative art work (photos, videos, audio files, etc)

Article 6// Selection

The selection committee will consist of experts in each category of the competition and the other artistic disciplines of the Festival I ART, who will nominate the 30 successful artists at their own discretion.

The committee reserves the right to interview candidates by phone or Skype. Any sent material will not be returned.

The names of the winners will be published on the website www.i-art.it by February 2015.

Questions, insights or requests can be submitted to CLAC (management body of the organisation): Email: clac@i-art.it ; Phone: **+39 091 8430492**.

The selected participants will be contacted via email and/or phone, one month before the residency begins.

Following notification of selection, the candidate will have 10 days to respond and sign the program application form, which must be completed, signed and sent to the address indicated on the form. After 10 days, lack of acknowledgement will be considered as a waiver of participation and the selection will move to the subsequent highest rated candidate.



Article 7// Criteria

- Artistic CV
- Coherence of the project with the theme of the residency
- Quality of the project
- The projects potential in relation to the local contexts

Article 8// Locations

Municipalities of Sicily (To be confirmed)

Article 9// Timeline

- Competition announced: **December 2014**
- Deadline of admission: **6th February 2015**
- List of successful candidates announced: **10th March 2015**
- Residency begins: **April 2015**