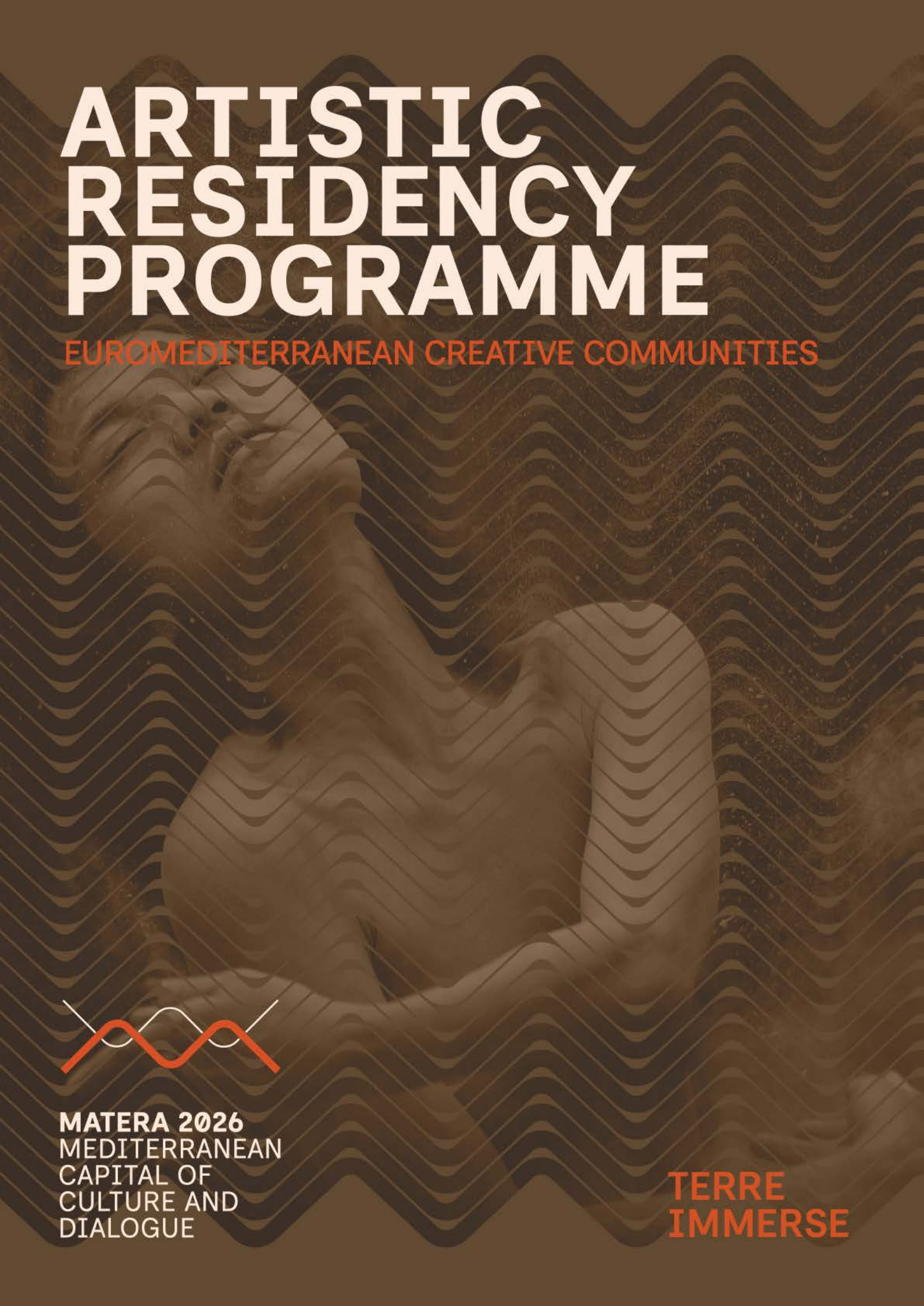
ARTISTIC RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

EUROMEDITERRANEAN CREATIVE COMMUNITIES



MATERA 2026
MEDITERRANEAN
CAPITAL OF
CULTURE AND
DIALOGUE

TERRE
IMMERSE

ARTISTIC RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

"TERRE IMMERSE – EUROMEDITERRANEAN CREATIVE COMMUNITIES"

The Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation, in collaboration with 10 local organisations from the cultural and creative sector selected through a call for applications (available at this LINK), is launching this call for applications aimed at artists from the Union for the Mediterranean (Euromed) region, with a particular focus on the Mediterranean region and Southern Europe, for a residency in Matera lasting four consecutive weeks between September and November 2026.

SELECTED ORGANISATIONS

- ASD Oltredanza – progetti in movimento
- Associazione Gommalacca Teatro
- Associazione Osmosis Ente del Terzo Settore
- Centro Mediterraneo delle Arti ETS
- Materahub Consortium for Cultural and Creative Industries S.c.a.r.l.
- Edinea Srl
- Southeritage Foundation for Contemporary Art
- Momart APS
- Ombre Meridiane Social Cooperative
- Strane Nuvole APS

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1. Objectives

The city of Matera, by virtue of its role as the Mediterranean Capital of Culture and Dialogue 2026 (MCCD 2026), aims to consolidate its position as a hub for creativity and international dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region. To this end, the Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation has launched the artist residency programme "Terre Immerse – Euro-Mediterranean Creative Communities", which has three key strategic objectives:

1. To consolidate Matera's role as a permanent laboratory for artistic production;

2. To support the local creative cultural ecosystem, encouraging the development of international collaborations within Euro-Mediterranean networks;

3. To enhance the local area by using the artist residency as a tool for the interpretation, storytelling and promotion of Matera's tangible and intangible heritage.

The initiative aims to generate a lasting impact capable of further enhancing the city's cultural offering in order to consolidate Matera's international appeal, acting in full alignment with the strategic guidelines of the National Tourism Fund (FUNT). The artist residencies are specifically focused on the collaborative development of projects aimed at promoting the local area through creativity.

2. The Programme

"Terre Immerse – Euro-Mediterranean Creative Communities" is a cultural and artistic mobility programme taking place within the framework of Matera, Mediterranean Capital of Culture and Dialogue 2026. The programme aims to foster the creation of links and collaborations between artists and creatives from the Mediterranean region, with the aim of promoting a renewed and shared Euro-Mediterranean citizenship.

The programme is aimed at artists and creative professionals from the Euro-Mediterranean region who wish to develop a residency project in Matera, in collaboration with an organisation in the cultural and creative sector, as part of Matera – Mediterranean Capital 2026.

3. Target Audience

The call for applications is open to artists of legal age who are nationals of the member states of the Union for the Mediterranean (Euromed), with a particular focus on Southern Europe and the Mediterranean basin (the list of countries is available on the official website of the UfM Secretariat), regardless of their current registered residence or professional domicile.

Each participant may submit an application for only one of the ten planned projects, in line with the required professional profile.

4. Projects and Professional Profiles Sought

ANNEX 1 – Oltredanza ASD

1 choreographer/performer

Project title: Testamento del Gesto

Organisation: ASD Oltredanza – progetti in movimento

"A field study centred on the collection and observation of historical gestures, ancient crafts and local rituals, which is translated into contemporary choreography. This participatory process will involve the local community and give rise to an immersive multimedia installation accompanied by audiovisual recordings and promotional video contributions".

ANNEX 2 – Gommalacca Teatro

1 sound artist, musician, sound designer or professional active in the field of contemporary sound practices

Project title: Matera through headphones. A Euro-Mediterranean sonic journey through layers, voices and digital heritage.

Organisation: Gommalacca Teatro Association

"Immersive sound experiences, local meetings and the collection of oral testimonies to explore the layers, memories of place and flows of the urban context. The final output will consist of a prototype geo-narrative and sound experience accessible via headphones in public spaces, supplemented by digital maps, bilingual audio tracks and QR codes."

ANNEX 3 – Osmosis ETS Association

No. 1: a visual artist or artistic collective with experience in participatory practices, community co-creation and site-specific artistic processes

Project title: New Transhumance

Organisation: Osmosis Association (Third Sector Organisation)

"*Belonging and Mobility in the Mediterranean* – the adoption of transhumance as a cultural metaphor to explore the concepts of journey, belonging and migration in the Mediterranean through workshops and narrative mapping. The process focuses on the civic engagement of young people aged between 15 and 25 and will culminate in a permanent or reactivatable artistic installation or intervention in public space."

ANNEX 4 – Mediterranean Centre for the Arts

No. 1 performer (musician, actor or singer)

Project title: Kun'tʃar MATERA

Organisation: Mediterranean Centre for the Arts ETS

"A travelling narrative exploring the multicultural role of Matera through music and theatre.

By drawing on the expressive codes of theatre and music, the project will explore the city's multicultural tapestry and historical influences linked to the

Sabir language. The initiative will involve the active participation of residents and tourists and will conclude with a travelling storytelling performance."

ANNEX 5 – Materahub Consortium

1 fashion or accessories designer and 1 digital manufacturing expert

Project title: Syncretic Bio-Shelters

Organisation: Materahub Consortium for Cultural and Creative Industries S.c.a.r.l.

"A residency aimed at designing sustainable clothing and accessories that offer protection against the effects of climate change. Through rapid prototyping and the integration of natural fibres, 3D printing and Arduino technologies, concrete solutions to combat the effects of climate change will be developed."

ANNEX 6 – EdiNEA Srl | Eredi di NEA

1 sound artist

Project title: EKHO

Organisation: Edinea Srl

"A project that applies field recording techniques, acoustic sampling of symbolic locations and sessions with Mediterranean musicians to bring the memory of these places to life in dialogue with local communities. The aim is to create an original work that interprets the historical layers and cultural influences of the Mediterranean through a final live performance and an original sound design publication."

ANNEX 7

1 professional artist (visual arts, sculpture, installation, hybrid practices) –

Project title: Unfolding Pathways: Fluid Forms and Hybrid Interpretations of Paper Craft Design

Organisation: SoutHeritage Foundation for Contemporary Art

"A co-design process aimed at exploring the sculptural potential of paper and offering a contemporary reinterpretation of traditional local papier-mâché. Working alongside local craftspeople, the artist will create unique pieces or serial prototypes which will be showcased in a final exhibition and included in a digital archive documenting the processes developed."

ANNEX 8 – MOMART APS

1 photographer

Project title: CROSSINGS: Visual Memories of Euro-Mediterranean Transhumance

Organisation: Momart APS

"An exploration of the region's Mediterranean historical traces through photography and video art. Workshops on photographic superimposition and urban walks open to the community, aimed at producing a site-specific video installation and a digital archive that celebrate Matera's role as a cultural crossroads."

ANNEX 9 – Ombre Meridiane Social Cooperative

1 filmmaker Project title: IN-LAND

Organisation: Ombre Meridiane Social Cooperative

"A project aimed at transforming urban space into a place for critical reflection and social dialogue. Based on the development of participatory filmmaking practices in historic squares and outlying areas to explore themes of social stratification and isolation, this community co-creation will culminate in the production of a docu-drama."

