

REGULATION

OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS
WALK&TALK — BIENAL DE ARTES 2025
GESTURES OF ABUNDANCE

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:
JANUARY 31, 2025, 17:00 (AZORES TIME)

Walk&talk

BIENAL DE ARTES

Walk&Talk — Bienal de Artes invites applications, of which two (2) will be selected for artistic residencies in 2025 aimed at introducing artists and their practices to the unique cultural and ecological landscape of the Azores, fostering research, creation, and the presentation of new artistic proposals.

The selected artists will collaborate with the biennial's curatorial team to **develop a new artistic work** shaped by their residency*, which will debut during the **Walk&Talk Biennial 2025 – Gestures of Abundance**, taking place from **September 25 to November 30, 2025**, on the island of São Miguel, Azores.

*This opportunity provides the space and time for engagement, reflection, and research rather than the development of previously existing work.

2025 EDITION — GESTURES OF ABUNDANCE

Taking place across the island of São Miguel between September 25 and November 30, 2025, this new iteration of Walk&Talk invites audiences to explore the abundant intersections of culture, ecology, and spirituality. Drawing inspiration from the unique landscapes and layered histories of the Azores, this first edition poses a transformative question: how might we shift our perception of scarcity to one of cooperative abundance?

The biennial looks into commonality and other ways of engaging with the political: dreaming, collaborating, instituting, negotiating spaces to live, and revealing concrete possibilities, myths, and hopes. These notions will guide the curatorial research and shape the programmatic structure of the biennial, influencing both the typology of activities and actions to be presented and the processes of inviting artists and other agents.

Curatorial text [here](#)

Curatorial and artistic teams

Curated and programmed by a communal network of artists, curators, and teams, Walk&Talk draws on collective intelligence to explore the creation, experience, and sustainability of artistic practices. This core team includes guest curators **Claire Shea** (Toronto, Canada), **Fatima Bintou Rassoul Sy** (Dakar, Senegal), **Liliana Coutinho** (Lisbon, Portugal), artistic director and curator **Jesse James** (Azores, Portugal), working collaboratively and engaging creatively with the teams in the organization.

[1] CALENDAR

December 19, 2024: Announcement of the Open Call.

January 29, 2025 (17:00 Azores Time): Deadline for clarification requests.

January 31, 2025 (17:00 Azores Time): Deadline for submission of applications.

February 18, 2025: Announcement of results via email to all applicants and publicly on Walk&Talk's social media and website.

March—July 2025: Artistic residency and production phase.

September—November 2025: Presentation of completed works during the Biennial.

[2] GRANTS

The selected artists will receive the following support:

a) Artistic Residency (March–July 2025):

- Residency up to 15 days.
- Round-trip airfare for one (1) person to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel, Azores.
- Accommodation and per diem during the residency period.
- Curatorial, production, and communication team support.

Residency Expectations:

- Participation in public engagement activities, such as artist talks or workshops.
- Collaboration with the curatorial team to develop a work aligned with the residency experience.

b) Biennial Presentation (September–November 2025):

- Round-trip airfare for one (1) person to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel, Azores.
- Accommodation and per diem during the presentation phase.

c) Artist Fee:

- €2.500 (plus applicable taxes).

Collective applications:

In collective applications, the curatorial and production teams will decide whether to extend the grant benefits to additional members beyond the representative specified in the application.

d) Production Fee:

- Determined in collaboration with curatorial and production teams, covering costs such as materials, equipment, and specialized services. Letters of support for external funding applications can be provided upon request.

[3] CANDIDATES

Applicants must:

- Be individual artists or collectives working in any field or discipline.
- Be over 18 years old, regardless of nationality or location.
- In the case of collectives, designate a representative for the application.

Restrictions:

- Applications for co-production or circulation of projects already completed or presented publicly are not accepted.

[4] APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted exclusively through **GOOGLE FORMS** until **January 31, 2025, 17:00 (Azores Time)**. Submissions via email or other platforms will not be accepted. Late submissions will not be accepted – Google Forms will stop accepting applications at the time stipulated in the regulation.

The form will collect all necessary materials, including the **Letter of Intent, Portfolio, and Biography**. All fields are mandatory unless otherwise specified. All texts and information uploaded in the form must be in English, as the Open Call has an international jury. Portuguese written applications will not be accepted or viewed.

Notes:

- Files must be **uploaded directly to the form** (PDFs and PNGs only). Links to file-sharing platforms like WeTransfer will not be reviewed.
- Applicants are encouraged to test file uploads before the deadline to avoid technical errors.
- A confirmation email will be sent upon successful submission.

