



# PRIX art ensemble

Edition #4

## GENERAL TERMS AND RULES

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The **French Delegation of the Gulbenkian Foundation** is joining forces with the CENTQUATRE-PARIS once again to propose a selection and reward programme for the creation and development of innovating projects in the field of collaborative arts.

Named **Art Ensemble**, the aim of this programme is to support, reward and promote artists who invest in the design and implementation of **collaborative art projects** (*participatory art*), « faire ensemble » and artistic practices for **social inclusion**.

**Art Ensemble** aims to support and add value to collaborative projects taking place on the french territory.

#### **A look back at edition #3**

**The #3<sup>rd</sup> edition** was a success: 95 applications, 9 shortlisted projects and 4 winning teams. **Sarah Montero**, a researcher and a lecturer in geography at the Bordeaux Montaigne University, researched on the processes and routines of the artists involved in co-creative projects. She renewed her participation during edition #3 by supporting and advising one of the winning teams.

This fourth edition is designed to provide even greater support to the winners in their creative processes. Each winning artist will be offered support in the realization of his or her project.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

### CRITERION 1

> The programme is directed at artists intervening in the field of **visual arts**.

Multidisciplinary practices between several visual arts fields are also eligible (painting, drawing, sculpture, installation, photography, video art and moving images, performance, etc.), as well as any project of visual art interacting with other artistic practices (dance, theatre, design, architecture, etc.).

It should be noted that live arts are eligible if only they are associated with visual arts and if their part in the project is minimal.

### CRITERION 2

> The applicant must develop a project **in France**.

> Several types of application are possible: the candidate may apply alone or as a collective, with or without an accompanying structure (artistic, social or territorial institution, etc.).

### CRITERION 3

> The applicant must propose an initiative combining an **interaction** between the artist and the public, based on a commitment and collaboration among participants, within a group belonging to a specific territorial or social context. The applicant must take the global context and the public reached into account.

A specific attention will be given to a local territorial development process that supports new relationships between participants and groups.

### CRITERION 4

> The applicant must hand over a **letter of engagement** of the group with whom they work describing the group implication in the project. In this way, the group commits to co-create, participate in and/or received the artist's project.

### CRITERION 5

> The projects that will be considered will be the ones that are **currently ongoing** and pilot projects rather than projects that are already completed. The selected projects must debut before the end of 2026.

As much as the potential final artwork, the work and creative process, as well as the nature and temporality of the relationship between the participants must be highlighted and made perceptible in the development of the project.

Specific attention will be given to the innovating aspect of the project in the connection between the actors involved: education, social field, cultural field, professional field, businesses, other forms of collectives.



### 3. NATURE OF THE PRIZE

**Four awards** will be given to four artistic teams or artists for an amount of **10,000€ including tax** per prize. This amount aims to contribute to the costs involved in the technical and artistic development of the artwork, as well as the artists' fees. The artist may also call upon other sources of funding to develop the project, namely partner structures.

This prize will be paid in two phases:

- A first payment, after the jury, following signature of the agreement (70% of the sum of money);
- A second payment, after the restitution (30% of the sum of money).

The schedule of the two payments transfer will be determined with each artist. Should the artistic project be modified from the presentation made to the jury, validation by the French Delegation of the Gulbenkian Foundation and the CENTQUATRE-PARIS will be required. The institutions reserve the right not to pay the remaining amount of the prize if the proposed development does not meet the eligibility criteria.

### 4. NATURE OF THE PROJECT

> The appraised projects should be based on one or several clearly defined **research orientations** such as (list established as an example and not restrictive):

- Education;
- Social inclusion;
- Ecological transition;
- Gender equality;
- Intergenerational relationships;
- Work conditions and environment;
- Social cohabitation on a territory; etc.

## 5. APPLICATIONS

The applications must be written in **French** or in **English**.