ANNEX 10 – Strane Nuvole

No. 1 comic artist Project title: Med Comics : des explorations artistiques au-delà de la page (Med Comics: Artistic Explorations Beyond the Page)

Organisation: Strane Nuvole APS

"A project centred on exploring the Mediterranean through narrative drawing, the use of new technologies and active engagement with the local community.

The experience will integrate print and performance elements, culminating in the production of a comic book and a live multimedia 'drawn concert'."

5. Core Values

The programme promotes:

- Gender, geographical, regional and sectoral balance.
- Practices of sustainability and inclusion.
- Euro-Mediterranean dialogue and cooperation.

Artists are required to uphold the fundamental principles of human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including those of minorities. The primary aim is to foster the development of a vibrant and diverse artistic and cultural ecosystem, capable of breaking down both disciplinary and geographical barriers.

The Terre Immerse residency programme will also contribute to the drafting of the Manifesto on Euro-Mediterranean Citizenship, aimed at strengthening a shared vision of Mediterranean identity, celebrating common roots and diverse expressions.

6. Duration, Timetable and Location of the Residency

The residency will take place during the three-month period from September to November 2026, requiring a continuous stay of four weeks, excluding travel time.

Each project proposal specifies the timeframe for carrying out the activities. The call for applications guarantees selected participants a four-week consecutive stay in the city of Matera. Ongoing artistic, administrative and logistical support will be provided by the individual host organisations. The programme must include a final presentation specific to each project and the organisation of open studio sessions shared with the local community.

7. Obligations of the Organisers (Hosts)

As a responsible cultural and creative organisation, each host is required to ensure the implementation of the following operational and strategic activities:

- Logistical and Administrative Coordination: comprehensive management of the welcome process, including transfers and accommodation for the

selected professionals. Hosts are also required to provide a suitable workspace, complete with the necessary equipment and materials, available for the entire duration of the residency.

- Mentoring and Monitoring: providing ongoing support to the artists, both during the planning phase and throughout their stay, supervising the creative processes in close collaboration with the professionals to ensure a successful outcome.
- Public Engagement: organising 'open studio' sessions aimed at making the creative process inclusive and accessible to the local community.
- Integrated Communication: active participation in promoting the residency through its own digital and social media channels, in line with the communication strategies of the Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation.

From a financial perspective, each host organisation must cover the following costs from its own budget:

- Payment of artist fees;
- Coverage of logistical costs (travel, board and lodging);
- Coverage of the running costs of the workspace;
- Funding of production costs relating to the final output and weekly events;
- Management of the communications budget (social media management and information materials).

At the same time, the Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation will take charge of the institutional communications for the entire programme, handling:

- Digital dissemination via the official portal and institutional social media profiles; Production of a documentary video recounting the project; Development of the brand identity and graphic templates; Coordination of press office activities.

8. Artists' Obligations

Each artist admitted to the residency undertakes to fulfil the following tasks:

- Continuous Presence: To ensure their presence in the city of Matera for the entire four-week duration of the programme.
- Project Implementation: To oversee the development, artistic research and production of the agreed artwork or research project, ensuring compliance with the established deadlines.

- Signing of Agreements: To finalise the contract with the host organisation, setting out objectives, logistical resources, funding and codes of conduct.
- Engagement with the Community: Actively participating in initiatives aimed at public engagement and outreach, such as workshops, meetings or open studio sessions.
- Care of Assets and Premises: Preserving, with due diligence, the working environment and accommodation provided by the organisation responsible for the residency.

9. Areas of Research and Artistic Languages

The residency programme encourages the creation of original, site-specific works, arising from dialogue and co-design between the Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation and the ten organisations from the local creative sector, previously selected through a public procedure. The areas of exploration encompass the diversity of contemporary expression, ranging from theatre and film to editorial illustration, experimental sound art and fine craftsmanship.

A single lead artist will be appointed for each of the ten projects.

For details of the 10 projects, please refer to paragraph 4 and the attached fact sheets.

Please note that, given the unique nature of each project, the funding allocation, eligibility criteria, participation procedures and deadlines are defined specifically for each individual project. Applicants are therefore invited to refer exclusively to the documents containing the technical specifications of the 10 projects, available in the annexes, to find the binding administrative and operational information for their chosen application.

10. Data Processing

In accordance with EU Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR) and Legislative Decree 196/2003, the data provided by applicants will be processed exclusively for purposes relating to the selection, co-design and subsequent management of the "Terre Immerse" programme.

The processing is necessary for the performance of pre-contractual and contractual measures arising from this call for applications. The data will be

retained for the period strictly necessary for the implementation of the project funded by FUNT.

11. Intellectual Property and Economic Rights in the Work

The moral rights in the works, texts, materials and creative content produced during the artist residencies belong exclusively to the artists who created them, in accordance with Law No. 633/1941, as amended.

In return for the financial contribution provided, both the host organisations and the resident artists grant the Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation a non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual licence, without territorial restrictions, to use all the results of the residency (works, photographic documentation, videos, reports). The Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation and the host organisations undertake to always credit the author of the work in any form of reproduction or dissemination. Conversely, the artists and host organisations undertake to credit the Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation and the "Terre Immerse" programme in any future communication or exhibition of the works produced.

The selected artist guarantees that the works produced do not infringe the intellectual property rights of third parties and undertakes to indemnify both the Foundation and the host organisation against any claim or legal action relating to the content produced. It is also specified that the contractual relationship and the associated obligations exist exclusively between the artist and the host organisation, with the Foundation acting solely as a promoter and institutional partner.

12. Nature of the Contractual Relationship and Limitation of Liability

This notice is intended solely for promotional and institutional coordination purposes. The contractual relationship, as well as the related obligatory, contractual and support relationship, exists and is established exclusively and originally between the selected professional (artist) and the individual host organisation.

The Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation acts solely as the promoter of the public call for applications and as a technical and institutional partner during the assessment, selection and monitoring of artistic profiles, remaining entirely uninvolved in any legal, financial, social security or insurance relationship established between the aforementioned parties.

Consequently, the Matera Basilicata 2019 Foundation shall under no circumstances be held liable for any breaches of contract, disputes, damage to property or persons, or claims of any kind arising from the execution of residency activities, the management of contracts or the implementation of individual artistic projects; responsibility for these matters lies entirely and exclusively with the selected professional and the host organisation.

13. The Annexes (Project Details)

ANNEX 1 – Oltredanza ASD

PROGETTO: *Testamento del Gesto (Testament of the Gesture)*
DEADLINE: 25 July 2026 at 12.00 (CET)
START OF RESIDENCY: 5 October 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION

Testamento del Gesto stems from a simple yet profound question: what remains of a community when words are lost?

In the Mediterranean, which has always been a crossroads of people, cultures and migrations, there exists an invisible heritage made up of gestures, movements, daily rituals, ways of working, traversing spaces, kneading bread and building relationships. A body of knowledge that is often not written in books but lives on in people's bodies. Matera perfectly embodies this Mediterranean dimension: a city built upon collective memory, where the landscape and daily life recount centuries of cultural stratification. This is where the idea for the project stems from: to transform the body into a living archive and to collect the gestures that are at risk of disappearing, so that they may become contemporary artistic material and a new narrative of the Mediterranean.

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION

The '*Testamento del gesto*' project takes the form of an international artist-in-residence programme focused on contemporary dance and audiovisual creation, designed to explore the body as a living archive of Mediterranean memory. Through a profound interaction between choreographic languages, urban settings and the place's mnemonic threads, the initiative charts a path of exploration and co-creation rooted in the fabric of Matera.

In addition to the role of the choreographer/performer, the residency will involve a working group comprising the artistic leadership of ASD Oltredanza, an expert in video installations and young dance talents. The project will harness participatory methods, taking the form of a widespread creative workshop that weaves together artistic experimentation with the intergenerational transfer of knowledge and the vitality of the local area. The workshop programme will unfold along complementary strands. The artist will

lead a field study through Matera's historic districts, drawing on interviews and the meticulous observation of gestures linked to ancient crafts and local rituals — from shaping tuff to bread-making, from everyday customs to ways of inhabiting public space — integrating this research with site-specific practices that interpret the Sassi and the Gravina as dramaturgical architectures.

Members and students of ASD Oltredanza will also take part in study programmes on movement and listening, engaging their emotional spheres: family members and older residents will be invited to share physical memories, narratives and traditions passed down through the generations, providing the raw material for the work. The workshops thus become a space for the collective re-examination of heritage, both tangible and intangible.

The initiative includes opportunities for the public to get involved through movement workshops and site-specific actions, inviting the community to become an integral part of a process of sharing testimonies and a shared vision.

Focused on promoting social inclusion, the project aims to forge links between different age groups, local residents and artists from around the world, working in the spirit of sustainability and the enhancement of intangible heritage through environmentally responsible cultural production. The Open Studio events will serve as opportunities to publicly unveil the creative journey, fostering a direct dialogue between creators and citizens to make art an accessible experience.

The artistic legacy will endure beyond the residency through the audiovisual recordings arising from the choreographic research in Matera.

The final presentation will include a short promotional video for release within international art circuits, accompanied by excerpts documenting the creative process and the deep connection between the body, memory and the urban landscape.

The immersive multimedia installation will be hosted on the premises of the organising body, Oltredanza ASD, in a suburban area of the city. This space will become a point of intersection between vision, physicality and shared memory, offering an inclusive experience capable of extending the inspiration gained during the residency and sparking new dynamics of cultural participation. The work will function as a sensory archive, maintaining an active connection with

the local community and promoting the identity of a 'Mediterranean Matera', understood as a contemporary hub for dialogue and creation.

PROFILE SOUGHT

We are seeking a **choreographer/performer** specialising in contemporary dance and participatory creative processes, interested in developing an artistic exploration that connects the body, memory, the local area and the community.

The selected artist will lead the creative process of ***Testamento del gesto,*** working by observing the locations, listening to the communities and collecting local gestures, stories and memories. The project involves site-specific research and collaboration with young dancers, local residents and participants from the area, with the aim of transforming the intangible heritage gathered into a contemporary performance piece.

We are looking for someone capable of using dance as a tool for building relationships, fostering participation and engaging in dialogue with the community, with a sensitivity towards themes of collective memory, Mediterranean identity and the cultural enhancement of places.

Experience and preferred qualifications:

- experience in European artist residencies and participatory research projects;
- experience in contemporary choreography, performance and video dance;
- experience in site-specific practices and in urban, historical or landscape contexts;
- ability to work with diverse groups, young people, older people and local communities using inclusive methodologies;
- an interest in themes of memory, intangible cultural heritage and intergenerational transmission;
- an aptitude for interdisciplinary work engaging with audiovisual and installation-based forms of expression;
- the ability to transform stories, testimonies and memories into choreographic and performative material;
- knowledge of Italian and/or English;
- under 40 years of age.

SPACES AND FACILITIES

The ASD Oltredanza premises comprise a space of approximately 400 m², equipped to host research, artistic production, training and public presentations as part of the residency. The facility consists of three rooms suitable for sporting and artistic activities. One of the halls is already set up for performance and staging and is particularly well-suited to hosting public presentations, Open Studio sessions, screenings and immersive installations with an audience. The spaces are equipped with the main technical facilities required for the residency, including a sound system installed throughout all the halls, electrical connections, modular furniture for workshop activities and toilets that comply with regulations. The facility has support areas to assist with the organisational and logistical management of artists and activities.

