

Call for applications

ENTSTEHUNG EINER *künstlerischer* TATSACHE

Position	Artist (f/d/m) with interest in Artistic Research
Project	»Genesis of an Artistic Fact« Arts & Science Residency at TRAFÖ Jena with subsequent exhibition
Duration	Attendance 19.07.–01.08.2021 sowie 20.09.–03.10.2021 (2 × 2 weeks)
Payment	1.000 €

DESCRIPTION

The project »Genesis of an Artistic Fact« brings together scientists and artists by opening scientists to the artistic process and artists to scientific knowledge. Thereby, the artists create a piece of art that can serve as a starting point for a social discourse on optical detection methods in research. In the end, a joint exhibition by all five participating artists (collectives) will show the results of the transdisciplinary dialogue.

The project is aimed at artists who deal with the method of artistic research. An engagement with scientific topics and techniques is desirable. For this Arts & Science Residency, the TRAFÖ with its 400 m² is both working and an exhibition space. The TRAFÖ is a new innovation laboratory for contemporary art forms and media in Jena (known as the city of light due to its historical importance in optics). In keeping with the historical and contemporary research focus in the city, the project takes photonics and optics as core themes. Supported by our cooperation commitments from the Leibniz Institute for Photonic Technologies (IPHT) and the German Optical Museum Jena (D.O.M.), the focus is on optical technologies and their application in diagnostic processes and the life sciences. Through the residency, the laboratory becomes the studio and the studio becomes the laboratory, so that the forms and processes of both disciplines can be experienced by the participating artists and scientists, and the public.

Both the exhibition and the process leading to it will be documented in the form of text, photographs and video. A printed documentation and a reflective workshop in the Applied Innovation Lab Vienna (AIL) are in the planning stage.



Room atmosphere in the TRAFO

Location

TRAFO

For several years now, the association IN's NETZ has been establishing a forgotten transformer station in the center of Jena as the new cultural venue TRAFO. For this purpose, innovative cultural formats are developed and cooperation partners and helpers are acquired in order to develop a long-term operating concept. TRAFO is the new Jena innovation laboratory for contemporary art forms and media. It offers an experimental space for different forms of participation, in which members and participants, neighbors and cultural actors can develop their own formats and events. The Genesis of an Artistic Fact is such a project and will find a home in TRAFO. It will thus enter the city's cultural scene as a new player, which does justice to Jenas scientific history, and acts as a much-needed bridge between disciplines.

The venue offers space for up to five artists in residence and also has enough space to carry out various participation formats with sufficient distance.

Already, TRAFO has become a central place for culture in Jena. Following new trends in urban development, we make it possible to expand the functionality of the place, to condense it and thus to create synergies between neighbors, art, culture and science. Located in the heart of the city, the Arts & Science Residency could build bridges between contemporary art and science. Genesis of an Artistic Fact should be the prelude to a long-term use of the machine hall and thus meaningfully complement the existing offer in the TRAFO. Through repeated use, a cycle of exhibition and residency is to be created. The location TRAFO thus provides a contribution to sustainable urban development through the meaningful use of the building.

WORK ROOMS

In addition to the accommodation on site, we provide you with a studio. One floor in the TRAFO is completely available for artistic activity. Its heart forms a large room with skylights (Oberlichtsaal), in which you can exchange ideas with the other artists. A hallway leads from this Oberlichtsaal to your individual work space (approx. 20 m²). In addition to this work space, there are other rooms that can be used and explored. Overall, the TRAFO offers a usable area of approx. 400 m².



Event hall in the TRAFO

Setup

ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS

We will organize a room for you in an apartment close to TRAF0 in Jena. There is a kitchen in the TRAF0 where you can cater for yourself. We want to set up a second kitchen on site by the start of the project. Parties are not possible in the TRAF0's premises.

FEE / BUDGET

We give you 1,000 € which you can use for your catering and project implementation. We do not have an additional budget for material costs. We will be available to help organize everything you need and provide a contact person during the attendance phases.

CORONA

The event will be implemented in careful compliance with the currently valid hygiene regulations to avoid infections with the coronavirus. To ensure the highest possible safety for all participants, rapid antigen tests will be performed at the beginning of each day of the event. We also provide sufficient FFP2 masks. But still, ultimately, only that contact will be possible which the infection situation allows.

