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Art. 1 - Premises and Objectives

- 1. The Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity (DGCC) of the Ministry of Culture (MIC) and the American Academy in Rome (AAR) have signed Convention No. 26 on December 5, 2024, to establish a project for the promotion of Italian art abroad. The main objective of this project is to create networks of connection between the Italian and American art systems, as well as to encourage opportunities for the development of knowledge about the Italian system in the field of contemporary creativity in the United States.
- 2. In implementation of the aforementioned agreement, the AAR, with the support and collaboration of the DGCC, announces a public selection procedure (hereinafter also referred to as the "Open Call") for the selection of an Italian curator for research whose main objective is the international promotion of contemporary art and the Italian art system. The project includes a residency period at the AAR headquarters from March 3 to May 23, 2025, and a presentation of the research in New York in the fall of 2025.
- 3. The objectives of the project are:
- a) To support high-quality critical and curatorial practice and research in contemporary art, with an international perspective, particularly in relation to the USA;
 - b) To enhance and promote knowledge of contemporary art and the Italian art system in the USA;
- c) To encourage the creation of international networks for the promotion and awareness of contemporary art and the Italian art system abroad, especially in the USA; as well as the institutional support opportunities and tools also activated by the DGCC.
- d) To support the development of the careers and research of Italian curators, with particular attention to young talents in an international context.

Art. 2 - Subject

The selected curator will conduct personal research during a residency period at the AAR, focused on contemporary Italian art and aimed at creating dialogues between the actors of the Italian contemporary art system and international institutions and artists. The goal is also to highlight the opportunities that Italy, and specifically the Ministry of Culture through the DGCC, offers to international institutions that wish to develop/promote/invest in projects dedicated to Italian art. The residency may include institutional exchange moments with international entities associated with the Academy, leveraging the AAR's important network. At the end of the residency period, the research will be presented at the AAR's American partners and other institutions based in New York. This may include organizing, as examples, talks, conferences, roundtables, and performative events, with the specific aim of building opportunities for future collaborations. Additionally, as a collateral activity, during the stay in New York, the curator will be required to engage in networking activities, particularly establishing peer-to-peer relationships with American institutions to specifically promote the international promotion of contemporary Italian art by the DGCC.

The residency will take place at the American Academy in Rome, located in Via Angelo Masina 5, exclusively from March 3 to May 23, 2025, according to the AAR's schedule, and includes:

- A single room with a private bathroom
- A workspace with a desk
- · Meals from the AAR RSFP kitchen
- A research grant of €2,000.00 per month for three months, gross of any applicable taxes
- Benefits of being part of the international community of the American Academy, including resources, programs, and mentoring
- A research presentation event in Rome at the AAR (Shoptalk)



3. The event in New York will take place between September and December 2025 and includes:

- Round-trip ticket from Rome to New York
- · Accommodation in New York
- Event and related activities

Art. 3 - Requirements

The public selection is open to Italian curators who work in Italy and/or abroad, and to non-Italian curators who are residents or operate in Italy, and who, in any case, work predominantly on the Italian contemporary art scene. They should have national and international curatorial and professional experience, demonstrating a mid-career curatorial career.

The general requirements for candidates are as follows:

- a) Must be at least 18 years old;
- b) Must enjoy civil and political rights. If the candidate holds a nationality other than Italian, they must enjoy civil and political rights in their country of origin or residence;
- c) Must not be subject to prohibitive sanctions from public offices or any other legal or financial sanction that would prevent contracting with Public Administrations;
- d) Must not have any ongoing conflicts of interest with the Ministry of Culture or the American Academy in Rome, and must not be in any situations of incompatibility as defined by current regulations.

The specific participation requirements for candidates are:

- a) Curatorial Experience: Must have at least 5 (five) years of experience national or international, demonstrable by curating and/or setting up exhibitions, events, or artistic projects at high-level museums, art centers, and institutions, both public and private, dedicated to Italian and international art or related themes. This includes festivals, fairs, and exhibitions of any kind;
- b) Professional Experience: Must have had, or currently hold, within the last 5 (five) years, responsibility roles, coordination, and/or teaching positions at museums, cultural institutions, universities, academies, or research centers, both public and private, active in the field of contemporary art and its system;
- c) Scientific Expertise: Must have published works (monographs, essays, articles in specialized journals) and/or have participated in conferences related to contemporary art and visual culture with particular attention to Italian art or related topics;
- d) Knowledge of English: Must have a good knowledge of both written and spoken English.

Art. 4 - Selection Procedure

Those interested and in possession of the requirements set out in Art. 3 of this Open Call must submit an application for participation in the selection process, following the procedures specified in the following Art. 5 and attaching the documents listed in Art. 6.

Applications received by the established deadline will first be evaluated from an administrative perspective to verify the correctness of the submitted documentation and the required qualifications.

Subsequently, applications that pass the administrative review will be submitted to a specially appointed Commission, as outlined in Art. 7 of this Open Call. The Commission will then conduct a merit-based evaluation of the applications based on the criteria specified in Art. 8, selecting up to a maximum of five finalists. These finalists will be invited for an interview with the Evaluation Commission, also to assess their language and interpersonal skills.