The venue offers considerable flexibility in opening hours, with availability in the mornings, afternoons and at weekends, enabling the full implementation of the residency programme, research activities and events open to the community, in coordination with the regular programme and the association's activities of ASD Oltredanza. The space complies with the requirements for activities open to the public, with accessibility for people with disabilities and technical specifications suitable for organising public events and performances.

CALENDAR

A four-week continuous residency period is planned, starting on **5 October 2026**, although the exact start date may be subject to slight changes depending on the logistical requirements of the selected artist.

The dates of the final event and the open studios will be agreed in consultation with the host organisation.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applications must be submitted via this LINK, attaching the following documents:

A panel of experts will review the profiles and applications received. Upon completion of the assessment phase, the successful candidate will be notified by email by 31 July 2026.

FEES AND ARTISTIC REMUNERATION

An artistic remuneration of **€3,500.00 gross** will be paid for the entire period.

The organisation will provide a further lump-sum expense allowance of **€1,000.00** to cover food and incidental expenses during the stay.

The organising body will cover the costs of return travel (economy class with luggage) and accommodation in an apartment for the duration of the residency, as well as the production costs for the events and the resulting output.

INFORMATION

The artist must arrange their own health insurance cover for the entire duration of the residency and, where necessary, obtain an entry visa and any other documentation required for their stay in Italy.

Administrative matters

• The professional relationship will be formalised by means of a contract and the subsequent issue of an invoice by the artist, in accordance with the tax legislation in force in their country of residence;

• The candidate must hold a tax status suitable for the issue of the

documentation required for the provision of professional services;

• Payment of the fee will be made by the organisation at the end of the residency and following the completion of the administrative procedures set out in the call for applications;

• the terms and timing of invoicing will be set out in the contract agreed between the parties.

For further information, please contact the host organisation

ASD OLTREDANZA - Via delle Fiere 1, Matera

E-mail: compagniaoltredanzamatera@gmail.com

Mobile: +39 340 9650228

ANNEX 2 - Gommalacca Teatro

PROJECT: Matera through headphones. A Euro-Mediterranean sonic journey through layers, voices and digital heritage.
DEADLINE: 19 July 2026 at 12.00 (CET)
START OF RESIDENCY: 5 October 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION

The project forms part of **Terre Immerse – Euromediterranean Creative Communities**, an artist-in-residence programme promoted within the context of **Matera, Mediterranean Capital of Culture and Dialogue 2026**.

Gommalacca Teatro, in collaboration with **HSH Informatica e Cultura**, is offering a residency aimed at creating a performance and sound experience for headphones dedicated to Matera. The city will be explored as a place of layers: stone, voids, residential memories, tourism, migration, thresholds, languages and Mediterranean identities.

The project brings together the performing arts, sound practices, co-creation, cultural heritage and digital storytelling. The artists in residence will work alongside the Gommalacca team, the technology partner and a local editorial team through listening walks, voice recordings, and meetings with residents, young people, cultural practitioners and tourists. The public will not be regarded merely as the final audience, but as an active part of the creative process.

The outcome of the residency will be a prototype sound and geo-narrative experience accessible via headphones, designed to remain accessible and reactivatable after the project has concluded. The output may include audio tracks, bilingual Italian/English materials, a digital map, QR codes, documentation and guidelines for future reactivation.

The project aims to contribute to the creation of a 'Mediterranean Matera' not just to be visited, but to be listened to: a slow, immersive and participatory experience, capable of generating new narratives about the city and new forms of relationship between artists, local communities and visitors.

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION/PROFILE SOUGHT

Sound field / listening practices

We are seeking a sound artist, musician, sound designer or professional active in the field of contemporary sound practices, interested in developing their research within a shared, site-specific and interdisciplinary residency programme.

The artist must be able to immerse themselves in the reality of Matera and capture its cultural and sonic aspects, translating them into original audio material, soundscapes, listening devices and artistic contributions capable of engaging with the project's overall dramaturgy.

The successful candidate will contribute to the creation of the soundscape for a headphone-based performative journey dedicated to Matera, understood as a city of layers, thresholds, memories of home, tourist flows and Mediterranean identities. The sound work will be developed in dialogue with the artistic vision of Gommalacca Teatro, with the project team, with the technology partner HSH Informatica e Cultura, and with the materials emerging from engagement with the local area.

Applications highlighting the following will be viewed with particular interest:

- research in the fields of music, sound arts, sound design, composition, soundscapes or listening practices;
- an interest in sound as a tool for connection, storytelling, urban exploration and the facilitation of participatory processes;
- the ability to work with voices, testimonies, ambient sounds, oral archives, and material collected in public spaces or in relation to local communities and visitors;
- a willingness to engage with Matera not merely as a backdrop, but as a living organism, interwoven with memory, tourism, inhabitants, languages and Mediterranean imagery;
- experience or interest in working with groups, communities and people of different ages and backgrounds, fostering their active involvement in the creative process;
- aptitude for dialogue and collaboration in interdisciplinary contexts, spanning the performing arts, cultural heritage, digital storytelling and spatial technologies;
- the ability to independently develop a distinctive artistic contribution and integrate it into a collective project and a shared final output;

- an openness to experimenting with sound forms that can be experienced through headphones, in urban spaces and in relation to the audience's journey.

We are not seeking merely a technical specialist, but an artist capable of conceiving sound as a dramaturgical material, a relationship with places and a means of accessing new narratives of the city.

Applicants must be available to be present in Matera for the entire four-week residency period and to actively participate in Open Studio sessions, meetings with the working group and public presentations.

A basic knowledge of Italian is required, as this will be useful for engaging with the community, understanding the project's content and participating in group work.

SPACES AND FACILITIES

The residency will take place mainly at the project partner HSH Informatica e Cultura in Matera and will provide a space suitable for desk work, with a dedicated area for meetings with the Gommalacca Teatro group and members of the community involved in the artistic project's research. By its very nature, the project may involve meetings with the community in locations other than the main venue. The artist must bring with them the equipment required for the project's sound research.

TIMETABLE

The residency is scheduled to last for four consecutive weeks starting on 5 October, although the exact start date may be subject to slight adjustments depending on the logistical requirements of the selected artist, subject to the organisation's needs.

The dates for the final event and the open studios will be agreed in consultation with the host organisation.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applications must be submitted via this LINK.

A panel of experts will review the profiles and applications received. Upon completion of the assessment phase, the successful candidate will be notified by email by 31 July 2026.

Selection will be based on an assessment of the artist's CV, cover letter and portfolio. Particular consideration will be given to the quality and originality of the artist's research, consistency with the aims of the project, the ability to combine creative autonomy with collaborative work, an interest in Euro-Mediterranean dialogue, and willingness to participate in a co-creation process involving sessions of listening, field research, public discussion and Open Studio events.

The organisers, if they deem it necessary and in order to carry out the selection process as effectively as possible, may request further information from the artist, for example by asking them to submit additional materials or through online meetings.

FEES AND ARTISTIC REMUNERATION

An artistic remuneration of **€3,000.00 gross** is provided for the residency, inclusive of any applicable taxes, deductions, social security contributions or other fiscal and social security charges in accordance with current legislation and the selected artist's tax status.

A contribution of **€1,000** is also provided to cover return travel expenses to the residence venue and meals during the period of stay.

The organisation **will also cover accommodation** for the entire period of stay.

The **remuneration** and the **allowance** may only be paid via **traceable** payment methods. The use of **cash** for the payment of the remuneration and the allowance is **excluded**.

Any **additional costs,** special technical requirements or expenses not previously approved **must be agreed** with the organisation before the start of the residency. Artists applying accept the conditions set out in this call for applications; therefore, the organisation is under no obligation to accommodate requests outside the scope of this call.

INFORMATION

For further information, please email segreteria@gommalaccateatro.it, stating 'Call Matera in cuffia' in the subject line. A reply will be provided within 5 working days. Responses to enquiries received by 12 July 2026 will be acknowledged.

ANNEX 3 – Osmosis ETS Association

PROJECT: New Transhumance
ORGANISATION: Osmosis ETS Association – Scuola dei Sassi
DEADLINE: 15 July 2026 at 12.00 (CET)
START OF RESIDENCY: 31 August 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION

The Osmosis ETS Association, a third-sector organisation, is promoting an international artist-in-residence programme dedicated to the theme of transhumance as a contemporary cultural practice and a tool for local engagement. The project stems from a desire to reinterpret the tangible and intangible heritage of Basilicata through participatory methodologies capable of bringing together local communities, younger generations and international partners. Transhumance, understood as a cultural, symbolic and human phenomenon, offers a key to reinterpreting the relationship between movement and belonging, memory and transformation. For centuries, transhumance routes have shaped landscapes, economies and relationships across the Mediterranean. Today, these routes can serve as a metaphor for new forms of cultural, artistic and social mobility.

The project presents Matera as a territory in motion, placing the younger generations at the centre as active interpreters of the landscape, the community and contemporary ways of living. Through artistic research processes, participatory practices and public forums for discussion, the residency aims to generate alternative narratives on the relationship between people, territories and mobility in the Mediterranean.

The residency forms part of the activities of the Scuola dei Sassi, an initiative by the artist Valerio Rocco Orlando dedicated to interdisciplinary experimentation, informal education and the relationship between artistic practices, pedagogy and the local area. In this context, the selected artist or artistic collective will be invited to develop a research and production programme aimed at producing a tangible or intangible collective portrait of local society and the international network.

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION

The concept revolves around 'Transumanze' as participatory artistic practices and mechanisms for co-creation. The process involves local communities, the

educational network and participants through the collection of oral histories on migration, journeys, return and belonging, workshops with international artists and researchers, and practices of narrative and emotional mapping of the local area. The project takes an integrated approach to the challenges of social inclusion, with a particular focus on the civic engagement of adolescents and young adults aged between 15 and 25 years.

Open Studio days are planned, conceived as public opportunities to showcase the creative process: these participatory sessions will emphasise the process-oriented nature of the work.

The residency is proposed for September 2026, a period consistent with the tradition of transhumance and favourable weather conditions. The final work will be conceived as a permanent or reactivatable installation (either a physical installation or an intervention in public space), to continue generating reflection beyond the residency.

The project also activates a Euro-Mediterranean network of artists, collectives and organisations, building a platform for exchange on themes of migration, ecology and cultural mobility.

Transhumance, understood as a cultural, symbolic and human phenomenon, offers a key to reinterpreting the relationship between movement and belonging, memory and transformation. For centuries, the routes of transhumance have shaped landscapes, economies and relationships across the Mediterranean.

Today, those routes can become a metaphor for new forms of cultural, artistic and social mobility. The younger generations in Basilicata experience a daily tension between leaving and returning, between a desire for international openness and the need to maintain a deep connection with the local area. Our vision presents Matera as a territory in motion: a city capable of transforming its own memory by placing young people at the centre as active interpreters of the landscape, the community and future ways of living. In terms of impact, transhumance becomes a cultural paradigm for imagining new ecologies of relationship, mobility and coexistence in the Mediterranean.

