

CALL FOR PROJECT 2026

Residency program
Résidences Méditerranée
Friche la Belle de Mai – Marseille

1 Photographer

Residency for 3 months from the 13th of April to the 11th of July 2026
Deadline for Application on February 10, 2026 (included)

THE CONCEPT

La Friche la Belle de Mai and the Institut français of Egypt have been partnered through a residency program since 2017, with the support of the Sud-Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region. This residency scheme aims to host Egyptian artists in Marseille in order to encourage their mobility within the Mediterranean region. The residency at La Friche offers them a tailored framework for research and creation, enabling them to develop their artistic practice and to (re)discover the French art scene.

> A space for creation and confrontation

Each artist has access to a production space adapted to his or her project and the forms he or she develops. A personalized accompaniment is set up via the involvement of a tutor throughout the residency allowing moments of speech and "criticism" which will open spaces of reflection to each one.

> The opening of workshops to the public, meetings with curators, art critics, editors and journalists will open perspectives, new collaborations and visibility of the work in progress.

CONTEXT OF THE CALL FOR PROJECT

The applications will have to take into account the local context, i.e. the city of Marseille and its metropolis, in order to realize their project. The residents will be able to open up a new field of reflection. They will be able to distance themselves from their current practices, to experiment with another approach or to finalize a creation in progress in connection with the city. The artists will be able to look at its territories, its history, and its position as a geographical and cultural crossroads. During their residency, the meeting with professionals will be organized as well as moments of exchange with the professionals passing through Marseille.

MODALITIES AND CONDITIONS OF RECEPTION IN RESIDENCY

- Residents are provided with a room and a work space on the **Friche la Belle de Mai** site. The villa made available by La Friche Belle de Mai has 20 rooms, bathrooms, a kitchenette and a dining room.
- **Le Bec en l'Air**, a publisher specializing in photography, is the designated mentor to provide expertise on the artist's work and a production grant is set up by the French Institute of Egypt.
- The transportation of the residents between Egypt and France as well as daily per-diems are covered by the French Institute of Egypt.
- Return transportation of the works is not covered.
- A report of the residency will be requested at the end of the residency.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To participate in the call for applications, the artist must:

- Be of Egyptian nationality and/or work and reside in Egypt
- Present a specific project for Marseille and its metropolis;
- Have completed their academic studies and/or have a minimum of 3 years of professional experience in the artistic sector;
- Have already developed one or more creative projects;
- Have a valid passport for 3 months after the return from residency;
- Speak French and/or English

SELECTION CRITERIA

A commission composed of the management of the partnering institutions studies all the applications and selects the winners of the program.

In addition to evaluating the candidate's professional background, the jury members will pay particular attention to the artistic quality of the application, the arguments presented on the added value of this residency perspective in France, the work protocol envisaged and the contacts or partnerships already established.

CALENDAR

- Application deadline: January 26 to February 10, 2026
- Selection : Beginning of March 2026
- Residency: April 13 to July 11, 2026

TO APPLY

Send your file to the address: culture@ifegypte.com

This file will include:

- The form below duly completed
- A portfolio
- One or more texts intended to make understandable the stakes of the candidate's practice as well as the project that the candidate intends to develop during his/her residency
- A complete CV
- Letter of motivation with project presentation
- The availability of the candidate during the period
- The candidate's contacts (email, phone number and address)

Multiple applications will not be accepted.

It is not possible to bring accompanying persons to this program.

Paper files are not accepted, only applications by e-mail are accepted.

Please use Wetransfer and/or dropbox link for image and video files.

Applications received after the closing date of the call for projects will not be considered.

Contact for any question: culture@ifegypte.com

PARTNERS

THE FRENCH INSTITUTE IN EGYPT

The French Institute of Egypt works to promote French culture, language and expertise in Egypt and to strengthen cooperation between Egypt and France in all fields: educational and linguistic, cultural, artistic, academic, scientific and technical.

<https://www.ifegypte.com/>

LA FRICHE LA BELLE DE MAI

Born in 1992 as a prototype of what is now called "Third Places", new cultural and urban models, La Friche brings together in a unique and reinvented place, urban transformation, artistic permanence, link to the territory and active cooperation in the general interest.

La Friche la Belle de Mai was born out of the former Seita factory and is now a place of creation and innovation. It is both a working space for its 70 resident structures (350 artists, producers, and employees who work there every day) and a venue for the dissemination of art (600 public artistic proposals per year, from workshops for young people to the biggest festivals). With nearly 450,000 visitors per year, the Friche la Belle de Mai is a multiple public space of 45,000 m² where 5 performance and concert halls, shared gardens, artist residencies, a playground and sports area, a restaurant, a bookstore, a daycare center, 2,400 m² of exhibition space, an 8,000 m² rooftop terrace, and a training center are all located.

<https://www.lafriche.org>

PARTENAIRE DE LA FRICHE LA BELLE DE MAI LE BEC EN L'AIR

Created in 1999, Le Bec en l'air is an independent publisher based in Marseille. Most of its publications have one thing in common: the dialogue between image and text, between photography and storytelling, through a studied layout, photographs and texts by authors. Over the years, the catalog has been enriched by a variety of photographic writings that nevertheless find an editorial coherence: photography as a tool for questioning the contemporary world, whether it be documentary, aesthetic or intimist concerns. Recognized or emerging photographers cross paths, without exclusion of style or artistic sensitivity. In order to increase the visibility of its works, Le Bec en l'air works in co-edition with photography festivals, museums, galleries, agencies, cultural institutions and international publishers. The catalog, composed of more than 250 titles, is distributed in France and Belgium by Harmonia Mundi Livre since 2007; in Switzerland by Servidis and in Canada by Dimedia. Present at Paris Photo (Grand Palais) since 2017 and at the Rencontres d'Arles since 2010, the publishing house is a member of France Photo Book, a national association that brings together some twenty independent publishers of photography books, and of Éditeurs du sud, an association that brings together some twenty publishers in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region.

<https://www.becair.com>

APPLICATION FORM

Programme de résidences
Résidences Méditerranée
Friche la Belle de Mai – Marseille

Candidate Information

Last name :

First name :

Nationality :

Date of birth :

Postal address :

Email :

Phone number :

Are you already in contact with any organizations or artists from the region?

- Yes
 No

If yes, which ones:

As part of your project, are there any organizations or artists you would like to meet?

- Yes
 No

If yes, which ones:

SCHEDULE

Choice of residency period:

- Photography: 13 April to 11 July 2026

DOCUMENTS:

- Text(s) intended to explain the issues related to the candidate's artistic practice

- Full CV
- Motivation letter with project
- Image and video files to be sent via WeTransfer and/or Dropbox link
- Visuals (maximum 15 pages)
- Vimeo, YouTube, etc. link

Project

Project description - Note of intent

Have you already benefited from an artistic residency in France?

- Yes (specify dates and place)
- No

Signature of applicant(s) :