CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Deadline: 25 October 2019
FRIENDS OF THE AWI PRIZE
FOR YOUNG CONTEMPORARY ARAB ARTISTS

The Society of Friends of the Arab World Institute helps the Arab World Institute (AWI) fulfil its mission to promote the discovery and knowledge of the Arab world. The Prize for young contemporary Arab artists aims to promote emerging creative talents from the twenty-two Arab League countries and give young artists international visibility.

Launched in 2016, the Prize aims to support and help the general public discover young artists in the Arab world. The Prize aims to reveal new talent every year. Through this project, the Friends of the Arab World Institute also aims to give the general public an opportunity to see the contemporaneity of the Arab world through the unique view of a generation of artists who are under forty.

The winning artist is invited to create an original work, which will be exhibited in a group exhibition at the Arab World Institute. The work will subsequently enter the collections of the AWI’s museum.

The artist will be given a three-month residency at the Cité internationale des arts in Paris, in order to create his/her work (creation and/or post-creation).

This residency period will also enable the artist to develop his/her artistic practices and show the work in progress to professionals in the art world. The Arab World Institute and its partners—the Cité internationale des arts, the Institut Français, and the Maison des Artistes—will help the artist to meet curators, critics, artists, conservators, publishers, collectors, and so on.

The Friends of the AWI and the Arab World Institute will give the artist an opportunity to meet the AWI’s exhibition visitors.
2020 Edition

In partnership with the Arab World Institute, the Friends of the AWI are launching the Fifth Edition of the Friends of the AWI Prize for young contemporary Arab artists.

The Prize will offer the winning artist a three-month creative residency at the Cité internationale des arts in Paris, between February and April 2020. The artist will be given a place in which to create his/her work (a studio workshop), will benefit from professional guidance, and will have an opportunity to meet visitors.

The Prize includes a grant of 5,000 euros. It is composed of a grant for living expenses and a creativity grant for the creation of a work whose project has been submitted to the jury.

The work will be exhibited during the entire period of the collective exhibition ‘Arab Divas’ at the Arab World Institute (Paris, France), from April to July 2020.

The winning work will then enter the AWI Museum’s collections.

Application deadline: 25 October 2019
The fifth edition has been organised as part of the exhibition ‘Arab Divas’ at the Arab World Institute.

In the spring of 2020, the Arab World Institute will be holding a major exhibition about the Arab divas. The exhibition itinerary will focus on portraits of the legends of the golden age of Arab music and cinema. What is a diva? Who were these women? What has become of these icons today?

From Cairo to Beirut and from the Maghreb to France, the exhibition will highlight these avant-garde and visionary figures whose voices and faces represented the Arab world. Hence, the image of these divas was part of a political, social, intellectual, and artistic context. The exhibition also explores the contemporary heritage of these divas and their impact on society. Contemporary art and music will underscore the legacy of the divas and the issues they still evoke about the future of Arab societies.

The 2020 Friends of the AWI Prize offers candidates an opportunity to explore the heritage of the great divas of Arab song: Umm Kulthūm, Asmahān, Fairuz, and Warda. The candidates will be able to draw on their own family or personal experience and/or will be able to question the notion of heritage (musical, aesthetic, social, and political heritage) from this golden age. They can, if they wish to do so, produce a work devoted to one of the singers (with the exception of easel portraits and Umm Kulthūm who has already been a source of inspiration for many contemporary works).
THE ARAB WORLD INSTITUTE

Inaugurated in 1987, the Arab World Institute is the fruit of a partnership between France and the twenty-two members of the Arab League: Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen. With its library, exhibition rooms, and its programme of encounters and debates, events, concerts, and films, the Arab World Institute aims to promote and disseminate Arab culture.

THE CITE INTERNATIONALE DES ARTS

Founded in 1965, the Cité Internationale des Arts is the largest artist residency centre in the world. Every year, in partnership with 135 organisations in 52 countries, including France, it accommodates more than 1,000 artists from 90 countries in more than 300 residential studios in the centre of Paris. Artists practising in every field and also French and foreign curators and intellectuals can take up residencies over periods extending from 2 months to 1 year.

THE INSTITUT FRANCAIS

The Institut Français is a public establishment responsible for France’s external cultural policy. Operating under the dual auspices of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture, it actively contributes to France’s diplomatic influence. The Institut's projects and programmes are based on a unique deployment capacity via the extensive network of cultural services provided by the French Embassies, the Instituts Français, and the Alliances Françaises, which are present on the five continents.