PROFILE SOUGHT

We are seeking a **visual artist or an artistic collective** with experience in participatory practices, community co-creation and site-specific artistic processes, capable of interpreting transhumance as a contemporary paradigm

of mobility, relationship and transformation, by facilitating processes of engagement between territories, communities and cultural landscapes.

The candidate or collective must demonstrate an interest in and expertise in facilitating collaborative processes involving local communities, young people and regional networks, transforming artistic production into an open space for encounter, active listening, care and the sharing of intentions.

Particular value will be placed on experience in the fields of public art, socially engaged art, participatory methodologies and artistic forms capable of reinterpreting visual practices, particularly within the realms of sculpture and self-construction.

The selected artist will be asked to develop a programme exploring the themes of migration, the journey, return, belonging and the transformations of the Mediterranean's human and cultural landscape, through field research, intergenerational workshops and public presentations.

Particular attention must be paid to the active involvement of adolescents and young adults aged between 15 and 25 years, who embody new forms of cultural, social and territorial mobility. The artist must possess skills in facilitation and cultural mediation, fostering the inclusive participation of people from different social, cultural and geographical backgrounds.

The residency, scheduled to take place over four consecutive weeks in September 2026, will unfold in dialogue with the tradition of transhumance and the local context of Matera and Basilicata, treating movement as a practice of knowledge and the landscape as a space for connection.

The Open Studio day will provide a public opportunity for dialogue with the community, emphasising the process-oriented nature of the artistic work and highlighting the dynamics of research, experimentation and co-creation developed during the residency.

The final outcome must take the form of a permanent or reactivatable artistic installation — an installation, an intervention in public space or another hybrid form — capable of continuing to generate knowledge, participation and new interpretations of the territory beyond the duration of the residency.

SPACES AND FACILITIES

Research activities will take place at the Scuola dei Sassi, within a restored architectural complex in the Sassi districts that has been repurposed as an educational and cultural centre. The space, conceived as an open and dynamic laboratory, moves away from conventional teaching models to function as a flexible and adaptable environment, designed to host community-specific co-design processes and artistic experimentation.

The facilities include multi-purpose areas for workshops, group sessions and discussions; modular furniture systems capable of accommodating different needs; essential technical equipment for carrying out design projects; and a seamless integration between the interior spaces and the public realm of the neighbourhood, understood as a natural extension of the artistic endeavour. There is also a specialised library collection focusing on pedagogy, contemporary arts and urban regeneration.

Operational coordination is entrusted to an educator, who ensures the centre is open daily from Monday to Friday, from 4.00 pm to 8.00 pm, to encourage the active involvement of young participants and interaction with the local community during public events. Use of the spaces and participation in all project activities are governed by the residency calendar and are offered free of charge.

CALENDAR

A residency period of four consecutive weeks is scheduled to begin on 31 August, although the exact start date may be subject to slight changes depending on the logistical requirements of the selected artist.

The dates of the final event and the open studios will be agreed upon with the host organisation.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applicants must submit their application via email to info@associazioneosmosis.org, specifying:

- First name Surname
- Telephone number
- Email
- Date and place of birth
- Valid identity document/passport

And attaching a single PDF file (max 5 MB) containing:

- Biography
- Artistic portfolio featuring a selection of 3 significant projects
- Motivational letter outlining your interest in the themes of the residency and the Mediterranean context, highlighting affinities, methodological approaches and potential ways of engaging the local community, with particular attention to the younger generations

Whilst ensuring the call is open to international applicants and that all applications are assessed on the basis of artistic quality, experience and alignment with the residency's objectives, preference will be given – in addition to knowledge of the Italian language – if the artist or collective comes from contexts within the Global South, with particular attention to the Mediterranean, North Africa and the Middle East. This criterion aims to foster intercultural dialogue and the emergence of artistic perspectives capable of contributing to reflection on the themes of mobility, migration, and the social and cultural transformations shaping the contemporary Euro-Mediterranean space.

FEES AND ARTISTIC REMUNERATION

An artistic remuneration of **€4,000.00 gross** is to be paid for the entire period.

The organising body will provide a further lump-sum expense allowance of **€1,000.00** to cover food and incidental expenses during the stay.

The organising body will cover the costs of return travel (economy class with luggage), health insurance and accommodation in a flat for the duration of the residency, as well as the production costs for the events and the resulting output.

INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the host organisation at this address: info@associazioneosmosis.org

ANNEX 4 – Centro Mediterraneo delle Arti ETS

PROJECT: *"Kun'tʃar MATERA"*
DEADLINE: 5 August 2026 at 12.00 (CET)
START OF RESIDENCY: 5 October 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION:

The theatre production company ***ETS Mediterranean Centre for the Arts***, founded in 2000, is recognised and funded by the Ministry of Culture (FUS); its artistic director is Ulderico Pesce, described by critics as "one of the finest exponents of narrative theatre in Italy". Since 2000, numerous productions have enabled the company to gain national recognition, such as "Aldo Moro: The 55 Days That Changed Italy", "Aldo Moro with Pesce, as seen on Rainews24"; "Petrolio" at the Teatro Argentina in Rome, "L'innaffiatore del cervello di Giovanni Passannante" "Rocco Scotellaro by Pesce, reviewed by Gigi Marzullo", etc. In Matera, it has staged numerous productions, including "La bella vergogna, la fura dels baus in Matera", as well as "Terrista", "The Matera Massacre", "Carlo Levi and Rocco Scotellaro in Matera", etc.

"Kun'tʃar", in the Sabir language, means 'to build'; "***Kun'tʃar Matera***" means "to build Matera". It is a word from the Sabir language, the language of all those who crossed the Mediterranean from the year 1000 onwards. A language that emerged on the shores of the Mediterranean thanks to the encounter between peoples from the West and those from the East who were travelling westwards, and which contained words from Venetian, Genoese, Sicilian, Catalan, Turkish, Arabic, Portuguese, French and Greek. 'Kun'tʃar', in both the Sicilian and Lucanian dialects, means 'cunzari/conzare', in the sense of 'to repair', but it also contains the root of the verb 'to tell a story', 'cuntare'. In some way, building is inherent in, or requires, storytelling. Perhaps even Matera – endlessly used as a vessel to 'resemble' others – might be narrated for what it is, and that the variety of narratives might lead, on the one hand, to a growing sense of identity among residents who can see themselves reflected in them, and, on the other, to the expansion of the tourist offering to a more 'informed' audience.

The project, the result of co-design, aims to establish an artist-in-residence programme structured around the expressive codes of music and theatre, which can lead to 'telling the story of Matera' – the Matera 'built' thanks to a multicultural interweaving of peoples from the Mediterranean region. A great

many people from Matera traded with the East and invested their wealth in Matera. Many populations arrived in Matera, bringing their knowledge with them. Indeed, the Arab presence in Matera is documented as far back as 1154, when the Arab geographer Al-Idrisi lived in the city and described it in his book '*The Book of Pleasant Journeys to Faraway Lands*'.

The presence of Syrian Arab labourers is attested by architectural details on the side façade of the Church of St John the Baptist, such as the sculptures of the two baby elephants, which allude to other cultures.

"Kun'tʃar Matera" will be a narrative of this multiculturalism over the centuries, told through the language of theatre and music. However, the modern perspective will not be overlooked. If Matera occupied a central place in the Mediterranean in antiquity, what is its place today? And what has the Mediterranean become today? What are the departures? What are the arrivals? What are the intersections and dialogues between different civilisations?

The result will be a travelling narrative through the interior and exterior spaces of Palazzo Venusio, now known as Viceconte. Nicolaus Venusius, originally from Amalfi, settled in Matera around 1450, where he produced paper and wheat for sale in the East. It was precisely his trade in the Mediterranean that enabled him to amass considerable wealth, allowing him to build, next to the cathedral, one of the most important historic residences in Matera and southern Italy. We have imagined that Nicolaus Venusius, thanks to his travels, was familiar with the Sabir language and that this language was also firmly established in Matera amongst those who travelled for trade and to cultivate their spirituality.

The Mediterranean Sea has always been the hub of encounters between peoples. It only lost some of its central importance following the conquest of the Americas in 1492 and the subsequent shift of the economic axis towards the Atlantic Ocean. In antiquity, Matera was a key transit point. The Greeks, Eastern monks, Arabs and travellers in general, who landed in the Metapontino area, would travel up the Bradano River as far as the Gravina stream, and reach the caves of Matera. Europeans who, after the birth of Christ, travelled to the Holy Land for spiritual reasons – whether out of a desire to do penance or atone for their sins, or driven by other values and interests – travelling along the Appian Way, the Via Francigena, or the route following the River Bradano to reach Brindisi, could make a detour to Matera, which offered a safe stopover before braving the sea. Many of these travellers stopped in the tuff city, or

returned and left their mark. The Church of St John the Baptist, built from 1230 onwards by Syrian-Arab labourers and which for centuries housed the nuns of Accon from Palestine, is one of the most significant traces of this Mediterranean interculturalism. Many merchants from Matera who produced wheat and paper travelled to the East to trade; amongst them was a member of the Venusio family who, in 1600, began building the palace of the same name next to the cathedral. Venusio traded in paper and wheat in Constantinople and throughout the Arab world, and there are many traces of these journeys within the palace.

Great importance will be placed on the language spoken by these European travellers who came into contact with Arabs, Turks and the peoples of the Maghreb; this was not English, but the 'Mediterranean lingua franca', Sabir, a lingua franca. The exhibition will also explore what Matera represents for the Mediterranean today and what the Mare Nostrum has become in the present day.

The project, to be staged at Palazzo Venusio, aims to recount—through various artistic forms and with the participation of local residents and tourists—these cultural influences and the historical and architectural traces they have left behind.

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION

The project proposes an artist-in-residence programme featuring musicians, actors and singers, designed to translate into artistic terms the enchantment and uniqueness of Matera as a place rich in material traces that bear witness to the meeting of Mediterranean cultures. Matera's central role in the Euro-Mediterranean region is documented not only by the city's architecture—the result of multi-ethnic design and labour—but also by the arrival and stay of important figures such as Pope Urban II in 1093, who probably decided in Matera to launch the wars against the Muslims that have gone down in history as the Crusades; Al-Idrisi, the Arab geographer who, in 1154, described the City of the Sassi, and many other high-profile figures. Even Torquato Tasso, in his heroic poem *Jerusalem Delivered* of 1581, referred to Matera, recognising its central role in the Mediterranean landscape.

The residency will involve: a European performance artist (musician, actor or singer); the tutor from the Mediterranean Centre for the Arts, Ulderico Pesce; and various collaborators from the artistic, technical, organisational and

administrative sectors; the local community and tourists who will actively participate in the various workshop phases.

The creative process will culminate in a final presentation event, to be held at Palazzo Viceconte, formerly Venusio. In the underground chambers of the same building, multimedia installations will remain, narrating the various stages of the project alongside photographs taken by Pino Settanni in Morocco during his 'Traces of the Mediterranean' research in the 1970s. The project partners include "Palazzo Viceconte (formerly Venusio)" and "Fondazione Sassi Matera".

