

## **01. PRESENTATION**

Organismo | Art in Applied Critical Ecologies is a platform of multiple collaborators for research, mediation, and co-creation aimed at fostering transformative actions in response to the challenges of the ecological crisis.

Organismo launches an independent study program as a joint initiative between TBA21-Academy and the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza to explore other methodologies and configurations of actors in processes of ecological transformation.

The program is organized around a series of applied case studies that are activated through a means of alliances with different agents and approached from related artistic practices. It has a duration of six months, from January 2024 to June 2024, and develops through a hybrid format that combines in-person and online sessions organized on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

## **02. PURPOSE**

The present call, in accordance with the principles of transparency, equality, and fairness of the entities involved, aims to form a study group of up to 42 members to participate in the independent studies program. This program will last for six months, taking place between January and June 2024, with the following objectives:

- A) Promote research, reflection, and the design of actor configurations that position artistic practice as a driving force to generate new social visions for ecological regeneration.
- B) Encourage the inclusion of artistic practices in the negotiation, ideation, and design of initiatives aimed at social transformations, and advocate for policies that are demanded by current crises.
- C) Foster connections among agents from different disciplines and their associated contexts, who develop practices aligned with those proposed by Organismo in response to the ecological crisis.
- D) Facilitate connections between actors and related cases located in different parts of Spain, allowing them to inform and mutually enrich each other.
- E) Provide participants with theoretical, creative, and relational support, as well as educational resources to facilitate the artistic process.

## **03. FOR WHO IS IT INTENDED**

This call is aimed at adults, with no requirement for formal qualifications or curriculum justification, who have interests and some form of experience related to the proposed research lines and case studies that will be developed.

Each candidate, in their application, must choose a single case study to be a part of along with a second choice from among the six options presented in the call. Between 5 and 7 participants will be selected for each case study, resulting in a total of between 30 and 42 slots for the first year of the program.

## **04. REQUIREMENTS**

All participants must meet all of the requirements. Non-compliance implies the candidate's exclusion from the selection process:

- Applicants must be over 18 years of age.
- Proficiency in both Spanish and English for an effective expression and comprehension throughout the program is required.
- Only individuals may apply; applications made by legal entities or other entities without legal personhood will not be considered.

## **05. DURATION**

This program has a duration of six months, spanning from January to June 2024. It follows a hybrid format, combining in-person and online sessions organized on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, with three concentrated periods of collective design workshops and presentations.

Participants are required to attend the collaborative methodological design workshop sessions in-person which will take place over three days in January 2024 in Madrid. Additionally, they are required to attend the continued design sessions that will take place throughout January 2024. Attendance to the presentation sessions outlining the objectives of the case studies in February 2024 is also mandatory. The exact dates for these sessions will be communicated before the deadline for participants to confirm their participation in the program.

The phase of autonomous development of cases, occurring from April to June 2024, will conclude with a presentation of results and the evaluation of the case studies.

It will be possible for participants to attend the Thursday sessions in Madrid, although they will be recorded and shared with participants for later viewing in case it is not possible to attend in person. Commitment to attending these sessions, whether in person or online, is requested.

A commitment is required to participating in all established online working sessions for the cases on Fridays, as well as participation in the field trip to Madrid and the location of the configured case study. Additionally, attendance to the public closing presentation of this year's program scheduled for June 2024 is expected.

All dates are subject to change for organizational reasons. If any changes occur, TBA21 will notify participants as soon as possible. The in-person work sessions in Madrid will be held at the Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum and other locations, which will be communicated to participants in advance.

## **06. SELECTION PROCESS**

### **A) Application Deadline**

All those interested in participating in the call who meet the established requirements must submit a PDF responding to the questions indicated in the open call before December 27th 2023 at 11:59 PM. The applicant must send a PDF of up to three pages to the email address [organismo@tba21.org](mailto:organismo@tba21.org) with their answers to the questions. In the case of applying for the *substrate* scholarship, the applicant must include their responses to the corresponding additional questions, potentially extending the length of their application by one more page. Additionally, they may share a presentation video of up to two minutes in duration. All information must not exceed a maximum file size of 15 MB. Responses to the questions can be provided in either Spanish or English.

