

# Open Call for Participation of Artists to the *2017 Resonances Festival* and its preparatory workshop in August 2016

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission has a strong interest in encouraging the inclusion of the arts in its scientific and policy-related work. This was first sparked off by the Resonances Art & Science festival in 2015, an exciting and stimulating event for both scientists, artists and participants alike. Following on its success, the JRC will organise a new edition of the Resonances Art & Science festival in the spring of 2017. Building on the same philosophy as in 2015, the Festival will be a true co-production between artists and scientists who come together to create, in a joint effort, original works of art or installations. The objective is to foster a new awareness and to stimulate new thinking on the border between science, art and society. The 2017 theme will be 'Fairness'. This theme can be explored and addressed in whatever way, including topics such as global warming, sustainability, resilience, migration, perceptions of an unfair society, inequality and income inequality..., that combines science, art, and, eventually, society, to spur to new and more effective action.

We are looking for artists working on the border between science and art to participate to this festival and its preparatory Workshop, taking place in Ispra, from Wednesday 31 August to Friday 2 September 2016. The workshop is an occasion to collaborate closely with scientists and policy makers to elaborate works of art for the 2017 Festival itself. Successful applicants and JRC scientists will exchange ideas, data, and narratives pertaining to the 2017 theme, with the objective of jointly creating an artistic installation based on scientific data. The basis of the installation can be any of the arts, whether 'classical' – painting, sculpture, music – or 'new' – video-art, bio-art, mixed installations, etc. Artists will have the occasion to lay the groundworks for creating a joint work of art/installation with scientists or a scientific project, to be presented at the 2017 Resonances Festival.

As such, the Workshop is to be considered as a running experiment on the joint and intimate collaboration between scientists and artists, between different systems of knowledge. It is an opportunity to investigate the borders between all disciplines, experiment with cross-border exercises and create works of art truly shared, whether in conception, elaboration and/or finishing. The Workshop is organised back to back with the JRC 2016 Summer School on Arts, Science, and Society, on the same theme from a 'Do, don't talk' perspective, and to which the artists can also be invited.

The present call for expression of interest is thus addressed to all artists working on the borders between their own artistic specialisation and the sciences, in general, with a proven capacity to integrate scientific elements into their own artistic works, or through existing collaborations combining science and art. They must be willing to participate to the Workshop, including a short presentation of their own work, an active participation to the discussions, and a short report on their own experience.

## **What are we looking for?**

A maximum of 20 artists can participate to the Workshop and the ensuing Festival. A selection committee consisting of the JRC SciArt Team, JRC scientists and chosen art experts will choose among the proposals those that:

1. Express the greatest openness and capacity to incorporate contrasting ideas into the realizations;
2. Show novelty of ideas and unexpected viewpoints;
3. Demonstrate their capacity to integrate scientific data into artistic work;
4. Incorporate the proposed theme 'Fairness' closely and in a surprising manner;
5. And/or are able to incorporate the societal relevance into artistic works.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to invite other artists based on their artistic excellence, societal relevance and/or prowess in combining art and science.

### **Organisation and Venue**

The workshop takes place in Ispra, Italy, from Wednesday 31 August to Friday 2 September 2016. The decision on the venue for the Festival will be taken following the workshop outcome.

Artists participating to the Workshop will be paid as external experts, at a rate of € 450 per day plus travel and hotel costs. Works created in collaboration with JRC scientists will be subject of an individual contract that will be signed with the JRC, up to a maximum of € 5.000. This sum is a maximum amount, not a target.

### **Interested? Here is how to apply!**

Send your bio of not more than 250 words, a motivation letter of not more than 500 words focusing on points 1-5, together with a pdf (acrobat) with (part of) their portfolio, to [JRC-Resonances@ec.europa.eu](mailto:JRC-Resonances@ec.europa.eu) and not later than 30 May 2016. The portfolio should include links to existing websites, catalogues, museum sites, gallery sites, video sites. The combined attachments cannot exceed 10 Mb, but all documents can refer to existing websites detailing bio or work.

Indicate if you are also interested in participating in the summer school from 29-30<sup>th</sup> August on "*Developing SciArt Policy for the JRC*" (information on the summer school will be distributed at a later stage).

If you have further questions, contact [jrc-resonances@ec.europa.eu](mailto:jrc-resonances@ec.europa.eu)