Anda&Fala

Activity *Report* 2025

Introductory Note

Anda&Fala's Activity Report is a public document that organizes the actions carried out throughout the year, offering a critical review of the work plan and the execution of the activities performed.

In the first chapter, the report presents a detailed review of the year 2025, highlighting the main events and initiatives promoted by Anda&Fala, its team, and in conjunction with partners. The second chapter brings together the actions developed within the scope of the different projects and programs, while the third chapter is dedicated to the general communication indicators and financial management of the organization.

This document reaffirms Anda&Fala's commitment to transparency, accountability, and the promotion of collaborative artistic practices, serving not only as a record of the activity carried out, but also as an expression of the values that guide the organization and its ambitions for the future.

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01 Anda&Fala

Anda&Fala is a cultural organization that promotes the creation, presentation, and circulation of knowledge, projects, and people within the expanded field of visual arts. By sharing resources, developing skills, and building networks of care and experiences, the organization fosters artistic cooperation and exchange. Based in the Azores Archipelago, Anda&Fala seeks to establish alternative centers for contemporary creation, focusing on autonomous practices rooted in transregional collaboration.

Founded in 2011, alongside the first edition of Walk&Talk — its founding project — Anda&Fala directs its activities towards promoting artistic creation and presentation, as well as audience development for culture. In 2020, Anda&Fala established its headquarters at vaga — space for art and knowledge, in Ponta Delgada, on the island of São Miguel.

Through its anchor projects — vaga and Walk&Talk Biennial — Anda&Fala's activities unfold across a range of programs that foster networks of cooperation and care, including the Public Programs, PARES — Artistic Activity Support Program in the Azores, Prémio nova vaga, RARA — Crafts Residency of the Azores Region, MELT – Módulos Experimentais para Transmalhar, the Artistic Residencies Program, and the hosting of artists and researchers, alongside cultural advocacy initiatives.

Since 2016, Anda&Fala has been recognized as a Public Utility Entity by the Government of the Azores. During the 2023–2026 period, its activities are supported by the Portuguese Republic — Culture / Directorate-General for the Arts, the Government of the Azores, and the Municipality of Ponta Delgada, with the collaboration of various partners. The organization is a founding member of MOVA - Movimento pela Arte e Cultura nos Açores, is part of the Organizing Committee of Azores Pride, and is included in the Periferias Centrais reflection and work group.

Anda&Fala's projects are programmed through the communal efforts of artists, curators, and teams involved in its organization, aiming to rethink the creation, enjoyment, and sustainability of contemporary artistic practices. It comprises a permanent team of 8 full-time employees,joined by other individuals and professionals who collaborate on an occasional or project basis.

I.I Team

Anda&Fala has implemented an organizational system grounded in the principles of communality, with the goal of creating spaces for shared agency, responsibility and collaboration. As both an idea and expansive process, communality introduces values, tools, and strategies that foster more horizontal and fluid structures. Within the organization, this is reflected in decision-making processes, co-curation, and activity planning — shared among the various collaborators — as well as in the financial management of projects, which has become progressively more egalitarian and transparent. Although demanding and sometimes complex, these processes, which require time, dedication, and collective discussion, have become central to Anda&Fala's action and purpose, positioning it critically in the contemporary art system and market.

Currently, the organization consists of a multidisciplinary team of eight full-time, two part-time employees and an intern. All members have higher education degrees, and five have postgraduate degrees or master's degrees in areas such as visual arts, art history, museology, architecture, philosophy, communication sciences, education sciences, photography, tourism, and management.

In addition to the permanent team, Anda&Fala resorts to external services for communication design, press relations, and legal and financial consulting, as well as occasional collaborations, particularly in the production of audiovisual content. During the Walk&Talk Biennial, for example, the team grows to around 30 people.

Most of the employees live in the Azores, although the team also includes members from other territories, who are fundamental to the exchange of experiences and the circulation of knowledge. Every year, Anda&Fala also welcomes volunteers, interns, partners, artists, curators, and guest experts who integrate and enrich its different programs.

Team

Executive and Artistic Direction, Programming, and Curation
Jesse James (he/him)

Programs Coordination, Production, Programming, and Curation
Rubén Monfort (he/him)

Executive Coordination and Administrative Management
Carolina Rainho (she/her)

Public Programs Coordination, Programming, and Curation
Rita Serra e Silva (she/her)

Executive Production
João Amado (he/him)
Luís Brum (he/him)

RARA Coordination, Documentation and Photography, Programming, and Curation
Mariana Lopes (any/all)

Communication Coordination
Tânia Moniz (she/her)

Communication, Documentation, and Archive
Filipa André (she/her)

Press Relations and Public Relations
Aviva Obst (she/her)

Video Production
Cão de Fila Produções (they/them)

Communication Design
vivóeusébio (they/them)

Maintenance and Cleaning
Jannette Benevides (she/her)

Advisory Board

Anda&Fala Board of Directors
Sofia Carolina Botelho (she/her)

Collaborators

Financial Consultancy
Marco Galo (he/him)

Legal Consultancy
Beatriz Lavouras (she/her)

1.2 Summary 2025

Anda&Fala's mission is to build a synergetic and collaborative cultural ecosystem, promoting shared experiences that create spaces for support, knowledge exchange, and the development of artistic projects. In 2025, the organization entered its third year of the 2023–2026 quadrennial funding cycle from the Ministry of Culture – Directorate-General for the Arts, in a context of structural and programmatic consolidation. This period was also marked by the confirmation of continued sustained support for the 2027–2030 quadrennium, in conjunction with structural support from the Government of the Azores and the Municipality of Ponta Delgada, creating conditions of stability that allow the organization's programs to be planned, developed, and mature in the medium term.

Throughout 2025, the Activity Plan included a total of 170 actions, mobilizing more than 16,000 participants and visits. The program was organized around the structural projects of Anda&Fala — the vaga space and the first edition of Walk&Talk Biennial — in conjunction with crossover programs such as the Mediation and Publics Program, the Artistic Residencies Program, PARES — Program to Support Artistic Activity in the Azores, RARA — Craft Residency of the Azores Region, and MELT — Experimental Modules for Transmalhar, which succeeds the Transmalhar project in the field of education through art. These programs are developed in an interconnected way, reflecting an approach that the organization has come to refer to as practices of autonomy: a methodology that values unique initiatives in the context of a collective, cooperative, and shared cultural vision. This logic allows each project to respond to its specific context, while remaining connected to a network of common efforts that, together, structure Anda&Fala's action and sustain its continuity and evolution.

Anda&Fala's 2023–2026 Plan of Activities seeks slower, more sustainable rhythms for its projects, enhancing artistic reflection and production, reinforcing investments in mediation and audience development, and safeguarding the well-being of artistic teams and their working environments. The Plan also emphasizes the experimental nature of curatorial processes and their flexibility in adapting or resizing programs and activities based on reflections and practical developments. It incorporates

Projects/Programs

adjustments aimed at optimizing the articulation between various projects while considering regional, national, and international cultural agendas, as well as the material and human resources available to achieve the predefined goals.

Anda&Fala's 2023–2026 Activity Plan is guided by more sustainable work rhythms, prioritizing the time needed for research, artistic production, and critical reflection. In 2025, this orientation translated into increased investment in cultural mediation and audience development, improving the working conditions of artistic teams, and safeguarding collaborative environments that are more attentive to collective care. The plan also maintained the experimental nature of curatorial and programmatic processes, assuming flexibility as an essential operating principle, capable of accommodating adjustments arising from practice, context, and the dynamics of the territory.

In this context, the year 2025 required several adjustments to the initial plan, particularly in terms of reorganizing schedules and budget management. These decisions were aimed at ensuring a more effective balance between available resources, the operational needs of the structure, and the development of planned activities, which in some cases involved prioritizing, resizing, or postponing actions. These adjustments proved essential in responding to unforeseen structural expenses and ensuring the sustainability of the association without compromising the quality, consistency, and impact of its activity plan.

Based in Ponta Delgada and part of Anda&Fala, vaga celebrated five years of continuous activity in 2025. Throughout this journey, it has established itself as a space for experimentation and encounter, operating on multiple scales — from the city to the island, from the archipelago to international contexts — and seeking to expand opportunities for dialogue, creation, and artistic collaboration. From São Miguel, vaga develops a transregional activity that values the autonomy of local cultural agents and the strengthening of cooperation networks. As a working platform, it functions as a practical laboratory for curatorial models, collaborative processes, and shared participation mechanisms, supporting a regular and multidisciplinary program that integrates exhibitions, performances, conversations, workshops, masterclasses, and artistic residencies.

vaga's programming is organized by season, structured around exhibitions and complementary initiatives, in conjunction with the Public Programs — namely Escola vaga, workshops, assemblies, and condominium meetings— as well as Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial and Feira Gráfica (5th edition). At the same time, and in between seasons, vaga has hosted other projects and supported external initiatives, maintaining its commitment to responding to the dynamics of the present and fostering collaborations with a diversity of local, national, and international agents.

In February 2025, vaga opened with Ultra-periféricas, a season dedicated to queer artistic practices in ultra-peripheral territories, such as the Azores, Madeira, and the Canary Islands. This season included an extensive parallel program, including lecture-performances, activities by Escola vaga, walks, shows, and an exhibition with new commissions by Atelineiras, Mel Rose, and Francisco Nuno Rodrigues. The second season, Reimagining the Untold, which began in May, resulted from an invitation to InterStruct collective to develop research on the role of the Azores in the context of Portuguese colonialism, culminating in an exhibition accompanied by community creation workshops and reading sessions. The last quarter of 2025 was reserved for the presentation of the exhibition Gestures of Abundance, as part of Walk&Talk Biennial, integrating new commissions from Resolve Collective, Meg Stuart, among other works.

Throughout the year, vaga promoted around 50 activities, involving 23 local structures and entities, more than 100 artists and citizens, and approximately 3,000 participants and visitors.

Between September 25 and November 30, 2025, and after about three years of transition from festival to biennial format, the first edition of Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial, the central project of Anda&Fala's activity, took place. Under the theme Gestures of Abundance, the Biennial brought together around 80 artists and participants, including 18 new commissions developed specifically for this context, in close collaboration with the curatorial team composed of Claire Shea, Fatima Bintou Rassoul Sy, Jesse James, and Liliana Coutinho. The Biennial proposed a collective reflection on the territory, its imaginaries, and processes of transformation, through collaborative methodologies and a participatory, ecological, and transdisciplinary approach. Over the course of two months, exhibitions, performances, meetings, walks, and public actions were organized, involving artists, curators, experts, and local communities. The program was structured around three key moments — Opening, Symposium, and Closing — complemented by a continuous program of exhibitions, parallel events, and public mediation, including excursions, workshops, and open assemblies, creating multiple points of access to the Biennial and encouraging a prolonged relationship with the artistic projects and the cultural and social dynamics of the archipelago.

In 2025, the Publics Program reaffirmed Anda&Fala's commitment to critical thinking, cultural mediation, and knowledge sharing, understood as the cornerstones of its work. The program continued to expand its network of intersectoral partnerships and develop projects focused on interculturality, intergenerationality, and interdisciplinarity. In line with the principles of translation and mediation, it promoted meetings and activities that stimulated meaningful exchanges between artists, communities, and diverse audiences. Escola vaga remained a fundamental space for independent artistic studies, through various training courses, while initiatives such as Feira Gráfica contributed to broadening the reach of cultural dynamics, involving local communities and visitors.

In 2025, the Transmalhar project, focused on learning through art and exploring art as a civic act on the island of São Miguel, was implemented for the first time in an educational context. It was aimed at the class of the Professional Course for Sociocultural Animators at EPROSEC — Escola Profissional dos Arrifes — and was developed in collaboration with various local organizations, artists, and guest experts. As part of this process, the team promoted MELT — Módulos Experimentais para Transmalhar carrying out six modules throughout the year that took the class around the island, experiencing co-created artistic projects and trying out participatory artistic practices. The process culminated in the publication of the same name, edited by Araucária Edições.

The Artist Residencies Program remained a privileged space for experimentation and innovation, integrating residencies associated with vaga's seasons, Walk&Talk Biennial, and collaborations resulting from strategic partnerships with national and international entities. The program prioritized original and experimental creation in the Azores, promoting new artistic languages, interdisciplinary dialogues, and contact between artists, researchers, and local agents. By strengthening co-production and artistic circulation circuits, the program contributes to positioning the Azores in international contemporary creation networks, affirming residencies as a driver of research, reflection, and cross-border collaboration.

RARA — Residência de Artesanato da Região dos Açores, launched in 2014 as part of Walk&Talk, continued to establish itself as a project with its own identity, through the creation and sale of objects resulting from collaboration between Azorean artisans, designers, and artists. In 2025, after ten editions, an experimental residency model aimed at training new artisans was tested in collaboration with CADA — Centro de Artesanato e Design dos Açores. At the same time, RARA developed a collaboration with CRESAÇOR — Cooperativa Regional de Economia Solidária, and showed in Loulé a retrospective of its ten editions, with the support of the Loulé Criativo initiative and the Loulé City Council. The project was also present in several talks and exhibitions dedicated to the intersection between crafts and contemporary design.



The 7th edition of PARES — Program to Support Artistic Activity in the Azores allocated €7,500 from the organization's annual budget to support artists and cultural agents who work in the region. The program awarded microfinance grants worth €250, €500, and €750, covering artistic creation, presentation, circulation, and training activities in different areas of contemporary creation. From a total of 32 applications received, 12 projects and artists were selected. Parallel to this, the 2nd edition of the nova vaga Award supported new talents in Azorean creation in the expanded field of visual arts, through the awarding of creative grants aimed at the development and deepening of artistic practices. Together, these initiatives represented a direct investment of around €20,000 in the artistic ecosystem of the Autonomous Region of the Azores, in line with Anda&Fala's cultural advocacy strategy and aiming to stimulate emerging dynamics, promote artistic autonomy, and strengthen dialogue between artists and cultural agents.

The year 2025 consolidated Anda&Fala's position as a central structure in the promotion and valorization of artistic creation in the Azores. The organization reinforced its commitment to collaborative and sustainable practices, deepening the impact of its projects at the local and international levels. By prioritizing experimentation, cooperation, and the strengthening of networks of affection and work, Anda&Fala looks to the future with a vision based on continuity, innovation, and the affirmation of the Azores as a reference point for contemporary artistic production and reflection.

Management Model

Anda&Fala's management model has evolved consistently in parallel with the growth and increasing complexity of its activities, seeking to professionalize processes, train teams, and strengthen efficiency in the execution of activity plans. The network of artistic, professional, and institutional collaborations that Anda&Fala fosters has been instrumental in enhancing and sustaining its development, ensuring a strategic positioning based on the results achieved and the good practices developed throughout its projects.

This evolution has been accompanied by a strategy of consolidating partnerships and strengthening the organizational structure, enabling the association to respond in a sustainable manner to the challenges posed by the expansion of its programming.

In addition to the four-year sustained support from the Ministry of Culture / DGARTES, Anda&Fala has received progressively increased financial, logistical, and institutional support from the Government of the Azores through various regional departments and public entities under its authority. This close relationship has allowed for the consolidation of the activity plan and strengthened the confidence of institutional and programmatic partners. The Municipality of Ponta Delgada also provides annual structural support for Walk&Talk Biennial and the activities of vaga, both financially and logistically. The Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD) has been part of the association's network of institutional partners since 2013, joined in 2025 by the BPI | La Caixa Foundation, in the context of supporting the Biennial's Public Program. In 2025, depending on the guest artists and their participation in Walk&Talk, support was also mobilized from various international entities, including Acción Cultural Española (A/C/E), Culture Moves Europe, the Canada Arts Council, OCA — Office for Contemporary Art Norway, Pro Helvetia — Swiss Arts Council, and the Australian Government — Regional Arts Fund.

The network of programming partners includes institutions such as Arquipélago — Centro de Artes Contemporâneas, Centro Cultural da Caloura, and Museu Carlos Machado, as well as a wide range of venues that expand Anda&Fala's scope of action in the region. Due to its media visibility and ability to mobilize audiences, Walk&Talk as a project has been supported since 2012 by sponsors such as Adega Mayor, Delta Cafés, and Grupo Bensaude. The vaga space benefits from the support of entities such as Continente and Família Albergaria, among other partners, and there is also occasional support tailored to the nature of the programs developed.

