

Trauma &? Revival

Cultural relations between
Eastern and Western Europe

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2017

Open call for **Trauma & Revival: Contemporary Encounters** residency programs conceived by: **kim? Contemporary Art Centre** (Riga, Latvia) and **Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto** (Biella, Italy) under the umbrella of UNIDEE – University of Ideas.

The two residencies are developed under the framework of **Trauma & Revival. Cultural relations between Eastern and Western Europe**, a project co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union (2015-2018).

Deadline: February 9, 2017.



BO
ZAR

kim? Laikmetīgās mākslas centrs
Contemporary Art Centre

CITTADELLARTE - FONDAZIONE PISTOLETTO
UNIDEE
UNIVERSITY OF IDEAS



W GALERIA
SZTUKI WSPÓŁCZESNEJ
BUNKIER SZTUKI

австрийский культурный форум^{moscow}

VENUES AND TIME FRAMES

Workshop in Moscow (Russia)

4 days during the week of 15-22 May 2017.

Including a visit of the exhibition *Facing the Future: Art in Europe 1945 – 1968* at Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts and of other key Russian cultural actors.

Residency - kim? Contemporary Art Centre (Latvia)

kim? Contemporary Art Centre (Riga, Latvia), July 8 – 22, 2017.

Number of participants: 12

Residency - Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto (Italy)

Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto (Biella, Italy), September 11 – 30, 2017.

Number of participants: 10

Workshop in Krakow (Poland)

During 2nd week of October 2017.

Programme to be confirmed.

GENERAL PROJECT FRAMEWORK

This initiative wishes to showcase and reflect on the East-West cultural connections since the Second World War by bringing together artworks and artists from both the former Soviet Union, Eastern and Western Europe, from the past and present. The project echoes the context in which Europe currently stands, and it will reflect specifically on artistic movements and cultural exchanges between the West and the East, since the Cold War until today.

From an art-historical point of view, this project aims at problematizing the accepted canon of modern art enhanced by Western European museums, many of which, up till now, continue to fade out the artistic creation, discoveries and history of Eastern European art. By giving young artists and policy-makers the chance to rethink existing East-West cultural relations and synergies, in particular with Russia, this project is an opportunity to engage with a largely unknown historic journey into Europe's recent artistic past.

The challenge is to raise awareness about our '*shared cultural heritage and history*' and its current impact on the everyday. Both Eastern and Western Europe need to cast a light on this part of our history, in order to better apprehend the present, and embrace cultural exchanges and opportunities between young artists. Given this context, one may wonder about the current status of cultural relations, the dialogues between Western and Eastern Europe, which includes countries such as Russia. Are these exchanges between artists more frequent and more inspiring? Are both sides still influencing each other? How do citizens see this joint past and how do they consider the present? And can policy-makers raise the awareness about the need for more exchanges in this field. This project will address these questions.

Through various shared actions and knowledge exchanges, the project will invite participants to reflect on a series of fundamental questions raised during the Cold War that are perhaps still relevant today. Do those values, utopias and questions asked by artists working between 1945 and 1968 differ from those posed today? How do young artists from the East and the West understand

the art movements from that period? And do artists and citizens experience current tensions in the same way their predecessors experienced them during the Cold War? During the 60's the social, cultural and political revolutions nurtured artistic practice. Does the current global crisis equally impact young creativity? And what do contemporary artists need to inspire others and bring forth practical challenges? More globally, the project will also reflect on the importance of cultural diplomacy today in Europe.

THE KEY POINTS OF THE RESIDENCIES

Coordinated by *kim?* Contemporary Art Centre and Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto, in cooperation with BOZAR, the residencies in Rīga (Latvia) and Biella (Italy) propose workshops, lectures, master-classes, discussions, encounters, debates, and open studio events gathering emerging artists and researchers from Eastern and Western Europe, including Russia. Thanks to its content, themes, and showcased artists, the travelling exhibition ***Facing the Future: Art in Europe 1945-1968*** (curated by Peter Weibel and Eckhart Gillen), will serve as a point of departure for all residency participants, because of its historical and inspiring perspective on the above mentioned issues. A range of interdisciplinary **tutors and presenters will follow, support and contribute to the** creation or learning process of the participants during their residencies.

