

OPEN CALL FOR THE YEAR 2027

STUDIO GRANTS AND TRAVEL GRANTS

FOR ARTISTS IN THE DISCIPLINE OF VISUAL ARTS



(Deirdre O'Leary, Samenkapseln (Ton), from the work To embody a Fruit, 2019
Photo by Atelier Mondial)

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Atelier Mondial – International Arts Exchange Program Basel - Mulhouse - Freiburg – offers artists from the Basel region (Switzerland), the Canton of Solothurn (Switzerland), the city of Freiburg im Breisgau including the region of South Baden (Germany), and from the region Alsace (France) the opportunity to spend several months working abroad as part of the annual open call.

In the course of opening up the grant programme to other disciplines, Atelier Mondial, in collaboration with various partners, is announcing new grants for Fashion & Textiles, Culture Mediation, Literature, and Performing Arts. The same terms and conditions apply to these grants as to the open call in the discipline of Visual Arts. The open call in the discipline of Fashion & Textile, Literature, Culture Mediation and Performing Arts will follow in separate texts. It is not possible to apply for different disciplines at the same time.

APPLICATION OPEN TO ARTIST-DUOS!

The jury of Atelier Mondial can now award a financial grant to an artist duo or artist couple. Please note the separate application procedure, in which *both* partners must provide proof of residence for Atelier Mondial's respective catchment area. Suitable destinations for duos are Berlin, Paris (sculpture studio) and the travel grant.

SPONSORSHIP

The project is supported by the Christoph Merian Foundation (project management), the Cantons of Basel-Landschaft, Basel-Stadt, and Solothurn, the city of Freiburg im Breisgau, and the Alsace region.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Atelier Mondial project management is the responsibility of the Christoph Merian Foundation. It coordinates the organisation and administration of the exchange programme at home and abroad and represents the Atelier Mondial sponsorship externally.

FUNDING OBJECTIVE AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The open call is aimed at professional artists in the discipline of Visual Arts who live or work in the Cantons of Basel-Stadt, Basel-Landschaft, Solothurn, the Alsace, or South Baden regions.

The aim of the grants is to give the artists new stimulus for their artistic work, time to research and produce new works, to enable intercultural exchange and experiences, and to build an international network. In return, Atelier Mondial receives artists from their partner cities and hosts them in its seven studios on the Dreispitz in Basel, in Freiburg im Breisgau, and in Mulhouse. The artists from the partner countries are usually selected by the partner institution.

The stay in one of the partner countries made possible by Atelier Mondial is to be understood as a work placement. The encounter with a new culture as well as the networking with the local art scene should make an essential and lasting contribution to the artistic development and artist biography. This requires communicative openness and initiative on the part of the participants. Depending on the location, participants should be able to converse in English, French, or Spanish, and a basic knowledge of the host countries is necessary. As a rule, not all destinations can offer the same opportunities. Depending on the chosen destination, specific cultural or work-related situations must be expected by the grant holder, while in turn, our local partner institutions also have certain expectations of their guests from abroad. These conditions are now listed in the description of the ateliers under the term «Requirements». Please take note of this section when submitting your application!

SELECTION CRITERIA

The relevant criteria for the jury are the professionalism of the artistic dossier, the quality of the letter of motivation (reference of the project to the chosen destination and the reflection of one's own artistic-cultural point of view) as well as the relevance of the scholarship for the artistic career at the current time.

FINANCE

Confirmation for a studio abroad comes with a fixed contribution for travel and living expenses depending on the partner location. Any additional costs incurred during the stay abroad (personal expenses, fixed costs at the home location, etc.) are generally the responsibility of the participants. For the travel grant a lump sum of CHF 15'000 is provided. The Christoph Merian Foundation, the Cantons of Basel-Landschaft, Basel-Stadt, and Solothurn, the City of Freiburg im Breisgau and the Région la Ville de Mulhouse or the DRAC Grand-Est cannot grant any further contributions in addition to this amount. If a stay abroad has to be terminated for various reasons, the grant holder is obliged to reimburse the grant on a pro rata temporis basis to Atelier Mondial.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

At the end of the stay abroad, the artists must submit a report evaluating the stay (approx. four A4 pages) to Atelier Mondial.