Anda&Fala mobilizes human resources and specialized services at different levels of involvement, tailored to the type and scale of the projects promoted. The organization's basic structure has grown significantly over the last two years, driven by increased institutional support, the establishment of new protocols, and the consolidation of a regular program with the opening of vaga at the end of 2020. The implementation of an activity plan that currently includes a continuous programming space, an arts biennial, and a wide range of projects involves maintaining and strengthening the working conditions of the core team, creating new jobs, internship opportunities, and contracts, as well as investing in specialized and professional services related to the areas of culture and production.

In 2025, Anda&Fala has 10 employment contracts in the areas of communication (6), production and assembly (4), legal advice (1), and financial advice (1), totaling a regular team of 22 people, complemented by regular collaborations, agreements, and specialized services. At the same time, the organization has invested in the development and qualification of its employees by awarding training grants in different areas, both technical and theoretical, as well as creating a cultural voucher that encourages access to and participation in other cultural events.

The professionalization of the structure reinforces Anda&Fala's commitment to valuing workers in the cultural sector and translates into continuous improvement in administrative processes, internal organization, and the ability to monitor projects. This positioning has a direct impact on production capacity, the management of artistic programs, and the sustained execution of a medium- and long-term activity plan.

Networks and Partnerships

Anda&Fala's activities extend beyond its projects, taking place across various contexts and geographies through production and participation in other programs and actions:

- Anda&Fala strengthened its involvement in cultural advocacy initiatives, such as MOVA — Movimento pela Cultura e Arte dos Açores (which it co-founded), Azores Pride (as part of its Organizing Committee), the General Assembly of Escola Secundária das Laranjeiras, and the Advisory Council for the Cultural Project of Escola Secundária Antero de Quental.
- The association is a member of Periferias Centrais, a reflection group focused on questioning and demystifying the concepts of "center" and "periphery" (monthly meetings from January to December).
- Anda&Fala, through espaço vaga, is part of the consortium of the European project TIDAL ArtS, an initiative funded by the European Union that combines art and science;
- vaga was part of the application *What are we doing?* for the Portuguese representation at the *19th International Architecture Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia 2025*;
- vaga was part of Pedro Barateiro's application Truvadores for the Portuguese representation at the *61st International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia 2026*;
- The Walk&Talk Catalog was part of the exhibition Graphic Collection/Coleção Gráfica - 50 years of graphic design in Portugal 1974-2024, at the Portugal Pavilion, Expo2025, Osaka Kensai, Japan.
- Transmalhar held Oficina Transmalhar on the island of Madeira, a collaboration between Rita Serra e Silva and Catarina Claro, in partnership with Dançando com a Diferença, as part of the Encontro Semeadores, from May 19 to 23.

Throughout 2025, members of the Anda&Fala team participated in various meetings, seminars, workshops, training sessions, and conferences, contributing to the broadening of the association's network of relationships, the updating of professional practices, and the strengthening of the presence of its projects in national and international contexts.

Professional Visits

- Salón ACME — Mexico City, Mexico, february
  Participation: Mariana Lopes
- Material Art Fair — Mexico City, Mexico, february
  Participation: Mariana Lopes
- ZONAMACO 2025 — Mexico City, Mexico, february
  Participation: Mariana Lopes
- ARCOmadrid 2025 — Madrid, Spain, 3–7 march
  Participation: Rubén Monfort
- ARCOlisboa 2025 — Lisbon, Portugal, 29 may–1 june
  Participation: Jesse James
- LIAF – Lofoten International Art Festival — Lofoten, Norway, 5–10 december
  Participation: Jesse James
- Art Encounters — Timișoara, Romania, 16–19 december
  Participation: Jesse James
- LIAF – Lofoten International Art Festival — Lofoten, Noruega, 5–10 dezembro
  Participação: Jesse James
- Art Encounters — Timișoara, Roménia, 16–19 dezembro
  Participação: Jesse James

Training

- Práticas Ecológicas e Sustentáveis nas Artes Performativas — EEA Grants, Ponta Delgada, 8 abril
  Formadores: Vânia Rodrigues e António Pedro Lopes
  Participação: Rubén Monfort, João Amado e Mariana Lopes

Talks and Presentations

- BTL 2025 — Lisbon, Portugal, 13 march. Presentation: *Walk&Talk – Bienal de Artes: Gestos de Abundância*
  Participation: Jesse James

- #MuseuTalks — Fazeres Tradicionais. Visões Contemporâneas — Museu Carlos Machado, Núcleo de Arte Sacra, Ponta Delgada, 19 march
  Participation: Mariana Lopes (guest speaker)

- Lisbon Design Week — Makers at MUDE: Salvaguardar o Savoir-Faire — MUDE, Lisbon, 30 may
  Participation: Mariana Lopes (guest speaker)

- Conversa sobre Fibras Vegetais — Direção-Geral das Artes / Programa Nacional Saber Fazer, no âmbito do Laboratório de Intervenção Territorial Açores: Do Oceano, As Artes, Museu Carlos Machado, Núcleo de Arte Sacra, Ponta Delgada, 20 setembro
  Participation: Mariana Lopes (guest speaker)

- Romanti Talk 6 — A Relevância do Artesanato na Era da Indústria 4.0: Tradição e Inovação — Casino de Ponta Delgada, 22 november
  Participation: Mariana Lopes (guest speaker)

- Between Atlantics — Practices of Autonomy and Commonality — Art Encounters, Timișoara, Romania, 16–19 december
  Participation: Jesse James

Conferences & Symposia

- Semeadores — Câmara Municipal do Funchal, Madeira, 22–24 may
  Participation: Jesse James (guest speaker), Mariana Lopes, Rita Serra e Silva

- Isto é PARTIS — Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisboa, 7–9 february
  Participation: Rita Serra e Silva

- PARTIS & Art for Change — Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian / Fundação "la Caixa", Covilhã, 11–13 may
  Participation: Rita Serra e Silva

- Art Encounters — Timișoara, Romania, 16–19 december
  Participation: Jesse James

Academic Research Papers

Over the years, Anda&Fala's projects — in particular Walk&Talk Biennial and vaga — have been the subject of analysis in academic circles and integrated into national and international research projects, covering different levels of teaching and research (bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, doctorates, and research grants). In 2025, the following participations and references stand out:

- Teresa Pinheiro — *The exhibition as knowledge production: active and activist effects of the curatorial beyond the exhibition*. Cultural Studies, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Lisbon.

- European research project IN SITU (2022–2026)
  Project funded by the European Union. Selection of Transmalhar as a case study in the field of artistic practices in non-metropolitan areas.

- Hugo Reis — *Art and Urbanism*. Events as a conceptual and practical tool for intervention in low-density areas in Portugal. Lisbon University Institute (ISCTE-IUL), Center for Studies on Socioeconomic Change and Territory (DINÂMIA'CET). Analysis of cultural events, including Anda&Fala projects, as devices for territorial intervention.

- Joana Magalhães — Abundância

- Beatrice Leanza — *The New Design Museum: Co-creating the Present, Prototyping the Future*, Park Books, International Publication including Walk&Talk Biennial as case-study.

- Zahra Tyebjee — Fulbright Research Grant (USA), 2024–2025
  Research on basketry and plant fibers in the Azores. Anda&Fala / RARA participated as an affiliated entity, with guidance from Mariana Lopes.

v a g a

OBSERVADOR

No Bairro das Laranjeiras há uma "vaga" a agitar as águas das artes nos Açores

A estratégia da associação, do festival ao espaço conquistado, tem sido "mostrar que é possível". (...) Diferente de tudo o que existe em São Miguel em termos de programação cultural, certo é que a vaga aterrou e está a criar raízes "num bairro central da capital micaelense".

Joana Moreira

umbigo

a vaga olha para dentro e centra-se no envolvente insular, atuando por proximidade ao território e às comunidades residentes

A vaga, como um movimento híbrido obstinado, dá à costa em Ponta Delgada, com a vontade de dar ouvido e propagar as novas vozes artísticas que operam na ilha e que vieram para renovar e fortalecer o potencial criador de São Miguel. Segundo uma postura aberta, inclusiva e jovial que começa aqui a escrever os primeiros passos, esta é já uma viagem que convida a mantermo-nos por perto, atentos e agitados.

Mafalda Ruão

ípsilon

Uma Vaga de relações para "romper com as fronteiras" da arte nos Açores

Na origem da Vaga estão dois antigos objectivos daquela associação: o de ter uma sede própria e um espaço autónomo para a criação. (...) Um "espaço que quer fazer diferente" e que, por isso, é diferente de tudo o que existe em São Miguel, ilha que em termos de programação cultural se desdobra entre pequenas galerias ou instituições formais. A Vaga quer ficar no "entre" e ser um lugar com uma "dimensão independente", para "arriscar", enquanto consegue ter uma "visibilidade próxima ao de uma instituição" — fruto, sobretudo, do sucesso do Walk&Talk.

Rui Pedro Paiva

02 vaga

vaga is the headquarters of Anda&Fala, located in Ponta Delgada. Opened in December 2020, it exists to facilitate, support, and accompany the artistic community residing or passing through the island while developing, producing, and presenting a large group of actions organized around different artistic seasons throughout the year. vaga ensures Anda&Fala's continuous presence in the territory and its annual calendar, positioning itself as central and strategic within the association's activity plan.

The space includes a workshop and office, two exhibition rooms, and a shared space with a kitchen/living room, as well as two bedrooms for artistic residencies. Most activities happening at vaga are free and accessible to everyone, thanks to public funding that finances the association's programs and ensures the conditions of accessibility and broad participation.

During 2025, vaga organized approximately 50 activities involving 19 local organizations/entities and over 90 artists and citizens, which resulted in around 2,500 participants.

3	Seasons
3	exhibitions
45	total activities
15	gatherings / talks
7	performances / concerts
16	activities Public Program
2	guest programs hosted in the space
13	artistic residencies
107	days of residencies
11	nationalities
89	artists and agents involved
9	programming partners
2500	total visitors / participants
816	books / vaga library
10	collaborators in vaga's team

2.1 Program

The first five years of activity at vaga were a continuous process of learning, listening, and adjusting, allowing it to establish itself as a place attuned to the needs of the territory and the dynamics of the community that surrounds it. Throughout this journey, it became clear that opening a cultural institution to its immediate context — and the desire to be with, to create relationships, and to build trust — translates into growing receptivity, proximity, and participation from the public. In 2025, this consolidated relationship was reflected in strong support for the activities developed, confirming vaga as a space for meeting, creation, and continuity in the cultural life of Ponta Delgada and the island of São Miguel. Recognizing that this is an ongoing process, vaga continues to work critically and responsively, seeking to optimize practices, formats, and ways of relating to the artistic community and audiences.

Aimed at facilitating, accompanying, and supporting the artistic community residing and circulating on the island, vaga develops, produces, and presents a wide range of activities organized around artistic seasons throughout the year. In 2025, there was also a significant increase in the number of guest artists working in São Miguel, both locally and in the context of artistic residencies, many of whom were supported by grants from programs such as Culture Moves Europe, universities, and international cultural institutions, reinforcing vaga's role as a platform supporting artistic creation and research in the territory.

With an average duration of two to three months, each artistic season was developed around a central theme that defined the programming structure and types of events happening, including exhibitions, installations, performances, and research projects. These seasons were complemented by Public Programs that included guided tours, workshops for different age groups, seminars, and training sessions, fostering continuous interaction and engagement with the community.



FEB/ABR

Ultra-Periféricas

The opening of the year took place with the collective exhibition Ultra-Periféricas, presented between February and April, curated by the vaga team and featuring Anita Nemet, Atelineiras, Daniasa M. Curbelo & Ninf.A, Francisco Nuno Rodrigues, Mel Paiva, and Vicente Blanco. The exhibition started from the margins — both geographical and social — taking the Azores as a starting point to reflect on what it means to be queer in remote, distant, or less visible places.

Over the course of three months, alongside the exhibition, a parallel program was developed that included reading and sharing sessions, training courses, walks, meals, music, and performances. Among the activities carried out, there was a lecture-performance by André Tecedeiro and Laura Falésia, Oblivion Sparkle Cabaret, accompanied by Piny Orchidiae, a session of Escola vaga with Gonçalo Bernardo, and the walking-performance by Mariana Medeiros and Joana Moreira.



During this season, vaga also hosted the artistic residencies of Víctor Colmenero Mir and Catarina Fernandes, carried out with the support of the Culture Moves Europe program. The results of these processes were presented to the public through various activities included in the season's program.

MAY/AUG

Reimagining the Untold

Between May and August, the season Reimagining the Untold took place, which resulted from an invitation to the InterStruct Collective to develop research on the role of the Azores in the context of Portuguese colonialism. This season originated from an artistic residency held in January 2025, accompanied by the vaga team, which formed the conceptual and methodological basis for the program developed in the following months.



The process culminated in a collective exhibition curated by Coletivo InterStruct, presenting new commissions resulting from the research carried out in the Azores. Local artist Neuza Furtado was invited to participate in this exhibition. One of the works presented was the result of a collective creation workshop conducted by Coletivo InterStruct with a group of 12 first and second-generation immigrants residing in São Miguel, as part of MELT — Módulos Experimentais para Transmalhar (Experimental Modules for Transmalhar) project. The season was accompanied by a series of parallel activities, including reading sessions and performances.

During this period, the space also hosted several artist residencies and projects. Fifteen architecture students from Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) in the United States participated in a two-week residency, supported by the Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD), during which they collaborated with local artisans and entities in the development of preliminary studies for a Butterfly Pavilion. The project was coordinated by professors Jonathan Knowles and Laura Briggs.

During the same period, vaga joined the organizing committee of Azores Pride 2025, a festival and activist movement dedicated to celebrating and defending the rights of the Azorean LGBTQIA+ community. In this edition, activities spanned five islands of the archipelago, culminating in São Miguel on the last weekend of June.

In June, vaga also welcomed researcher Gisela Casimiro on a writing residency, developed in partnership with Contemporânea magazine.



SEP/DEC

Gestures of Abundance

Between September and November, the space hosted one of the collective exhibitions of Walk&Talk – Biennial of Arts, entitled Gestures of Abundance. The exhibition included two new commissions: a large-scale installation by RESOLVE Collective, developed from everyday materials collected in São Miguel, and a video installation by Meg Stuart, filmed during a residency on the island in April, with the participation of people involved in the PACAP / Mystery School training program at Fórum Dança in Lisbon. The exhibition also featured works by Catarina Gonçalves, Cian Dayrit, Sónia Vaz Borges, Filipa César, and Mónica de Miranda. As part of the associated program, several activities were developed by the SINTONIZAR — Public Programs team, involving different groups in workshop visits to the exhibition.

The exhibition Gestures of Abundance was part of the broader Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial program, detailed information about which is provided in the chapter dedicated to the Biennial in this report.

Graphic Fair #5

On the 13th of December, the 5th edition of Feira Gráfica da vaga took place, a one-day micro-festival that marks the anniversary of the space (11th of December) and brings together artists and people interested in contemporary graphic practices from across the region. This edition saw a record number of participants, with 27 artists and collectives presenting their work in different formats, including photography, screen printing, engraving, and textile printing.

Throughout the day, two public presentations were held. The first, Coleção Azórica: uma certa maneira de olhar para os Açores, featured a presentation of Blanca Martín Calero's work method in the context of this collection by Araucária Edições, in dialogue with Nuno Pereira, science communicator. The second presentation was dedicated to Temptress Magazine #5, in which Ukrainian artist Anita Nemet presented her editorial photography work developed for the magazine's latest edition. desenvolvido para a mais recente edição da revista.



Guest Programs and Artists

As mentioned above, throughout 2025, vaga also acted as a venue for a diverse range of activities outside its regular program, providing space to entities, collectives, and initiatives that needed suitable conditions to carry out their actions. These included projects in different stages of development — rehearsals, meetings, public presentations, training sessions, or moments of exhchange — and responded to the specific needs of the local cultural fabric.

This model of openness and availability reinforces vaga as a cultural support infrastructure, contributing to the creation of a broader, more diverse, and supportive network among cultural agents on the island of São Miguel and in other contexts.

By providing resources, space, and time, vaga promotes practices of cooperation and co-responsibility that are fundamental to the sustainability of the cultural ecosystem, especially in island territories, where access to infrastructure and means of production is often limited.

These collaborations affirm vaga as a space that is not limited to presenting its own programming, but rather positions itself as a platform to support the creation, experimentation, and circulation of artistic practices, contributing to a healthier, more resilient, and interdependent cultural environment.



Mediation and Public Program

The Mediation and Public Program continued to play a central role in how vaga interacts with its context and the diverse communities it welcomes. Throughout 2025, the program was enriched with guided tours, activities for various audiences, seminars, and training sessions. Escola vaga remained a strong example of this sustained commitment and investment, standing out as a space for learning and exchange. The year was also marked by the welcoming, mentoring, and training of people in different contexts, including two curricular internships (300 hours each), one Estagiar U internship (one month), the start of an Estagiar L internship (12 months), and one Erasmus+ mobility program.