PROFILE SOUGHT

Applications are open to European performing artists (musicians, actors or singers):

MUSICIAN: must have previous experience of co-creation projects open to local communities; must have composed soundtracks for theatre, film or documentary films; must be able to play at least one musical instrument and must have worked on themes related to Mediterranean culture; must have at least three years' experience in the field of education and must speak Italian;

SINGER: must have previously worked on co-creation projects open to local communities and must have sung on soundtracks for theatre, film or documentary films; must have worked on themes related to Mediterranean culture and have at least three years' experience in the field of education, and must speak Italian;

ACTOR: must have previously worked on co-creation projects open to local communities; must have at least ten years' experience in the theatre sector as an actor or director; must have led theatre workshops open to the public and worked on themes related to Mediterranean culture; must have at least three years' experience in the training sector and be able to speak Italian.

VENUES AND FACILITIES

The residency and the final output will take place at Palazzo Viceconte, formerly Palazzo Venusio, near Matera Cathedral; the spaces made available for the workshop phase will be the palace's underground chambers, the Tarocchi Room, the external courtyard and the panoramic terrace. The final presentation event will take place in a travelling format across all the aforementioned rooms, as well as in the internal courtyards and the theatre hall.

The spaces are equipped with the main technical facilities required for the residency, including electrical connections, modular furniture for workshop activities, power sockets, internet access and toilets suitable for disabled people; architectural barriers have been removed throughout the building. The venue also has support areas for logistical and organisational management, storage areas and spaces to be used as dressing rooms. The venue guarantees the use of the rooms with a high degree of flexibility regarding opening hours.

CALENDAR

FIRST WEEK

First phase: selection of participating artists; presentation and launch of the residency project;

Second phase: collection of documents and study of the relationship between Matera and the Mediterranean region: the journey of the lanner falcon; the nuns of Accon; Eastern monasticism and rock-hewn churches; the Venusio family from Amalfi to Matera and trade with the East; the Albanians of Scanderbeg in Matera; the Sabir language of Mediterranean merchants; the current relationship between Matera and the Mediterranean and what the Mare Nostrum has become today.

SECOND WEEK

Workshops open to the community and tourists: music workshop: the sound of the Mediterranean; organic theatre techniques; narrating Matera.

THIRD WEEK

Workshops open to the community and tourists: music workshop: the sound of the Mediterranean; the Sabir language and its musicality; organic theatre techniques; narrating Matera; Mediterranean dialogues in the Sabir language.

FOURTH WEEK

Presentation with a final event at Palazzo Venusio, a staged production of the final event taking place throughout Palazzo Venusio, utilising the expressive codes of music and theatre

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection process will be completed by 7 September 2026. Applicants must submit the following attachments by email to amministrazionecmda@gmail.com: curriculum vitae; a video or link demonstrating their professional expertise and artistic approach; reviews of their work by professional critics; a letter or video outlining their motivation.

FEES AND ARTISTIC REMUNERATION

The gross artistic remuneration for the artist involved will be **4,500.00** euros, net of travel expenses and costs of board and lodging in Matera.

INFORMATION

Ulderico Pesce
+39 3314216529
Nicoletta Pangaro +39 3453558969
amministrazionecmda@gmail.com

ANNEX 5 – Consorzio Materahub Industrie Culturali e Creative S.c.a.r.l.

PROJECT: Syncretic Bio-Shelters
DEADLINE: 15 July 2026 at 10.00 (CET)
RESIDENCY START DATE: 28 September 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION:

Materahub has been organising networking events, skills development programmes, artist residencies and innovation initiatives across various fields for over 12 years.

Through the *Syncretic Bio-Shelters* Residency, Materahub aims to create **wearable devices** (*wearables*) of various sizes, which will function as genuine "**shelters**" from urban heat islands, excessive sunlight and other unpleasant effects caused by **pollution** and **climate change**.

The focus will be on integrating **natural fibres** with technologies such as **3D printing and Arduino**, in order to design **wearables** and costumes that blend **Mediterranean symbols and knowledge** in a syncretic manner.

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION:

To create the *wearables* for the collection, the residency will go through the following phases:

1. **"Explorations"**: meetings with the local community to identify needs related to climate change, and the roles the wearables can play in supporting users.
2. **Co-creation and prototyping**: sketching and drafting design briefs, rapid prototyping and adapting prototypes based on feedback.
3. **Production**: the actual realisation of the concepts developed in the previous phases.
4. **Presentation**: final presentations, in various locations across the city, of the completed work.

Materahub has conceived **3 collections**, each with specific wearable functions:

- **City**: protection from pollution, shade, protection from heat islands, etc.
- **Desert**: cooling, shade, protection from wind and sand, etc.
- **Sea**: cooling, shade, etc.

However, the selected artists will be given free rein to exercise their creativity.

PROFILE SOUGHT

- 1 fashion or accessories designer from a Mediterranean country

Profile and requirements:

- Have at least three demonstrable experiences, as evidenced by a CV or portfolio, in sustainable fashion and/or accessories design

- Be familiar with sustainable fabrics and suppliers at local, regional, national or international level

- Ability to work as part of a team and lead a team

- Aged between 26 and 45 years of age.

- Available for a total duration of one month's artist residency

- 1 digital fabrication expert (3D printing, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, ESP32) from a Mediterranean country

Profile and requirements:

- Have at least three demonstrable examples of experience, as shown in your CV or portfolio, of collaboration between digital fabrication and other fields (for example: art, craft, fashion)

- Be able to work as part of a team and lead a team

- Be aged between 25 and 30

- Be available for a total of one month's artistic residency

VENUES AND FACILITIES

The artist residency will take place mainly at the Materahub Creative Workshop, at Vico Nazionale 7, in Matera (Google Maps location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/vDwBmMCofVNaQ6qt8). Where necessary, artists will be asked to visit other locations in the city, subject to prior notice, where specific activities with the local community will take place.

TIMELINE

Deadline for applications via this Google Form: 15 July 2026 at 10:00
Online interviews with shortlisted artists: 20–24 July 2026
Confirmation of selection and signing of an agreement: by 30 July 2026
Booking of tickets: by 5 August 2026
Start date of the residency: 28 September 2026
End date of the residency: 23 October 2026

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Interested artists must complete this Google Form https://forms.gle/eJRR8oYqMQH2961g6 by 10:00 on 15 July 2026 at the latest. Notification of selection will be sent by the end of July.

FEES AND ARTISTIC REMUNERATION

For each artist:

- **€1,400** in artistic remuneration (gross amount including VAT and all other social security or tax contributions)
- **€1,400** as the maximum allowance to cover travel and accommodation costs, with check-in on 27 September and check-out on 24 October

INFORMATION

Although the online interviews with shortlisted artists will be dedicated to clarifying any queries regarding this artist residency, for any specific information, please send a single email to both of the following addresses:

- sarasimeone@materahub.com
- giuliafornari@materahub.com

ANNEX 6 - EdiNEA Srl | Heirs of NEA - Cultural Enterprise [NEA Collective]

PROJECT: EKHO - The Resonating Landscape: the acoustics of matter in dialogue with the layered voices of the Mediterranean.
DEADLINE: 17 July 2026 at 23:59 (CET)
RESIDENCY START DATE: 5 October 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION

The project explores the themes of the 'Terre Immerse' Artist Residency programme, using **sound as a medium to make the Mediterranean heritage of Matera's tangible and intangible memory perceptible**.

In particular, the project explores the themes of **Stratifications** and **Cultural Cross-fertilisation**.

Rock-hewn churches, underground chambers, quarries, cisterns, spaces and sites of cultural interest within the city harbour an **invisible and layered acoustic heritage**, just as **the community is layered and shaped by historical and contemporary migrations that bring with them musical repertoires, instruments, voices and memories**.

EKHO aims to **create a resonance** between these two forms of heritage – the **memory of places** and the **memory of people** – generating a **soundscape that belongs to both Matera and the Mediterranean**.

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION

The selected artist will take part in a four-week residency aimed at developing a new sound work, consistent with the values of Matera, Mediterranean Capital of Culture and Dialogue: intercultural dialogue, shared memory, listening practices, Mediterranean identities, community participation, artistic research and the creation of new cultural connections between territories.

In particular, the themes of *STRATIFICATIONS* and *CONTAMINATIONS* will be explored in depth.

The selected artist will be invited to work in **direct engagement with local contexts, places, communities, sounds, voices and collective contributions**, developing an original sound art | sound design project capable of **interpreting**

the Mediterranean as a space for dialogue, stratification, exchange and contemporary cultural imagination.

The selected sound artist will be required to develop a project incorporating the following **approaches:**

- **sound art and experimental music**;
- **field recording and site-specific recording practices**;
- **sound design** linked to **places, archives, voices or communities**, with a specific focus on **IR capture & convolution reverb**;
- **live performance** and performative sound practices;
- **collaborative or participatory** processes relating to **the compositional process**;
- **B audio production**B aimed at creating a public output and a published work for **NEA Editions**.

During the process, the selected artist will be required to:

- conduct **artistic research in relation to the local context**;
- create an **audio map** of certain symbolic sites of local heritage, using **field recording and IR/convolution reverb** techniques;
- **collect, process and reinterpret** sound materials, voices, memories, spaces or collective contributions, including original recordings made with musicians from the Mediterranean region;
- work **in dialogue** with the project team and any local partners;
- engage the public through **open sessions, the collection of contributions and feedback**, **informal meetings, open studios or other participatory formats**;
- develop an **original output** in sound art | sound design;
- present the work-in-progress and final work through **public presentation events.**

OUTPUTS

The selected artist must produce, in collaboration with the host organisation:

- **3 Open Studios**, intended as **collective events** for public presentation, and a final live performance;
- an **original editorial work** in sound art | sound design to be released on the **NEA Editions** platform;

- **audio materials, notes, documentation, credits and technical information** necessary for the final presentation and communication of the project, in coordination with the project team.

The final format **may include**, depending on the artist's proposal, the context and the course of production, a **visual, sound-reactive installation**.

PROFILE SOUGHT

We are seeking a **Sound Artist**, **available for the entire duration of the residency**, with a **well-established and mature professional practice in the field of sound**, capable of producing **high-quality** artistic work whilst also **engaging with communities, public contexts and intercultural environments**.

Candidates must demonstrate **proven professional experience** in the following areas:

- **Music Production**: the ability to compose, produce, arrange or develop original audio works;
- **Sound Design**: the ability to shape sound materials with conceptual, technical, spatial, narrative and performative awareness;
- **Publishing | Audio Release**: previous release of audio material via labels, platforms, archives, digital publications, records or equivalent professional channels;
- **Live Performance**: experience in presenting sound works in live, public or performance contexts at an international level;
- **Residencies – Commissioned Shows | Projects**: previous participation in artist residencies, commissioned works, festivals, exhibitions, public programmes or comparable professional projects.

