



2 MILLION EURO FOR THE CONTEMPORARY ARTS FRANCESCHINI: IMPORTANT ACTIONS TO PROMOTE CREATIVITY AND YOUNG TALENTS

Rome, 31 July 2020 – With a **2 million Euro** allocation, the ninth edition of **Italian Council**, the programme to support, promote, and enhance Italian contemporary arts in the world, spearheaded by the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity (DGCC) of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism, is now underway.

Among the **new features in this call**, greater attention is being given to developing the research and practices of artists, curators, and critics, also through the payment of study grants.

“The contemporary arts, like other sectors in the world of culture, are going through a time of great hardship due to the health emergency. At this particular time, the ninth edition of Italian Council is confirmed to be a project more appropriate than ever for supporting and promoting young talents and contemporary Italian creativity,” **said Dario Franceschini, Italian Minister of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism.**

“The call’s new edition has come into being based on reflections generated by the current emergency situation, and at the same time by the need to make this precious instrument even more inclusive.

”As always, Italian Council intends to promote and enhance, in Italy and abroad, artists, curators, critics, and young talents, in line with analogous international programmes. The dialogue, one that still remains open, with *Forum dell’arte contemporanea italiana* and with the entire contemporary art production chain, has been fundamental during these past months, and of use for strengthening the lines of action of the call which, as a whole, aims to more incisively support Italian artistic, critical, and curatorial research,” **said the architect Margherita Guccione, Director-General for Contemporary Creativity.**

There are three areas of action in which the new call operates, subdivided into **eight actions**:

- **Increasing the collections of Italian public museums**, through support for projects involving the **production** of one or more artworks by a living Italian artist, or the **acquisition** of an artwork done over the past 50 years in Italian state, regional, provincial, and civic museums. Each project must involve a **phase of presenting the work outside of Italy**, through exhibitions, presentations, or talks at public or private not for profit institutions active in the contemporary arts.

- The **international promotion of Italian artists, curators, and critics**, thanks to support, on the one hand, of proposals for **projects of monographic exhibitions** at international institutions, and, on the other hand, of **artists’ participation in international events** that may include – as examples only – **biennials, triennials, festivals, or prestigious collective exhibitions**. The call’s new features include support for **critics or curators** invited as **guest curators of international exhibitions or shows**. Lastly, **Italian editorial projects** may also receive funding to enhance and promote internationally Italian visual culture, arte, and art criticism of the past 50 years.

- The **development of talents**, with funding for **residencies** abroad at accredited institutions, aimed at activities to **deepen research and artistic, critical, or curatorial practice**. Again in connection with this last aspect, the new call also provides the possibility of receiving **yearly study grants** in support of pure artistic, critical, and curatorial research.

Applications may be presented by museums, public and private cultural entities, university institutions, foundations, cultural associations, formally constituted committees and any other subject, provided they are all not for profit. Where expressly established by the call, the application will be presented directly by artists, curators, and critics.



Applications must be received by no later than 4:00 PM (Italian time) on 30 September 2020, at the e-mail address italiancouncil.application@beniculturali.it, following the instructions on the Directorate-General's website.

To request information and/or clarification, write to italiancouncil@beniculturali.it by no later than 10 September 2020.

For more information: http://www.aap.beniculturali.it/eng/italian-council_9_2020.html

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***Italian Council** is the programme for the support, promotion, and enhancement of contemporary art in the world, of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity led by Margherita Guccione. The international call funds cultural projects that relate to the production or acquisition of artworks, the production of monographic exhibitions outside of Italy, the participation of artists, curators, and critics in international shows, and the production of international editorial projects on Italian art, and supports the artistic research of Italian talents outside of Italy through funding for residencies and the payment of study grants.*

***Artists, curators, and critics funded in past editions:** Alterazioni Video, Mario Airò, Yuri Ancarani, Giorgio Andreotta Calò, Nico Angiuli, Salvatore Arancio, Lori Adragna, Francesco Arena, Stefano Arienti, Stefania Noemi Artusi, Rosa Barba, Marion Baruch, Gianfranco Baruchello, Elena Bellantoni, Elisabetta Benassi, Riccardo Benassi, Filippo Berta, Francesco Bertelé, Francesco Bertocco, Elena Biserna, Irma Blank, Stefano Boccalini, Botto & Bruno, Pamela Breda, Stefano Cagol, Lucrezia Calabrò Visconti, Elisa Caldana, Irene Calderoni, Andrea Caretto e Raffaella Spagna, Benedetta Carpi De Resmini, Gea Casolaro, Anna Cestelli Guidi, Cristina Cobianchi, Il Colorificio, Céline Condorelli, Leone Contini, Irene Coppola, Danilo Correale, Enrico Crispolti, Nicolò Degiorgis, Rå di Martino, Dimora Oz, Sara Enrico, Emilio Fantin, Lara Favaretto, Flavio Favelli, Ettore Favini, Platform, Christian Fogaroli, Anna Franceschini, Eva Frapiccini, Giovanni Fontana, Chiara Fumai, Genuardi/Ruta, Riccardo Giacconi, Aldo Giannotti, Paolo Gioli, Goldschmied & Chiari, Alice Gosti, Stefano Graziani, Invernomuto, Maria Lai, Sonia Leimer, Claudio Libero Pisano, Armin Linke, Sergio Lombardo, Davide Mancini Zanchi, Diego Marcon, Titina Maselli, Andrea Mastrovito, Andrea Masu, Eva e Franco Mattes, Elena Mazzi, Marzia Migliora, Jacopo Miliani, Ottonella Mocellin e Nicola Pellegrini, Margherita Morgantini, Margherita Moscardini, Maurizio Nannucci, Egle Oddo, Mimmo Paladino, Luca Maria Patella, Diego Perrone, Cesare Pietroiusti, Adriana Polveroni, Maria D. Rapicavoli – MDR, Giovanni Rendina, Mario Rizzi, Michele Rizzo, Antonio Rovaldi, Tomás Saraceno, Marinella Senatore, Namsal Siedlecki, Giulio Squillacciotti, Superstudio, The Cool Couple, Diego Tonus, Gian Maria Tosatti, Luca Trevisani, Marco Trulli, Patrick Tuttofuoco, Paola Ugolini, Nico Vascellari, Emilio Vavarella, Giuditta Vendrame, Cosimo Veneziano, Saverio Verini, Francesco Vezzoli, Luca Vitone, ZAPRUDER, Zerynthia e Zimmerfrei.*