

Matera 2019 - European Capital of Culture- Candidate City

Call for the appointment of an Artistic Director

1. Background

In order to prepare and support the candidature of Matera for the European Capital of Culture 2019 title, the Matera 2019 Committee was set up in July 2011 by an institutional partnership consisting of the Matera Municipality, the Basilicata Region, the Potenza Municipality, the Provinces of Matera and Potenza, the University of Basilicata and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Matera.

The Committee appointed a technical team - co-ordinated by the Director and supported by an international Scientific Committee - to prepare the bid, which was submitted in September 2013 (<http://www.matera-basilicata2019.it/en/mt2019/matera-2019-book.html>).

The cultural programme outlined in the bid submitted in September 2013 was prepared by a team of interdisciplinary cultural mediators, working with the local creative community, along with a representative of the Scientific Committee and the Director. The cultural programme aimed to recognise and respond to the needs, experiences and ideas of people all over our territory, also emerged from the open Matera 2019 Community web platform (community.matera-basilicata2019.it).

The Selection Panel carefully assessed the bid books and interviewed representatives from all candidate cities in Rome in November 2013. As a result of this process, Matera was shortlisted along with five other cities (out of twenty-one candidatures).

As such, Matera has been invited to submit a more detailed bid book for the final selection stage for the title of European Capital of Culture for 2019. **The deadline for submission of the final book is 21st July 2014.**

The Matera 2019 Committee is looking for the Artistic Director for the Matera 2019 candidature, with broad experience in the field of the arts and international networking capacities, interested in continuing to develop the candidature of Matera by detailing its cultural programme, in accordance with its innovative vision, concept and themes.

The task of the Artistic Director will also be to enrich the cultural programming strategy of the Matera 2019 final bid, which covers the timespan 2015-2022, by developing key cultural projects based on European co-operation and/or co-production.

The cultural projects will be closely related to the five themes of Matera's candidature:

1. Ancient futures
2. Roots and routes
3. Reflection and connections
4. Continuity and disruptions
5. Utopias and dystopias

The cultural projects should be designed in accordance with - in the words of the European Selection Panel - the Matera 2019 "clear and strong concept, based on the city's special features...(which) addressed culture in a holistic way and was rooted in creating change through citizenship and participation".

More specifically, the Matera 2019 cultural programme should take into account the Matera 2019 approach which is placing great emphasis on:

- European co-production, aimed also at fostering the active involvement and international networking of local communities and stakeholders;
- interdisciplinarity (e.g. collaborations between different cultural forms, including the arts and science);
- sustainability of the candidature and of its projects (in environmental, economic, social and cultural terms), with attention to the effectiveness of its delivery schemes and to its impact on the creative industries of Matera and Basilicata;
- citizens' involvement and inclusion.

2. Main Duties

The Artistic Director will work with the Matera 2019 Director and the Technical-Scientific Committee to:

- strengthen and enrich the cultural programming strategy, which encompasses the 2015-2022 period, including issues concerning co-production, education, research, training, the organisation of residencies and questions of practical implementation and delivery;
- develop detailed projects, based on European cultural co-operation and/or co-production
 - a. by ensuring the artistic and intellectual distinctiveness of all projects, and their correspondence with one of the five themes of Matera 2019;
 - b. by involving actively the Matera/Basilicata creative communities in order to tap and enhance their potential, skills, international contacts and ideas;
 - c. by defining and developing initiatives for the promotion and development of the cultural sector of the city and of the region

- through training and co-production, and other exchange and delivery opportunities through European networks;
 - d. by enhancing the European dimension of Matera’s candidature, in order to position and integrate Matera 2019 bid into national and above all European and international collaborative networks;
 - e. by promoting the involvement and participation of diverse audiences, according to the concept of “cultural citizenship” of Matera 2019 bid book.
- help prepare bids for funding (aimed at sources including relevant local and regional authorities, Foundations and European programmes such as “Creative Europe”);
 - produce briefing papers and research notes as required, to help flesh out the rationales and intellectual/artistic contents of the chosen projects;
 - attend meetings as required and engage in regular communication with Matera 2019 colleagues.

