

Open Call for Artists:

Artist in Residence Programme Zvezdane Staze 2024

[Mijakovići, Bosnia and Herzegovina]

July 03 to September 30, 2024



VACLAF
Vareš Classic Festival / International Chamber Music Festival

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Artist in Residence Programme Zvezdane Staze 2024

Open Call for Artists 2024: DREAMS TO COME TRUE

Duration: July 3rd to September 30th, 2024*

Location: Mijakovići, near the historic site of Bobovac, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Number of Participants: 5 individual Artists or Artist Collective

Eligibility: Open to artists residing in Culture Moves Europe Countries age 18 years and older

Residency Objectives: Artists are expected to create new works that may be premiered at the residency premises and the

VaClaF: Vareš Classic Festival, engaging both local and international audiences

**It is expected that residents spend approximately 70% of their time at the residency premises.*

The Artist in Residence Program Zvezdane Staze, in collaboration with

VaClaF: Vareš Classic Festival, warmly invites artists working in the areas

of contemporary music composition, electroacoustic experimental music,

sound art, music performance as well as other artistic disciplines which

address sonic aspects in one way or another to apply for our 2024

residency!

Based on an ethos rooted in inclusivity and collaboration, our project aims

to offer a creative environment for participating artists. In essence, it is

about establishing an Incubator of Ideas that could potentially have a

far-reaching impact not only on the cultural and artistic development of

the local community, but on the region as a whole.

ABOUT THE RESIDENCY

Set against the backdrop of the historic site of Bobovac, our residency strives to champion the dissemination of culture, the cultivation of cross-sector partnerships, the stimulation of economic growth, and the enduring sustainability of our various initiatives.

Despite the region's far-reaching historical significance, up to now, it has remained largely uncharted by the international artistic community. Our project's forward-thinking vision encompasses domains such as rural development, the preservation of cultural heritage, and the promotion of soft/alternative tourism.

This underscores our commitment to sustainability and our contribution to bolstering economic resilience.

This approach bears the potential to exert a significant positive influence not solely at a local level, but also across the broader landscape of the National and European arts and culture sphere.

Residency Activities & Mentoring

During the 90 days of the residency, artists will have time and space to focus on their projects, engage with the local community and find inspiration in the breathtaking surroundings. We offer a range of dynamic activities including excursions, concerts, master classes, sound walks and workshops, as well as the possibility to collaborate and perform with music ensembles such as the *WISE: Wien International Soloists Ensemble* and the *Cipra Quartet*.

Artists who are interested in handcraft and sustainable practices will have the opportunity to interact with the local community and learn more about traditional customs, both in theory and praxis. Our mentoring activities are designed to be both educational and inspirational. For this first year of our artist-in-residence program, we have carefully assembled a diverse group of internationally highly acclaimed artists and experienced mentors.

Residency Facilities

The residency programme is housed in a renovated traditional Bosnian house equipped to accommodate a variety of artistic disciplines. In these premises you will find a piano, a music studio and a small atelier that serves both as a workspace and a creative retreat. There is also a multilingual house library, an antique Yugoslav typewriter, a special sheet music collection and an audio archive with old records, CDs and a digital repository.

Financial support

In accordance with the Culture Moves Europe Programme, participants will receive a total amount of €2250 (a daily stipend of €25) for 90 days, a travel allowance, and potential Top-Ups.

Who Should Apply

Our program is deeply integrated into a village community that exemplifies the values of self-sufficiency and sustainable living. This context underscores the paramount importance of respectful interaction with the community for any artists participating in the program.

It is very important to emphasize that our initiative is fundamentally rooted in principles of inclusiveness and cooperation. Our approach underlines the belief that culture is an integral part of society, closely linked with community well-being, economic resilience, and sustainable development. We are looking for partners, collaborators, and participants who share these values and are eager to contribute respectfully to a multifaceted cultural project that goes beyond the conventional boundaries of art and community engagement.

Welcome to Zvezdane staze!

Belma Bešlić-Gál

UR ZVJEZDANE STAZE | AIR ZVJEZDANE STAZE

[Founder, Artistic Director]

Andrea Nikolić

VaClaf: Vareš Classic Festival

[Founder, Artistic Director]

Artist in Residence Programme Zvezdane Staze 2024

Open Call for Artists

Residency Overview

- **Duration:** July 3 – September 30, 2024*
- **Location:** AiR Zvezdane staze [Mijakovići bb, 71330 Vareš, Bosnia and Herzegovina]
- **Number of Participants:** 5 Artists or Artist Collective(s) from Creative Europe Countries

*It is expected that residents spend approximately 70% of their time at the residency premises.

Category

- **Music** (contemporary music composition, electroacoustic experimental music, sound art, music performance, as well as other artistic disciplines which address sonic aspects in one way or another).

Conceptual Considerations

Our Artist in Residence Programme is situated in a region of great historical and cultural significance. In its immediate vicinity lies the medieval fortress of Bobovac, once a strategic stronghold and royal seat of medieval Bosnia, as well as several necropolises with medieval tombstones (called Stećci) which have been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We have chosen two inscriptions [1. [Stone of Varda](#), 2. [Medulin](#)] as a source of inspiration and encourage applications that embrace the freedom of artistic expression by conceptually exploring these aspects. For more information, see [NEWS](#).