The two-week residency by *kim?* Contemporary Art Centre, taking place at its venue in Riga, Latvia will pay attention to the **historical complexities, common memories and imagined futures** that have been significant in the East – West dichotomy relationship, particularly in **the infrastructure of the Baltic countries**, which has been a frontier between Russia and Europe. The programme, curated and designed by professionals coming from various fields will question the notions of frontiers and borders, disconnection, separation and union, a common realm, joint memories and futures, among other important topics.

The three-week residency at Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto is developed within the framework of **UNIDEE – University of Ideas**, which is an educational programme investigating the relationship between art and the public sphere and combines theory with practice (<http://www.cittadellarte.it/unidee/>). UNIDEE will offer a programme based on lectures, seminars, collective discussions and a final open studio event. The participants will be guided throughout the residency programme by a **tutor** and a group of **acknowledged international experts**. The 2017 UNIDEE programme is shaped around three macro-topics: **Revolution, Desire, Mediation. These will also be guidelines for residency participants to** suggest critical and new inputs, and to propose geo-political links between the time-lapse (1945-1968) and the historical, social and economic issues expressed in the general frame of *Trauma & Revival* project.

Both residencies will focus on the series of discussions, talks, lectures and presentations directed towards the development of a unique body of work – artistic interventions that will be further considered and potentially included in a contemporary art exhibition that will be erected at *kim?* Contemporary Art Centre, Riga, Bunkier Sztuki, Krakow and Center for Fine Arts (Bozar), Brussels in 2018.

TUTORS AND EXPERTS

kim? Contemporary Art Centre

Tutors and experts coming from different fields of expertise will shape the two weeks residency programme. Among them will be artists, curators, theoreticians, anthropologists, sociologists, philosophers and other professionals who in their own practice deal with the topics of **East-West relations in the context of Eastern Europe, particularly the Baltic states and its complex history**. Residency programme will focus on the infrastructure and history of Riga, which has been the centre of the region with rich and complex past as well as changing face throughout the centuries.

Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto

Independent curator Aria Spinelli will tutor the three-week residency. Each week a group of **international experts (philosophers, researchers, artists, curators, activists, journalists coming from Europe and Russia) will be invited to give lectures, master-classes and workshops focusing on both the East-West relations within Europe, and the relations between Europe and specific extra-European areas around the world during the historical timeframe of *Trauma & Revival* project.**

Aria Spinelli is an independent curator and researcher and a co-founding member of Radical Intention. She holds a BA (University la Sapienza, Rome 2005), and MA (Naba, Milan 2008) and is currently conducting a PhD at Loughborough University (U.K). Her investigation is on the relations between art and activism with a focus on the work of Greek-French philosopher Cornelius Castoriadis, in particular on his concepts of the radical imaginary and the radical imagination. As co-member of the *Politicized Practice Research Group* of the School of Arts, she organised *Castoriadis Revisited: Questioning the radical imaginary in contemporary art and curatorial practice* (Loughborough University, June 17th 2015). She lectured at Loughborough University and contributed to conferences on art and activism (*Who is afraid of the Public?* at ICA, London 2013; CADN Conference at OCAD, Toronto, Canada 2014). She conducts workshops for artists and organises events on art and activism (*Curating as a form assembly*, 2015; *Elapsing Time in an Expanded Artwork*, 2016 at Pistoletto Foundation in Biella, Italy; *Artistic Strategies & Workers Struggles*, MayDay Rooms in London U.K. 2015).

ABOUT kim? CONTEMPORARY ART CENTRE AND CITTADELLARTE – FONDAZIONE PISTOLETTO

kim? Contemporary Art Centre, Riga was founded in 2009. The name of *kim?* is no less than an abbreviation of an insistent question “what is art?” (“kas ir māksla?” in Latvian). The organization offers a certain range of activities such as exhibitions, lectures, discussions, publications and other events related to recent art, theory and social issues introduced by means of local and international corpus of ideas, beliefs and individuals. *kim?* supports the development of emerging artists, theoreticians, curators, philosophers, translators and thinkers of other spheres aiming to provide a responsive context to their work and to make critical practices accessible to a wider audience. Since 2009, more than 150 local and international artist exhibitions have been organized by *kim?*,

and the basis for regular lectures, seminars, screenings and performances has been set. In 2013 *kim?* in collaboration with Art in General worked on Latvia's pavilion in the 55th Venice Biennale. Most recent collaboration partners: Moderna Museet Malmö (Malmö), Art in General (New York), Museum of Contemporary Art Garage (Moscow). In 2015. *kim?* in partnership with KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin, ISCP International Studio & Curatorial Program in New York and Gasworks, Gallery, Studios and International Residency Programme in London launched the *kim? Residency Award*.

Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto's aim is to inspire and produce a responsible change in society through ideas & creative projects. Cittadellarte-Fondazione Pistoletto was instituted in 1998 as a concrete action of the *Progetto Arte Manifesto*, where the artist Michelangelo Pistoletto proposed a new role for the artist: that of placing art in direct interaction with all the areas of human activity which form society. It is a great laboratory, hosting many young artists, which generates unedited processes of development in diverse fields of culture, production, economics & politics. The activities pursue a basic objective: to operationally take artistic interventions into every sector of civil society to contribute responsibly & profitably to address the profound changes of our age. It's structured organically according to a cellular system that configures itself in a main nucleus that subdivides into different nuclei. These take the name of "Uffizi" with following categories Art, Education, Ecology, Politics, Fashion, Nutrition, Architecture etc.

ABOUT TRAUMA & REVIVAL

This project explores the post-war period of Europe's history between 1945 and 1968 through its artistic developments. The importance of this initiative lies in the East-West connections and the reflection that it wishes to showcase following WWII, by bringing together arts works and artists from both the Soviet Union and Western Europe. Through exhibitions, artistic encounters, workshops and debates, the project echoes the context in which Europe currently stands, and in particular its cultural ties between the West and the East, during the Cold War and today. Its relevance today is even more crucial at a time when dialogue is more necessary than ever, starting with artists.

Trauma & Revival is a project co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union, and produced in partnership by:

- Center for Fine Arts (Bozar) (Belgium, www.bozar.be)
- ZKM Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie Karlsruhe (Germany, <http://zkm.de>)
- *kim?* Contemporary Art Centre (Latvia, www.kim.lv)
- Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto (Italy, www.cittadellarte.it)
- Galeria Sztuki Współczesnej Bunkier Sztuki (Poland, <http://bunkier.art.pl/>)
- Jyväskylän Yliopisto (Finland, www.jyu.fi)
- Austrian Culture Forum Moscow (Russia, www.akfmo.org)
- Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts (Russia, www.arts-museum.ru)
- State Museum and exhibition Center ROSIZO (Russia, www.russianmuseums.info/M2628)
- Tretyakov State Gallery (Russia, www.tretyakovgallery.ru).

ABOUT THE RESIDENCY

The grant covers:

- Travel reimbursement to and from the residency venues and VISA costs. The travel costs should be economy class tickets only.
- Accommodation at *kim?* or/and at Cittadellarte.
- Artists' fee – payable according to international and local laws.
- Additionally travel and accommodation costs will be covered for the trips to Moscow and Krakow in 2017.

A budget for production will be available to the participants only in Cittadellarte's residency.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

You are eligible to apply if you are (all conditions below must be met):

- A visual artist or creative professional, active in art and culture or related fields, coming from Russia or any European country (those who are native of other parts of the world but living and resident in Europe are also eligible to apply);
- Born after 1982;
- Fluent in English.

HOW TO APPLY

Please, if you are interested in applying for ***kim?* Contemporary Art Centre's residency**, submit your application to: opencall@kim.lv stating: "Trauma & Revival - Latvia" as a subject line (up to 10 MB per email).

If you wish to apply for **Cittadellarte – Fondazione Pistoletto's** residency, submit your application to unidee.submission@cittadellarte.it stating "Trauma & Revival - Italy" as a subject line (up to 10 MB per email).

Please, fill out (in English only) the application form in a single PDF document by including:

- Your basic and contact information;
- The residency you would like to participate in, underlining the interest in its particular programme and context;
- A motivation letter (up to 500 words);
- Your professional statement (up to 300 words).

Please attach to the e-mail:

- Your Curriculum Vitae (up to 2 A4 pages, font size 12)
- Examples of your work (3-4 examples (images, texts, audio files, videos, etc.)).

Deadline for submission: **February 9, 2017 (18 PM CET).**

The selected participants will be informed by March 13, 2017, as well as announced on the organizers' and project partners' websites, social media sites, and on UNIDEE-University of Ideas website.

Please, note that only selected artists will be contacted when the selection process is over.

INFORMATION

If you have enquiries, please contact us at opencall@kim.lv and unidee@cittadellarte.it.