

ART PROJECT AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN

# WARLANDS



Co-funded by the  
European Union

2022

OPEN CALL



## description

**MARLANDS** is a contemporary art project that examines the Mediterranean and promotes the protection of its uniqueness as a region by transnational and interdisciplinary communication. The project is targeting **the islands of the Mediterranean Sea** which are the **treasury** of the regional culture and nature.

We realise that in the age of pandemic, increasing environmental threats, global social and cultural problems that are caused also by ecological issues and human activities, it is important to remind everyone of the **importance of humane values** and **harmonised life** of the people with each other and the nature.

We believe that the art and culture, as the **most powerful tools** of the humanity, are capable of **making change** to the current complicated situation worldwide giving the platform for cooperation, dialogue and creativity.

## objectives

The project seeks to:

- promote the Mediterranean nature and culture with a special focus on the islands as the treasuries of the basin's natural diversity as well as the places with the most vulnerable ecosystems;
- foster interest in and activate the cultural sector in the islands that have been threatened by its isolation from the continent especially because of the Covid-19 pandemic and its aftermaths;
- promote interdisciplinary, eco-friendly methods of art-making through cooperation between the artists, scientists, local public and cultural institutions in the islands.

The project has done a research in advance on the problematic issues that the targeted islands have in order to provide you with the current general situations there. You may find some **inspiration** for further **research** and **artistic activities** within the project in these **brief descriptions**:

#### problems in Malta

Malta has huge problems with freshwater due to the lack of rivers and lakes. In everyday life, inhabitants use desalinated seawater. The only supply of fresh water – underground waters are illegally desalinated, which threatens the subsequent penetration of sea waters into the ground. The dependence from the mainland has become more evident during the Covid-19 crisis – people depend on the supplies sent from the mainland and in severe crises and consequential logistical disruptions, such dependence is risky.

The fauna of the island is suffering from hunting activities which are allowed here, while some unique flora species are at risk of extinction.

#### problems in Sicily

Sicily is the largest and most populous island in the Mediterranean, with its five-million population. Much of the coast is cemented: houses, hotels and industries. To date, 95% of the leachate (waste) is discharged directly into the sea.

Although Sicily is surrounded by the sea and bases an important slice of its economy on it, it continues to be seriously in default on the purification front. The systems that are supposed to clean up the water are in many cases machines to pollute. There is a continuous incorrect management of waste water, and this occurs throughout Sicily.

The Sicilians pay for the severe delays in the purification sector due to many purification systems that have remained unfinished, never activated or have become undersized or technologically outdated over time.

#### problems in Mallorca

The current environmental issues in Mallorca are mainly caused by touristic activities – air pollution due to the overuse of cars and airplanes, pollution of the coastline and the sea, problems with the noise, poor wastewater treatment, etc. Moreover, climate change leads to unpredictable amendments of the rainfall forecasting that affects the agriculture and the flora and fauna in general. There are also some endangered species that require a lot of attention.

open call for  
**ART  
RESIDENCY**

deadline:  
**30/06/2022**

We are looking for experienced artists whose work is dedicated or related to **ecological** and **environmental** topics (esp. marine nature and the sea), **interconnection** of the **humans**, the **culture** and the **nature**, the **life** and **unique connections** between the humans and the nature **in the islands** to take part in the experimental art project.

You are expected to come up with a **collaborative interdisciplinary artwork** where you will be playing a role of a **mediator** between:

- the scientists/researchers of any field (from ecology and its subdivisions to anthropology and cultural studies) that you may find relevant,
- the local artists from other disciplines – crafts (e.g. ceramics, glass making), music, film making, dance, performing arts, etc.,
- the local inhabitants (whom you are expected to involve in the steps of production and/or dissemination),

connecting them all around the topic of your art piece and the project as a whole.

You will travel to one of the hosting islands – Malta, Mallorca or Sicily – where the partners of our project will be assisting you **in-person** and **virtually**. Partners from the non-hosting Cyprus and Corsica, such as *I Sbuleca Mare* and the *Cyprus University of Technology*, will be also helping you with realisation of your artwork and its further reproduction in these islands in accordance with your instructions.

