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MANIFEST OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS

MANIFEST is looking for artists that are motivated to contribute with new artistic perspectives to re-imagine Europe's collective memory of the transatlantic trade of enslaved people.

MANIFEST is an artistic and educational initiative that will support the creation of 12 artworks. The artworks should seek to enhance the re-imagination of Europe's collective memory of the transatlantic trade of enslaved people. The artworks will be developed through an Artistic Journey with the help and facilitation of artistic supervisors, academic researchers, and production partners.

Along the Artistic Journey, artists will work in residencies and be encouraged to work with new technologies. The final artworks will be produced in digital formats in either Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), video or audio – sound formats, and spoken art.

MANIFEST's grounding

MANIFEST is a project whose Artistic Journey is carefully designed to empower artists to re-imagine the perspectives and the history of the transatlantic trade of enslaved people on the European continent and its existing cultural traces.

MANIFEST seeks to engage with diverse artists for whom the topic of the transatlantic trade of enslaved people has a special interest or motivation. All artistic forms of expression are welcome. You can apply as an individual, or as an artistic group or collective. Groups or collectives can be up to a maximum of three participants per group. All participants will need to co-create with MANIFEST's partners and be willing to collaborate with others.

The selected artists will create artworks that promote a creative look into our past and have the potential to reshape our collective memory.

The Artistic Journey takes place at two residencies. It starts at the historical art space of Zsenny Palace near Budapest and continues in Lisbon, with additional extended



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reality (XR) workshops in Copenhagen for a selected number of artists that will be working with these mediums.

In parallel to the Artistic Journey, MANIFEST will support with solid, documented research contributions about the social traces of this trade, as well as associated material and immaterial heritage. An online Resources Center will collect and communicate this information.

The Artistic Journey will close with a Final Event in Nantes - a city filled with vestiges of its slave-trading past. It will be an opportunity to host the Award Ceremony for the residency creators and to use the artworks to catalyse and engage social debate on the topic.

MANIFEST is co-funded by the European Commission under the Creative Europe Programme and will run until November 2024. MANIFEST is implemented by an experienced consortium led by [Khora](#), an Extended Reality (XR) production studio and learning space based in Copenhagen, Denmark, joined by [Les Anneaux de la Mémoire](#), France's leading association working with the history and heritage of the Atlantic trade of enslaved people and colonial enslavement; [Pro Progressione](#), a Budapest-based artistic hub specialising in international cultural collaborations; [Gerador](#), an independent Portuguese platform for journalism, culture and education; and [CUMEDIAE](#), a Brussels-based international non-profit agency providing consultancy services for Europe's Cultural and Creative Industries. The consortium's [Advisory Board](#) consists of scientific experts and civil society representatives to ensure the project's historical and scientific integrity, and the Artistic Committee, whose members will seek to guarantee the quality of the selected artworks.

Open House | Info session

On October 26 we will present the project outline at an online Open House event and provide an opportunity for potential applicants to meet with the project team, learn more about the Artistic Journey and ask questions. If you cannot attend, we highly recommend viewing a recording of the event, which will be available on the MANIFEST website after the Open House Event. Further details about the Open House event will be announced on the MANIFEST website and social media channels.



Eligibility and supported projects

Who is eligible?

- Applicants that are legal residents in the countries within the [Creative Europe framework](#)
- Artist groups or collectives (up to a maximum of three artists) or individuals may apply. If you are a group or a collective, please submit a single application under the name of the collective

What we support

- Artworks that reflect on the individual or the collective memory of the transatlantic trade of enslaved people
- Artworks that can be enhanced by digital media and technologies, specifically VR, AR, videography, and audio - sound and spoken art (previous experience is not required, but you must be interested to work actively with one of the formats)
- Artworks that take community members' opinions and sensitivities into account
- We welcome all artists to pursue their work in multiple languages if needed, but please note that the official working language in MANIFEST is English

What we offer: Participant opportunities and support

What we will provide:

- **Exposure** through MANIFEST's dissemination and engagement activities, such as newsletters, announcements, networking and events, social media, video and photo documentation, and general promotion of MANIFEST's work through its large partner network. Selected artists will also be invited to an exhibition opportunity at the Final Event in Nantes.
- **A cross-border and cross-disciplinary opportunity** for exchange and artistic enrichment with fellow artists across Europe, including activities and study visits with partners and collaborators
- **Artist development support and in-depth knowledge** of MANIFEST's core topics, [provided by experts and specialists](#) and facilitation by artistic supervisors, academic researchers, and production partners.
- **Potential additional benefits** resulting from dissemination activities such as art venue fees and contributions

- **Honorarium (3000 EUR in total)** for attending all MANIFEST residencies, events, and activities
- **Access to a 1000 EUR budget** for conceptual activities, supporting materials per artwork and additional, significant production support from partners for AR, VR, and digital media development.
- **Three awards (each of 3500 EUR) for three selected art projects*** at the Final Event. Teams receive the same prize, with no adjustment for the number of members. *Please note that if selected, art collectives will need to choose one member to receive the funds if they are not incorporated as an LLC or other legal entity.
- **Reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses for artists at all MANIFEST events.** However, for residents in any of the EU Outermost Regions, or the EU Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT), only travel costs calculated from their country's (European) capital will be reimbursed.