LIABILITY

Participation in the Atelier Mondial programme is at the artists' own risk. Atelier Mondial accepts no liability whatsoever.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Please note that only *online applications* can be considered:

<https://ateliermondial.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/86965>

Please read the following conditions of participation carefully, *no documents can be submitted at a later point*. Incorrect documents that do not meet the full criteria listed below cannot be submitted to the jury.

1. Eligibility is limited to professional artists in the discipline of Visual Arts (painting, drawing, sculpture, new media, photography, performance) who reside or work in the following areas, regardless of age or nationality:

- Basel region
- Canton Basel-Landschaft
- Canton Solothurn
- South Baden region with focus on Freiburg im Breisgau
- Alsace region

2. Applicants must provide proof of their current residence or place of work in one of the respective regions by means of an attached document *dated no later than 2026*.

ATTENTION: Rental contracts, ID cards, foreigner's ID or permit, and passports are not valid! Only the following documents are considered as proof:

Proof of residence:

- Switzerland:
Residency certificate from the Resident's Registration Office (Einwohnerkontrollamt) (dated 2026), health insurance bill (dated 2026), gas, electricity, water bill (dated 2026)
- Germany:
Registration certificate (dated 2025), gas, electricity, water bill from the energy supplier (dated 2026)
- France:
Certificat de Domicile (2026), gas, electricity, water bill from the energy supplier (dated 2026)

Proof of work of place:

- Employment contract or confirmation from the employer
- Self-employed persons: Letter of confirmation of self-employment AHV (Old Age and Survivors Insurance) or latest AHV contribution statement from 2026
- Confirmation of enrolment at the HGK, university, or equivalent study or training programmes
- Rental contract for studio

3. Students must have completed their studies (BA or MA) at the start of the grant.
4. Artists who have been awarded a studio or travel grant by Atelier Mondial for the year 2026 are not eligible to participate.
5. It is not possible to apply for different disciplines at the same time (Visual Arts, Fashion & Textiles, Culture Mediation, Literature, and Dance/Performing Arts).
6. Applicants must provide proof of participation in all previous exchange and residency programmes.
7. Artists can apply for a **maximum of 3 destinations including a travel grant**, stating their priorities. (Examples: 1. Berlin, 2. travel grant, 3. Paris / 1. New York, 2. Paris, 3. Tokyo). **A separate letter of**

motivation must be enclosed for each destination. Important: The letter of motivation must refer directly to the destinations and their relevance to the applicant's own artistic activity / to the residency project proposed in the application or to the content of the residency! (Examples: 1. Berlin, 2. travel grant, 3. Paris / 1. New York, 2. Paris, 3. Tokyo).

8. Applicants agree to provide three high-resolution photographs including captions for promotional purposes if they are awarded a grant. They further agree to cooperate with Atelier Mondial on Social Media during their stay abroad.

9. Pandemic regulation: Applicants agree to sign an agreement regarding the handling of the grant in the event of a pandemic or similar emergency situation when they are awarded a grant.

OPEN CALL 2027: STUDIO GRANTS AND TRAVEL GRANTS FOR ARTISTS IN THE DISCIPLINE OF VISUAL ARTS

The following grants are being offered:

- 8 studio grants for six different destinations
- 1 travel grant for an open project

SELECTION PROCESS

In each discipline, a separate, independent jury reviews all the dossiers and makes the final decision on the distribution of the grants and the contribution to living expenses. The juries reserve the right to invite artists for a personal interview for the final decision. *The jurying of all disciplines will take place at the end of August 2026. All applicants will be informed of the decisions in writing by Atelier Mondial by mid-September 2026 at the latest.*

The jury of experts in the discipline of Visual Arts for the 2027 grants is composed as follows in 2026:

- **Ann-Kathrin Harr**, (Head of Jury) department of visual arts, culture office of Freiburg
- **Stefanie Proksch-Weilguni**, commissioner for cultural projects for Canton Basel-Stadt
- **Laura Schläpfer**, project manager of department of culture of the Christoph Merian Foundation
- **Stefanie Steinmann**, art historian, Canton Solothurn
- **Danniel Tostes**, independent curator from Rio de Janeiro, based in Geneva
- **Elsa Vettier**, director CRAC Alsace
- **Edit Oderbolz**, art commission for Canton Basel-Landschaft

Alexandra Stäheli, project manager of Atelier Mondial, is represented on all juries in an advisory function.