The ideal candidate must also demonstrate:

- the ability to **work with unpredictable collective contributions**, transforming them into coherent artistic material;
- the ability to work through **participatory practices**, with experience in teaching, training programmes, workshops and collective sharing;
- **sensitivity** in listening to, mediating and responding to local contexts;
- experience of or a strong interest in **participatory and community-based artistic processes**;
- the ability to **work in a team** and within an international production environment;

- **autonomy** in the creative and technical management of a sound project;
- openness to **dialogue** with curators, producers, cultural practitioners, communities and the public;
- **good communication skills in English**; knowledge of Italian or other languages of the Mediterranean region will be considered a secondary **non-mandatory** criterion.

The residency requires a **strong ability to work within a defined timeframe, combining artistic autonomy, openness to collaboration and a willingness to engage with the public**.

LOCATIONS, SPACES AND FACILITIES

The residency will take place in the city of Matera, across the organisation's headquarters, the production studio and outdoor spaces, where the activities will be carried out.

The premises provide a stimulating environment, ideal for fostering concentration and creativity.

The studio is professionally and technically equipped to ensure a comprehensive range of equipment and functionality.

Its facilities include:

- High-standard acoustic design
- Analogue mixing desk
- Pro microphones
- Hardware synths (analogue & digital)
- Hardware samplers
- Hardware FX
- MIDI controllers
- Licences for various professional audio software (DAW & VST)
- Headphones

Given the project's nature, which is not strictly *"studio-oriented"*, the selected artist must **mandatorily bring <u>their own work laptop</u>**, suitable for processing audio material.

Where desired, the artist may, however, bring with them any type of equipment deemed suitable for the commissioned work.

Given the nature of the project, which involves collective contributions and site-specific sound and acoustic work in locations, spaces and sites symbolic of the city's heritage and landscape, most activities will take place **outdoors or within specific venues other than the organisation's premises**, to be selected progressively by the organisers in collaboration with the selected artist.

The artist-in-residence's work will be coordinated by a mentor and an artistic director.

TIMETABLE

The residency is scheduled to last for four consecutive weeks starting on 5 October, although the exact start date may be subject to slight changes depending on the logistical requirements of the selected artist.

The dates for the final event and the open studios **will be agreed** in consultation with the host organisation.

APPLICATION

To submit an application, artists must complete the following form:

https://forms.gle/41PTfbhn98DzJxuz6

The form must be completed in full and **submitted no later than 23.59 on 17/07/2026**.

The information required is:

1. **Personal details**;
2. A brief statement of **motivation and interest** in participating in the EKHO project (max. 2,000 characters);
3. A brief description of **your artistic practice** and how you integrate **sound design techniques** (max. 2,000 characters);
4. **CV | Biography** – as a **PDF** file;
5. A selection of the **most significant audio releases or published sound materials** – as a **PDF file with active links;**
6. Documentation of:
7. **Live performances – Residencies – Commissioned projects – Public presentations** – as a **PDF file with active links**.

Applications will be assessed and the artist selected during the following week.

The selected artist will be **contacted personally by email on 24/07/2026**, to assess their availability to participate.

Should the selected artist be unavailable, the next artist on the shortlist will be contacted, as determined by the host organisation's team.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- **artistic quality and consistency of the candidate's** previous work;
- **relevance of the artist's practice** to sound art, sound design and experimental audio production;
- proven **professional experience in music production, audio publishing, live performance and artist residency or commission contexts**;
- ability to **engage the audience** and work with **collective contributions**;
- sensitivity to the cultural and symbolic framework of the **Mediterranean dialogue**;
- ability to work **collaboratively** within an international and time-bound context;
- availability and practical feasibility of **travelling on the required dates**.

Applications that do not demonstrate a clear and proven professional profile in the field of sound art, live performance and audio production may not be considered eligible.

FEE AND ARTISTIC REMUNERATION

Participation in the residency entails an artistic remuneration of:

€3,300.00 gross

including all meals, any applicable taxes, deductions, contributions or social security and tax charges in accordance with current legislation and the selected artist's tax status.

The **organisation will also cover**:

- **travel** to and from the residence venue;
- **accommodation** for the entire duration of the stay;

Any **additional costs,** special technical requirements or expenses not previously approved **must be agreed** with the organisation before the start of the residency.

INFORMATION

EdiNEA Srl | Cultural enterprise | Heirs of NEA |
VAT No. 01437360777
Contrada San Martino, snc, 75100 Matera (Basilicata – Italy)
https://www.nea-aps.net/
General Information – Administration – Organisation: info@nea-aps.net
Record Label NEA Editions: editions@nea-aps.net

ANNEX 7 – SoutHeritage Foundation for Contemporary Art

PROJECT: Unfolding Pathways: Fluid Forms and Hybrid Interpretations of Paper Craft Design
DEADLINE: 1 August 2026 23:59 (CET)
RESIDENCY START DATE: 5 October 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION

As part of the *Terre Immerse* cultural programme of "Matera – Mediterranean Capital of Culture and Dialogue 2026", the SoutHeritage Foundation for Contemporary Art, in collaboration with the Matera-Basilicata 2019 Foundation, the Municipality of Matera, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Tourism, is organising an artist residency dedicated to contemporary research and experimentation at the intersection of art, the local area and collaborative practices. The residency has been established with the aim of supporting artistic production that explores the Mediterranean as a space of relationships, crossings, cultural stratifications and transformations, fostering new interpretations of the tangible and intangible heritage that define the identity of Mediterranean territories.

The programme is conceived as a form of situated research, an immersive process within a specific material, social and craft-based context. The aim is to foster integration between local craftsmanship and contemporary art, culturally revitalising the region through a creative process that must structurally integrate:

- papier-mâché as a working medium and a material symbol of Matera's identity;
- local craftsmanship as an active cognitive system;
- the city's urban and social context;
- the artist's creative practice;
- the public dimension of the final presentation.

CULTURAL VISION

The SoutHeritage Foundation, as part of its cultural mission—founded on nurturing relationships with heritage as an act of contemporary culture and in harmony with the vision of "Matera, Mediterranean Capital of Culture and Dialogue 2026"—aims to enhance the active role of the local cultural dimension,

both tangible and intangible, through the exchange between contemporary artistic practices and artisanal knowledge.

Within the framework of the Matera MCCD 2026 theme, defined by the slogan 'Terre Immerse', the residency project invites participants to explore everything that lies beneath the surface of dominant narratives (memories, heritage, productive traditions, local knowledge and forms of understanding that are often marginal yet fundamental to the construction of collective identities). In this context, Matera represents a privileged site for research, where a millennia-old history, built up through continuous cultural and material layers, offers fertile ground for reflecting on the relationships between memory and the contemporary, permanence and transformation.

THE RESIDENCY: BETWEEN INNOVATION, MEMORY AND HERITAGE

The residency takes paper as its primary subject of inquiry, interpreting it as an 'archaeology of the contemporary': a humble, ubiquitous and seemingly marginal material in the digital age, yet one capable of retaining profound symbolic, historical and processual significance.

The residency will explore the transformation of paper from a two-dimensional medium into a sculptural and/or installation-based material, right through to its manifestation as papier-mâché, highlighting the shift from the monumentality of traditional sculpture to the fragility and transience of contemporary artistic practices.

In this context, the celebration of the papier-mâché tradition linked to the collective rituals of the city of Matera is particularly significant, especially the construction of the Carro for the Festa della Bruna, which has been celebrated on 2 July for over six hundred years.

This extraordinary example of a mobile papier-mâché scenic machine is recognised as an ephemeral work and a complex symbolic device, capable of combining aesthetic dimension, social function and territorial identity. Adorned with a rich Baroque-style decorative scheme, comprising sculptural figures and ornamental motifs of great plastic richness, the float transcends the traditional dichotomy between art and craft, embedding folk practices within a contemporary and shared cultural vision. The residency serves as a bridge between innovation and historical memory, between local production and a global perspective.

PAPER AND PAPERMAÇÉ AS CONCEPTUAL MEDIA

The residency stems from a desire to revive one of the region's most significant craft traditions – papier-mâché – by reinterpreting it through a contemporary lens and engaging directly with the 'artisan custodians' of these techniques and production processes. The project aims to move beyond the logic of mass production in favour of formal research and experimentation, highlighting the cultural dimension of the object and reinterpreting the heritage of the past as an active resource for the contemporary cultural fabric.

In this context, paper and papier-mâché form the core of the residency's artistic and design research. Seemingly simple and fragile materials, they hold profound historical and symbolic significance: paper as a medium for memory and the transmission of knowledge; papier-mâché as a practice of recomposition that transforms fragments and scraps into new forms and expressive possibilities.

Through these materials, the artist-in-residence will be invited to reflect on the Mediterranean as a living archive of cultures, languages, migrations and exchanges. Paper becomes a metaphor for the routes that have, over time, connected the various shores of our shared sea, whilst papier-mâché evokes the processes of cultural fusion, stratification and regeneration that have shaped Mediterranean history and identity, offering a unique lens through which to explore the relationship between memory, transformation and the contemporary world.

ART, RESEARCH-BASED CRAFTS, CREATIVE-DRIVEN MANUFACTURING AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION

The residency project stems from a desire to foster a dialogue between art and high-end craftsmanship through research processes applied to one of the region's traditional paper-based techniques. The residency aims to serve as an experimental workshop in which artists collaborate with craftspeople to create prototypes inspired by the tangible and intangible identity of the city and the Mediterranean context. The project, which revolves around the concepts of 'Stratification' and 'Contaminations' – understood as the convergence of cultures, languages and techniques from the local area and the Mediterranean – focuses on the local craft of papier-mâché, reinterpreted through contemporary approaches drawn from various disciplinary contexts to generate new 'narrative objects' capable of portraying Matera and the Mediterranean as a crossroads of cultural relations. By seeking to harness the transformative potential of creative innovation in challenging established practices, methodologies and design approaches, the residency encourages

the adoption of new perspectives on the relationship between art and craft within contemporary supply chains.

By bringing artisans together with the critical and design-oriented aspects of art, the project aims to reconnect with the finest elements of craft tradition that have been scattered amidst the various processes of economic and cultural globalisation. It seeks to facilitate the creation of unique pieces or small series, thereby endowing the residency with the character of a platform not only for design but, above all, for productive intelligence, grounded in a journey that originates from a specific territory and its cultural imagination: Basilicata and the Mediterranean.

STRUCTURE AND DURATION OF THE RESIDENCY

The residency will take place in Matera from 5 to 31 October 2026 (4 weeks in total) at the premises of the SoutHeritage Foundation and will involve the development of a research and production project in dialogue with the local area and with a number of local craft businesses, although the exact dates may be subject to slight changes depending on the logistical requirements of the selected artist. The dates of the final event and the open studios will be agreed in consultation with the host organisation.

Particular attention will be paid to collaborative practices, shared design processes and forms of public engagement that will accompany the course of the work. The call is open to artists interested in developing projects which, through the use of paper and papier-mâché as conceptual and material tools, explore the grey area between art, craft, design and applied art, addressing themes such as memory, identity, cultural landscape, migration, sustainability, heritage and intercultural dialogue in the contemporary Mediterranean.

The residency, which comprises a 28-day research period culminating in a public presentation, is designed as a platform for experimentation and dialogue between craft practices and communities, contributing to the construction of new shared narratives about the Mediterranean.

