

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES EURO-MEDITERRANEAN CO-CREATION RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

(in memory of David Sassoli)

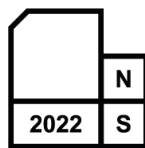


IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Evropska prestolnica kulture
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UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF



NOVI SAD
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CULTURE



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Deadline: September 2nd, 2022

Official announcement: October 03rd, 2022

Start of the residency: November 06th, 2022

End of the residency: November 27th, 2022

Duration: 3 weeks

On 20th December 2019 in Matera (IT), on the occasion of the [Closing Ceremony](#) of Matera 2019, European Capital of Culture, Mr. **David Sassoli**, the greatly missed President of the European Parliament, called on **Europe** to become an increasing **praesidium of peace, freedom and democracy leveraging cultural participation**.

(...)

“Europe is its citizens, philosophical thought, arts, literary vibrancy, scientific discoveries, poetry, music, law”.

“The very idea of Europe is based on the value of its history, the intelligence and creativity of its people because, despite diversities and differences, our continent is capable of offering the world an original point of view that keeps the dignity and freedom of people at the centre.”

“What sense would it make to have so many virtues, works of art, landscapes envied, archaeological sites if all these were not useful in shaping a free conscience, to help men and women not to give up and aspire to take on challenges together?”

“What sense would it make if our artistic and cultural heritage were not useful in making us more humane?”

“Our freedom generates beauty”

(Excerpted from the speech given by David Sassoli, Matera, December 20th, 2019.)

(...)

Matera 2019 has shown to the world that **culture is pivotal** for equality, social cohesion and wellbeing and that the South of Europe must be the bridge to bring Europe and Africa closer together.

On this basis and in the European year of Youth, the [Foundation Matera-Basilicata 2019](#) and [Open Design School](#), in partnership with European Capital of Culture [GO!2025](#) (Nova Gorica-Gorizia) and European Capital of Youth [Tirana EYC 2022](#) and under the patronage of European Capitals of Culture [Esch 2022](#), [Kaunas 2022](#) and [Novi Sad 2022](#), calls upon European and Mediterranean creatives to produce four creative residencies in Basilicata (IT), centred around the above-mentioned principles, through co-creation with local communities.

BACKGROUND

[Matera 2019](#) has been one of the most sparkling recent European Capitals of Culture: since 2019 Matera and Basilicata have gained international status. This rural area, largely unknown, is today "on the map". It took an immense effort, which ultimately won the initially winning skepticism and proved that it is possible, now and in the future, to overcome incredibly complex challenges.

Rurality is peculiar to Matera 2019 and the region Basilicata or Lucania: most of its 131 municipalities have been classified as "inner areas", they are home to 75% of the population and occupy 92% of the entire surface area of the region.

Inner/rural areas are mostly far away from essential services, particularly high education, health services and mobility: they are characterized by a diminishing and ageing population that have caused some of the smallest towns to lose up to a fourth or fifth of their inhabitants between 2012 and 2020.

Despite this geographical and socio-economic fragility, **rural areas of Basilicata represent a rich immaterial heritage** in which the past meets the future, the archaic overlaps with the contemporary: they are a frontier land for the artists who can establish a truer contact with the local communities and the landscape. This is the premise on which the relationship of Matera2019 with the rest of the region was founded. In 2019, Matera represented not only the cultural richness and diversity of the entire Basilicata region, it also activated a reverse motion, which brought the cultural flow from Matera 2019 into the remote areas, triggering real processes.

(Check out the [Matera 2019 Open Data portal](#) for further info on the year 2019 and its impact).

RATIONALE

#together and **#openfuture** have been the keywords for Matera 2019 vision and its forward looking path.

2022 is the **European Year of Youth**: Europe calls on young people to become active citizens and actors of positive change.

Europe needs the vision, the engagement and the participation of all young people to build a better future based on equality, inclusion and sustainability leveraging participation of local communities, especially those with fewer opportunities, from disadvantaged backgrounds, from rural or remote areas.