### **B) Phases of the Selection Process**

The selection process will consist of two phases:

- **Preselection:** The Evaluation Committee will review the applications, make a preselection, and will contact preselected candidates via email to invite them to an online interview. Communication to these candidates will be conducted via email until December 29th, 2023.
- **Final selection:** After the interviews scheduled for January the 3rd and 4th, 2024, the Evaluation Committee will proceed with the selection of candidates who best meet the evaluation criteria established in this call.

TBA21 will notify the final selected participants via email. Once the selection has been announced, participants must make the payment following the stipulations in section 7 of this document. Failure to make the payment by the specified date will be considered as the participant's rejection of their place in the program. The selection of the final group of participants will be communicated privately to each of them via email.

The planned dates for selection interviews or communication of the selected candidates may be subject to changes for organizational reasons. In such cases, candidates will be informed as soon as possible via email.

The decision of the Evaluation Committee will be final and non-appealable. TBA21 reserves the right not to award all the scholarships announced, if recommended by the Evaluation Committee.

### **C) The Evaluation Committee**

TBA21 will establish an Evaluation Committee whose objective will be to carry out the selection process detailed in this document. The Committee will consist of a total of three members: two individuals from the TBA21 team associated with the Organismo structure and one person from external collaborating entities for each case study. The acceptance of candidates, as well as their exclusion for non-compliance with requirements, is solely within the competence of the Evaluation Committee.

### **D) Evaluation Criteria**

The submitted applications will be examined by the Evaluation Committee based on the following criteria:

- **Trajectory:** previous life and intellectual experiences of the participants will be taken into account, and how these can positively contribute to the program's goals.
- **Diversity:** diversity of approaches, disciplines, and origins will be valued, as well as their integration into the overall selection of candidates and the resulting composition of each study group.
- **Group compatibility:** efforts will be made to create a diverse working group, both in terms of disciplines and the specific backgrounds of the candidates, while considering and adapting to the characteristics of each case study.

## **07. PAYMENT**

Once selected, participants are required to make a payment of 310€ as a registration fee. The payment can be made in full or in two installments.

The full payment must be made starting from January 8th, 2024, and before January 18th, 2024. In the case of instalment payments, the first installment corresponding to 50% of the payment must be made before January 18th, 2024, and the second payment, corresponding to the remaining 50%, before February 18th, 2024. Participants are required to make these payments to an account specified by TBA21.

If participants do not make this payment following the conditions specified in this document, TBA21 will consider them to have forfeited their spot, and it may be reassigned to another candidate.

## **08. SCHOLARSHIP**

The *substrate* scholarship offers the opportunity for six participants to take on the role of documenting and reporting the development of the different cases, as well as exploring ways to report the impact of the process.

This scholarship covers the entire program registration fee and offers a stipend of 1,500 EUR. TBA21 Foundation will pay 50% of the amount at the beginning of the program and the remaining 50% upon its completion. The first payment will be made within 30 days from the confirmation of acceptance of the scholarship by the selected participants. The second payment will be made within 30 days after the submission of materials produced by the scholarship recipients to TBA21. Payment of this amount will be carried out through a bank transfer following the signing of a receipt by the scholarship recipient provided by TBA21. For this purpose, TBA21 will request the participant's information regarding the destination bank account. The commitment should adhere to all the agreements established for the entire duration of this edition of the independent study program. To be eligible for this scholarship, applicants must respond to the specific questions indicated.

## **09. PARTICIPANT OBLIGATIONS**

Selected participants commit to fulfilling the following obligations:

- A) Attend the sessions as specified in section 5 of this document, either in person or remotely. In the event that attending the in-person sessions on Thursdays is not possible, participants agree to subsequently view the materials provided by TBA21.

B) Adhere to the protocols for space usage and behavior provided to participants.

C) Provide the documentation requested by TBA21.

D) Act at all times in accordance with the values advocated by TBA21 and collaborating entities, excluding any discriminatory behavior.