The applications can be deposited online and for free with a google account, using a form available on the CENTQUATRE-PARIS' website. They must include the following:

- Completed application **form** (Google form);
- A short **statement of intent** (with one or several images if possible) describing the project, the participants, the potential associate partners and their role (a maximum of 3 pages, PDF format);
- A **letter of engagement** written by the group (or groups) taking part in the project (a maximum of 2 pages, PDF format);
- An **artistic file** including examples of potential actions that have previously taken place in the field of collaborative arts, with existing images and documentation (images, texts, interviews, videos) (a maximum of 10 pages, PDF format);
- A **biography** and a **curriculum vitae** of the artist (a maximum of 5 pages, PDF format);
- A **projected budget** specifying how the 10,000€ of the prize will be allocated, based on a predefined model that can be downloaded from the CENTQUATRE-PARIS' website (PDF format);
- A **projected schedule** (PDF format).

The maximum size of each document is 10 Mo. Any application that does not respect the required format or size will not be processed.

The applicants must look to present the **quantitative** and **qualitative elements** enabling the development of the project, such as:

- The **context** and the history of the relationship with the chosen group and potential partners;
- The **temporality** of the project;
- The precise profile and **role** of the participants;
- The presumed development or **transformation** of the relationship between the projects' participants;
- The desired effects on the **social and territorial fabric** and on the artists;
- The **perspectives of development**/extension/deepening of the project;
- The way the artist wishes to associate the CENTQUATRE-PARIS and the French Delegation of the Gulbenkian Foundation (requirements for the project, level of support needed from both institutions, cooperation with the partner structures...).

## 6. SELECTION

Following the assessment of the applications, the **jury** made up of art professionals will reward four laureate projects, based on the following evaluation criteria:

- The **artistic quality** of the project;
- The proven and innovating character of the **collaborative approach** and **the involvement of the public** in the project;
- The **importance of the context** and the **area of research** considered;
- The **estimated budget** of the project
- The **estimated calendar** of the project

- The **traces and possible continuity of the artistic approach** within the group (perspectives opened by the project).

In the view of the large number of applications received, we will not be able to provide detailed information on the reasons why a project has not been selected.

The jury will take place in Paris on **24 June 2026**, in the presence of the shortlisted artists. The institutions cannot take care of the charges linked to the candidates' trip for this event.

## 7. SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION

The laureates will benefit from an adapted form of support for their project and commit to take part in the activities planned in the context of the project.

### - **Process of documentation**

The project bearers must look to **document the process** of their creative process and will be invited on a regular basis to provide the following material: video footage, photos, texts/logbook or interview of the participants, etc. or any other form that testifies to the undergoing work and the investment of the corresponding parties.

### - **Involvement in the Prix Art Ensemble program**

- Mandatory launch meeting during the week of 14 September 2026 (the precise date will be confirmed later)
- Several meetings will take place with a network of professionals and artists (at least 4 meetings that will take place for most of them in the Parisian region, while some of them might take place in other regions of France)
- Monthly appointments (by videoconference or by phone call) with the CENTQUATRE-PARIS to follow the state of the project.

A collective restitution of the projects will be planned in June 2027 (the precise date will be confirmed later). Its presentation make take the form of a performance, an exhibition or any other kind of documented restitution of the undergoing work process, including:

- The presentation of the participants and potential partners;
- The description of the work process, the temporality of the project;
- Exhibited or recreated artwork and/or in an audio-visual or digital format;
- Presentation of the actions undertaken in the shape of images, videos, interviews and testimonies, production of written documents, etc.;
- The projected future developments of the project;
- The updated projected budget.

## 8. PROJECTED SCHEDULE

From 17 March to 26 April 2026	Candidature stage
24 June 2026	Jury selection and prize giving at CENTQUATRE-PARIS
Week of the 14 September 2026	Launch meeting of the support programme
Between October 2026 and May 2027	Meetings with artists and professionals
June 2027	Final update concerning the projects of the laureates

## 9. FURTHER INFORMATION

- [FAQ](#) (in French)
- [Plateform](#) on which to apply
- Learn more about [the French Delegation of the Gulbenkian Foundation](#) and the winning projects from the #3 edition of the [Prix Art Ensemble](#)
- To contact us: [prixartensemble@104.fr](mailto:prixartensemble@104.fr)