At the end of this evaluation phase, the Commission will select the candidate deemed most suitable to undertake the residency.



Art. 5 – Application Submission

Interested candidates may submit their application here online by no later than 11:59 PM on January 30, 2025, with the subject: "CURATOR AAR/DGCC - FIRST NAME LAST NAME."

The application must be written exclusively in Italian and in English, following the template attached to this Open Call (Attachment 1), and must include the required documentation as specified in the following Art. 6.

The application must also include, in accordance with the decree of the President of the Republic of December 28, 2000, no. 445, a Substitute Declaration certifying: possession of the specific requirements outlined in Art. 3 and, more generally, in this Open Call; the truthfulness and accuracy of all declared information; acceptance and compliance with the regulations set forth in this Open Call; declaration of truthfulness and accuracy of all declared information; declaration regarding the absence of incompatibilities or conflicts of interest, as per Legislative Decree no. 39 of April 8, 2013, and subsequent amendments; declaration of no criminal convictions and no pending criminal proceedings; if criminal convictions or pending proceedings exist, the details of the conviction or ongoing proceedings must be specified, as indicated by the relevant judicial authorities' records; declaration of not being subject to sanctions preventing public office access or any other legal or financial sanction that prohibits contracting with Public Administrations; authorization for the processing of personal data, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR) and subsequent amendments, and Legislative Decree no. 196 of June 30, 2003, regarding the "Code on the protection of personal data" and subsequent amendments.

Applications will not be considered if:

- a) applications are received after the deadlines specified above;
- b) applications are received with incomplete documentation;
- c) applications are not properly signed by the applicant;
- d) applications are received in a manner different from the one specified.

Art. 6 - Required Documentation

Only proposals submitted according to the procedures outlined in Art. 5 of this Open Call will be considered for evaluation. Applications submitted in any other manner than the specified one, or after the deadlines set by this Open Call, will not be considered and will not be admitted for evaluation.

The following documents, written in Itlian and in English, must be attached to the application:

- Updated Curriculum Vitae: The CV must be current as of the application submission date and should outline the studies, experience, and skills required. It should also include qualifications and curatorial, professional, and scientific experience as required in Art. 3, and must be dated and signed by the applicant.
- List of Curatorial, Professional, and Scientific Experience: This is a declaration of the qualifications and experiences required in Art. 3 of this Open Call. There is no limit to the titles that can be declared beyond the minimum requirements outlined in Art. 3.
- Research Project: The proposal (maximum 8,000 characters including spaces) must align with the strategic objectives outlined in Art. 2 of this Open Call. It should include the research title, a general description of the topic and issues addressed, the specific contribution of the project. The proposal should also include the role of Italy in the contemporary art scene, the identification of artists or types of artists and institutions involved in the research, their role in innovation and diversity in contemporary art, and their significance in the national and international contemporary art landscape. Proposals for presenting the project and other ideas related to building international networks with institutions that involve promoting Italian art in New York should also be included.



- Motivational Letter: A signed letter (maximum 2,500 characters including spaces) written in Italian and English in
 which the candidate supports their application and expresses their personal research idea related to the project they
 intend to develop and their curatorial practice.
- Reference Letter: A signed letter of recommendation from either academic and institutional figures, to be written on official letterhead from the institution of the signatory, certifying the candidate's abilities, experience, and skills.
- Copy of a valid ID: A copy of the front and back of a valid identification document.

Art. 7 - Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will consist of a representative from the DGCC, a representative from the AAR, and a prominent technical-scientific figure from the contemporary art sector. This individual will be selected from museum directors, art center leaders, contemporary institutions (national and international), critics, curators, university professors in the field, and experts of national and international renown.

The Selection Committee may meet in person at the AAR headquarters or remotely.

Participation in the Committee is voluntary and does not entitle members to any compensation or payment of any kind, except for the reimbursement of any documented expenses incurred for in-person participation in the evaluation process. The decision of the Selection Committee, expressed collectively, is final and cannot be appealed.

Art. 8 - Evaluation Criteria and Work of the Jury

- 1. Applications received in the manner and within the deadlines indicated in Art. 5 of this Open Call will undergo a preliminary review by the AAR to verify the completeness and regularity of the submitted documentation.
- 2. Candidates admitted to the selection will be examined and evaluated by the Commission, which may meet remotely, based on the following criteria:
- a)The curator's profile, based on the submitted CV, with particular reference to past experiences and published works, as well as the qualifications and skills declared.
- b)The quality, originality, and overall sustainability of the research proposal in terms of its alignment with the objectives of the call, especially with respect to the knowledge and promotion of Italian contemporary art.
- c)The motivation of the candidate, their personal vision of the research topic, and their perspectives regarding the presentation of their research.
- 3. After reviewing the submitted and eligible applications, the Jury will select up to a maximum of five candidates deemed suitable to participate in an oral interview, which will be conducted by the Commission along with the Director of the AAR. During the interview, the candidate's qualifications and skills as outlined in the application will be discussed, and relational skills necessary for the networking actions required during the project restitution phase will be assessed. Specifically, the following skills and approaches will be evaluated, which are necessary for mediation and prestation activities at the AAR event in the USA: the ability to build intercultural relationships, to mediate between Italian and international realities, knowledge of the Italian and international contemporary art systems, its key players, and major institutions, ability to communicate clearly and effectively, ability to identify the objectives, phases, characteristics, and execution methods of the residency project and its potential developments, leadership, information management, motivation, and autonomy. Furthermore, the interview will assess the candidate's proficiency in the English language.