We want to invite young creatives, from Europe and the Mediterranean area, to work with local communities of Basilicata, investigating a new idea of Europe shaped around those principles and which embraces the Mediterranean area as a key place to shape its future.

Leveraging creativity and co-creation, we want to continue to send messages to Europe from the remote areas of the South, promoting universal values and creating bridges.

ABOUT THE CO-CREATION RESIDENCY

Foundation Matera-Basilicata 2019 wants to select **four** European and Mediterranean **young creatives (individuals and collectives, aged under 40)** for a three weeks residency in a small village of Basilicata region (Italy) during November 2022.

Applicants must be conversant in English; knowledge of Italian is not mandatory but is considered an advantage.

Invited creatives will develop and deliver their proposal through a **co-creation process** with the **local community** and a **local creative or cultural company** that the Foundation will identify on the basis of the selected proposals and that will participate in the development of the proposal.

During the residency, creatives will be expected to have a clear plan to develop new work or relevant research.

Meetings open to the hosting communities shall be organized over time, with the purpose to introduce the project and related actions, keep citizens updated, collect feedback and proposals and present the final results. The use of Italian language should be preferred for these situations.

The Foundation will facilitate events for the visiting creatives and local creatives and communities to meet and engage with one another, for at least half day per week. Public engagement could take the form of talks, workshops, demonstrations, skills sharing, visiting with community groups or other events.

Creatives are required to prepare a **handbook/dossier** in order to keep track of the process as a crucial part of the output itself, in order to make the experience repeatable everywhere by anyone, in the spirit of “open culture” which has informed/oriented Matera 2019 strategy and actions.

A weekly report is required too, for communication and dissemination purposes.

KEYWORDS/VALUES

Europe, Mediterranean, participation, plurality, openness, diversity, dignity, freedom, equality, peace, democracy, accessibility, creativity, sustainability.

DISCIPLINES/ARTFORM

The creative proposal must reflect the previously listed values and can belong to any field: theatre, music, literature, communication, design (any kind - service, relational, graphic, etc.), architecture, digital, photography, circus, multimedia, film, writing, craft, multi-artform, visual.

Outputs might be of any type, e.g., books, exhibition, archives, documentaries, architecture prototypes, urban games, social design processes, design of services, infographics, digital products, communication campaigns, billboards, etc.

Proposals must include a clear description of the methodologies/strategies to be used for leading co-creation processes with the community, especially young people, and include a phase of co-design, preparation, collective action and follow-up activities, with highlights and milestones.

LOCATION

Any municipality in the Province of Matera or Potenza, in the region Basilicata (IT, Lat.40° 30' 00" North, Long. 16° 30' 00" East).

The final exact residency place will be identified by the Foundation according to the selected proposals.

Municipalities are located in peripheral, rural and remote areas of the region, sparsely inhabited, over mountains or hills, with an ageing population, which can be reached mainly by private car.

Despite this geographical and socio-economic fragility, the rural dimension will facilitate a truer contact with the local communities and the landscape, in close contact with nature, and an authentic lifestyle.

A mentor will assist creatives-in-residence for facilitating the co-creation process with the local community and schedule public meetings.

DURATION

The residency will run over 3 weeks, November 6 to 27. Selected creatives will have to spend their time in the identified village for the entire period.

At the end of the residency, selected applicants should submit a final memory that will include: title, description of the project, objectives and a graphic dossier (10 A4 pages minimum) plus the complete handbook.

FEE

A 4.000 euros gross fee (+ € 1000 for groups of over 3 people) for stipend, living costs or related expenses will be provided.

The Foundation will assist the creatives in finding appropriate accommodation.

MATERIALS BUDGET

A 1,500 euros gross budget is available to cover materials or equipment needed for the duration of the residency. Receipts will be necessary.

TRAVEL EXPENSES

A gross contribution to travel expenses of € 500 is available (€ 1000 in case of groups of over 3 people) and can be used for any related travel expenses to Italy or travel within Italy on arrival. Receipts will be necessary.