- Biography (including details of previous artistic activity and participation in previous exchange and residency programmes)
- Artist dossier of a maximum of 20 pages, videos can be indicated by weblink (Vimeo etc.)
- Max. 10 MB
- PDF-Name Example: CVDoss_FirstName_Surname.pdf

ATTENTION: the following applies for artist duos:

- Both partners must provide proof that they belong to the Atelier Mondial catchment area and refer to their partner. Both have to upload their own documents. The Atelier Mondial jury can award a new financial grant to a duo.

4. The following applies for the Tokyo destination:

- Please include your *CV and letter of motivation* in English as well as there is a shortlist procedure for this destination: the Atelier Mondial jury selects 2-3 candidates, our local partners make the final selection.
- Online registration:
<https://ateliermondial.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/86965>

Application deadline: 21 June 2026

TRAVEL GRANTS

For 2027 Atelier Mondial has a travel grant in its programme that offers professional artists the opportunity to submit an open project. The destination(s) and duration of the trip, which would aim to enable the research or realisation of the open artistic project in 2027, can be chosen freely. However, Atelier Mondial places great importance to the fact that the planned project can explicitly only be realised by means a trip (applications for a stay of several months in an institution outside the Atelier Mondial programme can thus not be considered). It is not possible to combine or cumulate the grant with grants from other institutions. Atelier Mondial does not guarantee on-site support for the travel grant; the grant holder is on his/her own. The travel grant is funded with CHF 15'000.

ATTENTION: the following applies for artist duos:

Both partners must provide proof that they belong to the Atelier Mondial catchment area and refer to their partner. Both have to upload their own documents. The Atelier Mondial jury can award a new financial grant to a duo. The travel grant is also – depending on the project – suitable for families.

APPLICATION PROCESS FOR TRAVEL GRANTS

The application is submitted by filling out an *online form including the upload of three attachments (PDF files)* with the required documents and artistic record.

Please name the PDF attachments according to content and your name.

Please read the terms and conditions of participation on page 5 and have all documents ready for your online application.

1. PDF-File Project Proposal:

- A detailed and vivid description of the planned project (minimum two A4 pages), a rough project budget must be included
- Max. 10 MB
- PDF-Name example: Motiv_FirstName_Surname.pdf

5. PDF-File Proof of the Region's Affiliation:

- Confirmation of residence or place of work (see TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION, p. 5, point 2)
- Max. 10 MB
- PDF-Name example: Proof_FirstName_Surname.pdf

6. PDF-File CV and Artist Dossier (Visual Arts):

- Biography (including details of previous artistic activity and participation in previous exchange and residency programmes)
- Artist dossier and portfolio of max. 20 pages, videos can be referenced by weblink (Vimeo, etc.)
- Max. 10 MB
- PDF-Name Example: CVDoss_FirstName_Surname.pdf

Online Registration:

- <https://ateliermondial.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/86965>
Application deadline: 21 June 2026