THE MAISON DES ARTISTES

The Maison des Artistes, the official organisation that manages the social security scheme for artists and authors in the field of the graphic and plastic arts, constitutes a collective force for reflection and action. Through its many missions since 1952, the Maison des Artistes has represented artists in all their diversity, and is committed to improving their working conditions. It offers extensive advice and support to visual artists.
I. REQUIREMENTS

a. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Participation in the competition is reserved for applicants who meet the following requirements; they must be:

▪ A national of one of the following countries: Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, or Yemen.
▪ An artist involved in the visual arts (drawing, photography, video, installations, etc.)
▪ Aged under 40 (or aged 40) on 31 October 2019
▪ Apply as an individual
▪ An artist whose work has never been the subject of a monograph (other than in a gallery & art school).
▪ Be able to speak some English or French

The applicants must fulfil all the requirements of the Prize: they must be actually present during the three-month residency (February–April 2020), create a unique work, exhibit the work at the AWI, give the work to the AWI’s Museum, and interact when necessary with the general public and professionals in the art world.

b. THE THEME OF THE 2020 EDITION

Candidates will need to submit an artistic project based on the following theme: ‘Arab Divas’

c. APPLICATION DOSSIER

Candidates will need to assemble an application dossier in French or English, comprising the following elements:
- The completed application form
- A CV (solely featuring the candidate’s artistic career)
- A copy of an identity document
- A portfolio presenting previous work (between 5 and 20 pages max.)

Dossiers will need to be sent, **by post or e-mail**, to the address below, with a strict **deadline for receipt of 25 October 2019, at midnight**:

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Amis de l’IMA, Institut du monde arabe
1, rue des fossés Saint Bernard – Place Mohamed V – 75236 Paris Cedex 5,
FRANCE
amisma@imarabe.org
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The Friends of the AWI reserve the right to reject incomplete applications or those submitted after the applications deadline mentioned above.

The Friends of the AWI will initially let all the candidates know by e-mail that their application has been received and will eventually communicate the name of the prizewinner.

d. **MEANS OF DELIBERATION AND EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The jury will assess each project submitted according to the following criteria:
- Quality of the project
- Conformity and pertinence with the theme: ‘Arab Divas’
- The realistic budget & dimensions of the work
- The specific objectives of the artist during the residency
- The winner’s involvement in meeting professionals and visitors
- The candidate’s mastery of French or English

The dossiers will be submitted to a jury, which will be responsible for selecting, according to the quality of the applications, the project that will win the Prize.
II. PRIZE ENDOWMENT

The prizewinning artist will:

▪ **work in a residential studio** in the Cité internationale des arts, located in the Marais district, for 3 months, between February and April 2020.

▪ **receive a grant worth 5,000 euros.**

**The grant comprises:**

- a creative grant to create the work whose project was submitted to the jury
- a living allowance to cover daily expenses

The grant will be given to the winner during his/her stay in Paris.

The work created by the artist will be donated by the latter to the AWI's Museum.

**Additional expenses covered by the Society of the Friends of the AWI:**

- the offer of a residential studio in the Cité internationale des arts
- visa expenses
- the artist’s transport expenses (round trip to Paris)

III. AWARD OF THE PRIZE & EXHIBITION OF THE WORK

The Prize will be awarded at the AWI in the presence of the President of the Arab World Institute, and the Chairman of the Friends of the AWI Prize jury.

The prizewinning work will be exhibited throughout the exhibition ‘Arab Divas’, from April to July 2020. The work will then be integrated into the collections of the AWI’s Museum.
IV. AUTHORISATIONS

The provisions in Articles II & III are deemed to have been accepted by the candidate. The prizewinning artist hereby accepts that the AWI shall present his or her work in this framework and without any difficulty or claim. With regard to this, the candidate will transfer to the AWI any rights associated with the work with regard to its reproduction (print, Internet) and representation to the general public, within the framework of the promotion of the Prize.

The resulting work must be faithful to the project presented to and selected by the jury. The AWI, as the author of the exhibition ‘Foot et Monde Arabe’ (‘Football and the Arab World’), shall verify that the completed work matches the theme of the aforementioned call for applications, with which it is closely associated.

V. TIMETABLE

- Submission of applications: until 25 October 2019
- Meeting of the jury: November 2019
- Announcement of the prizewinner: November 2019
- Residency: 3 months, from February to April 2020
- Inauguration of the exhibition and prize-giving ceremony: April 2020

CONTACT
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