Collaborations with educational institutions were strengthened, with Antero de Quental Secondary School, through open studio visits; EPROSEC, as part of the MELT project — Experimental Modules for Transmalhar; Escola Secundária das Laranjeiras, with the hosting of two students on curricular internships; and Escola Secundária Domingos Rebelo, through customized visits for art classes. In addition to these partnerships, guided tours and practical workshops were held for different age groups, covering both professionals and curious and interested members of the public. In cases where schools and after-school programs (ATL) were unable to visit the site, the team ensured that workshops were held at their respective establishments, including activities promoted in the network of after-school programs (ATL) in the municipality of Ponta Delgada.

The vaga Library continued to expand throughout the year, incorporating new titles through acquisitions or donations, including artist catalogs, exhibition books, and essays dedicated to topics such as the climate crisis, decolonial studies, gender, and contemporary artistic practices. Of particular note was the inclusion of publications related to research on the theme of Abundance, in the context of the 1st edition of Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial. With a collection that currently exceeds 600 books, all freely available for consultation, the library reinforces its role as an accessible resource for the local community and visitors. In 2025, it was revitalized through Armazém das Letras Diversas, a proposal by artist Lendl Barcelos, implemented by the mediation team, which encouraged the loan and circulation of books to a wider audience.

vaga also reaffirmed its commitment to being open, inclusive, and safe, maintaining its focus on creating opportunities for encounter and dialogue. In the field of cultural mediation, activities and encounters continued to be developed that promote accessible and pluralistic ways of experiencing art and bringing different audiences closer to contemporary artistic practices. These initiatives allowed for the further development of the use of the workshop, gallery, and house, strengthening relationships and stimulating continuous reflection on the dynamics of sharing and co-presence that guide the project.



Summer School — Walk&Talk



Residency Programme — Mae-ling







Exhibition — Reimagining the Untold



Mediation Programme



Exhibition — Gestures of Abundance

2.2 feb—apr Season

Absassin, Anita Nemet, Atelineiras, Caliente Isa, Catarina Fernandes, Daniasa M. Curbelo &, Ninf.A, DJ7, FLECHA, Francisco Nuno Rodrigues, Gonçalo Bernardo — "ÇALO DO MAR E DA TERRA", Joana Moreira & Mariana Pacheco de Medeiros, Leo Soulflow, Mel Paiva, Pataxxxona, Piny, TAT — Candid Venom, Vicente Blanco, Víctor Colmenero Mir



Ultra-periféricas Exhibition	with Anita Nemet, Atelineiras, Daniasa M. Curbelo & Ninf.A, Francisco Nuno Rodrigues, Mel Paiva, Vicente Blanco	*18 feb, 25 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Ultra-periféricas Exhibition opening	with Anita Nemet, Atelineiras, Daniasa M. Curbelo & Ninf.A, Francisco Nuno Rodrigues, Mel Paiva, Vicente Blanco Dj set: Caliente Isa	*18 feb, 18h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Armazém das Letras Diversas — Salon Mercure Publics Program	vaga Library activation, in collaboration with Lendl Barcelos	*26 feb* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Princípios do Áudio: da Construção à Espacialização Sonora para exposições e instalações imersivas Escola vaga	Workshop with Gonçalo Bernardo / "ÇALO DO MAR E DA TERRA"	*7 — 9 mar* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento

Fora de Órbita Public Programs	Workshop visit	*22 mar, 15h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Oblivion Sparkle Cabaret Performance	with Absassin, Anita Nemet, Pataxxxona, TAT / Candid Venom, DJ Leo Soulflow, artistic support Piny	*22 mar, 22h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Palavras Que Me Servem Lecture-performance	with FLECHA	*28 mar, 21h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Boston Marriage ou a história de amor entre Evelina e Alice Walk-performance	with Joana Moreira & Mariana Pacheco de Medeiros	*5 apr, 17h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Brunch na vaga #4 Meet up	with djset by DJ7	*12 apr, 12h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Bumerangue Performance	by Catarina Fernandes, with the support of Cultures Move Europe	*26 apr, 18h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento



Oblivion Sparkle Cabaret



Boston Marriage ou a história de amor entre Evelina e Alice

Guest Programs and Artistss

InterStruct Collective Residency	Preparation of the vaga season may—aug	*05 — 19 jan* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
MELT 1 Cocreation residency	Transmalhar	*18 jan* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Laranjeiras em Flor Meet up	with Estúdio 13, AJAV, Premissa, Deriva, Boa Fruta, Fendatelier — as part of a collaboration with Teatro D.Maria II through the program ATOS	*26 feb* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento



MELT 3 - Residência de Cocriação



LIVINGLAB

UMASS Lowe Visit and meeting	guided visit and meeting with local cultural agents	*23 mar* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Piny Residency	presentation Oblivion Sparkle Cabaret	*16 — 23 mar* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Inês Falcão Residency	residency for making of film	*18 — 25 mar* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
MELT 3 Cocreation residency	Transmalhar	*29 mar* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Visita Guiada Publics Program	students from the school Domingos Rebelo	*3 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento



MELT 5 - Workshop de Criação



MELT 5 - Workshop de Criação

MELT 5 Collective Creation Workshop	Transmalhar (in collaboration with AIPA) — part of the exhibition *Reimagining de Untold*, facilitated by Natasha Bulha Costa. with Alexandra dos Santos, Altina Pontífice, Cirila Fernandes, Cristina Borges, Jannette Benevides, Kateryna Kondratieva and daughter Rada Kondratieva, Patrícia Monteiro, Sanyo Geraldo and Tatiana Tavares (in collaboration with x27).	*3, 4, 15 apr and 29 may* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento

Victor Colmenero Mir Residency	supported by Cultures Moves Europe and Goethe Institut	*5 — 20 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
EEAGrants Training	*Thinking through (critical) sustainability in arts and culture* with Vânia Rodrigues	*8 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Catarina Fernandes Residency	supported by Cultures Moves Europe	*10 — 29 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento



DESCOLA — Jovens Criativos

DESCOLA — Jovens Criativos Workshop	with André Laranjinha, Rita Serra e Silva, Maria Emanuel Albergaria, Liliana Coutinho, Jesse James, Inês Coelho and Kita Ward as part of 'Lingering' of SINTONIZAR, Walk&Talk Biennial	*15 — 17 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Trees can be contorted bent in weird ways Presentation	with Victor Colmenero Mir	*17 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Walk&Talk – Bienal de Artes Residency	in preparation of Walk&Talk Biennial with meetings with all the teams	*20 — 26 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Meg Stewart Gathering	meeting with local cultural agents	*22 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Assembleia da Abundância #4	as part of 'Sprouting' of SINTONIZAR, Walk&Talk Biennial	*28 apr* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento



Brunch na vaga #4



Assembleia da Abundância #4



Victor Colmenero Mir - Residency



Piny - Residency



Bumerangue - Catarina Fernandes



Trees can be contorted bent in weird ways - workshop



Exhibition opening - Ultra-Periféricas



Brunch na vaga #4





Legenda imagem



Legenda imagem



Oblivion Sparkle Cabaret



Exhibition — Ultra-Periféricas



Exhibition — Ultra-Periféricas



Palavras Que Me Servem - Flecha



Oblivion Sparkle Cabaret



Public Program:s workshop visits



Exhibition — Ultra-Periféricas



Boston Marriage ou a história de amor entre Evelina e Alice

2.3 may—aug Season

BioKairos Materia, InterStruct Collective (Claire Sivier, Desiré Desmarattes, Miguel F, Natasha Bulha Costa, Vjay Patel), Grupo de Dança STP, Neuza Furtado, Maria Cristina Borges, RISD — Rhode Island School of Design, MELT



Reimagining the Untold Exhibition	with Claire Sivier, Desiré Desmarattes, Miguel F, Natasha Bulha Costa - co-created with Alexandra dos Santos, Altina Pontífice, Cirila Fernandes, Cristina Borges, Jannette Benevides, Kateryna Kondratieva e and daugther Rada Kondratieva, Patrícia Monteiro, Sanyo Geraldo and Tatiana Tavares (in collaboration with x27), Neuza Furtado, Vjay Patel Curated by InterStruct Collective	*30 may — 30 aug* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento

Reimagining the Untold Exhibition Opening	with Claire Sivier, Desiré Desmarattes, Miguel F, Natasha Bulha Costa - co-created with Alexandra dos Santos, Altina Pontífice, Cirila Fernandes, Cristina Borges, Jannette Benevides, Kateryna Kondratieva e and daugther Rada Kondratieva, Patrícia Monteiro, Sanyo Geraldo and Tatiana Tavares (in collaboration with x27), Neuza Furtado, Vjay Patel Curated by InterStruct Collective	*30 may, 19h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Histórias de Angola Performance	with Maria Cristina Borges	*30 may, 20h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Danças Típicas de São Tomé e Príncipe Dance	with Grupo de Dança STP	*30 may, 21h30* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Readings are portals Public Programs	Reading with Natasha Bulha	*31 may, 19h* Forno da Cal



Exhibition Opening- Reimagining the Untold



Melt #5



Public Programs - ATL



Armazém das letras diversas - Book club

MELT 5 Public Programs	with InterStruct Collective and AIPA	*3 jun* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Butterfly Pavillion Presentation of residency results	with BioKairos Materia & RISD - Rhode Island School of Design	*27 jun, 18h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Decolonizing Knowledge Public programs	Escola vaga with Desiré Desmarattes	*02 jul, 18h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Guided visit to the exhibtion Public programs	with Desiré Desmarattes	*03 jul, 18h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
DESCOLA - Jovens Criativos Artistic residency	with André Laranjinha, Rita Serra e Silva, Diogo Sousa and José Amorim, as part of 'Lingering' of SINTONIZAR, Walk&Talk Biennial	*15 — 17 jul* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Armazém das Letras Diversas Public Programs	activation of vaga's Library, designed in collaboration with Lendl Barcelos	*30 jul, 20h30* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Oficinas with crianças Public Programs	17 ATLs (after school activities) Mediation team: Duarte Mota and Dryelle Andrade	*1 — 14 aug* Município de Ponta Delgada

Guest Programs and Artists

Mae - Ling Lokko Artistic Residency	New commission Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	*26 apr — 6 may* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Inês Coelho da Silva & Kita Rancaño Ward Artistic Residency	New commission Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	*5 — 18 may* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Gossip of the Commons Workshop	with Inês Coelho da Silva, Kita Rancaño Ward, A Avó Veio Trabalhar, Bento Silva, Biagio	*10 — 15 may* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Butterfly Pavilion Artistic Residency	RISD — Rhode Island School of Design, BioKairos	*23 — 27 jun* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Caminhada Congressos dos Sociólogos Public Programs	Visit to the Public Art Circuit and vaga	*9 jul* Ponta Delgada, vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento



Descola - Jovens Criativos (Walk&Talk Biennial)



Summer School — Walk&Talk Biennial

Curso de Verão Arquipélago X Summer School W&T Public Programs	in partnership with ACAC with Branca Calero, part of 'Being part' of SINTONIZAR Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	*23 jul* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Guarda Rios Residency	part of 'Sprouting' SINTONIZAR Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	*5 — 11 aug* Município de Ponta Delgada



Exhibition - Reimagining the untold



Residency — Inês Coelho da Silva (Walk&Talk Biennial)



Melt #5



Exhibition - Reimagining the untold



Melt #5



Presentation RISD



Melt #5



Presentation RISD



Congresso Sociologos - Art Circuit



Congresso Sociologos - Art Circuit



Presentation RISD





Exhibition - Reimagining the untold



Exhibition - Reimagining the untold

2.4 set—nov Season

RESOLVE Collective (Akil Scafe-Smith, Jana Dardouk, Melissa Hanif, Nina Jang, Lauren-Loïs Duah, Celine Topsakal, Katie Matthews, Ella Barrett, Seth Scafe-Smith) Meg Stewart & PACAP8/ Mystery School of Choreography, Forum Dança (in collaboration with Aline Belfort, banda AMEMO - Francisco Cunha, Xavier Nascimento, José Amaral, Paulo Fonseca, Ana Rocha, Ana Szopa, António Bollaño, Arash Khakpour, Carolina Martins, Damaged Goods, Emily da Silva, Gasper Piano, Guillermo Tarasewicz, Isabela Rossi, Isabelle Pauwelyn, iSSiE – iSaAc, Julia Kosałka, Kaya Vieira Freeman, María Ibarretxe, Martha Kotsia, Matty Zighem, Michiru Shin, Nadia Lauro, Natacha Campos, Raul Aranha, Salomé Pham-Van-Hué, Sepideh Khodarahmi, Śomi Śniegocka, Therese Bendjus, Tiago Vieira, Tom De Langhe), AMEMO (Francisco Cunha, Xavier Nascimento, José Amaral, Paulo Fonseca), Cian Dayrit, Catarina Gonçalves, Sónia Vaz Borges, Filipa César, Monica de Miranda, Transmalhar

Gestos de Abundância Exhibition Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	Cian Dayrit, Catarina Gonçalves/ Transmalhar, Filiipa César, Meg Stuart & PACAP 8, Mónica de Miranda, RESOLVE Collective, Sónia Vaz Borges, AMEMO	*25 sep — 30 nov* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Gestos de Abundância Exhibition Opening / Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial Concert Food	Cian Dayrit, Catarina Gonçalves/ Transmalhar, Filipa César, Meg Stuart & PACAP 8, Mónica de Miranda, RESOLVE Collective, Sónia Vaz Borges, AMEMO	*27 sep, 18h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Oficina Transmalhar Workshop	with Helena Oliveira, Margarida Andrade e Rita Serra e Silva part of 'Being part' SINTONIZAR, Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	*26 oct* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento



Exhibition Opening Gestures of Abundance

(E)Feitos Transmalhar Gathering	Meeting with Transmalhar guests	*7 — 9 de mar* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Workshop Visits Public Programs	part of 'Being part' SINTONIZAR, Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	*08 oct, 14h30* *24 oct, 10h* *17 nov, 14h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Stories in Stones Lecture	with Candice Lin Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	*8 nov 14h30* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Sour Things Workshop	with Mirna Bamieh Walk&Talk – Arts Biennial	*8 nov 15h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Feira Gráfica #5 Micro-Festival	with Anita Nemet/ UNIVERSALITA STUDIO, Araucária Edições, Azores Atlantic Surfers, Catherine Gallagher, Espelho Voador Associação, Gal·la Edery, João Amado, Lapa Brava, Magma - Non-Temporary Art, Mariana Sales Teixeira, Miguel Bettencourt, NANO (Núcleo Artístico do Nordeste), Oficinas de São Miguel, Paula Mota, Rubén Monfort, SAGA, Sara Azad, Tat Onofre, Traça Studio Gallery	*13 dec, 10h—19h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento

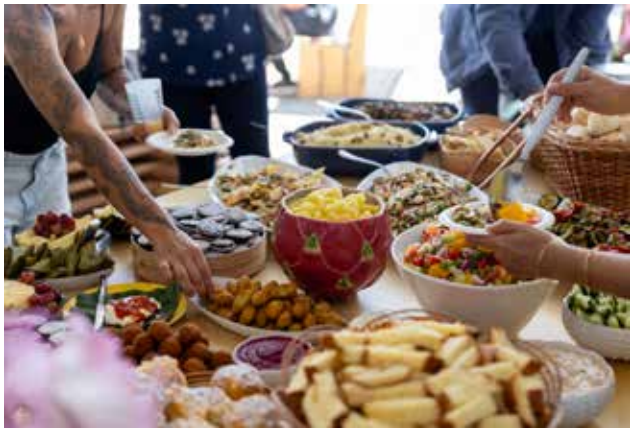
Feira Gráfica #5



Feira Gráfica #5



Exhibition — Gestures of Abundance





AMEMO



Exhibition — Gestures of Abundance



Walk&Talk Symposium — Workshop with Mirna Bamieh



Public Programs: workshop visits



Feira Gráfica #5



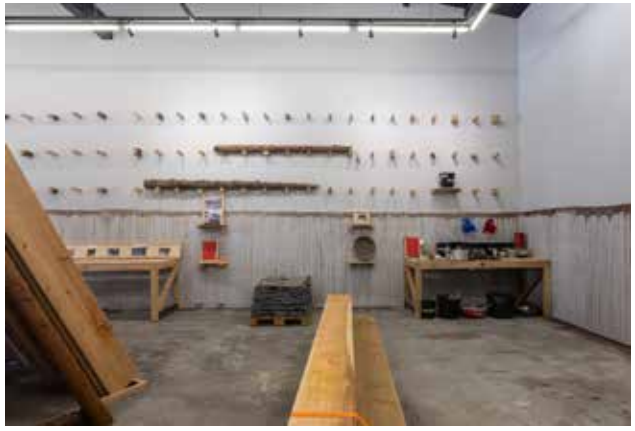
Oficina Transmalhar (Walk&Talk Biennial)



Walk&Talk Symposium — Candice Lin



Oficina Transmalhar (Walk&Talk Biennial)



Exhibition — Gestures of Abundance





Feira Gráfica #5

Walk&talK

BIENAL DE ARTES

“(...) As a biennial, Walk&Talk resists the extractive rhythms of global art tourism. Rooted in connections and sustained by long-term local partnerships, it privileges collaboration over transaction, continuity over intensity”

Its tempo unfolds through shared meals, conversations, and collaborative gestures that blur the boundary between artistic production and island life.l

Flash Art (US)
Anaïs Castro

“To think through abundance is an exercise to which we are not trained, in the course of racial capitalism's scarcity obstacle race. Nevertheless, I found, on the island of San Miguel in the Azores archipelago, modes of thinking and operating that deceive the very gaze and language that project scarcity on reality and its modes of production.”

