

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Les Ateliers du Nil

The Institut Français in Paris, the Institut Français of Egypt, in collaboration with Shelter Art Space are launching a call for applications for the artistic residency program ***Les Ateliers du Nil (Alexandria)***.

Shelter Art Space opened in June 2019 in Alexandria, Shelter is a dynamic art space dedicated to revitalizing the local creative scene and supporting artists. This lively venue hosts visual arts exhibitions, educational workshops, and gatherings, with programming open to a wide audience. Shelter's mission is to bring artists closer to their city and the public while fostering cultural initiatives in Alexandria. Committed to artists' rights, integrity, and transparency, the space celebrates creativity, intercultural dialogue, openness, and diversity. Shelter aims to create an inclusive environment for both established and emerging artists, providing them with a quality space to exhibit, engage, and express themselves safely while respecting diverse artistic, cultural, and social perspectives.

The program is exclusively for French artists or artists residing in France with a curatorial project promoting artistic exchanges between France and Egypt.

The Residency is planned for one month and has to include three days dedicated to community / social activities (workshops, open studios, lectures, portfolio reviews, etc.) that the applicant must include in his/her application.

Selected artists will receive logistical, administrative, and human resource support from the Institut français in Egypt and Shelter Art Space structures. The program also offers networking opportunities with professionals and cultural institutions in Egypt.

There is a possibility of organizing a post-residency exhibition or a restitution event at the Institut français in Egypt or at Shelter depending on discussions between the artist, the Institut français, and the host organization.

Themes and Residency Locations

Alexandria : Curation

Residencies in Alexandria are held at Shelter Art Space.

To create a synergy between the residency period and Alexandria's cultural calendar, the residency will take place at the same time as the Gen Z Exhibition, the annual program developed by Shelter Art Space.

The "Gen Z", is a collective exhibition, dedicated to young artists and the young audience of Generation Z (born between 1997 and 2012), and designed to support the next generation by

providing opportunities for artistic growth and engagement. The program is diverse, featuring exhibitions, exchanges, and collaborative projects.

Each year, collaborations with curatorial institutions in Egypt and abroad bring fresh perspectives to the program. By fostering international cooperation, this initiative connects Egyptian Gen Z artists with the global art scene, encouraging cultural exchange and artistic dialogue. This international exposure enhances artists' visibility while offering new opportunities for professional development.

Conditions and Terms

- **Duration** : 1 month
 - **Covered expenses**: Economy round-trip airfare, accommodation, visa, a residency grant of €1,600, and a production grant of €500.
 - **Family accommodations** : Available
-

Eligibility Criteria

To apply, the artist must:

- Be French nationals or resident and work in France.
 - Be under 40 years old
 - Have a professional background (minimum of 3 years) or have completed a degree in the art.
 - Hold a valid passport (at least 3 months valid after the residency).
 - Be proficient in French or English (Arabic is a plus).
 - Have an experience in curation of at least 3 curated exhibitions (solo and group exhibitions)
-

Timeline

- **Application submission**: From 15th of March to April 12, 2025
- **Selection committee & pre-selection interviews in English (if necessary)** : Mid-May 2025
- **Results announcement**: End of May 2025
- **Residency periods** :
 - **Alexandria**: Mid-November/Mid-December 2025

The jury will include representatives from the Institut français in Paris, the Institut français in Egypt, Shelter and professionals from the field.

Application File

Applicants must submit the following:

1. **Portfolio** (maximum 10 pages).
2. **Presentation file** (maximum 10 pages), including a description of the artistic approach, the residency project, and **a motivation letter** outlining project goals.
3. **Complete CV.**
4. **Information sheet** (name, address, contact details, availability), including ideas for mediation activities (workshops, lectures, etc.).
5. **Recommendation letter** (optional, maximum 1 page).

Applications integrating eco-responsible approaches and considering the local environment will be given special consideration.

Collective applications will not be accepted.

Practical Details

- For images or videos : Include digital viewing links (e.g., Vimeo, YouTube, Google Drive) in the application PDF.
- Applications must be sent to **culture@ifegypte.com** before April 12, 2025, at 6 PM (Cairo time).
- Late applications will not be reviewed.

For inquiries, contact **culture@ifegypte.com** before April 3, 2025, at 6 PM (Cairo time).