

REGULATION

OPEN CALL FOR PROGRAMMING
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 for programming proposals, of which two (2) will be selected to be part of the biennial's official program. This Open Call is exclusively for independent cultural organizations and agents based in the Azores Islands. It aims to activate and support local cultural initiatives that might enrich the biennial's program by fostering collaboration, engagement, and visibility for the regional cultural landscape.

Applicants are invited to propose activities lasting up to five (5) consecutive days and to take place on the island of São Miguel, in their own spaces or partner venues, during the **Walk&Talk Biennial 2025 – Gestures of Abundance**, which is taking place from **September 25 to November 30, 2025**. Proposals should include a calendar of activities, a possible list of participating artists and collaborators, and a preliminary budget.

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—September 2025: meetings and artistic residencies (if required in the applications).

October—November, 2025: Implementation of selected activities during the Biennial.

[2] GRANTS

Selected proposals will receive the following support:

a) Programming Budget: Funding up to 5,000,00€ (VAT Included), allocated based on the feasibility of the proposal and its alignment with the biennial's goals. This budget should cover costs such as:

- Fees for artists and collaborators.
- Technical and logistical expenses.
- Venue rental (if applicable).
- Welcoming expenses (if applicable).
- Specific marketing and communication materials.

b) Production and Communication Support:

Assistance from the Walk&Talk production and communication teams, including:

- Coordination with partner venues (if applicable).
- Integration of activities into the official Walk&Talk Biennial program and promotional platforms.

[3] CANDIDATES

Applications are open to candidates with all of the below prerequisites:

- Independent cultural organizations or agents based in the Azores.
- Entities with proven experience in organizing cultural or artistic events.
- Applicants proposing activities that align with Walk&Talk Biennial's curatorial vision.

Restrictions:

- Proposals must be original and developed specifically for this Open Call and the Walk&Talk Biennial.
- All activities must take place on the island of São Miguel during the **Walk&Talk Biennial 2025**.
- Only one application per association or agent.

[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 stipulated schedule in the regulation.

The form will collect all necessary application materials, including the **Programming Proposal, Preliminary Budget, and Schedule of Activities**. All fields are mandatory unless otherwise specified. All texts and information uploaded in the form can be in Portuguese.

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 issues.
- A confirmation email will be sent upon successful submission.

4.1. APPLICATION ELEMENTS

a) Organization Information:

- Name/Designation.
- Biography (Written, max. 1,000 characters, including spaces): Brief biography detailing the organization/collective's professional background, including significant projects, programs, or other relevant experiences.
- VAT Number.
- Email Address.
- Phone Number.
- Social Media Links.

b) Personal Information:

- Full Name (Organization/Collective representative).
- Pronouns.

- Email Address.
- Phone Number.
- Social Media Links.

c) Programming Proposal (Written, max. 5000 characters, including spaces):
The proposal should outline the conceptual and logistical framework of the program, including:

- **Curatorial/Motivation Statement:**
A detailed description of the vision behind the proposal, its objectives, and how it aligns with Walk&Talk's curatorial theme, Gestures of Abundance.
- **Community Engagement:** Outline how the proposed activities will contribute to São Miguel's cultural landscape, explicitly addressing local community engagement and impact.
- **List of Participants:** Include confirmed or invited artists, collaborators, and local agents, with a brief description of their roles in the program.

d) Schedule of Activities (Written, max. 2500 characters, Calendar):
A structured daily program outlining:

- Estimated dates, times, and formats for each proposed activity*
- Venues or locations (applicant's venue or partner venues).

*Activities lasting up to five (5) consecutive days and to take place on the island of São Miguel during the Walk&Talk Biennial 2025 – Gestures of Abundance

*Indicate any flexibility or pending confirmations, if applicable.

e) Preliminary Budget (PDF format, max. 10MB):
Applicants must provide a detailed budget that includes the following categories:

- **Fees:** Estimated fees for participating artists and collaborators.
- **Production Costs:** Equipment rentals, materials, and other technical expenses.
- **Venue Costs:** Expenses for renting or preparing venues, if applicable.
- **Welcoming:** expenses with flights and accommodation, if applicable.

Marketing and Communication: Costs for promotional materials, online visibility, and audience outreach, if applicable.

Applicants are encouraged to include any in-kind contributions, such as donated materials or services, and highlight any additional funding sources.

f) Portfolio (PDF format, max. 20 pages, max. 10MB):
The portfolio should be tailored to highlight the applicant's capacity for organizing cultural programming. It may include:

- Documentation of previous programming activities, community events, or artistic projects.
- Visuals and written descriptions to provide context for relevant works.

g) Additional Attachments (PDF/PNG format):

- One (1) portrait (max. 10MB).*
- Four (4) images of previous works (max. 10MB each).*
- Passport/National ID of Organization/Collective representative (max. 10MB).

*Please include photo credits on 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 (Program 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 (Programming Proposal, Preliminary Budget, Schedule of Activities) and according to the following criteria:

- **Relevance to the Curatorial Vision (40%):** How well the proposal aligns with Gestures of Abundance and contributes to São Miguel's cultural dynamics;
- **Feasibility (30%):** The practicality of the proposal, including the budget, schedule, and available resources.
- **Community Engagement (20%):** The depth of connection and collaboration with local communities and cultural agents.
- **Past Programming Experience (10%):** The artistic and organizational quality demonstrated in the portfolio and additional materials.

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 and 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 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 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.