The arts of the working class
Dalia Maini

“(...) Walk&Talk positions the Azores as a locus of relational energy rather than a remote periphery.”

Walk&Talk, launched in 2011 as a celebration of street art, this year hosts an abundance of works by more than 80 artists in nine venues around the island of São Miguel

Esse (ca)
Anaïs Castro

“Bienal Walk&Talk faz da ambição colectiva um caminho para a esperança”

“O que a Bienal procura ensaiar é o contrário: vamos estar juntos. Seja através da comida, de mergulhos, das exposições, da música, dos programas de mediação ou do próprio processo artístico.”

Público, Ípsilon (PT)
Rui Pedro Paiva

03 WALK&TALK Arts Biennial

Walk&Talk Biennial 2025 took place between September 25 and November 30, 2025, on the island of São Miguel, Azores, presenting a continuous program of exhibitions, performances, concerts, excursions, visits, conversations, and meetings, distributed across nine main venues and multiple locations in the island's urban and rural areas. Over the course of 67 days of programming, the Biennial directly involved around 80 artists, curators, and experts, mobilizing approximately 150 professionals from artistic, technical, production, and mediation teams, and welcomed around 13,000 to 14,000 visitors and participants, including local audiences, school and academic audiences, cultural tourists, and spontaneous visitors.

For two months, the Biennial offered a critical, sensitive, and contemporary interpretation of the archipelago, reinforcing the Azores as an active cultural territory, attentive to the ecological, social, and symbolic issues of the present. The program included exhibitions, performances, concerts, DJ sets, excursions, walks, guided tours, talks, communal dining events, and mediation programs, ensuring the Biennial's continuous presence in the island's cultural life.

With artistic direction by Jesse James and collaborative curation by Claire Shea, Fatima Bintou Rassoul Sy, Liliana Coutinho, and Jesse James, the 2025 edition developed around the theme Gestures of Abundance. This framework guided the creation of 18 new commissions, developed in residence in the Azores, as well as the presentation of existing works, collaborative projects, and public programs focused on building ecologies of care, imagination, and the relationship between art, territory, and community.



Curatorial Team
Claire Shea, Fatima Bintou Rassoul Sy, Jesse James, and Liliana Coutinho

Theme of the Biennial

The 2025 edition was developed around the theme Gestures of Abundance, understood as an investigation into ways of imagining and practicing abundance beyond the dominant logic of scarcity, privileging relationships of care, sharing, and interdependence. Starting from the insular condition of the Azores and its geological, historical, and spiritual layers, the theme questioned the mechanisms of value production — economic, ecological, symbolic, and communal — and proposed collaborative alternatives for inhabiting a world in transformation. Abundance was conceived here not as accumulation, but as a gesture: creating, caring, listening, sharing, and celebrating. These principles guided the curatorial research, the selection of artists, the presentation formats, and the activation of different spaces on the island, conceiving the Biennial as a living ecology of encounters, works, actions, and processes.

3.1 Program

Over the course of approximately nine weeks of programming, Walk&Talk Biennial presented a wide and diverse range of activities, combining artistic programming with mediation and community engagement initiatives. In total, 78 public activities were held as part of the Biennial Program, including exhibitions, performances, concerts, DJ sets, talks, excursions, walks, guided tours, and communal dining events. The exhibitions remained open throughout the Biennial, during the regular opening hours of the partner venues, which ensured the reception of visitors, continuous mediation, and daily monitoring of the exhibition stations.



At the same time, SINTONIZAR — Public Programs included 40 complementary activities, including thematic sessions, workshop visits, workshops for schools and families, mediation activities, community meetings, and public monitoring programs, reinforcing the participatory, educational, and inclusive dimension of the Biennial.

In addition to these actions, there was the Journey to the Biennial, developed over the twelve months leading up to the 2025 edition, with a total of 23 preparatory activities, including Assemblies of Abundance, training actions, meetings with local and national agents, work visits, communal dinners to present the Biennial, and the public presence of Anda&Fala and Walk&Talk at strategic events such as BTL 2025, ARCOlisboa 2025, professional fairs, and international mediation contexts.

Together, these three pillars — the Biennial Program, SINTONIZAR, and Caminho para a Bienal — totaled 141 activities, highlighting the breadth, continuity, and impact of the Walk&Talk Biennial as a cultural, educational, and territorial project.

3.2 Structure

The Biennial was organized around three key moments, which centered the main public activities and set the pace for the program over the two months:

Opening — September 25 to 28
The Opening marked the official start of the Biennial, bringing together artists, curators, journalists, industry professionals, and the local public. This moment included the opening of exhibition stations, performances, excursions, community meetings, dinners, and curatorial presentations. It was the period of greatest intensity of activities and the largest international turnout.

Symposium — November 7 to 9
The Symposium brought together researchers, artists, thinkers, and cultural agents for three days of debates, conversations, and knowledge sharing around the theme Gestures of Abundance. This moment deepened the theoretical and critical reflection of the Biennial, reinforcing its role as a space for research and contemporary thought.

Closing — November 28 to 30
The Closing consolidated the two-month program with final meetings, special guided tours, moments of celebration, and public feedback on the artistic and community processes. This period reinforced the participatory dimension of the Biennial and marked the transition to the ongoing work of the Journey to the Biennial.

Between these moments, there was a continuous program of presentations, visits, performances, excursions, and mediation activities distributed throughout the entire period.

Meeting Point and Biennial Stations
The Biennial was hosted at Casa da Bienal, in Ponta Delgada, which served as a meeting point, public service center, information distribution point, and space for small presentations and community moments.

The exhibition Gestures of Abundance was developed in an expanded format, distributed across several programmatic stations:

- Casa da Bienal
- Municipal Cultural Center
- Carlos Machado Museum
- Magma – Non Temporary Art
- Fonseca Macedo Gallery
- vaga — space for art and knowledge
- Franciscan Convent / Lagoa Museum
- Caloura Cultural Center
- Arquipélago – Contemporary Arts Center
- Public space (Portas do Mar, Boa Fruta Pineapple Plantation, Lagoa de São Brás)

This set of stations composed a decentralized, rhizomatic, and multisensory route across the island, reinforcing the immersive and territorial experience that characterizes Walk&Talk.

3.3 Participants and Artistic Commissions

The edition involved around 80 artists, collectives, and specialists from various geographical backgrounds, with a strong Azorean, national, and international presence, including practices from insular and peripheral contexts. The program included:

- 18 new commissions, including projects by Alice Visentin, Colectiva Malva, Ebun Sodipo, Helle Siljeholm, Janilda Bartolomeu, Joana Sá, Jokkoo Collective, José Pedro Cortes, Lucy Bleach, Mae-Ling Lokko, Maria Emanuel Albergaria, Meg Stuart & PACAP, Nadia Belerique, Resolve Collective, Uhura Bqueer & Soya the Cow, Walla Capelobo, among others.
- Programming grant with the Cara Lavada collective, responsible for Geoteluric Orison of Saltborn Reveries.
- Individual and collective exhibitions with regional, national, and international artists, including Gala Porras-Kim, Isabel Medeiros, Jane Jin Kaisen, Silvia Mariotti, César Schofield Cardoso, among many others.
- Public and mediation programs, designed and coordinated by the SINTONIZAR team, with workshops, excursions, guided tours, active spectator groups, and initiatives for schools and communities (see pages 48–53).
- In addition to the artistic commissions, the Biennial included a robust program of music, performance, and sound, with artists such as Bonaventure, MC Falcona & Vertgum, Ketia, Vera Dvale, Vale, Odete, and Velhacos, reinforcing the celebratory and community dimension of the event.

Formats Presented

During the Biennial, the following took place:

- Exhibitions (9 main stations)
- Performances and activations in various spaces
- Concerts and DJ sets as part of the Opening, Symposium, and Closing
- Themed excursions throughout the territory
- Talks, debates, and conferences, including the Symposium
- Dinner performances and communal dining events
- Workshops and educational visits, integrated into the SINTONIZAR program
- Installations in public spaces

Most activities were free of charge, with the exception of excursions and specific shows.

3.4 Mediation and Public Programs

O SINTONIZAR, the Public Programs of Walk&Talk Biennial, was a central axis of the 2025 edition, proposing a wide range of initiatives — excursions, visits, workshops, assemblies, training and mediation programs —nthat invited audiences to put Gestures of Abundance into practice and to (re)approach the island of São Miguel with curiosity, attention, and critical engagement. Throughout the Biennial, and based on the artistic projects and creative processes presented, SINTONIZAR promoted encounters between places, experiences, artists, participants, knowledge, and inhabitants of different species, questioning the logic of scarcity present in public discourse and activating collective ways of being-with, through partnerships, encounters, and collaborative actions.

Curated by Rita Serra e Silva and Rita Westwood, SINTONIZAR was organized around four programmatic axes, understood as four Gestures of Abundance, carefully designed to welcome different audiences and modes of participation:

- Being part (Posso-Coletivo; Workshop Visits; Volunteer Program; Guided Tours)
- Being with (Excursions; Podcast Talk About)
- Sprouting (Workshops with artists; Assemblies of Abundance)
- Lingering (DESCOLA; Arquipélago × Summer School W&T Summer Course)

Assemblies of Abundance and Open Calls

Between February 2024 and November 2025, five Assemblies of Abundance were held, bringing together agents from different sectors of São Miguel society, artists, the Biennial team, and students from the University of the Azores. Around 170 people participated in collective reflection processes, using design thinking and dragon dreaming methodologies, debating topics such as gestures of abundance in the Azores, the role of an Arts Biennial in the territory, the public function of culture, and the transformation of individual ideas into projects with territorial impact. Mediator Virgílio Varela was invited to the second Assembly.

Five Open Calls were launched, aimed at different audiences and with specific purposes, namely for the constitution of the mediation team, the volunteer corps, the DESCOLA — Young Creators scholarship, the Curso de Verão × Summer School, and for the participation of education professionals in the hANDling workshop (with AND Lab). In total, these calls received 72 applications.

Mediation, Visits, and Workshops

Posso-Coletivo was composed of seven people residing in São Miguel, aged between 18 and 51, from different geographical contexts (Brazil, the US, mainland Portugal, and the Azores). These individuals participated in various activities at the Biennial — from opening to closing — including excursions, performances, and workshops, gathering experiences and feedback that allowed for a more comprehensive understanding of the program.

A mediation team of six people was formed, which carried out 23 Workshop-Visits to schools and local organizations in different parishes and municipalities of São Miguel, involving 303 participants (children, young people, adults, people with different abilities, and seniors). Partnerships were established with the educational and mediation services of the various venues that hosted the Biennial stations, expanding the reach of these actions. In partnership with the mediation team of Arquipélago — Contemporary Arts Center, one workshop for families was also held, with 23 participants.

The mediation team also conducted three customized guided tours, reaching 62 people of different ages from São Miguel and various European countries, including the European research group InSitu.

Five medium-length workshops were also developed, consisting of at least two meetings, involving 132 participants of different ages and physical abilities:



- *Transmalhar*, with Rita Serra e Silva, Margarida Andrade, and Helena Oliveira (general public)
- Cinema Documental, with Catarina Gonçalves (children aged 4 to 6)
- Observatório dos Rios, with Guarda Rios (teenagers from Ribeira Grande Secondary School)
- *hANDling*, with AND Lab (education professionals)
- *100 Years of Manifestos*, with Isabel Costa d'Os Possessos (3.º ciclo classes)

The results of the workshops aimed at specific groups were shared publicly during the Symposium and the Closing of the Biennial. The Transmalhar workshop also led to the launch of the publication MELT — Experimental Modules for Transmalhar.



Excursion to (Enveloping) Lives

Excursions, Volunteering, and Residency Programs

Of the ten excursions initially planned, four were carried out for the general public and one for schools, involving a total of 105 participants. Artists, organizations, and experts from different fields were invited to enrich the dialogues and itineraries.

The Volunteering Program had 14 participants, organized by areas of interest (setup and dismantling, canteen, SINTONIZAR initiatives, and performances), who contributed a total of 556 hours. This program was part of REDES — Regional Youth Volunteer Network of the Regional Youth Directorate and was coordinated by Sofia Botelho, in partnership with Arquipélago — Contemporary Arts Center, and Gala Kuckhoff, a member of the team through the Erasmus+ program.

DESCOLA, Summer Course, and Podcast

DESCOLA — Contest for Young Creatives, launched in early 2025, followed six young people between the ages of 14 and 21, residing in São Miguel, over a period of six months. The process culminated in a traveling collective exhibition, presented in two venues during the Biennial and scheduled to visit the remaining municipalities on the island throughout 2026. The initiative was the result of a project selected in the Azores Participatory Budget, with support from Parque Atlântico / Sonae Sierra, and involved a vast network of local institutional partnerships.

The Arquipélago × Summer School W&T Summer Course was attended by seven young people from the islands of São Miguel and São Jorge, who spent a week developing activities at the partner structures vaga and Arquipélago — Centro de Artes Contemporâneas, with the participation of several guest artists.

The *Talk About* Podcast, with Inês Dias, produced four episodes dedicated to the Walk&Talk Biennial, scheduled for release in 2026 on digital platforms.



Walk&Talk Summer School





Overarching Criteria for SINTONIZAR

SINTONIZAR adopted **artistic mediation** as its structuring axis, in a regional context where there are still few people with concrete experience in this field. The formation of the mediation team also had a training objective, including **two specific training sessions** dedicated to the principles and practices of cultural mediation.

The team also sought to ensure **accessible and inclusive language**, investing time and care in communicating with diverse partners and audiences. Whenever necessary, activities were conducted in Portuguese and English, with consecutive translation services provided during the Symposium. Given the participation of **hearing-impaired people** in the Transmalhar workshop, a **Portuguese Sign Language Interpreter** was also hired.