PROPERTY RIGHTS

Without prejudice to intellectual property rights, either the residency outputs and the handbooks will be made available online (on the Foundation's website or other platforms) under a Creative Commons Licence (CC-BY-SA-NC) for other creatives and communities' use or further implementation.

Part of the submitted proposals, at discretion of the selection Committee, might be published in any form by the Foundation: the participation in the call implies the acceptance of the above-mentioned rules.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The received proposals will be evaluated by an ad hoc convened Committee that will make the selection at its sole discretion.

The Committee reserves the right to contact applicants for further information on the submitted proposals.

APPLICATION INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Young creatives (aged under 40) from Europe and the Mediterranean area can apply. They must have a European health card or equivalent.

Candidates must send:

- a complete application form available on [Matera 2019 website](#)
- a Curriculum Vitae (.pdf - max 4 pages) with maximum two supporting references at your convenience, if any.
- a portfolio with complementary links (.pdf – 15 MB maximum)
- a list of achievements (photos, media articles, awards received, etc.), if any
- ID or passport (scanned copy)

in PDF format before 02 September 2022 to the following e-mail address:

international@matera-basilicata2019.it, subject: Creative Communities.

Only applications with complete information will be accepted.

Proposals will be analyzed by a Committee of experts and the final decision will be taken by September 30.

Only selected candidates will be notified via e-mail and results will be published on www.matera-basilicata2019.it.

Participation in this call implies the acceptance of these rules and the commitment, by the selected applicant, to include an explicit mention of the program

“Euro-Mediterranean co-creation residency programme (in memory of David Sassoli)” in their CV and in all future communications (press, digital media, social networks, etc.)

CONTACT

For more information, please contact: international@matera-basilicata2019.it by August 24th at latest.

USEFUL LINKS

About Matera 2019

[Open data Matera 2019](#)

[Cultural programme](#)

[Monitoring report](#)

[Investigating the audience](#)

[Co-creating Matera](#)

[Cultural citizenship](#)

Remoteness and co-creation

[In linea d'aria](#)

[Altofest 1 / Altofest 2](#)

[Regenerative values of culture in remote areas](#)

INSPIRATION

Speech given by David Sassoli, President of the European Parliament

Matera, European Capital of Culture 2019
20th December 2019

A warm greeting to all of those proudly waving the European flag!

What is about to come to an end is an extraordinary year for Matera. Allow me to thank the institutions, but especially all the citizens, the many associations that came to Matera and contributed to this extraordinary success.

Allow me to also greet the Bulgarian city of Plovdiv that shared with Matera this coveted primacy in 2019.

“Naï-dobri pozhelaniya kŭm priyateli ot Bŭlgariya”

Heartfelt greetings to our Bulgarian friends!

For European civilization, culture makes up its DNA. The very idea of Europe is based on the value of its history, its intelligences and on the creativity of its peoples. Despite its diversity, our Continent is able to offer an original point of view harbouring in its centre the dignity and freedom of each individual.

Ladies and gentlemen – Europe is not an abstract entity! Europe is its citizens. They are Europeans, their philosophical thinking, their arts, the liveliness of their literature, their scientific discoveries, their poetry, music, laws...

Those who say that Europe was established against its citizens do not make an effort to remember where we started –at the most painful time in the 1900s after a century of wars that filled our cities with ruins, our countries with ruins and death. Wherever one goes in the 27 countries of our Union, in every town and every village, one cannot miss the memorial plaques in remembrance of our dead on one side of the warfront and the other, reminding us of the young men that did not return home. From the Franco-Prussian War to the First World War followed by the Second World War, the European “Way of the Cross” involved all of our countries.

I am addressing teachers and professors –go with our young people to pay homage to those who died, let them read their names, ask them to trace the stories of their lives. Because that is where we come from –from the cries of the mothers who, upon receiving their sons’ corpses, cursed the war.

