

OPEN CALL FOR EXHIBITION PROPOSALS for the Albanian Pavilion at the 16th Venice Architecture Biennale

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for the Albanian Pavilion
at the 16th Venice Architecture Biennale
May 26 – November 25, 2018**

In the framework of the 16th Venice Architecture Biennale to be held in Venice, Italy, the Albanian Ministry of Culture, as the commissioner of the Albanian Pavilion, is seeking expressions of interest for project proposals for the exhibition at the Albanian Pavilion, which will be opened to the public on May 26 until November 25, 2018.

La Biennale de Venezia is the world's most important cultural festival incorporating major international exhibitions on art, film, music, theatre and architecture. The architecture festival attracts a global audience of professionals, critics and the public to visit and discuss the exhibitions.

The Albanian Pavilion exhibition represents an important opportunity to reflect on Albanian contemporary architecture and is a means to contribute to promotion and international distribution of its values.

The theme of the Biennale is “FREESPACE”

The Curators of the 16th Biennale Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara titled the 16th International Architecture Exhibition “Freespace”, and explained their choice with the following: *“Freespace describes a generosity of spirit and a sense of humanity at the core of architecture's agenda, focusing on the quality of space itself. Freespace focuses on architecture's ability to provide free and additional spatial gifts to those who use it and on its ability to address the unspoken wishes of strangers.*

Freespace encourages reviewing ways of thinking, new ways of seeing the world, of inventing solutions where architecture provides for the wellbeing and dignity of each citizen of this fragile planet. Freespace can be a space for opportunity, a democratic space, un-programmed and free for uses not yet conceived. ... We are interested in going beyond the visual, emphasizing the role of architecture in the choreography of daily life.”

More information on the theme can be found on the web page of the Biennale <http://www.labiennale.org>

The profile of the candidates:

- We are looking for a multidisciplinary exhibition team (composed of architect(s), project manager, artists, graphic designer(s), critics etc, and/or architecture studios, which :
- Demonstrate to have knowledge about Albanian architecture
- Have national and /or international experience in the field of architecture, landscape and city planning which will be proven by respective portfolios.

This call is open to any nationality.

The candidate(s) should be able to:

- Conduct research and develop an integrated curatorial design project idea accompanied by a coherent curatorial narrative
- Develop an integrated curatorial project idea for the Albanian Pavilion, along with the producing and/or sourcing the exhibition content such as: photography, installations, written materials for exhibition panels and any other related texts.
- To create a cultural programme composed by cultural side events which will be organized during the days the exhibition will be opened for the public
- To implement and manage the project successfully.

The Ministry of Culture encourages all candidates to co-operate with national and/or foreign curators who have the appropriate experience in organizing and participating in similar events.

Selection will be done in two phases:

Phase 1: In this stage the best project proposals will be selected. **Deadline: November 3, 2017.**

The Jury will select 3 (three) project proposals which will be qualified for the second phase.

The Jury will announce the best three projects on **November 10, 2017.**

Phase 2: The three selected teams will be invited to work up a fully detailed exhibition concept which will be presented to the Jury. These detailed concepts should be submitted **by the latest 12.00 PM on December 20, 2017.**

The Jury will announce the criteria for the detailed project proposal immediately after the announcement of the shortlist of three teams.

The announcement of the winning project: **December 22, 2017.**

The selection criteria:

The project ideas and the detailed project proposals will be evaluated by an international Jury composed of 5 members. The evaluation of the Jury will judge proposals on the basis of:

- Clarity of the project proposal
- Imaginative quality of the concept
- Potential of the project idea to communicate with the public
- Lucidity of the theme and the potential for making it communicable, tangible and visible to the audience.
- Artistic and visual strength of the project proposal and its capacity to be translated into a strong visual language and landscape
- Strength of the team/studio to reflect in a broad and deep sense on the given theme and to bring ways to add to the knowledge
- Capacity and experience of communicating architecture to the critics and the public alike, and of developing new audiences for architecture.

The application should include (Phase 1):

- The application form ([download it Here](#))
- A clearly articulated summary on how the project will relate to the theme “Freespace” (not more than 1000 words)

- Method of investigation and anticipated findings, and how this will come into existence by means of reflection and creation
- Image(s) which illustrate the exhibition proposal, setting, etc.
- Portfolios of previous works of the team/studio
- CV's of the members of the team and its leader (not more than one page)

Candidates are free to choose whichever means and forms of introducing their project proposals. They are kindly invited to follow the guidelines provided by the Curators of the Biennale which can be found at <http://www.labiennale.org>

Details on the Albanian Pavilion:

The Albanian Pavilion will be situated in “Arsenale”. You will find the plan and relevant photos [here](#)

Submission of application:

The complete application should be:

- Prepared in two languages: Albanian and English
- Sent by mail (printed and in digital form) to:

THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE BIENALE 2018

at the following address:

Ministry of Culture, Rruga “Aleksander Moisiu”, nr. 76, ish Kinostudio “Shqipëria e Re”,
Tirana, Albania

- Sent electronically to the e-mail address: bienale2018@kultura.gov.al

Applications must be submitted **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 3, 2017, 24.00 HRS (Phase 1)**