Walk&Talk Summer School



Walk&Talk Summer School



Walk&Talk Summer School



Walk&Talk Summer School



Excursion Full of Grace



Invisible Connections with Arquipélago — ACAC



Workshop - Isabel Costa



Workshop - Isabel Costa



Workshop - Coletivo Guarda Rios



Public Programs: Guided visits





Workshop- Catarina Gonçalves



Workshop visit - Crístóvão Maçarico

Curso de Verão Arquipélago X Summer School W&T Public Programs	in partnership with ACAC with Branca Calero, Helena Oliveira and Carolina Vieria, part of 'Being part' of SINTONIZAR	*23 jul* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento, ACAC
Journey to the Biennial Talk	Claire Shea, Fatima Bintou Rassoul Sy, Jesse James, Liliana Coutinho	*25 sep, 17h30* Casa da Bienal
O Pulso da Ilha Communal Dinner	Catarina Ferreira, Joana Albuquerque, Paula Aguiar (Azores Essencials), Chef Paulo Costa (Caldeiras&Vulcões)	*25 sep, 19h30* Casa da Bienal
Velhacos Concert		*25 sep, 22h* Ateneu Comercial
ketia DJ Set		*25 sep, 23h* Ateneu Comercial
Black Smokers Participatory Performance	Helle Siljeholm	*26, 27 e 28 sep, 8h e 18h* Ponta da Galera, Caloura



Black Smokers - Helle Siljeholm

Boca Cheia Guided visit/food	Mariana Pacheco de Medeiros	*26 e 27 sep, 11h* Vila Verde
Excursion to a Summer Romance Excursion	Part of Sintonizar	*26 sep, 12h* Vários locais
Estado de Graça Opening	Maria Emanuel Albergaria	*26 sep, 12h* Mercado da Graça
Gestures of Abundance Exhibition Opening	Inês Coelho da Silva & Kita Rancaño Ward, Mirna Bamieh, João Arruda/Arte Bonecreira, Uhura Bqueer & Soya the Cow	*26 sep, 17h* Convento dos Franciscanos
The Way Her Teeth Settled Performance	Ebun Sodipo	*26 sep, 19h* Solar de Nossa Senhora do Pilar



O Pulso da Ilha - Communal Dinner

Gestures of Abundance Exhibition Opening	Alice Visentin, Beatriz Brum, Colectiva MALVA, Ebun Sodipo, Gala Porras-Kim, Graça Costa Cabral, Jane Jin Kaisen, Sílvia Mariotti, Walla Capelobo	*26 sep, 21h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
Geoteluric Orison of Saltborn Reveries Exhibition Opening / Performance	Alex Furtado, ÇALO DO MAR E DA TERRA, Catarina Rego Martins Curated by: CARA LAVADA	*26 sep, 21h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
The art of ecstasy, Mysticism at work Reading	Giovanbattista Tusa	*26 sep, 21h45* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
Architecture of Friendship Concert-performance	Santiago Latorre	*26 sep, 22h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
MCfalcona9500 Concert	falcona	*26 sep, 23h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
Bonaventure DJ Set	DJ Set	*26 sep, 00h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
Smooth Cayenne Notes Exhibition Opening	Mae-Ling Lokko	*27 sep, 10h* Boa Fruta — Plantação de Ananáses
Gestures of Abundance Exhibition Opening Concert Food	Cian Dayrit, Catarina Gonçalves/ Transmalhar, Filiipa César, Meg Stuart & PACAP 8, Mónica de Miranda, RESOLVE Collective, Sónia Vaz Borges, AMEMO	*27 sep, 13h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento

DESCOLA : Jovens Criadores Exhibition Opening	Inês Amorim, Júlia Craveiro, Júlia Rego, Martim Teixeira, Pilar Farias, Sara Almeida	*27 sep, 14h30* Parque Atlântico
Gestures of Abundance Exhibition Opening	Alexa Kumiko Hatanaka, César Schofield Cardoso, João Pedro Vale, Nadia Belerique	*27 sep, 17h* Centro Municipal de Cultura
Gestures of Abundance Exhibition Opening	Ana Vieira, Isabel Medeiros, Joana Sá, Jokkoo Colective	*27 sep, 18h* Museu Carlos Machado, Núcleo de Arte Sacra
Gestures of Abundance Exhibition Opening	Joana Albuquerque, José Pedro Cortes	*27 sep, 19h* Galeria Fonseca Macedo
Gestures of Abundance Exhibition Opening	Sofia Rocha, Peças do Museu Municipal de Vila Franca do Campo	*27 sep, 20h* MAGMA – Non-Temporary Art
Odete Concert - Performance		*27 sep, 22h* Ateneu Comercial de Ponta Delgada
VALLE DJ Set		*27 sep, 23h* Ateneu Comercial de Ponta Delgada



Exhibition Opening — Fonseca Macedo



Exhibition Opening — Descola, Parque Atlântico



Opening Party — Ateneu Comercial

Tina Tornade DJ Set		*27 sep, 01h* Ateneu Comercial de Ponta Delgada
Piel Mixta DJ Set		*27 sep, 03h* Ateneu Comercial de Ponta Delgada
Excursion to the Deep Sighs Excursion	includes visit to the exhibition *Gestures of Abundance*: Centro Cultural da Caloura, performances *To Dig a Hole* and *Black Smokers*, and presentation of the book *Vulcões* (Araucária Edições)	*28 sep, 14h30* Different locations
Gestures of Abundance: Centro Cultural da Caloura Exhibition Opening	Helle Siljeholm, Lucy Bleach, Sílvia Mariotti, Sofia Rocha, Obras da Coleção CCC	*28 sep, 15h* Centro Cultural da Caloura
To Dig a Hole Lecture-performance		*28 sep, 15h30* Centro Cultural da Caloura
Vera Dvale Live Set		*28 sep, 16h* Centro Cultural da Caloura
Excursion to (Enveloping) Lives Excursion	with Margarida Andrade, Uhura Bqueer e Soya The Cow	*4 oct* Vários locais
O mar está mais próximo do que eu imagino Workshop-visit	collaboration with local schools, mediated by Cristóvão Maçarico	*6 oct, 27 oct 10h30-12h* Centro Municipal de Cultura
Excursion to the Flow of the Equinox Glow Excursion	collaboration with Escola Secundária das Laranjeiras, young people aged 15-17, mediated by Rita Serra e Silva and Rita Westwood	*8 oct, 09h30-13h30* Vários locais

Mapas que guardo em mim Workshop Visits	collaboration with ACAPO and Escola Secundária Antero de Quental, participants aged 12-72, mediated by Cristóvão Maçarico and Luís Senra	*8 oct, 17 nov* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Banquete de histórias Workshop Visits	collaboration with Escola EB1/ JI António Tavares Torres children aged 6-7 mediated by Samantha Ruggiero	*10 oct, 09h30-11h* Convento dos Franciscanos
Dança Folclore Workshop	CARA LAVADA Programming	*11 oct, 14h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
Guided visit: Geoteluric Orison of Saltborn Reveries	CARA LAVADA Programming	*11 oct, 16h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas



Dança Folclore - Workshop
CARA LAVADA Programming



Geoteluric Orison of Light and Fire
CARA LAVADA Programming

Fragmentos Efémeros Talk	with Catarina Rego Martins CARA LAVADA Programming	*11 oct, 17h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
E Dançam os Mantos sobre o Solo das Lendas Performance	with ÇALO DO MAR E DA TERRA CARA LAVADA Programming	*11 oct, 18h* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
Geoteluric Orison of Light and Fire Cinema, Food	with CARA LAVADA, Liliana Ferreira	*11 oct, 19h30* Arquipélago – Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
Quem canta um canto Workshop-visit	collaboration with Escola Roberto Ivens, Escola Secundária Antero de Quental, ACAPO and Perkursos participants aged 10-72 mediated by Luís Senra and Cristóvão Maçarico	*14 oct, 5 nov, 11 nov, 12 nov, 13 nov* Museu Carlos Machado



Excursion Full of Grace

Das cascas nascem histórias Workshop-visit	collaboration with ACAPO, Colégio Palmo e Meio e Centro de Convívio das Furnas e Centro de Convívio da Covoada participants aged 6-80, mediated by Dryelle Andrade	*15 oct, 7 nov, 18 nov, 21 nov* Convento dos Franciscanos
Não há som(bra) sem sol? Workshop-visit	collaboration with Colégio Palmo e Meio, children aged 6-7 mediated by Samantha Ruggiero	*17 oct, 10h-11h30* Museu Carlos Machado
Excursion Full of Grace Excursion	with Maria Emanuel Albergaria	*18 oct* Vários locais

Diz-me com que rocha andas e dir-te-ei quem és Workshop-visit	collaboration with ACAPO, participants aged 16-72, mediated by Luís Senra	*22 oct, 14h-15h* Centro Cultural da Caloura
FUSO Insular: Programa Walk&Talk Cinema	curated by Walk&Talk	*23 oct, 21h30* Igreja do Colégio, Museu Carlos Machado
O fio nos dedos Workshop-visit	colaboração com Colégio Palmo e Meio, crianças 6-7 anos mediada por Samantha Ruggiero	*24 oct, 10h-11h30* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Transmalhar Workshop		*26 oct, 10h* Multiple locations
Invisible Connections Workshop		*26 oct, 19h30* Arquipélago - Centro de Artes Contemporâneas
Guided visit	Schools mediated by Dryelle Andrade	*27 oct, 10h30-11h30* Centro Municipal de Cultura
Encontro /E)feitos Transmalhar		*27 oct, 10h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Cinema Documental Workshop	with Catarina Gonçalves	*27—29 oct* Escola das Feteiras
Cartas ao mar Workshop-visit	collaboration with Centro de Convívio das Furnas and Centro de Convívio da Covoada participants aged 60-70 mediated by Dryelle Andrade and Samantha Ruggiero	*28 oct, 31 oct, 10h30-12h* Centro Municipal de Cultura
Observatório da Ribeira Grande Workshop	with Coletivo Guarda Rios	*30 oct—6 nov* Escola Secundária da Ribeira Grande
hANDling Workshop	with AND Lab	*4 e 5 nov, 18h* Casa da Bienal
O essencial é invisível aos olhos Workshop-visit	collaboration with Escola Básica Integrada de Água de Pau e EBI - Lagoa young people aged 9-11, mediated by Samantha Ruggiero	*4 nov, 26 nov* Centro Municipal de Cultura



Symposium — Coletivo Guarda Rios and Paula Aguiar

DESCOLA – Young Creators Exhibition Opening	Inês Amorim, Júlia Craveiro, Júlia Rego, Martim Teixeira, Pilar Farias, Sara Almeida	*5 nov, 18h* Museu Municipal Ribeira Grande
Mapping Abundance Talk	Candace Fujikane	*7 nov, 10h* Casa da Bienal
Balada da Urzela Palestra	Teresa Castro	*7 nov, 11h* Casa da Bienal
INLAND Talk	INLAND (Fernando Garcia-Dory), Maria Emanuel Albergaria	*7 nov, 12h* Casa da Bienal
Coletivo Guarda Rios, Paula Aguiar Sharing of Process		*7 nov, 15h* Teatro Ribeiragrandense / Ribeira Grande
Variations on Unquietness Performance–Installation	Joana Sá	*7 nov, 19h* Igreja do Colégio, Museu Carlos Machado
CLIMAVORE Practices Talk	Cooking Sections	*8 nov, 10h* Casa da Bienal
Esfera Arquipelágica: Diáspora em Movimento Roundtable	Apolo de Carvalho, César Schofield Cardoso, Sónia Vaz Borges	*8 nov, 11h30* Casa da Bienal

Sour Things Workshop	Mirna Bamieh	*8 nov, 15h* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Escola do Reparar Workshop	AND Lab (Fernanda Eugénio)	*8 nov, 17h30* Casa da Bienal
Learning how to breathe Performance	Janilda Bartolomeu	*8 nov, 20h* Casa da Bienal
BANDO Performance	37.25 - Núcleo de Artes Performativas	*8 nov, 17h e 21h30* Teatro Micaelense
alys(alys)alys DJ Set		*8 nov, 01h* Raiz Club
Wutangu DJ Set		*8 nov, 03h* Raiz Club
Enchanting Lagoons: reclaiming memories, celebrating presences Performance	Coletiva MALVA	*9 nov, 12h* Lagoa das Sete Cidades
Oficina de Vimes e Espadana Workshop	RARA in partnership with CADA	*10—22 nov* Casa da Bienal
Fermentar histórias Workshop-visit	Collaboration with INETESE - Escola Profissional de Lagoa, participants aged 15-16, mediated by Dryelle Andrade	*11 nov* Convento dos Franciscanos
Objecto Quase Residency	Residência Colaborativas em Design Artesanal, em parceria com a Cresaçor	*12—19 nov* ARRISCA
Guided visit	with students from Escola Secundária Antero de Quental, participants aged 14-15, mediated by Samantha Ruggiero	*20 nov* Centro Municipal de Cultura
Estado de Graça: Conversas de Mercado Roundtable	Maria Emanuel Albergaria, Alexandra Baptista, Catarina Ferreira, Inésia Raposo, João Mora Porteiro, Jorge Rita, Luís Estrela, Maria do Rosário Soares, Rita Carvalho and Vítor Sousa	*22 nov 15h-17h* Mercado da Graça
Presentation of results: Oficina de Vimes e Espadana Presentation	RARA in partnership with CADA	*22 nov* Casa da Bienal

100 Years of Manifestos Workshop	Isabel Costa (Os Possessos) with high school students	*26 e 27 nov* ESAQ, Ponta Delgada Colégio do Castanheiro
Assembly of Abundance #5 Assembly	Various participants, artists and general public	*28 nov, 18h30-21h* Casa da Bienal
SÚS Concert		*28 nov, 21h* Igreja do Colégio, Museu Carlos Machado
Full of Grace: Sopa de Pedra Food	Maria Emanuel Albergaria	*29 nov, 11h30-14h30* Mercado da Graça
Haseeb Iqbal Listening session	Walk&Talk Soundsystem: The History of the sound system	*29 nov, 15h* Solmar Avenida Center
The New Design Museum: Co-creating the Present, Prototyping the Future Book presentation	Beatrice Leanza	*29 nov, 18h30* Casa da Bienal
Cosmica Bandida Concert		*29 nov, 22h* Casa da Bienal
Zelecta Dj Set		*29 nov, 23h* Casa da Bienal
Haseeb Iqbal Dj Set		*29 nov, 01h30-04h* Casa da Bienal



Estado de Graça - Maria Emanuel Albergaria



Full of Grace - Maria Emanuel Albergaria

Guest Programs and Artists

Fórum Dança Artistic Residency	New commission	*17 — 20 jan* Multiple locations
Alice Vicentin Artistic Residency	New commission	*17 mar — 2 apr* Multiple locations
Meg Stuart Workshop	New commission	*26 apr* ACAC
Nadia Belerique Artistic Residency	New commission	*20 — 29 apr* Lotaçor



Meg Stuart / PACAP 8 Artistic Residency	New commission	*20 — 29 abr* Multiple locations
RESOLVE Collective	New commission	*22 — 28 abr*
Mae - Ling Lokko Artistic Residency	New commission	*26 abr — 6 mai* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Inês Coelho da Silva & Kita Rancaño Ward Artistic Residency	New commission	*5 — 18 mai* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
Malala Andrialavidrazana Artistic Residency	New commission	*7 — 17 mai* Multiple locations
Walla Capelobo Artistic Residency	New commission	*18 — 31 mai* Multiple locations
Uhura Bqueer & Soya The Cow Artistic Residency	New commission	*18 — 30 mai* Multiple locations
Coletiva MALVA Artistic Residency	New commission	*18 jun — 3 jul* Multiple locations
Joana Sá Artistic Residency	New commission	*21 jun — 6 jul* Multiple locations
Jokkoo Colective Artistic Residency	New commission	*3 jul — 11 jul* Multiple locations
Guarda Rios Artistic Residency	New commission	*5 ago — 11 ago* Multiple locations



Artistic Residency — Jokko Collective



Artistic Residency — Inês Coelho da Silva



Artistic Residency — Meg Stuart



Artistic Residency — Daniela Cruz & 37.25 NAP



Artistic Residency — Resolve Collective



Artistic Residency — Lucy Bleach



Artistic Residency — Nadia Belerique



O Pulso da Ilha - Communal Dinner





Black Smokers - Helle Siljeholm



Black Smokers - Helle Siljeholm



Architecture of Friendship - Santiago Latorre



Black Smokers - Helle Siljeholm



Bárbara Jasmins | CARA LAVADA Programming



O Bando - 37.25 NAP & Daniela Cruz



Opening Party — Ateneu Comercial



Excursion to (Enveloping) Lives- with Margarida Andrade, Uhura Bqueer and Soya The Cow





Excursion to (Enveloping) Lives- with Margarida Andrade, Uhura Bqueer and Soya The Cow



SÚS Concert



hANDling workshop



O Bando - 37.25 NAP & Daniela Cruz



The Way Her Teeth Settled - Ebun Sodipo



MC Falcona, Arquipélago - ACAC



Workshop - Sour Things, Mirna Bamieh



Excursion to (Enveloping) Lives- with Margarida Andrade, Uhura Bqueer and Soya The Cow



The Way Her Teeth Settled - Ebun Sodipo





Opening Party — Ateneu Comercial



How to dig a hole - Lucy Bleach



Exhibition- Gestures of Abudance



Symposium party



Smooth Cayenne Notes- Mae-Ling Lokko



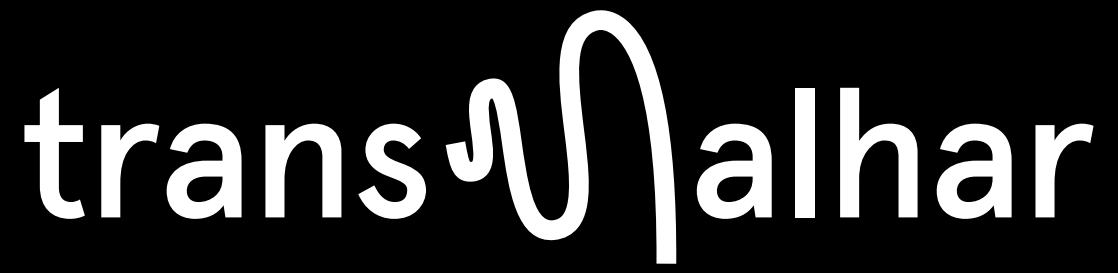
Enchanting Lagoons: reclaiming memories, celebrating presences - Coletiva MALVA



How to dig a hole - Lucy Bleach



Excursion to (Enveloping) Lives- with Margarida Andrade, Uhura Bqueer and Soya The Cow


transalhar

04 MELT — Módulos Experimentais para Transmalhar

Transmalhar is an open methodology developed by Anda&Fala — Associação Cultural which, through different initiatives, encourages participants to understand the relationship they establish with the places they inhabit, rehearsing art as a civic act. The methodology is based on participatory artistic practices and collective walks, used as tools for research, learning, and coexistence, promoting processes of listening, experimentation, and connection with the territory.