4.1. APPLICATION ELEMENTS

a) Personal Information:

- Full Name (Individual or Collective Representative).
- Pronouns.
- Email Address.
- Phone Number.
- Outbound/inbound airport.
- Social Media Links.

b) Letter of Intent (Written, max. 2,500 characters, including spaces):

A personal statement describing the artist's motivations for applying to the residency, their interest in Walk&Talk, and how this opportunity aligns with their artistic practice. The letter should also discuss how their work connects to the curatorial theme of *Gestures of Abundance*.

c) Biography (Written, max. 1,000 characters, including spaces):

Brief biography detailing the artist's professional background, including significant exhibitions, residencies, or other relevant experiences.

d) Portfolio (PDF format, max. 20 pages, max. 10MB):

A selection of projects/works showcasing the artist's practice through text, images, and links to online platforms (e.g., personal website, YouTube, Vimeo). Include descriptions to contextualize key works.

e) Additional Attachments (PDF/PNG format):

- One (1) portrait (max. 10MB).*
- Two (2) images of previous works (max. 10MB each).*
- Passport/National ID (scan/photo, both sides if applicable. max. 10MB).

*Please include photo credits in the name of the file if applicable.

[5] CLARIFICATIONS

Clarifications must be requested via email to opencalls@walktalkazores.org by **January 28, 2025, 17:00 Azores Time**. Requests sent after this deadline will not be addressed.

[6] SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process will be conducted by a jury composed of:

- Claire Shea (Guest Curator)
- Fatima Bintou Rassoul Sy (Guest Curator)
- Liliana Coutinho (Guest Curator)
- Jesse James (Artistic Director, Walk&Talk)
- Rubén Monfort (Programs Coordinator, Walk&Talk)

6.1 EVALUATION PROCESS

a) Initial Review:

All submitted applications will be reviewed for compliance with the Open Call requirements through the Google Forms platform. Incomplete or non-compliant applications will be disqualified at this stage.

b) Jury Evaluation:

The jury will evaluate eligible applications based on the submitted materials (Letter of Intent, Portfolio, Biography) and according to the following criteria:

- Artistic quality and innovation (40%).
- Relevance to the biennial's theme *Gestures of Abundance* (30%).
- Feasibility of the artist's practice within the residency framework (20%).
- Potential for collaboration and engagement with local contexts and the Walk&Talk community (10%).

c) Shortlisting and Final Decision:

- The jury will shortlist candidates for a final evaluation round.
- In exceptional cases, the jury may request additional information or conduct an online interview with shortlisted applicants.

d) Voting:

- The final selection will be made by majority vote, conducted online.
- The jury reserves the right not to select any applicants if submissions fail to meet the Open Call's goals.

6.2 ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

- All applicants will be contacted directly by email with the final results of the Open Call.
- Results will be announced on **February 18, 2025**, via Walk&Talk's website and social media.

6.3 GENERAL NOTES

- The jury's decision is final and not subject to appeal.
- The organization guarantees that all application data collected through Google Forms will be treated confidentially and used solely for evaluation and residency purposes.

[7] TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- a) Acceptance of Terms:** By submitting an application, the applicant fully accepts the terms and conditions outlined in this regulation.
- b) Data Confidentiality:** All personal data and materials provided through the Google Forms submission will be kept confidential and used exclusively for evaluation and residency purposes.
- c) Content Usage:** Selected artists grant Walk&Talk permission to use submitted materials (images, videos, and descriptions) for promotional purposes directly related to the residency, biennial, and its communication platforms while retaining copyright ownership of their work.
- d) Application Compliance:** Applications must be submitted via the designated Google Forms link by the specified deadline. Submissions that do not meet the requirements (e.g., incomplete forms, incorrect file formats, or late submissions) will be automatically disqualified.
- e) Responsibility for Errors:** The organization is not responsible for errors in form submission, including file upload issues or incomplete or illegible applications. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all files are uploaded correctly and within the size limits.
- f) Co-Production:** If necessary, organizations/collectives are encouraged to secure additional sponsorship or funding to complement the production fee provided by Walk&Talk, as outlined in Section 2.
- g) Jury Decisions:** The jury's decisions regarding selection are final and cannot be appealed.

h) Omissions and Disputes: Any situations not addressed in this regulation will be resolved by Anda&Fala – Cultural Association, the organization responsible for Walk&Talk Biennial. Applicants expressly waive the right to contest these resolutions with any external entities or judicial bodies.

i) Non-Compliance: Failure to adhere to any of these terms and conditions will result in the immediate disqualification of the application and exclusion of the applicant from participation in the Open Call.