STUDIO INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS

BERLIN, GERMANY

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|---------------------|---|
| Duration: | 2 x 6 months |
| Dates: | January - June 2027 & July - December 2027 |
| Studio since: | 2012 |
| The city: | Once a symbol of division, Berlin now connects Western and Eastern Europe. Berlin-Brandenburg, the capital region, lies at the centre of the enlarged European Union and remains a hot spot for the international arts scene. |
| Studio / Apartment: | <p>The artist studio of the Cantons Basel-Stadt and Basel-Landschaft is located in Wedding in the studio building Wiesenstrasse 29 by the small river Planke. In the immediate vicinity lies an internationally renowned sculpture workshop, numerous other studio locations, and the building monument Gottschedstrasse 4 of EXRotaprint GmbH (www.exrotaprint.de). In August 2009, the artist cooperative «Wiesenstrasse 29 eG» acquired the leasehold for the building complex from the Swiss Edith Maryon Foundation. Since then, the cooperative has managed and rented out the building, which offers ideal working conditions for visual artists, freelancers, small businesses, and social projects. Currently, 22 artists work on site.</p> <p>The spacious residential studio with separate working and living zones is located under the roof of the studio complex, which also houses the studio of the Zug-based Landis & Gyr Foundation and the studios of the Cantons of Fribourg, Geneva, and Zurich. Our studio shares the entrance with the latter.</p> |
| Special features: | Atelier Mondial does not currently work with a fixed institution in Berlin that supervises the grant holders on site. However, a representative of the studio cooperative is available on site. Since 2018, there has also been a casual connection with the ADDAUX Gallery. |
| Requirements: | For the stay in Berlin, a high level of personal responsibility and independence is required, as well as a certain desire to engage with the vibrant art scene of this city with curiosity and verve. The studio offers ideal conditions for both production and (self-initiated) networking with the international art scene. The studio is suitable for families, artist duos and couples. |
| Address: | WIESENSTRASSE 29 eG Wiesenstraße 29 D-13357 Berlin-Wedding www.wiesenstrasse29.de |

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Duration: 3 months

Dates: February – April

Studio since: 2026

The city: Johannesburg is a complex and multifaceted city and ranks among the continent's most dynamic metropolises. It demands curiosity, sensitivity and mindful behaviour within the urban environment. At the same time, it opens up extraordinary perspectives and new artistic impulses, offering a wealth of social, political and cultural debates that can sometimes be emotionally demanding (given the significant social inequality). Johannesburg was founded at the end of the 19th century following the discovery of gold, becoming South Africa's first gold-mining town, and quickly developed into the country's economic hub. Through its dynamism, rough edges, contradictions, post-colonial issues and culture of remembrance, the city offers an inspiring environment for artistic research across all fields, as well as for networking and production.

Studio / Apartment: The studio is located at the Bag Factory, a non-profit organisation for contemporary visual arts in Newtown, Johannesburg, which has been committed to the long-term support of artists for over 30 years. It provides studios for a cross-generational community of South African artists, organises exhibitions and cultural debates, and runs a residency programme for artists and curators. The Bag Factory also offers workshops to further artistic and curatorial practices and awards the prestigious David Koloane Prize as well as the Cassirer Weltz Prize. Accommodation is provided in a private B&B near the Bag Factory, arranged by the Factory.

Requirement: This residency is aimed at artists who are able to work in a thoughtful, independent and open-minded manner within a socially complex urban environment. A conscious approach to safety and an interest in local contexts are required.

Partner Organisations: Bag Factory, 10 Mahlathini St, Newtown, Johannesburg, 2001, South Africa
Pro Helvetia Johannesburg, Swiss Arts Council, 87 De Korte Street,
Braamfontein, South Africa Tel. +27 11 403 1880, www.prohelvetia.org.za