After several experiences carried out in a non-formal context during the pilot year, the desire arose to transpose Transmalhar to the **educational sphere**, involving a greater number of people in the learning processes that take place in education systems. In this context, **MELT — Experimental Modules for Transmalhar** was designed, a project supported by the **Calouste Gulbenkian and "la Caixa" Foundations**, as part of the **PARTIS & Art for Change** initiative.

Each MELT module was organized around **three complementary moments:**

1. a co-creation residency;
2. the public presentation of an artistic project;
3. a set of Transmalhar proposals.

For each module, artists, specialists, and citizens from the region were invited to participate in the residency processes and in the creation of the artistic projects presented to the young people. Based on these processes, Transmalhar proposals were developed by the project team — **Rita Serra e Silva** (artistic director), **Helena Oliveira**, and **Margarida Andrade** — and experienced by all those involved, according to principles of horizontality, cooperation, and co-creation.



MELT

Implementation of MELT (2025)

The first edition of MELT took place in 2025 with 21 young people from the Professional Course in Socio-Cultural Animation at the EPROSEC vocational school in Arrifes (Ponta Delgada). Over the course of six modules, artists from various fields and specialists from different areas were invited, and partnerships were established with local organizations, forming the following working groups:

- MELT 1 Former participants of Transmalhar (2023–24), Luís Senra, Rita Matias
- MELT 2 Associação de Surdos da Ilha de São Miguel (Association of the Deaf of São Miguel Island), Sofia Caetano & Elliot Sheedy, Vivian Andrade
- MELT 3 Associação de Pessoas Cegas e Amblíopes de Portugal (Association of Blind and Visually Impaired People of Portugal), Ana Rita Teodoro
- MELT 4 UMAR Açores, Ponta Delgada Women's Support Center, Novo Dia — Association for Social Inclusion, Marta Moreira
- MELT 5 Association of Immigrants of the Azores, InterStruct Collective
- MELT 6 As Cores dos Açores, Anita Nemet, Lucas Nabais

Artistic Results and Public Involvement

Throughout 2025, MELT gave rise to a significant set of artistic results and public actions, namely:

- four performances, presented in different indoor and outdoor spaces on the island of São Miguel;
- an installation, presented as part of the Reimagining the Untold exhibition, at vaga;
- three thematic workshops, integrated into the PRIDE Azores program.

These results reflected the co-creation processes developed throughout the modules and allowed for the public sharing of experiences, learnings, and methodologies worked on with the young participants.

Collaboration, Evaluation, and Dissemination



MELT

The stories and processes of MELT were compiled in a publication co-created with the young participants, Araucária Edições, and designer Pedro Evangelho, presented as part of Walk&Talk Biennial. The publication was accompanied by the Transmalhar Workshop, which allowed the methodology to be shared with other audiences and contexts.

Throughout 2025, Clara Luleich also developed research dedicated to analyzing the social impacts of MELT. Conceived as an integral part of the project, this research served simultaneously as a record, critical reflection, and driver of continuous adaptation of the methodology.

Since its inception, Transmalhar has relied on the expert advice of Lívia Diniz, using the FARO prototype tool matrix — Fluxonomia Aplicada ao Redesenho Organizacional (Fluxonomy Applied to Organizational Redesign) — ensuring the cultural, social, economic, and environmental sustainability of the methodology, as well as its replicability in other educational and territorial contexts.



MELT

6 MELT modules	Target audience: turma EPROSEC (aged 15-21); partner NGOs	*jan — jun* Espaço vaga; Deriva — Centro de Artes Performativas; Floresta Cultural; ACAC; Lomba da Fazenda; Convento dos Franciscanos; Sete Cidades
1 Transmalhar Workshop	General audience	*26 oct* vaga — espaço de arte e conhecimento
1 editing Workshop	with Blanca Martín-Calero Target audience: EPROSEC class	*12 may* EPROSEC
1 audiodescription Workshop	with ACAPO Açores Target-audience: EPROSEC class	*25 nov*

















RARA

05 RARA

RARA — Residência de Artesanato da Região dos Açores (Azores Region Craft Residency) is an ongoing project by Anda&Fala — Associação Cultural, which began in 2014. Since its creation, RARA has developed consistent research work in the field of contemporary design and crafts, combining traditional techniques and endogenous raw materials with conceptual and experimental approaches, promoting the transition to new media, objects, and production models.
The project is structured around two complementary strands: the organization of artistic residencies and the commercialization of the resulting objects under its own brand. In 2025, RARA's activities continued to expand through new formats, strategic collaborations, and participation in exhibitions, talks, and national and international platforms, reinforcing its vocation as a space for research, training, and promotion of Azorean crafts.

The Residency: Evaluation and Model Transition

After ten editions of the residency — nine on the island of São Miguel and one on the island of Santa Maria — an internal analysis process was conducted to reflect on the future of the project. This evaluation led to the conclusion that the model used until then had become exhausted and no longer responded effectively to the needs identified in the contemporary landscape of design and crafts in the Azores.

In line with Anda&Fala's strategic guidelines, RARA thus began a model transition process, focusing on training new artisans and strengthening collaboration with entities in the Azores. In this context, a new project format focused on skill training was designed in collaboration with CADA — Centro de Artesanato e Design dos Açores, the executive body of the Regional Secretariat for Youth, Housing, and Employment, responsible for implementing public policies in the areas of crafts, vocational training, and local development.

This collaboration took shape through Azores Craft Lab, a training school for arts and crafts offering certified courses, aligning the objectives of both entities: the promotion and transmission of traditional knowledge, the qualified training of new professionals, and the experimentation with new models of production and circulation.

11th Edition of RARA — Vimes and Espadana Workshop

The **11th edition of RARA**, held in 2025 as part of the first edition of Walk&Talk — Arts Biennial and aligned with its theme Gestures of Abundance, focused on valuing materials and knowledge that exist in abundance in the Azores. Over two weeks, a **Workshop on Wicker and Espadana** was developed, materials that have historically been fundamental in the daily life of the Azorean population, but which currently face difficulties in terms of continuity and integration into contemporary life.



RARA Residency

The workshop brought together the fields of action of the two partner entities — **the training and certification of new artisans** (CADA) and the **intersection between traditional techniques and contemporary conceptual models** (RARA). It was structured in two phases: in the first week, the trainees worked directly with the materials and techniques, guided by trainers **Alcídio Andrade** (wicker) and **Bento Silva** (espadana); in the second week, the process was led by RARA curator, designer **Miguel Flor**, and designer **Soraia Gomes Teixeira**, focusing on creative development, product innovation, and the exploration of new contexts and markets for artisanal production.

The workshop was attended by **nine trainees** and included a visit to **Centro Experimental de Agricultura das Sete Cidades** (Sete Cidades Experimental Agriculture Center), guided by **Maria Rego**, where participants learned about the processes of growing, harvesting, and preparing wicker and espadana.

Objeto Quase — Collaborative Residencies in Craft Design

In 2025, RARA developed, in partnership, the **Objeto Quase — Collaborative Residencies in Craft Design project**, an initiative of **CRESAÇOR — Cooperativa Regional de Economia Solidária**. The project proposed a collaborative program aimed at the recovery, enhancement, and innovation of artisanal practices, promoting the renewal of knowledge, the development of skills, the creation of new products, and the strengthening of marketing channels within the solidarity economy.

In the context of this project, RARA invited designer **Soraia Gomes Teixeira** to develop a **capsule collection** in collaboration with the resident artisans of **ARRISCA — Regional Association for Rehabilitation and Sociocultural Integration of the Azores**. The collection will be produced and marketed with the **CORES certification seal**, contributing to the economic, social, and symbolic enhancement of the artisanal practices involved.

Exhibition — Retrospective of RARA's 10 Years

At the invitation of **Loulé Criativo**, an initiative of the Loulé City Council dedicated to promoting regional identity through creativity and innovation, RARA presented a **retrospective exhibition of its ten years of activity**, curated by **Miguel Flor**. The exhibition was on display at the **Palácio Gama Lobo** in Loulé between **March 28 and May 31**, and included a complementary program that featured a roundtable discussion, a workshop with local artisan **Aida Bairos**, and a gathering of artisans, promoting the exchange of knowledge between creatives, mentors, and the local community.



Exhibiton- Loulé Criativo



Aida Bairros Workshop- Loulé Criativo



Aida Bairros Workshop- Loulé Criativo

Other Initiatives / Collaborations

Throughout 2025, RARA was present in various exhibition, programmatic, and critical reflection contexts at the regional, national, and international levels, contributing to the dissemination and appreciation of contemporary Azorean crafts and the processes developed within the scope of its residencies. These participations included exhibitions, public talks, round tables, and integrations into platforms dedicated to the intersection between crafts, contemporary design, and traditional knowledge.

In addition to presenting pieces resulting from previous editions of the residency, these collaborations have allowed for deeper dialogue with other cultural entities, public initiatives, and professional networks, reinforcing the visibility of the work developed by RARA and its integration into broader circuits of research, programming, and circulation.





Design for Crafts - Loulé Criativo



RARA - Exhibition Loulé Criativo



RARA & Cresaçor



Design for Crafts - Loulé Criativo

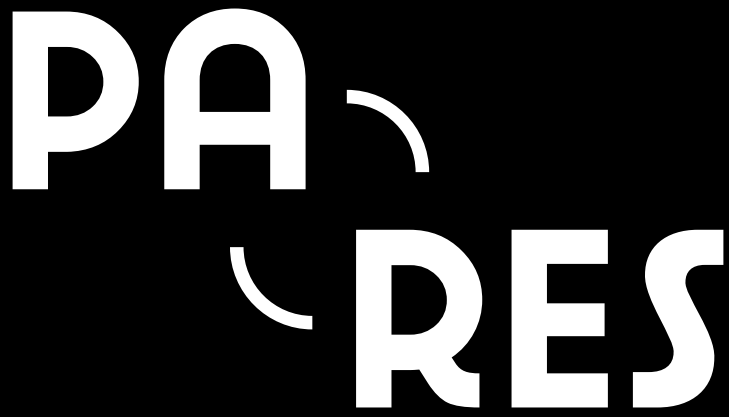


RARA - Exhibition Loulé Criativo





RARA Residency — Walk&Talk


PA
RES

06 Pares

PARES — Programa de Apoio à Atividade Artística nos Açores (Support Program for Artistic Activity in the Azores) is an initiative by Anda&Fala, created in 2019 with the aim of supporting, through micro-grants, artists, collectives, and agents who develop their work in the Autonomous Region of the Azores.



Associação Querer é Saber - Tempo de Brincar

Throughout its editions, PARES has established itself as a proximity program, promoting the autonomy of cultural agents, encouraging the continuity of artistic careers, and contributing to the sustainability of the Azorean cultural ecosystem. Through a flexible microfinance model, the program responds to specific needs for artistic creation, presentation, circulation, and training, serving as a central instrument in Anda&Fala's cultural advocacy strategy, which is particularly relevant in island and peripheral contexts, where access to structural resources is often limited.

On an annual basis, PARES allocates a total amount of €7,500 to the awarding of grants, organized in increments of €250, €500, and €750, allowing it to support projects of different scales and natures. The program is open to applications in all areas of contemporary artistic expression, provided they involve activities of creation, presentation, circulation (within or outside the region), and/or training. Artists, collectives, and agents who are naturalized and/or based in the Azores, as well as people from other geographical areas who choose the archipelago as the territory for the development of their projects, may apply, with no age limit.

7th Edition of PARES

In 2025, Anda&Fala promoted the 7th edition of PARES through an open call held between November 4 and December 1, 2024. 32 applications were received, of which 12 projects were selected by the Assessment Committee, distributing the total annual amount provided for in the program regulations (€7,500).

The diversity of the applications supported reflected a significant disciplinary and geographical scope, integrating projects in the areas of artistic creation, cultural programming, research, training, and community practices.

Assessment Committee and Evaluation Process

The Assessment Committee for the 7th edition of PARES was composed of:

- Jesse James — Artistic Director of Anda&Fala
- Rubén Monfort — Program Coordinator at Anda&Fala
- Helena Costa Barros — Communications professional
- André Bonito Mendes — Cultural producer

Each member of the Commission individually evaluated the applications according to the criteria defined in the program regulations, with final decisions being made after collective deliberation. Applications were assessed based on the following criteria:

- the application's fit and rationale within the scope of PARES;
- the clarity, consistency, and technical and budgetary feasibility of the proposal;
- the background and biography of the individual or group applying.

Supported Projects

The following projects and agents were selected for the 7th edition of PARES (in alphabetical order):

- 9'Circos
- Bianca Silveira
- Catarina Fernandes
- Centro Cultural da Caloura
- Dryelle Albuquerque
- Emma Jay
- Gal·la Edery
- Jan Kursmiski
- Maria Luísa Silva
- Nisa Remígio
- Querer é Saber
- Rodopio d'Ideias



Catarina Fernandes - Residency



Emma Jay - Isatis Tintoria



Associação Querer é Saber - Tempo de Brincar



Solsistitium — Curated by CARA LAVADA, Centro Cultural da Caloura



Medeiros Cabral - Uma história Dez Desafios



Territórios habitados e Imaginados



Depois da Bruma - 9Circos

nova vaga award

07 Nova vaga award

The nova vaga Award, launched by Anda&Fala, aims to support emerging artistic talent in the Azores archipelago, within the expanded field of visual arts. Held biennially, the award is open to individuals or collectives who are natives and/or residents of the Azores, aged between 18 and 35, and aims to create conditions for the development of new research and creative projects through curatorial guidance, technical support, and public presentation of results.



Selected Participants: André Carreiro Oliveira, Atelineiras, and Tomás Toste

The award succeeds Jovens Criadores Walk&Talk, which between 2013 and 2022 supported 18 artists with creation grants and final presentations, and asserts itself as a structuring instrument in Anda&Fala's strategy of valuing emerging practices, reinforcing the connection between artistic research, critical monitoring, and professional presentation contexts.

Continuity and Consolidation of the Award

After the completion of the 1st edition of the nova vaga Award, developed throughout 2024 with artistic residencies and a collective exhibition presented at vaga, 2025 was a year of consolidation and preparation for the 2nd edition of the program. This period allowed the Anda&Fala team to reflect on the model implemented, adjust monitoring methodologies, and reinforce the award's positioning as a medium-term device geared towards the sustained development of the selected artistic practices.

Launch of the 2nd Edition of the nova vaga Award

In 2025, Anda&Fala launched the 2nd edition of the nova vaga Award, through an open call aimed at new talents in artistic creation in the Azores archipelago, focusing on practices under development and their critical monitoring over time. The call ran from November 5 to December 18, receiving applications that highlighted the diversity and vitality of the emerging artistic field in the region.

The Evaluation Committee for this edition was composed of:

- João Francisco Reis (*guest curator)*
- João Laia *(curator)*
- Sara Antónia Matos *(curator)*
- Urbano *(artist)*
- Jesse James *(Artistic Director of Anda&Fala)*
- Rubén Monfort *(Program Coordinator at Anda&Fala)*

The committee highlighted the quality and diversity of the practices presented, as well as the plurality of approaches in the expanded field of visual arts, reflecting an artistic context attentive to contemporary transformations and the specificities of the Azorean territory.

The selected candidates — André Carreiro Oliveira, Atelineiras, and Tomás Toste — reveal distinct and complementary practices that combine sculpture, image, design, and collective action. Sharing a critical attention to contemporary conditions of artistic production, these projects develop investigations that oscillate between the relationship with matter and the environment, collective experimentation, and the instability of the image as a field of reflection.