We must never forget that we owe what we have to the generations that took that suffering upon themselves and courageously knocked down the walls of hatred

between Nations. They succeeded in defeating the nationalistic idea based on “I’m better than you”.

It takes no courage to build walls. It does take courage to climb over them like the young Berliners attempted to do when trying to escape from a regime where freedom was not guaranteed. It is not a sign of courage but of cowardice to go after unfortunate people just because they cannot defend themselves.

Why am I saying this?

Because the beauty of what we have is not an end in itself, but generates values. And how could we enjoy beauty if we did not live in peace? What sense would it make to have so many advantages, works of art, landscapes envied, archaeological sites if all this were not useful in shaping a free conscience, to help men and women not to give up and aspire to take on challenges together?

What sense would it make if our artistic and cultural heritage were of not useful in making us more humane?

Our freedom generates beauty and it is no wonder that an artist’s magic tolerates no limitations. And this year Matera experienced an extraordinary atmosphere of freedom... that has led us to believe that many of the issues facing Italy’s South can indeed be tackled. Give us a lever and we will lift up the world –that is what you have demonstrated. And then, if we join forces and resist the siren voices of those waving magic wands, we can go far and improve our standard of living.

Thank you for proving to Europe that the South is alive ...

Of course, greater attention and more investments are needed. In Brussels, we are especially careful to follow and are curious to see what the Italian government’s action aiming to transform the crisis that one of the banks is going through into an opportunity to develop Southern Italy. Clearly, as regards the responsibility for this crisis, no flexibility must be shown because ordinary citizens were hit and lost everything. I am grateful to the Prime Minister for keeping me informed on the strategy implemented. We will do everything we can to keep an eye on the situation as it develops.

In order to strengthen Europe, we must work on a new concept of solidarity.

Just as Matera European Capital of Culture has done by managing to involve many mayors, a number of associations, individual citizens, including immigrants, as well as physically, emotionally or financially challenged persons undergoing a difficult time in their lives. This ability to socialize managed to achieve significant results as regards the quality of the projects submitted and the events that have been held, making it possible to achieve results worthy of note. It has not been a celebration for a few intellectuals or a restricted élite – it involved the entire area.

To promote the European project anew, it is necessary to invest in the value of individuals as well as communities. Education, culture, our heritage and our diversity are what makes us unique and still of interest to this day.

In the present legislature, funds for the Erasmus project will need to be tripled, the budget for “Creative Europe” will have to be increased, new resources will have to be allocated for a framework programme on research, excellence and the network of European universities need to be furthered, international exchange programmes must be enhanced and the European cultural Agenda needs to be fully implemented.

Once again, let me appeal to the Italian Parliament so that it implements as soon as possible one of the most important measures of the previous legislature –the directive on author’s rights, on copyright. No one must be robbed of their work. Work must be paid. And here we address the giants of the digital single market..

Europe can regulate the global world. After all, without a stronger Europe, how would it be possible to regulate the dealings of the Network giants that have enormous resources at their disposal? Who could tell them to pay taxes according to the principle that taxes are to be paid where profits are made? On their own, our countries would not be able to do this, but Europe can achieve this.

Tomorrow, when the ideal baton is passed on to the Irish city of Galway and the Croatian city of Rijeka, whom I greet with friendship, this extraordinary experience of Matera European Capital of Culture 2019 will come to an end. But, of course, this is just the beginning of another adventure. This year you got your training – you have proved to everyone what you are capable of. Well, this legacy must not go wasted and we are telling everyone –institutions and authorities – to pledge their support.

In 1963 when Pasolini chose this city as the set for his “The Gospel According to St. Matthew”, he said that here he found “the sun, the true sun, the ferocious sun of ancient times”. Today, he would find not only the sun, but a city that has been able to bring out its worth, that has opened up to the world, a city that by now is renowned all over the world and that has managed in an extraordinary way to represent Italy and Europe’s most authentic values.

Thank you, Matera!