PARIS, FRANCE

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| Duration: | 1 x 12 months | & | 1 x 6 months |
| Dates: | 1 x January - December 2027 | & | 1 x July - December 2027 |
| Studio since: | 2005 | | |
| The city: | The political, economic, and cultural center of France is a city of culture with rich traditions and a lively scene. | | |
| Studio / Apartment: | <p>The residential studios of the Cantons of Basel-Stadt, Basel-Landschaft, and the Kunstverein are located in the Cité Internationale des Arts in the heart of the Marais, just a few minutes from the Louvre, the most important galleries, the Centre Culturelle Suisse, the Centre Georges Pompidou or even the Maison de la Poésie. The Cité was founded after the Second World War as a major project of understanding between cultures through the creation of art, on the initiative of a private patron. Today, the total of 325 studios, distributed over two locations, are occupied by around 55 international partner countries in a multidisciplinary manner. Among the approximately 1'000 artists who live and work temporarily at the Cité each year are dance artists, actors, visual artists, and musicians.</p> <p>Both the two-storey sculpture studio (approx. 80 square meters), which is awarded for an entire year, and the residential studio (approx. 45 square meters), which is awarded every six months, are located in the main building of the Cité.</p> | | |
| Requirements: | <p>A certain degree of responsibility and independence is required for the stay at the Cité, as well as a willingness to engage with the multicultural and multidisciplinary situation of the large studio house. Since the beginning of 2019, a new team has been working at the Cité, which endeavors to accompany the grant holders and to network with the art scene in Paris, both within the Cité and outside.</p> <p>The one-year sculpture studio on the ground floor is also suitable for artist duos and couples as well as for families with one child up to 7 years.</p> | | |
| Address: | <p>Cité Internationale des Arts 18, rue de l'Hôtel de Ville F- 75004 Paris http://www.citedesartsparis.net http://www.betonsalon.net</p> | | |

TAIPEI, TAIWAN

Duration: 1 x 3 months

Dates: September – November 2027

Studio since: 2024

The city: Taipei is the largest city in Taiwan and also the economic, political, and cultural center of the country. With a population of over 2.5 million, it is a modern cosmopolitan metropolis with lively and diverse aspects: from the former tallest building in the world (2004-2010) to the largest collection of Chinese art, Taipei invites you into a world of fascinating contrasts - a mixture of modernity and tradition, with a generous dash of energy and a friendly smile. Taipei's contrasts are also clearly recognisable in the combination of city and nature with the many oases of calm, parks, and hot springs between the skyscrapers. Taipei's art scene is one of the most deeply rooted in Asia and in recent decades contemporary art has experienced a major upswing. Taipei's cultural life spans a wide range of traditional craft techniques and contemporary art initiatives such as the Taipei Biennale, Taipei Dangdai Art Fair and numerous art museums.

Studio / Apartment: Arts-in-Residence Taipei (AIR Taipei) provides a platform for diverse cultural collaboration across artistic disciplines throughout the world. AIR Taipei is located at Treasure Hill Artist Village (THAV) which was listed in 2011 as the first «historic settlement» of Taipei City. The unique scenery of Treasure Hill with its narrow alleys and winding staircase across the hill gives THAV a sense of a rural village. Over the years, various groups settled on the hillside with their own lifestyles and needs, creating an organic scene. Responding to the city government's policy of preservation and revitalization, the Arts-in-Residence Taipei program hopes to achieve a spirit of 'symbiosis' with the living history and local residents and support an inspiring environment for creators.

There are 16 to 20 live-in-studios with shared laundry room, shared kitchen, private toilet and shower room, internet connection, woodworking studio, piano room, rehearsal studios, and galleries.

Introduction video: https://youtu.be/P_zieOhFuDk

Requirements: The open call is intended as a targeted promotion for artists who are open for cultural exchange and who would like to get involved into the lively atmosphere of the village. The presentation of an artists' work in an Open studio, workshop, talk, exhibition, performance etc. is required.

Partner organisation: Treasure Hill Artist Village; Website: <http://www.artistvillage.org>

Contact person: Elisha Hsu: 徐翠雲 elisha.hsu@artistvillage.org

TOKYO, JAPAN

Duration: 1 x 3 months

Dates: January - March 2027

Exchange destination since: 2010

The city: Amid the throbbing contradictions of Tokyo, a metropolis of 8 million people, Japanese contemporary art also moves in ever new directions between Eastern traditions and Western discourses, between concept and intuition, sense and sensuality. In the process, the art platform TOKAS (formerly: Tokyo Wondersite - TWS), co-founded by the city of Tokyo in 2001 and located in the Sumida and Hongo districts, has quickly developed into Tokyo's most important hub for the latest ideas, theories, and experiments in the field of the arts.