- 4. The interviews will take place in person at the AAR or remotely, and will be communicated by the AAR, but no later than mid-February 2025.
 - 5. The AAR will notify the maximum of five selected curators by email regarding their admission to the interview.
- 6. At the end of the interviews, the expanded Jury, including the Director of the AAR, will make a reasoned decision and select the most suitable proposal and candidate for the research residency.

Art. 9 - Reference Offices and FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

- 1. Candidates wishing to participate may request clarifications regarding this Open Call exclusively by submitting written questions to the email address: if@aarome.org.
- 2. The AAR Administration will respond within 5 (five) working days. Subsequently, the most frequently asked questions (FAQ) will be published periodically on the AAR website. No responses will be provided to questions or clarification requests submitted in a manner or within a timeframe other than specified.

Art. 10 - Safeguard Clause and Final Provisions

- 1. In the event that obstacles arise to the continuation of this Open Call, AAR and DGCC reserve the right to postpone or revoke it and, at their sole discretion, to not select any Curator and/or to publish a new Open Call.
- 2. For all matters not expressly addressed in this Open Call, the current regulations on the matter apply.

Art. 11 - Disputes

1. For any disputes that may arise regarding this Open Call, the exclusive jurisdiction will be the Court of Rome.

Art. 12 - Ethical Policy

1. The actions undertaken by the DGCC and AAR aim at the full inclusion of all diversities that exist in contemporary society, as these differences are a reflection of art and culture in their natural form. Therefore, the DGCC and AAR ensure that no unjust or discriminatory phenomena occur in the selection of the curator and the research project. Instead, they promote diversity in terms of gender, age, race, nationality, religion, gender identity, and sexual orientation, as well as the inclusion of minorities and/or underrepresented groups.

Art. 13 - Personal Data Processing

- 1. The data collected from the application to participate in the public selection will be processed, used, and stored, including through computerized procedures, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation) and Legislative Decree No. 196 of June 30, 2003, and subsequent amendments, exclusively for purposes related to the execution of the procedure itself and for subsequent activities related to the potential appointment of the research curator, in compliance with the aforementioned regulations.
- 2. The personal data will be processed in compliance with legal provisions, using security measures designed to ensure the confidentiality of the data subject to whom the data refers.
- 3. The provision of data is mandatory, and refusal to provide the data will result in the inability to evaluate the application for participation in the selection, as well as the subsequent obligations related to the current selection process.



4. The data controller for the personal data processed by the Direzione Generale Creatività Contemporanea of the Ministry of Culture is the same Direzione Generale, located in Rome, Via di San Michele, 22 - 00153.

5.The data subject may exercise, under the conditions and within the limits set out in Regulation (EU) 2016/679, the rights provided by Articles 15 and following of the same regulation, and in particular: access to their personal data, correction, updating, or deletion of the same, restriction or prohibition of data processing carried out in violation of the law, and opposition to the processing for legitimate reasons. The data subject may also file a complaint with the Italian Data Protection Authority. Additionally, they may contact the Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the MIC at the email address rpd@cultura.gov.it.

6.The data processed by the AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME are those necessary for the management and organization of all relationships related to (and arising from) the execution of the requested service, limited to what is strictly necessary for the purposes described in the following paragraph 2, as provided by EU Regulation 2016/679.

The personal data to be provided are, by way of example and not exhaustive, defined by law as follows:

- Common identifying personal data, i.e., demographic data such as name and surname, date and place of birth, tax code, residence address, contact details (landline and/or mobile phone numbers, email addresses);
- Any data related to accompanying family members;
- · Curriculum Vitae;
- Data related to private insurance;
- Special data (formerly sensitive data), such as medical certification attesting to general health status, as well as any information provided in the Curriculum Vitae submitted;
- Banking data.

Art. 14 - Acceptance of the Regulation

By participating to this Open Call for the selection of an Italian curator for a research residency at the American Academy in Rome aimed at the international promotion of contemporary art and the Italian art system, candidates accept without any reservation the regulation contained in this Open Call, including the annexes and the FAQs published on the dedicated AAR webpage, which form an integral part of the call.

Art. 15 - Responsible Offices

The office responsible for this Open Call is the AAR, which can be contacted at the email address: if@aarome.org.

Art. 16 - Publicity and Transparency

- 1. This Open Call is published on the institutional websites of the AAR and, in copy, on the website of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity.
- 2. The results of the final selection, including the name of the selected curator, will be published in accordance with the principles of relevance and non-excessiveness on the institutional websites of the AAR and the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Ministry of Culture.