The programme is structured as follows:

- **Week 1** – Research: access to workshops, observation of production processes and building relationships with craftspeople, visits and mapping of symbols and materials associated with identity.
- **Week 2** – Production: Initiation and development of the working process in collaboration with specialist craftspeople, shared experimentation

workshops involving co-design and experimentation between artists and craftspeople.
- **Week 3** – Post-production and Elaboration: Formal, conceptual and technical definition of the research outcome.
- **Week 4** – Installation and Presentation: Public presentation of the artwork and the process.

During the residency, three weekly Open Studio sessions (one per week) will be organised as open days for the public and visitors to observe the creative process, engage with the artist, take part in practical demonstrations and contribute to certain stages of production.

The SoutHeritage Foundation will provide the artist with the support of a tutor/mentor to guide them throughout the entire residency process, in line with industry best practice.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The outputs will include:

- prototypes and objects;
- an exhibition;
- a digital archive of the processes and techniques developed;
- audiovisual content and storytelling for promotional purposes.

Works and prototypes will remain on display after the residency concludes through a temporary exhibition at the Foundation's premises and those of local partners.

THE RESIDENCY VENUES

The Foundation has a multifunctional space dedicated to exhibitions, artist residencies, creative research and participatory activities open to the public. Situated in the city centre of Matera, in an easily accessible location connected to the city's main cultural venues and local craft workshops, the space is secure, monitored by CCTV and organised into areas for individual and collective work, as well as zones for public meetings and co-creation activities with the community.

Facilities include workstations for artists in residence, modular tables, natural and artificial lighting, high-speed Wi-Fi, basic consumables, a video projector, screens, audio/video equipment for documenting the creative process, a

refreshment area, a modular exhibition space for temporary exhibitions, and a workshop and public meeting area with a capacity of up to 40 people.

The space also guarantees daily access, technical and organisational support, and logistical assistance, and will be available throughout all phases of the residency for research and project development, artistic production, participatory workshops, meetings with the community and tourists, Open Studio days and the final exhibition of the works produced.

TARGET AUDIENCE AND REQUIREMENTS

This call is open to a single professional artist (visual arts, sculpture, installation, hybrid practices) interested in developing a project which, through the use of paper and papier-mâché as conceptual and material tools, explores the grey area between art, craft, design and the applied arts, addressing themes such as memory, identity, cultural landscape, migration, sustainability, heritage and intercultural dialogue in the contemporary Mediterranean.

Participation is restricted to artists originating from the Euro-Mediterranean region, regardless of their current country of residence. Preference will be given to candidates of nationalities other than Italian. The call is open to artists

Mandatory requirements:

- Origin: from the Euro-Mediterranean area (countries bordering the Mediterranean or with historical and cultural ties – Southern Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, the Balkans).
- Current residence: any country.
- Medium: Papier-mâché or paper, as a field of material research, must already be part of the artist's practice or represent an area that can be actively explored within the context of the residency.

Required skills:

- Research-oriented artistic practice.
- Ability to work in English, French or Italian.
- Willingness to undertake intensive work in unmediated craft contexts.
- Aptitude for intensive and non-standardised processes.

FINANCIAL AND LOGISTICAL CONDITIONS AND INSURANCE COVER

The programme provides for a total remuneration of €3,000.00, subject to applicable taxes and withholding obligations under Italian tax legislation.

This amount includes:

- Artist's fee;
- Travel expenses;
- Living expenses.

The SoutHeritage Foundation directly provides:

- Accommodation for the entire duration of the residency.
- Equipped studio/workspace and production materials.
- Exhibition space for the final exhibition;
- Technical and operational support, and exhibition space for the final presentation.

At the artist's expense:

- any visa fees
- personal health insurance valid for the entire period

HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted by 1 August 2026 to the email address info@southeritage.it with the subject line: Application – Unfolding Pathways: Fluid Forms and Hybrid Interpretations of Paper Craft Design – ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAMME. All materials submitted must be in PDF format (maximum 20 MB in total).

Language: English or French or Italian.

Required documents:

- Artistic CV (max 5 pages) – education, exhibitions, previous residencies, publications.
- Portfolio (max 20 pages) – artist's statement, images of recent works with captions (title, year, technique, dimensions).

Project proposal (max 1,500 words) must include:

- the artist's position in relation to the Euro-Mediterranean context;
- proposed approach to working with papier-mâché and its craftsmanship
- working methodology (weekly schedule).

TIMETABLE AND DEADLINES

Call for applications opens: 23 June 2026

Deadline for submission of applications: 1 August 2026 (23:59 CET)

Announcement of the selected artist: By 14 2026

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The selection will be made by a committee based on the quality of the research and its alignment with the sought-after profile.

ORGANISING SECRETARIAT AND CONTACTS

SoutHeritage Foundation for Contemporary Art - Piazza Duomo – Recinto Castelvecchio 2, 75100 Matera – Italy

Email: info@southeritage.it (please specify in the subject line: "Enquiry regarding Unfolding Pathways – INTERNATIONAL ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAMME"). Website: www.southeritage.it

ANNEX 8 - MOMART APS

PROJECT: ATTRAVERSAMENTI: Visual Memories of Euro-Mediterranean Transhumance
DEADLINE: 23 July 2026 at 23:59 (CET)
START OF RESIDENCY: 31 August 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION

The project presented by MOMART APS forms part of the "Terre Immerse" programme, with the aim of transforming Matera into an international laboratory for contemporary artistic production, highlighting its historical position as a Mediterranean crossroads.

"ATTRAVERSAMENTI: Visual Memories of Euro-Mediterranean Transhumance" proposes a residency focused on fine-art photography and video art to explore the historical and intangible traces left by Mediterranean civilisations in Matera and Basilicata, such as the Oenotrians, the Greeks of Magna Graecia, Byzantine communities and the Arbëreshë, and medieval Arab settlements along the Via Appia and the pastoral transhumance routes. The project directly addresses the challenges of social inclusion and sustainable development, linking ancient memories to contemporary challenges through a

visual narrative that restores Matera's historic role as a Mediterranean crossroads.

PROFILE SOUGHT

This call for applications is aimed at **professionals working in the field of photography**, with proven expertise in participatory art, preferably an expert in video art and multimedia installations. The candidate must possess a strong aptitude for leading workshop programmes with local residents to inform their research; active involvement in managing the Open Studios and co-designing the final presentation event in close collaboration with the organising body is required. The integration of fine-art photography and new video languages will be regarded as a preferred qualification, as will fluency in Italian.

THE STAGES

The process is structured around three pillars of co-creation aimed at engaging the local community:

- "Living Archive": a collection of oral testimonies and archival memories from residents, translated into visual works.
- Open workshops: practical sessions on photographic superimposition between rock architecture and contemporary identity.
- "Urban Walks": open walks to collectively map Mediterranean influences in Matera.

There will also be a series of progressive Open Studio sessions during each week of the residency, designed as open workshops where the community and visitors can interact directly with the artist, and a final public presentation event

At the end of the residency, the following outputs with a lasting impact are planned:

1. Site-specific exhibition and video installation:
2. Open-access digital archive:
3. Digital photobook

SPACES AND FACILITIES

The residency and production will take place at the Galleria Momart premises in Matera, an underground venue carved out of calcarenite that serves as both a site-specific exhibition space and a creative studio. The space is equipped with technical facilities, including video projectors for projections onto tuff

surfaces, adjustable LED lighting, monitors for video installations, PC/Mac workstations for archiving and pre-editing, as well as modular exhibition panels and supports for large-format photographs.

CALENDAR

A four-week continuous residency period is scheduled to begin on 31 August.

The dates for the final event and open studios will be agreed upon with the host organisation.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Project proposals must be submitted by completing the digital form in full, available at this link, strictly adhering to the specified deadline.

A panel of experts will examine the profiles and applications received and

Upon completion of the assessment phase, the successful candidate will be notified by email by 30 July.

FEE AND ARTISTIC REMUNERATION

An all-inclusive artistic remuneration of **€3,000.00 gross** for the entire period will be provided.

The organisation will provide a further lump-sum expense allowance of **€1,000.00** to cover food and incidental expenses during the stay.

The organisation will cover the costs of return travel (economy class with luggage), health insurance cover and accommodation in an apartment for the duration of the residency, as well as the production costs for the events and the final output.

INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the host organisation

MOMART APS

Piazza Madonna dell'Idris 5–7, 75100 Matera (MT)

momartgallery57@gmail.com

ANNEX 9 - Ombre Meridiane Social Cooperative

PROJECT: IN-LAND
DEADLINE: 20 July 2026 (12:00 CET)
RESIDENCY START DATE: 28 September 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION

Ombre Meridiane is a social cooperative that runs a school of cinema, audiovisual arts and visual culture in Matera. It focuses on training and film education for all age groups, as well as film, audiovisual and photographic production, designing and implementing cultural and artistic activities, with a specific focus on its areas of expertise (artistic residencies, workshops and masterclasses, film productions).

The co-operative was founded with the aim of promoting visual languages as an art form capable of sparking social change within communities, fostering critical thinking about the state of contemporary cultures, even in marginalised and isolated areas.

Further details can be found at https://ombremeridiane.it/.

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION

Matera, the city hosting the artist-in-residence programme, has always demonstrated a power associated with images and landscapes – a driving force that attracts tourists, yet often leads them to take only a superficial view. The city, however, rich in nuances and layers, deserves deeper exploration: by incorporating the perspective of the 'other', it is possible to access this greater complexity.

The **IN-LAND** artist-in-residence programme is based on the desire to translate the socio-cultural identity of Mediterranean communities into cinematic images, with the aim of creating a critical dialogue with another perspective, another imaginary.

The main theme is: the power of images, the images of power, to be interpreted not in an absolute or repressive sense but as an effect that fosters the dissemination of critical and democratic thought. Thus, the production spaces will also be the squares of the Historic Centre-Sassi and the suburbs – places conceived, in each instance, as manifestations of power, expressions of the city's character, and zones of dialogue between opposing ideas, where

those who cross a border out of fear or necessity meet those who welcome and include them.

Finally, the two key themes to be explored during the residency are:

- Layers. Recognising and celebrating the diverse historical, social and cultural legacies that make up Mediterranean identity. Exploring tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and the fusion of tradition and innovation;
- Isolations. A dialogue between inland and coastal areas to overcome a hierarchical view of the Mediterranean and promote a shared sense of centrality.

Building on the themes and spaces outlined above, the artistic process of research and production will unfold in close contact with the Matera area and the community that lives there or frequents it, following the general guidelines set by the Ombre Meridiane team, in full accordance with the objectives of this call.

The artist will place at the centre of their work the development of cinematic practices (interviews, observation, listening, film sets) capable of sparking the public's creativity and critical thinking, transforming the urban space – and, in particular, the square – into places where relationships are forged.

OUTPUT

An integral part of the residency is the creation of a **docu-drama short film** or **mockumentary**, based on the principles of audience-specific work: not a finished piece, but a practice that takes shape through the contribution of the local community and tourists, who are involved in a participatory creative process (listening, discussion, gathering testimonies, improvisation).