Residency Participants: Eligible Artists and Cultural Professionals

- Aged 18 years or older.
- Artists from all educational backgrounds and levels of experience are eligible to apply, and may be accompanied by children and/or partners (as permitted by spatial circumstances).
- Applicants must be legally residing in one of the 40 **Creative Europe countries**, including Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) and Outermost Regions (ORs) of the European Union.

Creative European Countries: Albania, Austria, Armenia, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, and Ukraine.

Please note: Artists residing in Bosnia and Herzegovina (the country where the host is based and implementing the residency project) **ARE NOT** eligible to apply! **Applicants with citizenship of Bosnia and Herzegovina are eligible to apply, as long as they legally reside in a different country.**

CONTACT

UR ZVJEZDANE STAZE | AIR ZVJEZDANE STAZE

Mijakovići bb, 71330 Vareš, Bosnia and Herzegovina | info@zvezdanestaze.ba | www.zvezdanestaze.ba

Financial support

Artists participating in our programme will receive the following financial benefits to support their stay and work. These substantial financial provisions are intended to ensure that the artists are able to focus on their creative projects without financial burden.

- **Daily allowance of €25 throughout the residency**, for daily expenses such as local transport and meals, **totaling €2,250 for the entire 90 days**, payed in monthly installments of 750 EUR in advance.
- **Accommodation** is provided by the residency host.
- **A travel allowance** is available, **with €350 for distances under 5000 km and €700 for distances over 5000 km**, calculated one-way from the artist's place of residence to the destination. This amount may include a **green-mobility top-up**. For artists residing in or traveling from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) or Outermost Regions (ORs), a **fixed top-up of €150** is provided to offset additional costs.
- **Visa expenses** are supported with a **fixed top-up of €80** to assist artists with visa application costs.
- **Artists with disabilities** who require additional support to carry out their residency can receive **up to €75 per day**, with the budget agreed upon with the Culture Moves Europe team based on individual needs.
- **A family top-up of €100 is also available** to support artists with custody of children under the age of 10 during the mobility project (regardless of the number of children).

Accommodation

The *Artist in Residence program Zvezdane staze* is located in a carefully renovated traditional Bosnian house set in a beautiful mountainous landscape. It is equipped with amenities such as a piano, a multilingual library, an audio library, and a multi-channel sound system (for detailed information see download section).

- **Flexible Living Arrangements:** Accommodation that supports individual artists as well as those accompanied by family members.
- **Conducive and Creative Atmosphere:** Designed to support artistic activities while providing the opportunity to appreciate the region's natural beauty and cultural traditions.
- **Convenient Location:** Living quarters are either at the same site as the workspaces or very close by.
- **Facilities:** The accommodations include five bedrooms, two bathrooms, two kitchens, and communal areas for social interaction.
- **Workspaces:** In these premises you will find a piano, a music studio and a small atelier, multilingual library, an antique Yugoslav typewriter, a special sheet music collection, an audio archive with old records, CDs and a digital repository.
- **Scenic and Spacious Outdoors:** A 1400-square-meter garden featuring native Bosnian fruit trees and a water well enhances the serene environment.
- **Stunning Views:** The property overlooks the Valley of the Kings and the medieval ruins of Bobovac, offering inspiring vistas that are ideal for relaxation and outdoor activities.

Application Requirements

- **Short biography** (pdf).
- **Portfolio:** Current work samples relevant to your artistic discipline (Scores, Audio/Video Links, Website, etc.).
- **A Short Statement** detailing your interest in this residency and your expectations (max. 1500 words, pdf).
- **A Concept Proposal** for the new work you intend to develop during your stay (max. 3000 words, pdf).

How to Apply

- Applications should be submitted **via our official E-Mail:** opencall24@zvezdanestaze.ba
- All applications will be reviewed by our Core Team. Please make sure to include all required documents and proposal details as per the application guidelines!
- For detailed information on eligibility, facilities, and the application process, please visit our website or contact us directly via opencall24@zvezdanestaze.ba

Selection Procedure

The selection process for the *AiR Zvezdane staze* is designed to identify and support outstanding artists through a thorough and engaging two-round procedure.

- **First Round:** All applicants will submit their portfolios, along with a biography, short statement and concept proposal. These submissions are carefully reviewed by our **Core Team [CB]** and are focusing on the artists' potential to benefit from and contribute to the residency.
- **Second Round:** Artists who are invited to the second phase, which involves a more interactive and personal assessment, will participate in a **Zoom discussion** with members of our CB. This conversation aims to better understand the artists' vision, their approach to art, and how they plan to utilize the residency period. It also provides an opportunity for the artists to ask questions and gain insights into the programme's offerings.

Final Decision: Following the Zoom discussions, the CB makes the final selections based on the insights gained during the interviews, the artists' portfolios, and their alignment with the programme's objectives.

This structured yet dynamic approach ensures a fair and comprehensive assessment of each candidate, ultimately leading to a diverse and vibrant cohort of artists for our residency.

Deadline for Applications: May 20, 2024!

For further inquiries, please contact: info@zvezdanestaze.ba

www.zvezdanestaze.ba