1. Introduction

We are pleased to announce the third edition of the Collide International residency award, a major international residency programme as part of the CERN and FACT Partnership Framework (2016-2018). Together, CERN and FACT promote artistic explorations of fundamental research, fostering significant exchanges and new scenarios for art and science enquiry.

The Collide International Residency award is a unique opportunity for artists to spend dedicated time in one of the most important laboratories in the world, where crucial questions about nature are addressed. Collide aims to encourage curiosity, offering experimental and open-minded artists an extraordinary framework to inspire creativity both within the sciences and the humanities. Ultimately, Collide proposes to transform the way art and science encounters are understood, and to challenge new modes of dialogue and enquiry.

As the cradle of the World Wide Web and home of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), CERN (European Centre for Nuclear Research, Geneva) is an eminent centre of science and technology with great relevance in the culture of today. As an international centre of excellence, CERN is an inspirational place for artists, designers and creators of any kind to explore and extend their research in the fascinating world of particle physics. Arts at CERN, its arts programme, engages with art at the cutting edge of scientific research and fosters the creation of new expert knowledge by extending artists’ practice in connection with fundamental research and particle physics.
FACT (Foundation for Art and Creative Technology) is the UK’s leading media arts centre based in Liverpool, bringing people, art and technology together. FACT harnesses the power of creative technology to inspire and enrich lives through a wide-ranging programme of exhibitions, research and innovation, and community-led projects. FACTLab is FACT’s experimental laboratory, a collaborative environment for interdisciplinary practice-based research and production operating at the crossroads between art, science and technology.

2. Eligibility and criteria of the call

Collide International Residency award is open to artists of any nationality or age, and is a competition for one residency of a total of three months (two months at CERN followed by one month at FACT). The residency is intended to support the development of an original and imaginative project proposed by the artist, inspired by CERN’s science and engineering research in connection with societal issues.

In the highly scientific and cultural environments of both CERN and FACT, the artists will be invited to engage in conversation with the researchers and staff of both the laboratory and the art centre. Dialogue, and crossover, between both disciplines are fundamental for the project.

To enter the competition artists must send an initial proposal describing the artistic research and explorations to be undertaken during the residency period. We encourage proposals by artists:

- Interested in the cultural significance of science.
- Working with digital and scientific media, technology and concepts as inspiration for their work.
- Engaging with an innovative discourse on contemporary culture, following ambitious standards of creativity.
- Demonstrating an active interest in the institutional visions, research methodologies, and cultural engagement of CERN and FACT.
- Interested in the processes of fundamental science and particle physics who are able to extrapolate this understanding into projects of artistic excellence.
- Pushing the traditional forms of collaboration between the artistic and scientific fields, and asking innovative and provocative questions in this respect.
- Approaching science and research from diverse angles of enquiry, such as political, ethical, or sociological perspectives.

The proposals will be reviewed by a jury of experts according to the following criteria:

- The innovative character of the proposal, both formally and conceptually.
- The originality and pertinence of the proposal with respect to the scientific and cultural research undertaken at CERN and at FACT.
The potential for the three-month residency to lead to the production of an artwork.

FACT and CERN are equal opportunity organisations and are fully committed to a policy of treating all of its collaborators equally.

3. Conditions of the Residence

The Collide International award grants an artist or an artist collective a fully funded residency at CERN and FACT. The artist will spend the first two months at CERN, Geneva, followed by a one-month stay at FACT, Liverpool (not necessarily consecutively).

The award includes the following conditions:
− A grant of 15,000 Swiss Francs for the research and development of the proposal.
− A monthly stipend of 2,000 Swiss Francs while at CERN.
− Travel costs (one return flight for each destination) and accommodation within a fixed budget for the three months of the residency at CERN and FACT.

The awarded artist is expected to:
− Work with a scientific partner at CERN, and with the curators and team of Arts at CERN and FACT during the residency, exploring ideas and research and interacting with various communities in each location.
− Conduct interventions, talks and/or workshops during the residency, including with CERN and FACT staff, as well as other relevant communities such as artists, scientists, and academics.
− Communicate the creative process and research developed during the residency through social media platforms, a blog or similar, in order to reach global audiences.
− Communicate regularly with the curators and teams at Arts at CERN and FACT to develop the research and production proposal and ensure its satisfactory completion during the residency.
− Meet regularly with the CERN scientific partner in order to discuss the process of artistic research, exploration and discovery, and to additionally work with other scientists.
− During the residency at FACT, to establish conversations and explore collaborations with scientists and academics from Liverpool University and Liverpool John Moores University.
− Submit a production proposal at the end of the residency period and no later than two months after its conclusion.
− The main scientific language used at CERN and FACT is English, therefore it is essential to speak English fluently.
Additionally, two proposals will be selected as Honorary Mentions, and the artists will be invited to visit CERN for a period of three days as Guest Artists.

4. Production and Presentation through ScANNER

ScANNER is Collide International’s new production scheme, conceived to support the production and presentation of the projects developed during the residency. ScANNER stands for Science and Art Network for New Exhibitions and Research, and is constituted by CERN and FACT together with a cohort of European cultural organisations who share a strong interest in the fields of art and science. Founding members include CCCB (Centre de Cultura Contemporania de Barcelona); IMAL (Interactive Media Art Laboratory, Brussels); and Le Lieu Unique, Nantes.

ScANNER will support the production of new artistic projects deriving from the residency, as well as a group exhibition launching in FACT in October 2018, and then touring to all ScANNER venues and beyond throughout 2019 and 2020.

Upon the completion of the residency, the artist will be expected to submit a final proposal, developed with the support of Arts at CERN and FACT curators. ScANNER will consequently consider the proposal for artistic production, endowing it (once approved) with a maximum budget of 50,000 EUR. The new production must be finalised in time for the launch of the exhibition at FACT (October 2018).

5. Key Dates

- The call will launch on the December 18th, 2017.
- The deadline for applications is February 15th, 2018.
- A jury of experts from the field of art and science will meet to select the winning artists in February, and the results will shortly be announced to the selected artist. The public announcement will follow.
- The period of the residency will be determined between the artist and the team of Arts at CERN and FACT once the artists are notified. In any case, the residency must be carried out during the first half of 2018.

The decision of the jury is final and allows no further communication. The acceptance of the Award constitutes the acceptance of these conditions. Only the selected artists will be contacted after the jury’s decision.
6. Application Details

Artists interested to apply must complete an online form including:
- Name, address, and contact details. In the case of collectives, one member should apply as representative;
- A personal statement in video format in which the artist describes his/her motivations for doing the residency at CERN (4 minutes. maximum with the possibility to record it on any type of camera, it can be uploaded into the application form or with a link to other site – vimeo, youtube, other);
- A short CV or biography and a selection of past projects of relevance, all in digital format;
- A description of the artistic project to develop at CERN.

All applications must be submitted in English. Incomplete proposals will not be reviewed and will be instantly discarded.

Submission will be only accepted via the online form: https://indico.cern.ch/e/COLLIDEINTERNATIONAL

7. Contact and information

Contact for support:
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For Arts at CERN:
Website:
CERN
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