The film will be available online (YouTube, web channels, etc.). A DCP version suitable for cinema screening will be produced. Furthermore, the short film may also be distributed through international networks to promote the experience of Matera 2026, Mediterranean Capital of Culture and Dialogue, depending on the partnerships that will be established at a later stage.

PROFILE SOUGHT

This call is open to all artists from the member states of the Union for the Mediterranean (Euromed), in particular Southern Europe and the Mediterranean basin available here:

https://ufmsecretariat.org/who-we-are/member-states/), regardless of their current place of residence or domicile; one artist will be selected from among them.

The artist must be an individual (not a collective) and may submit their application if, by the closing date of the call, they meet the following requirements:

- they are of legal age and meet the requirements for travelling to Italy. Please note that any visa required to travel to Italy, should this be necessary, is the responsibility of the artist submitting the application for this call;
- be a filmmaker with proven experience in the creation of audiovisual works based on co-creation processes and community-based practices. Furthermore, the filmmaker must demonstrate through their personal portfolio: 1) that they possess an authorial vision, with an interest in the contemporary dynamics of cinematic language; 2) that they possess the technical and artistic skills to fulfil the various roles involved in the production process (scriptwriting, directing and filming, post-production);
- possess their own audio-visual equipment and technological devices with which they are accustomed to working and which will be used during the residency: video camera, lenses, microphone(s), audio recorder, tripod, hard drive with sufficient capacity to back up video files, laptop with adequate technical specifications and audio-visual editing software installed. The choice and use of software is at the filmmaker's discretion. However, we recommend installing and using the DaVinci Resolve audio-video editing software, as the editing workstation in the workspace provided utilises this software. The artist must have their own equipment available throughout the entire residency period.

The programme includes the organisation of Open Studio sessions (days for engagement with the public) and may also be open to a group of film students. Consequently, by applying to the call for applications, the selected artist declares their full willingness to engage with any students involved. Similarly, they are required to participate actively in the Open Studio sessions, as these form part of the artistic production process (presentation of the materials produced, description of the work in progress with feedback, and interaction with the public).

SPACES AND FACILITIES

The host organisation will provide the selected artist with a workspace equipped with an internet connection and the necessary equipment for viewing the video material produced as the project progresses: a video projection system (laser projector, sound system, mixer, amplifier) and a PC workstation meeting the appropriate technical specifications.

The space, located in the Sassi and a short distance from Matera Cathedral, will be open on working days (Monday to Friday) during the residency period, from 10.00 to 13.00 and from 15.00 to 18.00.

ARTISTIC FEE AND REMUNERATION

In return for the work carried out, the selected filmmaker will be paid an artistic fee of **€1,800.00** by the host organisation, inclusive of VAT (where applicable), withholding tax and all statutory tax, social security and insurance contributions, subject to the issue of a valid VAT invoice or receipt. The payment schedule will be set out in the specific contract to be drawn up between the artist and the Organisation.

The costs of food, accommodation and travel are borne by the host organisation and therefore do not constitute an expense for the artist.

TIMELINE

The residency will last for four consecutive weeks, starting on **28 September 2026 and ending on 25 October 2026**, by which date all activities must be completed, including the creation and delivery of the final output to the team at Ombre Meridiane Società Cooperativa Sociale.

An integral part of the schedule is the selected artist's adherence to the following timetable:

- Week 1 (28 September–4 October 2026): field research;
- Week 2 (5–11 October 2026): script development (storyline, screenplay);
- Week 3 (12–18 October 2026): production (filming, archiving and management of video material);
- Week 4 (19–25 October 2026): post-production (editing, colour correction, audio-video mixing, export and delivery of the finished product in .mp4 and DCP formats).

All the phases and processes described, including the final product, must be approved by the team at Ombre Meridiane Società Cooperativa Sociale. The

timelines indicated may be subject to minor adjustments solely to accommodate any artistic requirements. However, the deadline by which the final audiovisual product must be delivered in accordance with the technical specifications set out above (25 October 2026) remains unchanged.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applications for this call must be submitted by 12:00 on 20 July 2026 (Italian time), exclusively via the application form available here:

https://forms.gle/trh3L6Kd1S6uj2VV6

In the relevant fields of the form, you must attach:

- a valid identity document (PDF, max 10 MB);
- a motivation letter setting out: your interest in the themes and format of the artist-in-residence programme; your idea of how to structure the residency (PDF, max 10 MB);
- a brief biography written in a narrative style, telling the story of yourself and your personal and professional experience. If the artist uses a nickname or pseudonym in the titles of the works featured in their portfolio, this must be stated in this biography (PDF, max 10 MB);
- the Vimeo/YouTube link(s) to your artistic portfolio, demonstrating that you meet the required technical and artistic criteria. Alongside each link, please briefly indicate the stages in which the filmmaker was involved (writing, directing, filming, editing, etc.);
- a list of the audio-visual equipment owned and to be used during the residency (video camera, lenses, microphone(s), audio recorder, tripod, hard drive, laptop with adequate technical specifications, audio-visual editing software, etc.).

INFORMATION

ombremeridiane@gmail.com

ANNEX 10 - Strane Nuvole

PROJECT: Med Comics : des explorations artistiques au-delà de la page (Med Comics: Artistic Explorations Beyond the Page)
DEADLINE: 26 July 2026 at 12:00 (CET)
START OF RESIDENCY: 14 September 2026
DURATION: 4 weeks

INTRODUCTION

Strane Nuvole APS, an organisation operating in Matera since 2009, is dedicated to promoting comics and narrative drawing in all their forms. This artist-in-residence project was created to provide artists with the tools needed to develop fresh perspectives on the Mediterranean, harnessing the experimental potential of the Ninth Art.

The one-month programme involves the artist's active engagement with the local community through three open studio sessions and a final presentation event open to the public.

Comics, the direct heir to ancient cave paintings, draw their power from narrative sequence rather than mere visual representation. This universal language, which has developed globally as a form of communication accessible to all, acts as a bridge between different cultures.

Strane Nuvole promotes a vision of art as an uninterrupted, barrier-free flow, capable of narrating both the critical issues and the beauty of our society. From this perspective, collaboration with artists from the Mediterranean region becomes fundamental for a territory that has historically looked towards the south-east. As highlighted by Matvejevic, the link with the Mediterranean represents the very foundation of European identity.

At a time of profound transformation for the city of Matera, the association aims to make a tangible contribution by fostering a dialogue centred on the Ninth Art. The objective is to strengthen networks of Mediterranean cooperation and to create a local narrative that employs a popular and constantly evolving language.

The residency takes the form of a multidisciplinary workshop where the Ninth Art meets new technologies and the performative dimension. The selected artist will work on a project which, starting from the printed page — with a publication edited by Sputnik Press — will expand into the format of the 'drawn

concert', integrating sound and digital art into an open and inclusive creative process.

CONCEPT AND ARTISTIC VISION

The residency takes the form of a multidisciplinary studio dedicated to experimentation, where the Ninth Art meets digital technologies and live performance. The aim is to create a work that transcends the limits of the printed page — whilst still involving a publication with Sputnik Press — to evolve into a performative and multimedia dimension. At the heart of the project lies the 'drawn concert' format, a narrative device in which illustration interacts in real time with sound and digital visual processing, transforming the creative process into an act of social inclusion and engagement with the local area.

At the heart of the research is the desire to use the language of narrative drawing as a tool for intercultural dialogue, combining traditional forms of expression with technological innovation.

The final outcome of the project takes two complementary forms:

- **A comic book**: produced in collaboration with the publishing house Sputnik Press, intended for publication and wide distribution.
- **A live performance**: a multimedia work in which the narrative comes to life through live drawing, the digital intervention of a visual artist and a soundtrack performed in real time by musicians.

This structure allows the work to constantly regenerate itself, adapting to the context and the moment of performance, thanks in part to the active collaboration between the artist-in-residence and professionals from the local scene.

A key role will be played by the *open studios*, designed as opportunities for exchange to gather feedback from the community through:

1. Exhibitions of works produced during the research phase;
2. Public rehearsal sessions for the multimedia performance;
3. Face-to-face meetings to explore the artist's research and background in greater depth.

DESIRED PROFILE

Preference is given to a well-rounded comic artist, although narrative proposals utilising unconventional forms of expression may be considered, provided they are based on sequential storytelling and narrative design. Applicants must provide evidence of having published at least one comic book, including contributions to anthologies, professional publications or self-published projects.

Although not a mandatory requirement, experience in the field of live performance or 'drawn concerts' will be viewed favourably during the selection process.

Proficiency in at least one of the following languages – Italian or French – is essential; knowledge of English is considered an asset.

SPACES AND FACILITIES

The organisation will provide basic technical equipment and will also ensure the supply of additional tools and materials upon specific request. The studio allocated is located within the Biblioteca del Fumetto at Via Gattini 8: an exceptional book collection comprising over 6,000 international titles, which is entirely at the resident's disposal.

The studio features a spacious workstation, which can be adapted with additional work surfaces and a wall that can be fitted out for vertical production or projections. The technical equipment includes a workstation with professional graphics software, a graphics tablet, a light table, a scanner, an audio system and a video projector. The space is complemented by furniture for relaxation, toilets, Wi-Fi connectivity and a refreshment area with a fridge; to ensure the safety of their equipment, artists will have access to a private lockable drawer unit.

In order to facilitate maximum concentration, the premises will remain closed to the public for the entire duration of the project, with the association's usual activities suspended except during open studio sessions or at the artist's explicit request.

Finally, it is confirmed that the planned accommodation consists of a self-contained residential unit situated in the heart of the Sassi district, approximately 850 metres from the workspace.

TIMETABLE

The residency is scheduled to last for four consecutive weeks starting on 14 September, although the exact start date may be subject to slight changes depending on the logistical requirements of the selected artist.

The dates of the final event and the open studio sessions will be agreed upon with the host organisation.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applications must be submitted via this LINK, attaching the following documents:

- A detailed Curriculum Vitae outlining your professional background, completed projects, published works, participation in exhibitions and any live performances. The document may be submitted in Italian, English or French;
- An up-to-date artistic portfolio or a link to your website;
- A letter of motivation providing an in-depth account of your artistic research — themes, artistic languages and experiments — and the reasons for your interest in the project in relation to the vision of the Mediterranean;
- A copy of a valid identity document.

A panel of experts will examine the profiles and applications received and upon completion of the assessment phase, the successful candidate will be notified by email by 5 August 2026

FEES AND ARTISTIC REMUNERATION

An all-inclusive artistic remuneration of **€2,800.00** gross is provided for the entire period. The organisation will pay a further lump-sum expense allowance of **€700.00** to cover food and incidental expenses during the residency.

The organising body will cover the costs of inbound/outbound travel (economy class with luggage) and accommodation in a flat for the duration of the residency, as well as the production costs for the events and the final output, in addition to the publication of the comic book and the associated royalties, to be agreed with the publisher based on the work produced.

INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the host organisation at this address: stranenuvoleaps@gmail.com by 23 July 2026.

www.matera-basilicata2019.it

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CAPITALE
MEDITERRANEA
DELLA CULTURA
E DEL DIALOGO

CON IL SOSTEGNO DI

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PROMOSSO DA

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IN COLLABORAZIONE CON

COMUNE DI MATERA