What we expect

What we ask from participants:

- **Participation:** We expect that selected artists will participate in all designated MANIFEST events, including art residencies, workshops and the final event. Please note that attendance includes two residencies - lasting for ten days each (20 days in total).
- **Attendance:** The selected artists are expected to attend and engage in online meetings, interviews, webinars, consultancy sessions, and progress reviews and contribute to the project's reporting.
- **Production workshops:** Artists that are selected for VR/AR productions will need to attend production sessions in Copenhagen at dates agreed with Khora
- **Engagement:** Artists must be committed to MANIFEST's objectives. As success depends on the activation and engagement of European audiences, artists are encouraged to support MANIFEST general communication by using their personal and professional communication channels and networks.
- **Commitment:** A contract with the MANIFEST Consortium, open to the artists' proposals, will define the terms and conditions for the intellectual property rights of digital artworks. In any case, any participant artist will be asked to grant all necessary rights for the dissemination of the artwork in any activities directly related to this Project.

Application timeline, key dates, and award process

Application Timeline

- September 30: Launch of Open Call
- October 26: Online Open House info session (recording will be available for viewing)
- October 26: The submission form for artistic proposals opens!
- November 27th: Application deadline
- October–November: panel review and evaluation of applications to shortlist finalists
- December 13th: Selected artists are notified*

*Due to the expected number of submissions, please note that we will only notify the accepted artists on December 13, and expect a slower response for applicants that have not been selected.

Key dates: 2023-2024

- **June 5-14, 2023:** Residency in Budapest and Zsennye Palace, Hungary – Artists will submit their final concept note
- **June 2023 – October 2023:** Kick-off XR workshops in Copenhagen for XR artists/teams and content creation period
- **October 16-25, 2023:** Residency in Lisbon, Portugal – Artists will showcase the progress of their artworks
- **November 2023 – September 2024:** Digitization of artworks and preparation for showcase
- **October 2024:** Final Event in Nantes, France. Showcase of art projects and selection of three projects for the final prize

Award Process

- A public [Artistic Selection Committee](#) will review applications based on the artists' body of work and quality, relevance, concept suitability & feasibility, and the strength of motivation and commitment to the topic and to the objectives of the project.
- Finalists may be invited for interviews with MANIFEST staff.
- Individual applicants who are open to working with other artists in a group may be invited for interviews with MANIFEST staff.
- Notification of program acceptance and entry will occur in December 2022.

Final event

- The artworks need to be transportable to be shown at the final event and are the responsibility of the artist(s)
- We will support the digital representation of artworks, if feasible

Green artistic practices

Culture, and in particular artistic output, can play an important role in the green transition through awareness-raising, learning, communication and in the sharing of knowledge and good practices, and has the potential to develop innovative ways of tackling environmental challenges.

During the Artistic Journey, time will be allocated to integrating environmental considerations of the general topic and sharing information about the European Green Deal's objectives and environmental sustainability in an Artist's creative processes. All artists will be encouraged to use:

- **Public transport** (eco-travel to the residences by train or choosing eco-oriented travel companies. All the activities that require transportation for the residencies will use sustainable transportation alternatives)
- **Longer lasting products** that can be repaired, recycled and reused. During the residencies, artists will be encouraged to work with and use materials that are recycled, natural, handmade or eco-friendly.

How to apply

All applicants must submit the following documents in English via the online application form*:

- **A project proposal** (min. 1000 words), including
 - Personal Statement
 - Synopsis of the project idea and how it is connected to the memories of the transatlantic trade of enslaved people
 - Communication and distribution goals and desires
 - Anticipated material needs
- Link to applicant's website and/or submission of selected work samples

Please note that the Open Call is a draft and might be subject to small alterations before opening for submission on October 26, 2022

- Curriculum vitae (or CVs of all members if applying as a collective or a group)
- All submissions must be sent digitally through the Application Form

To apply as a collective/group:

- Give a name to your group (e.g. Art Collective Nantes)
- Fill out the “Name of your group” field in the Application Form
- Upload all the relevant documents for each member (personal statements, selected works, CVs – including legal residency)

*This information is a guide. The full application form will be available on MANIFEST’S website in the upcoming weeks.

Notification of Results

The selected artists will be informed of the outcome and may be asked to provide further relevant information. They will be requested to sign a document of commitment regarding the work with the team and their participation in the MANIFEST Project activities. Unsuccessful applicants will be informed of the outcome of the process as well.

Contact & Further Information: journey@projectmanifest.eu

COVID-19 health and safety guidelines

The MANIFEST project management team will be responsive to social and health developments as they arise. We are committed to keeping all participants and staff safe and healthy.



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