In addition to these obligations, scholarship recipients must meet the following commitments:

A) Act as a representative for the other participants of the case for communication with Organismo and other stakeholders.

B) Document, measure, and evaluate the processes developed in the specific case of which they are part, generating the appropriate materials to respond to the specific needs and agreements established in the case study. This documentation will be presented at the end of the program, and aims to serve as an assessment and consultation tool.

#### **10. EXPENSES COVERED BY TBA21**

TBA21 will cover participants' expenses related to travel, accommodation, and meals for the trip to the specific case study location outlined in the program, from any point of the Spanish geography. TBA21 will reimburse these amounts to participants after the trip has taken place and participants have provided justification for the expenses to TBA21.

Participants must adhere to the Travel Policy provided by TBA21 after their selection. TBA21 will not cover any expenses that do not comply with these guidelines.

#### **11. INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY**

The ownership of creations eligible for protection under intellectual property rights, conceived within the framework of the Organismo project, shall remain vested in their respective creators/authors, whether individual or collective.

Notwithstanding the above, participants hereby grant, without distinction, to TBA21 and MNTB the authorization to publicly communicate such creations for communicative, informative, and program promotional purposes, always ensuring due attribution to the authors and excluding commercial exploitation. Any work or material developed within the ambit of Organismo shall be duly credited in its public presentation, communication, or publication as follows: "A project conceived within the Organismo Independent Study Program, organized by TBA21 and MNTB."

Participants are obligated to notify TBA21 of any creations arising from the project that may be susceptible to protection under Industrial Property, prior to their public disclosure in any format. Both TBA21 and MNTB expressly reserve the right to be acknowledged as collaborators or promoters of said creation for the purpose of communication to third parties.

In all instances, TBA21 and MNTB shall uphold the moral rights of participating individuals, particularly the right to be recognized as

inventors or authors.

#### **12. IMAGE RIGHTS**

Participants should be aware that photographs and videos will be taken throughout the project's development. The intention is to use, distribute, and publish the photographs or videos that feature the participants and are taken during the project to promote TBA21's activities and those of its collaborators, promote the project, and increase the level of TBA21's dissemination, always free of charge. This may include, but is not limited to, the following actions: publication in newsletters, posting on the TBA21 website, sharing on social media platforms such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram, publication in print media, and dissemination to event participants. The photographs and videos will be retained for as long as necessary to achieve the purposes for which they were collected or to fulfill legal obligations.

#### **13. DATA PROTECTION**

TBA21 fully complies with current data protection legislation. The personal data that applicants must provide in accordance with these guidelines will be processed by TBA21 and collaborating entities to manage and process the requests, services, or inquiries made by the applicants; to send them information, including electronically, about similar activities; and to comply with the legal obligations to which it is subject.

Applicants accept the document regarding the processing of their personal data when completing their online application. Participants have the right to object at any time to the processing activity, as well as the right of access to the data, the right of rectification, the right of erasure, the right to restriction of processing, and the right to data portability. Participants can exercise their rights by sending an email to: [privacy@tba21.org](mailto:privacy@tba21.org). Additionally, participants have the right to file a complaint with the Spanish Data Protection Agency (AEPD).

#### **14. OBSERVATIONS**

14.1 All deadlines and times specified in these guidelines are understood to be in the time zone of peninsular Spain.

14.2. The submission of an application for this call implies, on the part of the candidate, the explicit acceptance of both these guidelines and the criteria and decisions that TBA21 may make regarding any interpretation doubts about the requirements and conditions stated up to this point.

14.3. The identification of a violation of these guidelines, regardless of when it occurs and regardless of the status of the application within the preselection, selection, or acceptance process, will result in the automatic cancellation of the candidate's participation in the project, as well as the scholarship if it has already been awarded.

14.4. In the event that a participant does not fulfill the commitments arising from these guidelines, or any other commitments communicated to them by TBA21 at a later date, TBA21 reserves the right to take action as it deems appropriate and may even request the return of funds received if the participant in breach was a scholarship recipient. In this case, the participant will not be able to participate in future calls for the project.