3. Required Skills and Experience

- 1) Deep understanding of the approach, concept and objectives of the Matera 2019 candidature.
- 2) At least 10 years’ proven experience of working on international cultural collaboration projects in creative sectors, according to a participatory and interdisciplinary approach.
- 3) A demonstrable network of national and international relationships (with a particular emphasis on Europe) in different creative sectors, and experience in programming cultural exchanges, in order to enhance the European dimension of the Matera 2019 bid and to position and integrate the Matera/Basilicata creative scene into national and international collaborative networks.
- 4) A demonstrated outstanding track record of experience in working in various fields of contemporary artistic practices, ranging from production, to research, education, and dissemination.
- 5) Proven capacity and experience to promote the involvement and participation of diverse audiences.
- 6) Ability to provide artistic and intellectual leadership and inspiration, with proven knowledge of, and participation, in contemporary artistic and cultural movements at international level, with particular reference to Europe and the Mediterranean;

- 7) Proven experience in project management that is sustainable from both an economic and social point of view, and experience of working with EU institutions, local authorities, other public sector organizations, foundations and other cultural funding bodies.
- 8) Ability to work creatively in teams.
- 9) Outstanding communication skills, including very good writing and oral presentation skills.

Knowledge of Italian and English is essential. Knowledge of other European languages would be an advantage.

Knowledge of digital tools (including collaborative web platforms and social media) and ability to get the most out of them (for mediation or dynamisation purposes) would be an advantage.

4. Submission of applications

Interested experts are invited to submit:

- their curriculum vitae
- the application letter duly filled in and signed according to the form hereby enclosed
- References or other evidence of the candidate's track record of collaborative cultural work at European/international level.

These documents must be sent by **6 February 2014** to the following email address:

Comitato Matera 2019
info@matera-basilicata2019.it

In the subject of the correspondence please quote "Matera 2019 - call for the appointment of an artistic director".

The Matera 2019 Committee assumes the truthfulness of the information provided in the _____ form.

The Matera 2019 Committee might at all times request written documents supporting this _____ information.

The Matera 2019 Committee cannot be held liable for the use of incorrect information obtained via the application form.

All the personal data collected will be processed solely according to the Law on privacy (Decreto Legislativo n.196/2003).

For further information, please write to the e-mail address indicated above.

5. Selection criteria

The Artistic Director will be selected by the Director, supported by the Scientific Committee, on the basis of the following criteria:

- a) proven experience and expertise in designing and developing international cultural projects in the creative industries according to a participatory and interdisciplinary approach;
- b) proven ability and experience in creating international cultural networks and European cultural co-productions, while relying on the active involvement of local communities;
- c) leadership skills as well as artistic and intellectual inspiration, with proven knowledge and participation in the main contemporary cultural movements, with particular reference to Europe and the Mediterranean;
- d) experience in project management that is sustainable from both an economic and social point of view.

The Matera 2019 Committee thanks all applicants, but informs that only those considered for an interview will be contacted. The interviews with the finalists candidates will take place during the week between 10 and 14 February 2014.

An equal opportunities policy, rejecting any form of discrimination on the grounds of gender, ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation will be applied.

The Matera 2019 Committee may decide not to appoint the Artistic Director if no suitable candidates are found.

Contract information

The Artistic Director will work since the appointment (presumably February 2014) to July 2014 in order to produce the cultural Programme. In addition, he/she will be involved in the preparation of the selection meeting with the European Selection Panel during September and October 2014. The Artistic Director is expected also to work on the visit to Matera by members of the European Selection Panel, and to take part in the meeting with the Panel itself.

The salary is in line with remunerations for similar positions, and its exact amount depending on the skills and quality of the experience demonstrated by the selected candidate.

More information:

Web site: www.matera-basilicata2019.it

Bid Book: <http://www.matera-basilicata2019.it/en/mt2019/matera-2019-book.html>

Matera 2019 community: community.matera-basilicata2019.it