From 2026 onwards, the curatorial accompaniement will begin, led by guest curator João Francisco Reis, as well as production monitoring by the Anda&Fala team, with a view to developing new research/creation work. The results of these processes will be presented in a collective exhibition, integrated into the September–November 2026 season, at vaga - espaço de arte e conhecimento, in Ponta Delgada.

GENERAL INDICATORS

08 Communication

Communication is a strategic axis of Anda&Fala, continuously and flexibly integrating with the association's various projects, such as vaga, Walk&Talk Biennial, PARES, Prémio nova vaga, MELT / Transmalhar and RARA. Developed in multiple formats and channels, it seeks to balance the institutional dimension of the association with the specificity of each project, aligning itself with its curatorial axes, cultural objectives, and commitment to advocacy and cultural literacy.

In 2025, Anda&Fala's communication work was reinforced through the temporary expansion of the communication team at specific and strategic moments, particularly during periods of greater programmatic intensity, such as the wave seasons and the first edition of Walk&Talk Biennial. This reinforcement allowed for greater capacity for content production, editorial monitoring, and coordination with the media, adapting the scale and pace of communication to the size of the projects developed throughout the year.

At the same time, Anda&Fala collaborated with Invisible Meaning, a company specializing in media monitoring and clipping, responsible for the systematic collection of news, analysis of metrics, and calculation of the media return on communication. This partnership made it possible to consolidate methodologies for assessing the communicational impact of the association and its projects, ensuring a more rigorous, informed, and strategic reading of media presence, both nationally and internationally.

8.1 vaga

Throughout 2025, vaga's communication continued to assert itself as a central element in its relationship with the local community and external audiences. The programming organized into artistic seasons served as the main driver of communication, allowing for a clear and continuous reading of the project throughout the year. Each Temporada (season) was accompanied by its own strategy, which articulated programmatic dissemination, editorial content, and a consistent digital presence.

In addition to publicizing exhibitions and activities, vaga's communication deepened its focus on the backgrounds, practices, and contexts of the invited artists and curators through interviews, contextual texts, and behind-the-scenes content. This work proved particularly relevant in the Ultra-Periféricas season, where there was increased attention to artistic profiles and individual narratives. The presence in regional media — such as *Açoriano Oriental*, *Antena 1 Açores*, *Rádio Atlântida*, and *RTP Açores* — remained regular, complemented by references on national and specialized platforms, contributing to the consolidation of the wave as a cultural space of reference in Ponta Delgada and in the island context.

8.2 Walk&Talk Biennial 2025

Walk&Talk — Arts Biennial 2025 was the main event of the year and attracted significant media attention, both during the preparation period (*Journey to the Biennial*) and during the two months of programming (September–November). The communication strategy sought to accompany the project's definitive transition to the biennial model, establishing it as an international event with strong territorial roots and cultural, ecological, and tourist relevance.

The media impact of the Biennial was analyzed based on a survey conducted by Invisible Meaning and metrics collected using tools such as Google Analytics and Meta Business Suite. Editorial pieces published between November 1, 2024, and December 10, 2025, were considered, as well as organic indicators from social media and the Biennial website.

Press and Press Trip

A total of 129 editorial pieces were identified, published in national and international media, including print media, digital platforms, and specialized magazines. This coverage reinforced the image of the Walk&Talk Biennial as an innovative event, attentive to the territory and relevant in the international artistic scene. The Press Trip, organized in the context of the Biennial, brought together national and international journalists. Among the prominent media outlets were:

- The Art Newspaper — *Long-running Azores art festival blossoms into a biennial*
- Esse (Canadá) — *Gestures of Abundance*
- Flash Art — *Walk&Talk Biennial: Gestures of Abundance*
- Forbes Magazine — *A Message of Abundance from the Azores to the World*
- Bazaar Art China — *Swim Across the Atlantic to the Abundant Sea of Art*
- Contemporânea — *A evidência e os mistérios da abundância na nova bienal em Portugal*
- Umbigo — *Tramas de Mundos em Construção – Walk&Talk retorna como Bienal*
- Público — *Walk&Talk faz da ambição colectiva um caminho para a esperança*
- Observador — *Simpósio da Bienal promove reflexão crítica e imaginação coletiva*
- The Arts of the Working Class — *Notes from the Azores*

International coverage focused particularly on the US and European markets, contributing directly to attracting cultural visitors and promoting the Azores as a creative and vibrant territory.

Television and Radio

Television reports mainly highlighted the territorial impact of the Biennial, the involvement of local communities, and the activation of multiple urban and rural spaces on the island of São Miguel. In the field of radio, Antena 3 stood out, providing special and continuous coverage of the Biennial by sending journalist Valentina Jesus to cover the opening weekend. Between Thursday and Sunday, daily content was produced, including news items, appearances on programs such as Domínio Público, live interviews with artists and curators, and reports on the main moments of the program. This coverage played a decisive role in bringing the Biennial closer to national audiences and reinforcing its perception as a relevant and contemporary cultural event. There were also relevant broadcasts on Antena 1 Açores with interviews and pieces dedicated to the cultural and tourist impact of the Biennial.

8.3 Communication and cultural advocacy

Throughout 2025, Anda&Fala's communication continued to focus on content centered on artistic processes, artists, and programmatic questions, reinforcing recognition of the work carried out with media specializing in arts and culture. This focus resulted in greater editorial demands, but also in a clearer positioning of the association as an active agent in cultural advocacy, placing issues such as cultural policies, collaborative practices, sustainability, and good working conditions in the arts sector on the agenda.

This ongoing work has consolidated the recognition of Anda&Fala as a cultural reference structure, capable of articulating contemporary creation, critical thinking, and territorial impact through consistent, informed communication aligned with the association's values and ambitions.

8.4 Graphic Communication

Anda&Fala's visual identity is a key element in its communication and public promotion of its projects, acting as a mediator between artistic content, audiences and territory. The graphic universe developed over the years seeks to ensure a coherent interpretation of the association as a cultural structure, while also guaranteeing the autonomy and uniqueness of each project, programme or initiative.

Each Anda&Fala project — such as the Walk&Talk Biennial, the vaga space and programmes such as MELT / Transmalhar, RARA, PARES or Prémio nova vaga — has its own visual identity, designed to convey its objectives, methodologies and positioning. These identities coexist in a common graphic system, developed by the design studio vivóeusébio, which has been progressively expanded and adapted as the association expands its action, scale and programmatic complexity.

In 2025, work on visual identity focused mainly on consolidating and consistently applying this graphic universe, ensuring its effectiveness across multiple media and contexts. The visual identity was designed and activated both in digital media — social networks, websites, newsletters and partner platforms — and in physical media, including posters, billboards, signage, printed programs and informational materials, ensuring a continuous and recognisable presence for Anda&Fala in public spaces and cultural circuits.

Visual Identity of the Walk&Talk 2025 Biennial

The largest investment in visual identity in 2025 corresponded to the first edition of Walk&Talk Biennial, which required in-depth work on construction and graphic development based on the theme Gestures of Abundance. The Biennial's identity was conceived as a visual system capable of dialoguing with the conceptual layers of the project — territory, ecology, care, relationship and interdependence — and of sustaining a large-scale communication campaign, active in several fields simultaneously.

This work involved the creation of a flexible graphic language, adaptable to different formats, rhythms and audiences, allowing for the articulation of institutional communication, artistic programming, audience mediation and territorial signage. The multiple developments of identity — in physical and digital media — were decisive in establishing the Biennial's presence over time, reinforcing its visibility, recognition and legibility as a new cultural format of reference in the Azorean and international context.


Feira Gráfica

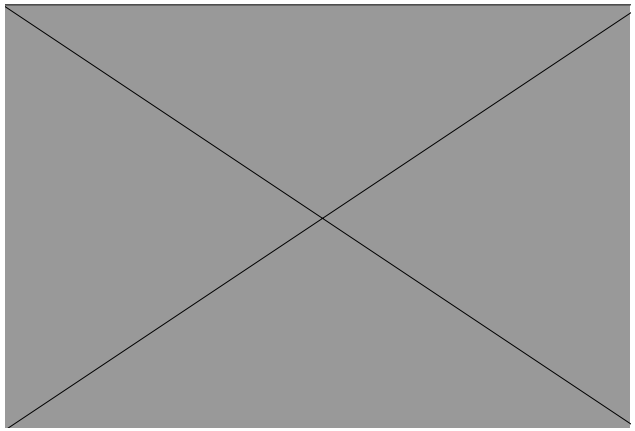

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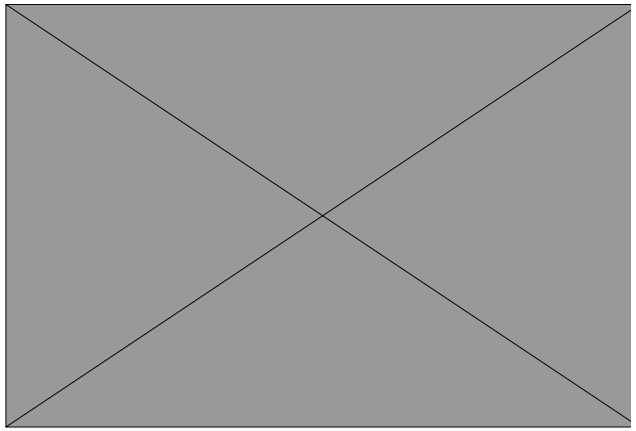

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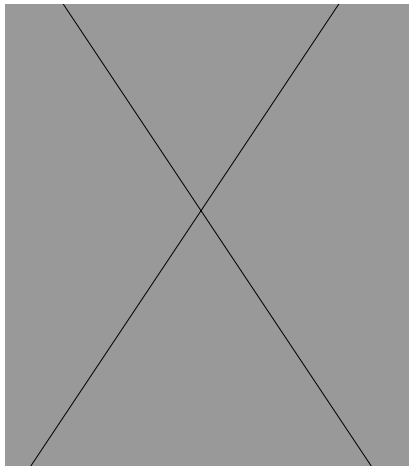

Reimagining
the Untold

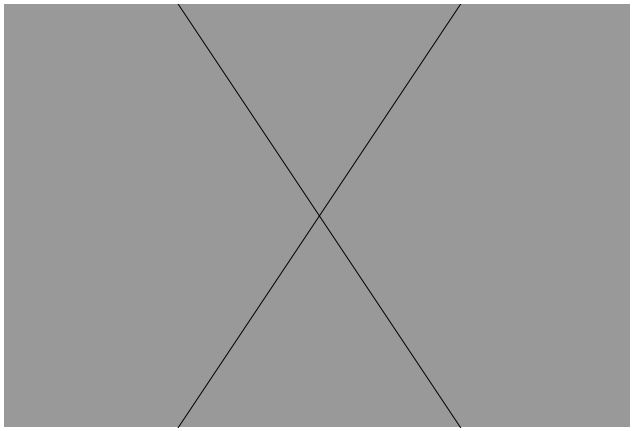

Ultra—
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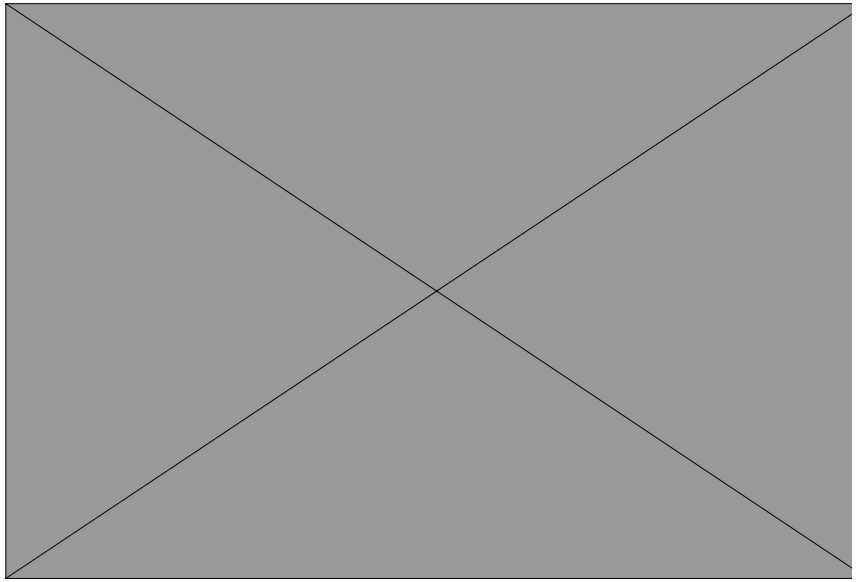


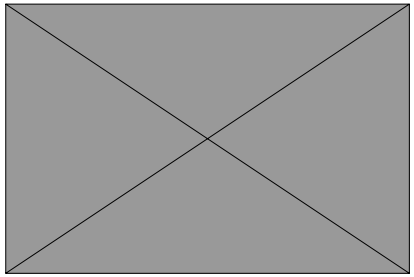
Walk&Talk Biennial

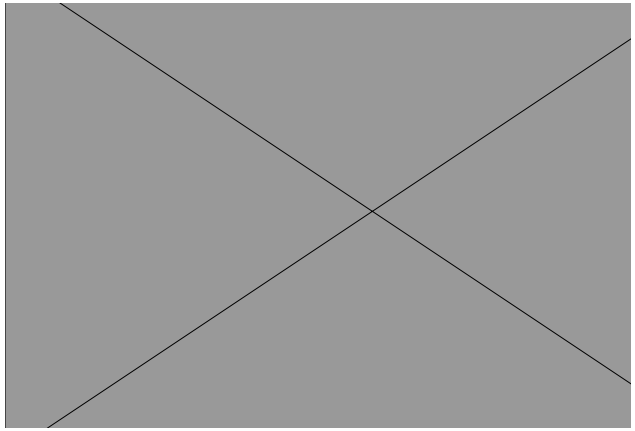




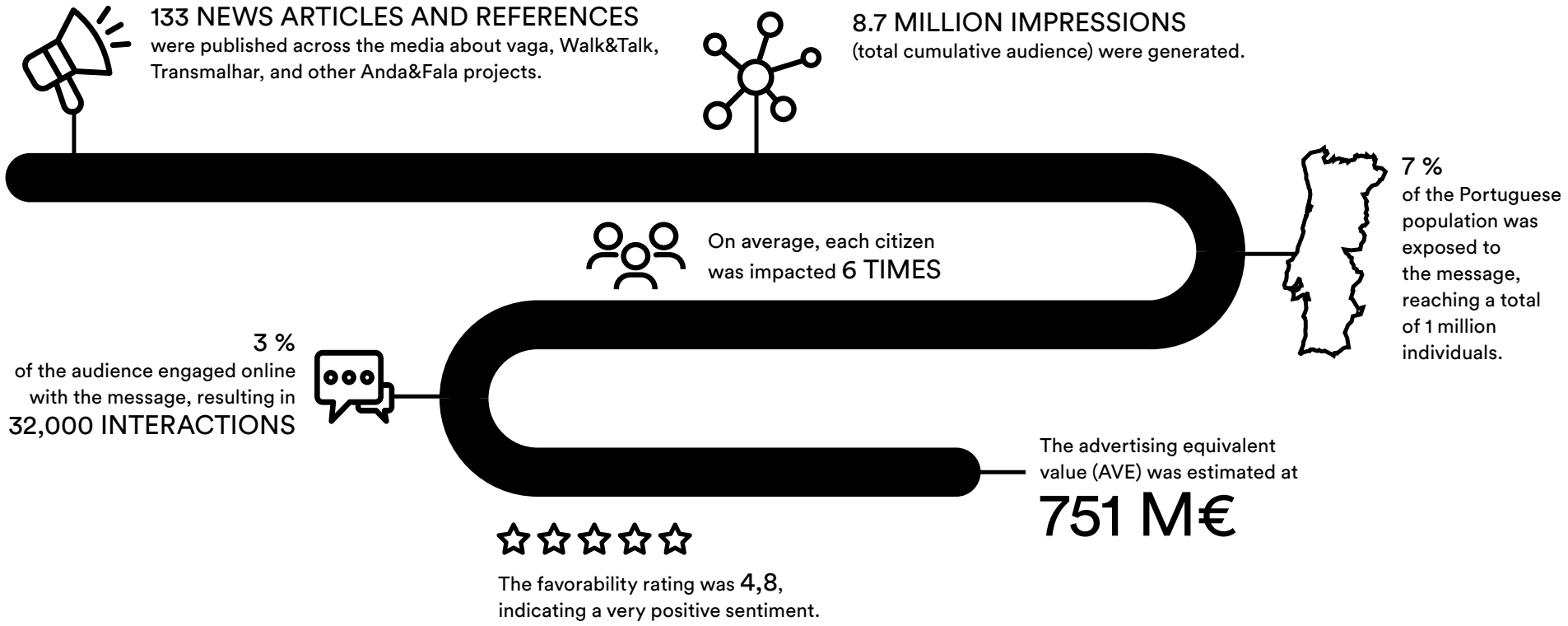








8.5 General Communication Indicators



8.6 Custom Indicators

ww.andafala.org — www.walktalkazores.org — www.vagapdl.org

22.737
total users
+6,8%
compared to the same period in 2023

36.019
total sessions
+11,7%
compared to the same period in 2023

117.503
page views
+6%
compared to the same period in 2022

25-34
Predominant age group

Source: Google Analytics 2024

TOP VISITORS BY COUNTRY

Portugal
USA
China
Espanha
França
Alemanha
Reino Unido
Holanda
Brasil

TOP SEARCH KEYWORDS

vaga
Walk&Talk
Azores
Art Azores
Ponta Delgada
Festival
Açore

Social Media Walk&Talk

14.750
followers
+ 15,4%
compared to 2024

21.503
followers
+ 0,9%
compared to 2024

Social Media vaga

7535
followers
+ 19,5%
compared to 2024

2.361
followers
=
compared to 2024

09 Financial Report

The Financial Report for the 2025 tax year was approved during the Ordinary General Assembly Meeting of Anda&Fala – Associação Cultural, held on January 22, 2026, in a virtual format via Google Meets platform. The document includes the actions and financial results related to the association's Activity Plan, covering revenues, expenses, and investments made throughout the year.

