

## OPEN CALL FOR EXHIBITION PROPOSALS

for the Albanian Pavilion at the 57th Venice Art Biennale  
May 13– November 26, 2017

In the framework of the 57<sup>th</sup> Venice Art 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 13 until November 26, 2017.

La Biennale de Venezia is the world's most important cultural festival incorporating major international exhibitions on art, film, music, theatre and architecture. The art 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 art and is a means to contribute to promotion and international distribution of its values.

The title chosen by the curator, **Christine Macel** for the 57th International Art Exhibition is:

**“VIVA ARTE VIVA”**

**Christine Macel** has explained his project as follows:

«In a world full of conflicts and jolts, in which humanism is being seriously jeopardized, art is the most precious part of the human being. It is the ideal place for reflection, individual expression, freedom and fundamental questions. It is a “yes” to life, although sometimes a “but” lies behind. More than ever, the role, the voice and the responsibility of the artist are crucial in the framework of contemporary debates.

**“Viva Arte Viva”** is also an exclamation, an expression of the passion for art and for the state of the artist. **Viva Arte Viva** is a Biennale designed with the artists, by the artists and for the artists. It deals with the forms they propose, the questions they pose, the practices they develop and the forms of life they choose.

The Ministry of Culture invites project ideas and proposals which should be inspired by an acute observation of the contemporary Albanian art and Albanian society, with a special focus on cases where art makes the difference, and an accurate observation of the means by which these will be communicated to the audience.

This open call of the Ministry of Culture to represent Albania in the most important visual arts event in the world, invites curator or curators / artist or artists, who should be leading a project or joint production, involving one or more new artistic works, especially designed for "**the 57th Edition of the Biennale Art Exhibition in Venice 2017**".

## **I. PROJECT CRITERIA**

Draft proposals submitted should include:

1. Presentation of the concept of the Albanian Pavilion.
2. Elaboration of different topics related to the central concept of Biennale and its importance in terms of the actual problems of the Albanian society and / or global area.
3. Presentation of the artist / artists and the work / works to be exhibited.
4. Plan / timetable for the implementation of the Albanian Pavilion.
5. The draft budget (it is not necessary the budget to be very detailed at this stage).
6. CV of the curator / curators and artist / artists.

## **II. CURATOR PROFILE**

The candidate or candidates, in the case of a curatorial team:

1. This call is open to any nationality.
2. Must have considerable knowledge on developments in the field of contemporary creativity and visual arts in Albania.
3. Must have a recognized international profile and experience in the implementation of important projects in areas as research, publication, exhibition, etc.

## **III. ARTIST PROFILE OR FOR ARTISTS TO BE PROPOSED:**

1. Albanian or foreign nationality;
2. Have national and /or international experience in the field of contemporary art, which will be proven by respective portfolios
3. Demonstrate to have knowledge about Albanian art.

**The candidate(s) should be able to:**

1. Conduct research and develop an integrated curatorial design project idea accompanied by a coherent curatorial narrative
2. Develop an integrated curatorial project idea for the Albanian Pavilion, along with the producing and/or sourcing the exhibition content such as: photography, painter, installations, performances, video, written materials for exhibition panels and any other related texts.
3. To create a cultural program composed by cultural side events which will be organized during the days the exhibition will be opened for the public
4. To coordinate with the staff of the Ministry of Culture and the staff of the Venice Biennale in order to meet all the necessary requirements.

5. To seek for potential donors and collaborate with galleries, museums or private collectors in order to help fundraising so as to cover part of the project costs.
6. To concept, design and manage the official catalog of the Albanian Pavilion.
7. To concept, design and manage all the necessary publicity material and events coordinate in order to create maximum national and international interest.
8. To implement and manage the project successfully.

**Selection will be done as follows:**

Best project proposals will be selected

**Deadline for proposal submission: by the latest 12.00 PM on December 1, 2016.**

The announcement of the winning project: **December 12, 2016.**

**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:

1. Clarity of the project proposal
2. Imaginative quality of the concept
3. Potential of the project idea to communicate with the public
4. Lucidity of the theme and the potential for making it communicable, tangible and visible to the audience.
5. Artistic and visual strength of the project proposal and its capacity to be translated into a strong visual language and landscape
6. 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
7. Capacity and experience of communicating art to the critics and the public alike, and of developing new audiences for art.

**The application should include:**

1. The application form ([download it Here](#))
2. A clearly articulated summary on how the project will relate to the theme “Viva Arte Viva” (not more than 1000 words)
3. Method of investigation and anticipated findings, and how this will come into existence by means of reflection and creation
4. Image(s) which illustrate the exhibition proposal, setting, etc.

5. Portfolios of previous works of the artist/s, curator/s
6. CV's of the members of the team and its leader (not more than one page)
7. 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 General Curator 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” on a 100 m2 space. You will find the plan and relevant photos [HERE](#)

**Submission of application:**

The complete application should be:

1. Prepared in two languages: Albanian and English
2. Sent by mail (printed and in digital form) to:
- 3.

**THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE BIENNALE 2016**

At the following address:

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

Sent electronically to the e-mail address: [bienale2017@kultura.gov.al](mailto:bienale2017@kultura.gov.al)

Applications must be submitted **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1, 2016, 24.00 HRS**

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