Studio / Apartment: The TOKAS residences are located in the Sumida area in eastern Tokyo, close to the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo and the Edo Tokyo Museum. TOKAS offers a total of 12 fully equipped small rooms with bathroom/toilet and internet connection on 6 floors, including 8 single rooms (25 square metres) and 4 double rooms (48 square metres). The kitchen, laundry, library, and living room are shared with the other residents. There are two different types of open-plan studios, each of which has to be shared with other artists.

Special features: Since its founding, TOKAS has quickly established itself as a center in the stream of contemporary art, dedicated not only to an exchange between cities but also between art forms: the programme welcomes artists, curators, and mediators from the fields of visual arts, design, music, and architecture. The institute, which is active in two locations within Tokyo, offers workshops, networking, and support programmes as well as exhibitions in its own project space in Hongo. In autumn 2017, the organisation of the residency programme changed, which is also reflected in the name change from TWS to TOKAS, and the «Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo», which is geographically very close by, took over the management of the programme. TOKAS is a very ambitious institution, which also entails a lot of bureaucracy on site!

Requirements: The open call is intended as a targeted promotion for artists who already have artistic experience and national exhibition activities and who are at the same time prepared to address Japanese culture in their cooperation with TOKAS. Shortlist procedure, see application conditions, p. 9!

Address: Arts Kikukawa 1F
2-14-7 Tatekawa
Sumida-ku
Tokyo 130-0023

Partner organisation: TOKAS
<http://www.tokyoartsandspace.jp/english>

YEREVAN, ARMENIA

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|----------------------|---|
| Duration: | 6 months |
| Dates: | July - December 2027 |
| Studio since: | 2015 |
| The city: | <p>Yerevan, the capital of the Republic of Armenia, is one of the oldest cities in the world and offers a unique panorama of tradition and modernity, both in terms of urban planning and culture. Yerevan is a university city and, with around 1.2 million inhabitants, the cultural and artistic center of the country. The city has much that is unseen, surprising and enriching to offer, especially in terms of its cultural-historical treasures and its pronounced love of art - which was also maintained under different conditions during the Soviet era - especially in the understanding of artistic practice and identity. Due to or also thanks to the restrictions under Soviet occupation, the Armenian art scene was always forced to seek its own ways and solutions to preserve a certain degree of Armenian independence in art. As in the other states of the South Caucasus, the Armenian art scene has been seething for a few years. While artistic training and art-historical studies today are still shaped by the offshoots of the Soviet educational system, a younger generation of artists is searching for a new understanding of art that is contemporary - and yet able to preserve its historical, geographical, discursive distinctiveness. Thus, practically the entire art scene sees itself in a political oppositional role to state institutions, but at the same time it does not simply want to import western forms of organisation and concepts of art as quickly as possible. Rather, it seeks to create new spaces for art and adequate forms of networking - also in exchange with foreign artists.</p> |
| Studio / Apartment: | <p>The artists live for three months in a residential studio in the heart of Yerevan and have the opportunity to spend two to three months in Marcel Mayer's print studio in Bjurakan in the countryside (approx. 30 minutes by car from Yerevan), where they can work on prints, but also on land art, installations and community work. Yerevan is cheap and easy to reach by taxi from Bjurakan. The contrast between life in the city and in the countryside is remarkable, but can be very inspiring artistically. The studio in Yerevan is located on Baghramyan Avenue, the city's main street, from where it is only a 10-minute walk to the city centre. Public transport and the metro are nearby. There is a park in front of the studio where concerts take place and the cultural life in this area is very lively.</p> |
| Requirements: | <p>A stay in Yerevan requires cultural openness and an interest in encountering a lively art scene that functions according to its own unfamiliar laws and criteria. The studio in the city offers good conditions for own research, inspiration and artistic-intercultural exchange. The studio in the countryside requires independence and openness for encounters with people who do not come from an artistic environment.</p> |
| Address: | <p>Live-in-Studio in Jerewan: Baghramyan Avenue Live-in-Studio in Bjurakan: Instagram: byurart_cultural_ngo</p> |
| Partner organisation | <p>Stiftung KulturDialog Armenien Mashtots Ave. 16, 0002 Yerevan, Armenia www.kulturdialog.org; info@kulturdialog.org</p> |