The report received a favorable opinion from the Fiscal Council and was unanimously approved by the members present at the General Assembly.

9.1 Sources of Funding

Anda&Fala's funding system is mainly based on regional and national public funds, obtained through applications for structural and ad hoc support. This model is complemented by the recruitment of private sponsors, who contribute monetary support, goods and services, within the context of a consolidated network of programming and co-production partners. In addition, the association generates its own revenue and, on an ad hoc basis, uses paid volunteer schemes for specific functions.

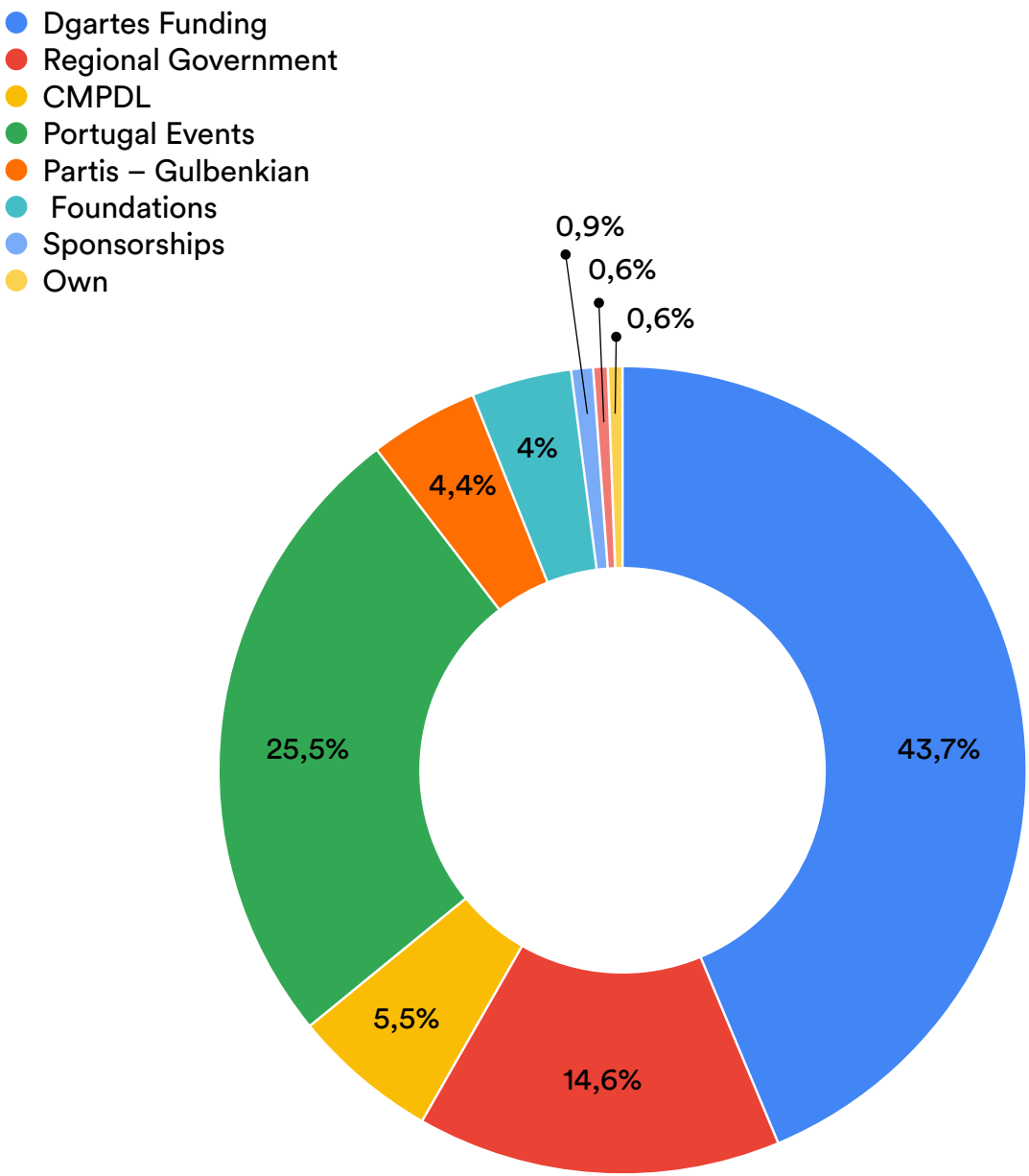
The available budget has been growing gradually, in line with the development of Anda&Fala's activity plan and reflecting the growing recognition of its relevance by public and private partners and peer networks.

In 2025, compared to 2024, the association's budget increased significantly by around 40%, mainly due to the first edition of Walk&Talk Biennial, which required a substantial strengthening of the financial and operational structure. This growth was sustained by specific funding, such as Perform Europe, and by structural support, namely Portugal Events, from Turismo de Portugal.

Structural funding for Anda&Fala continued to be provided by the Ministry of Culture/DGARTES through its 2023–2026 Continuous Support program, by the program agreement with the Ponta Delgada City Council, and by support from the Regional Government of the Azores. At the same time, the organization maintained and reactivated partnerships with institutional sponsors such as FLAD — Luso-American Development Foundation and Acción Cultural Española, and also secured new support, notably from the BPI | La Caixa Foundation, support from Partis – Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation for the MET project, and from the Azores Participatory Budget for the Descola project.

Depending on the guest artists and participation in the Biennial, Anda&Fala also received various forms of support for its programming, which enabled the implementation and expansion of specific projects, through entities such as Culture Moves Europe, Pro Helvetia — Swiss Arts Council, OCA — Office for Contemporary Art Norway and the Canada Arts Council. The Bensaude Group, Altice / MEO and the Nabeiro Group (Adega Mayor and Delta) remained regular sponsors, joined by other companies in the development of specific projects, such as Parque Atlântico / Sonae Sierra. The Albergaria Family continued to be the main patron of the vaga space.

Anda&Fala's own revenues came from the sale of catalogues, merchandising and screen prints, products from the RARA Shop, as well as a significant increase in donations associated with the activities and seasons of the wave, including performances, seminars and round tables. Support in kind and services continued to play an important role, reflecting the direct involvement of the local community in the production of the projects. Of particular note is the logistical support provided by the Programming Partners who hosted and co-produced various initiatives,



namely Arquipélago — Contemporary Arts Centre, Caloura Cultural Centre, Carlos Machado Museum, Magma — Non Temporary Art and Ponta Delgada Municipal Cultural Centre. In addition to this, there was support from suppliers in the form of direct discounts on materials and services, as in the case of Nova Gráfica.

The program contracts with the Ministry of Culture/ DGARTES, the Ponta Delgada City Council, and the Regional Government of the Azores are the main guarantee of the organization's financial capacity. However, in 2025, there were **significant delays in the payment of regional public support**, some of which **exceeded six months**, creating situations of strong financial pressure on the structure. These delays proved to be **unsustainable for a medium-sized cultural organization**, affecting the predictability of financial management, the timely execution of projects and the fulfilment of responsibilities towards teams, artists, suppliers and partners. Despite rigorous accounting controls and prudent resource management, the prolonged absence of cash flow compromises the sustainability of cultural structures and highlights the need for greater speed and reliability in the mechanisms for contracting and paying public support. On the other hand, **cultural patronage and philanthropy** remained insignificant, largely due to the reduced attractiveness of existing tax incentives, creating additional challenges for raising private funding — a reality that is common to most cultural organizations in Portugal.

9.2 Investment by Category

The primary objective of Anda&Fala's financial management is to ensure the sustainability of its projects in alignment with its activity plan.In 2025, the organization maintained a management approach based on the interdependence between structure, programs, and teams, with an accounting system organized by cost centres associated with specific projects and items. This methodology has enabled a clear understanding of the investment made and rigorous financial management, adjusted to the growing scale and complexity of the organization's activities.

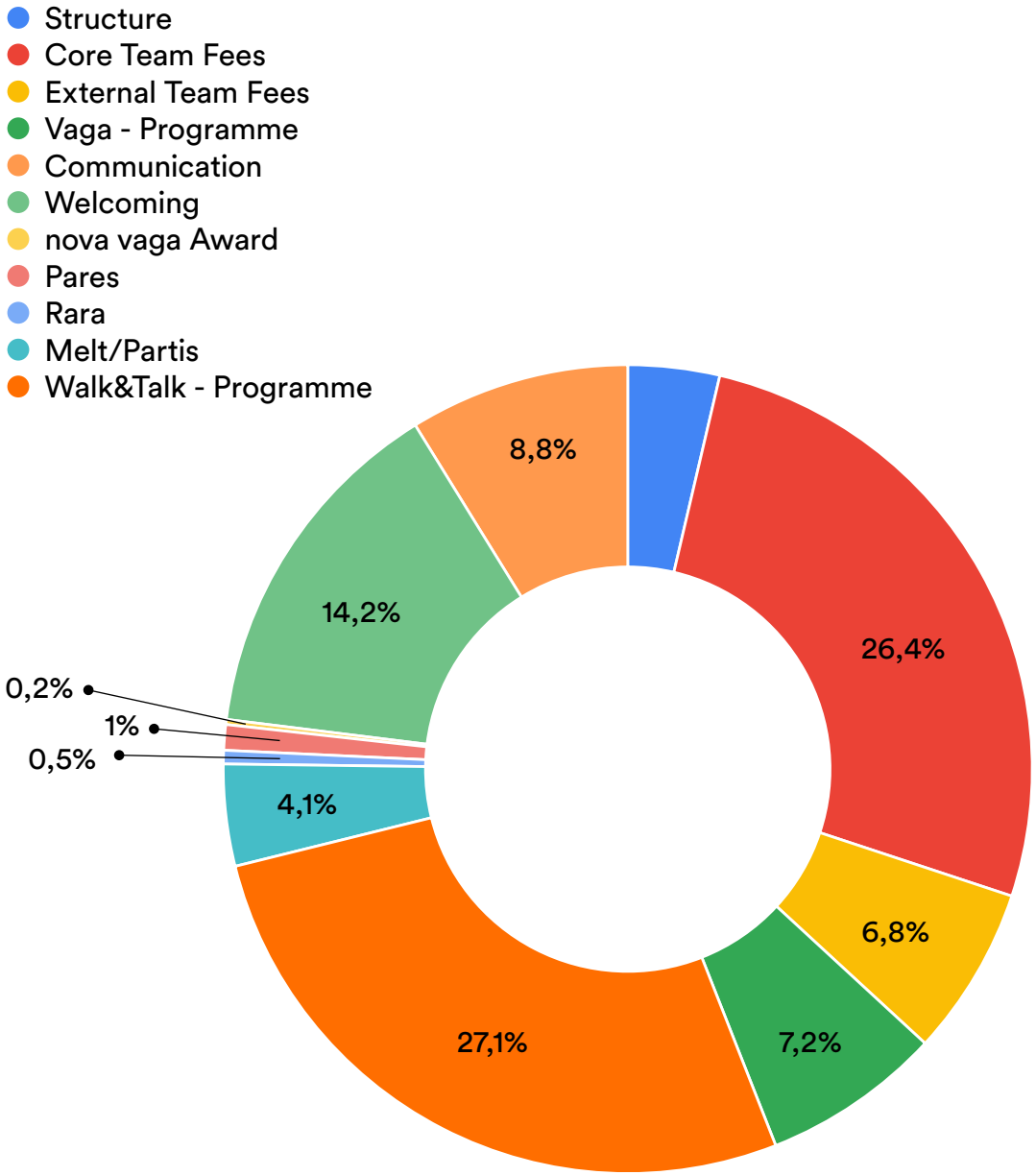
The distribution of investment by category in 2025 reflects the structural strengthening of Anda&Fala and the centrality of Walk&Talk Biennial in the overall annual program. Expenses associated with the **structure and teams** — including operating costs, administration, salaries and fees for the cross-project team — accounted for around **37% of the total budget** (26.4% in team fees, 6.8% in fees for specific projects and 3.7% in structural costs). This percentage reflects the consolidation of a stable team, currently composed of **8 full-time and 2 part-time employees**, made possible by the sustained support of DGARTES and the programmatic continuity of the vaga space. The professionalisation of the structure has a direct impact on the capacity for planning, producing, monitoring and evaluating the projects developed.

Direct investment in artistic programs accounted for the largest share of the annual budget, with the **Walk&Talk Biennial program** accounting for **27.1% of the total**, reflecting the scale, duration and complexity of this project in 2025. The **vaga space program** accounted for **7.2%**, ensuring the continuity of artistic seasons, residencies and public activities throughout the year. Specific projects such as **MELT / PARTIS** (4.1%), **RARA** (0.5%), **PARES** (1.0%) and the **nova vaga Award** (0.2%) demonstrate a strategy of investment diversification, allowing for the simultaneous support of emerging creation, training, research and the promotion of contemporary craftsmanship.

The **Welcoming** category, which includes expenses for travel, accommodation, transportation and food, accounted for **14.2% of the budget**, reflecting the strong component of hosting artists, curators, experts and audiences, particularly associated with the Walk&Talk Biennial and artistic residency programs. This item is structural for a project with a strong international and territorial dimension, ensuring decent working and living conditions for participants.

Communication accounted for **8.8%** of the annual budget, including expenses for press relations, digital communication, graphic and audiovisual content production, advertising, and strategic monitoring of project visibility. In 2025, this investment was particularly relevant in the context of Walk&Talk Biennial, ensuring a consistent presence in regional, national and international media and reinforcing the accessibility of the programme to diverse audiences.

Total 2025



Overall, the distribution of investment by item in 2025 shows a management approach geared towards balancing structure, artistic creation and audience relations, while ensuring the quality of projects, the recognition of the professionals involved and the sustainability of the association in the medium and long term.

10 Partners

Throughout its history, Anda&Fala has established itself as a local cultural organization capable of coordinating a broad network of institutional, professional, and artistic relationships based on trust, continuity, and shared responsibilities. This network is not only the result of specific projects, but also of consistent work in terms of presence, listening and cooperation, developed over the years in the Azorean context and in dialogue with national and international networks.

In 2025, this collaborative ecosystem proved to be particularly decisive, enabling us to sustain a year of high complexity and scale, marked by the first edition of the Walk&Talk Biennial. The ability to mobilize different partners, knowledge and resources — public, private, institutional and informal — was fundamental to ensuring the artistic quality, diversity of audiences and territorial dimension of the projects developed.

More than just a set of support measures, these partnerships reflect a logic of co-construction and co-responsibility, where programming, production, mediation and critical thinking develop in relation to each other. It is in this relational field that Anda&Fala has been consolidating its position as a cultural reference structure, contributing to the strengthening of the Azores' artistic ecosystem and its projection in broader contexts. This model, based on collaboration, project autonomy and sustainable relationships, will continue to guide the association's actions in the coming years.

A PROJECT BY

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Walk&talK ARTS BIENNIAL

HIGH PATRONAGE

Com o Alto Patrocínio de Sua Excelência O Presidente da República

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