PHASES OF THE PROJECT

The residency in presence will focus on the last two weeks of July (19.07.2021 - 01.08.2021) and the last two weeks of September (20.09.2021 - 03.10.2021).

1. Orientation phase

Presentation of topic-related research results of the participating scientists with the involvement of the public. You will move into your studio and you will have the opportunity to interview scientists.

2. Exchange

You work intensively on an interpretation of the research results with regular consultations with scientists.

3. Reflection / Feedback

You will be invited to present the results and be interviewed by scientists.

4. Closing

We open the exhibition together.

TIMELINE

APRIL

Design of concept
Invitation to artists and scientists

MAY

Open Invitation

JUNE

Production

JULY

The artists are present
Participation formats
Postprocessing
Facilitation

AUGUST

Independent work
Facilitation

SEPTEMBER

Support
Facilitation
Kommunikation
Digita participation
Exhibition design
Participation formats
Vernissage

OKTOBER

Documentation
Postprocessing
Open Exhibition

NOVEMBER

Open Exhibition

DECEMBER

Open Exhibition

COOPERATIONS AND INSTITUTES

In Jena we are in contact with numerous scientific institutes. The main topic is life sciences and diagnostics.

At the Hans Knöll Institute with the FungiNet researchers, the focus is on fungi. For example, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, whose infection can lead to sepsis in some cases, will be examined in detail. The researchers believe that nanometer-sized extracellular vesicles are key to understanding the mechanism, and image their activity. In another laboratory, *Candida albicans* is under observation, which again is not actually harmful, but in certain constellations can upset the intestinal flora. Live experiments are used to investigate the effects and develop medication against the condition. Those are carried out in the mouse laboratory under the highest ethical standards. If new substances are developed from this research, they will be tested for purity and suitability in the laboratory of the knowledge transfer group. But to arrive at these findings, hours of microscope images often have to be evaluated for the first time. In order for this to be done automatically, there are the experts in bioinformatics, who use various data processing techniques to analyze and quantify images.

At the Leibniz Institute for Photonic Technologies e.V. (Leibniz IPHT), the focus is on life science imaging techniques. Bacteria, for example, are examined for their dangerousness, and new methods for diagnostics are developed. This can be seen in cubes for microscopy, the development of new optical fibers or the combination of infrared radiation with laser technology.

The Jena School for Microbial Communication (JSMC) also focuses on the nearly invisible. On the site itself, there is a greenhouse and a plant laboratory. The individual research projects focus on the surface life of individual plants as well as classical questions of plant genetics.

The Electron Microscopy Center of the University Hospital Jena (EMZ) is the place to go when conventional imaging techniques cannot uncover what needs to be seen. With its various electron microscopes, the EMZ has the equipment it needs to determine the smallest structural level, opening up completely new landscapes of microworlds.

At the same time, the development of microscopy, and how imaging techniques have evolved over the centuries from the first lenses to high-tech devices, can be seen in the historical collection of the German Optical Museum (D.O.M.). Its exhibits can still be used with due care and caution.

TEAM

Project Management

ENRIQUE TORRES

Project Management

MARIE NIEDERLEITHINGER

Project Assistant · Support Artists · Social Media

VINCENT MAURER

Project Assistant · Cooperation · Data Visualization

KILIAN RÜSS

Project Assistant · Communication design ·

Cultural mediation

GABRIEL DÖRNER

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

We are looking for artists who want to visit the labs and engage with the research of the scientists. This exchange should then lead to concrete art according to your ideas. This working time will be accompanied by an opening event as well as smaller lectures, workshops or similar events. You should be prepared to participate in these activities too. Experience in the field of Arts & Science is desired. We would be happy if you stay in contact with the scientists during the month of August (no classroom) and of course if you share the project through your channels.

Deadline: 13.06.2021

After the Application: We will get in touch and send you additional information on the project and the scientific practice. Then you may suggest preferences and first ideas for your work. We will then select the artists taking into consideration the feasibility of the proposal as well as the quality and originality. You will receive our final response latest 23.06.2021.