To follow the project's aim for sustainability, we urge the artists to create these so-called '**protocols**' (i.e. instructions) for recreation of your artworks in the places of the project's dissemination – that is to increase the spread of the artworks' concepts, hence, to distribute the project's results and, meanwhile, to lower the environmental footprint of the works' transportation from place to place.

**Before the on-site residency**, you will be invited to participate in the **online activities** together with the partners and scientists with whom you will be collaborating throughout the project. You will be given with more details about the project and its purposes, and with an opportunity to get

to know better the researchers and their background and previous works. Together, you will be asked to submit **a developed proposal** of an artwork that you will be creating during your residency in one of the hosting islands. Moreover, you will be kindly asked to keep **an Artist's Diary** on the project's website (and your social media, if you would like to) during your participation in order to share your experience with the audience and other artists that may find inspiration in your work.

### calendar of activities

end of July – beginning of  
August 2022

You will be participating in the meetings with the team, working with the researchers on creation of a concept of your collective artwork.

beginning of October 2022

During this stage, you will spend ten days in one of the hosting islands cooperating in-person with the researchers, the artists from other sectors (crafts, music, dance, etc.), audience and partner institutions.

the deadline for your  
artwork and the 'protocol'  
to be ready is

**15 November 2022**

### financial coverage

The project will cover:

- travel expenses,
- accommodation in the hosting island,

**plus**

- artistic fees,
- materials for production of an artwork and its reproduction in a different island,
- expenditures on involvement of the collaborating artists from other disciplines and the public.

9000€

Please send your applications to [hello.maritima@gmail.com](mailto:hello.maritima@gmail.com) writing in the Subject area **the name of the Call** – ‘Open Call for Art Residency’.

In your application please include the following:

- one or two paragraphs describing the **concept of the artwork** (project) you would like to create in this project;
- the **scientific aspect** of the proposed concept – what scientific area(-s) you would like to collaborate with and please explain why, and what contribution, in your opinion, it will make to your proposed artwork and how,
- the suggestions on how the **multilateral aspect** of your concept will be reached – in terms of involvement of various kinds of art (involvement of local artists and craftsmen) and of involvement of the local inhabitants;
- your **CV** and/or **portfolio**.

open call for  
**EXISTING  
ARTWORKS**

deadline:  
**30/06/2022**

In case you already have any artwork(-s) that is/are thematically and methodologically relevant to the topics and principles of the project, you can also apply to the Call sending these works. If we find those suitable for and related to our project, we will use them in the exhibitions and demonstrations alongside the artworks that will be created during the art residency.

If you want to participate, please be aware of **the requirements your artwork(s) must meet:**

- thematic relevance;
- in video/photo format

**OR**

- easily transportable from place to place (i.e. not very fragile and/or not too big in size – e.g. drawing)

**OR**

- located in one of the cities where our partner institutions are based (e.g. Paris/Catania/Palma de Mallorca/Nice/etc.).

application  
procedure

Please send your application to [hello.maritima@gmail.com](mailto:hello.maritima@gmail.com) writing in the Subject area **the name of the Call** – ‘Open Call for Existing Artworks’.

In your application please include the following:

- **description of the suggested artwork** – brief abstract, format, dimensions/duration/materials (what you find applicable), photo/video (if necessary), any other details that you find necessary;
- your **CV** and/or **portfolio**.

The results of the project will be demonstrated during the series of exhibitions, screenings and accompanying events that will happen in **December 2022 and January 2023**.

# CONTACT US

## MARÍTIMA

Elena Posokhova

project coordinator

[hello.maritima@gmail.com](mailto:hello.maritima@gmail.com)

follow us in **Instagram**

link to our website

follow us in **Facebook**

## OUR PARTNERS

Final artworks and selected existing artworks **will be exhibited** under Maritima's curation at the well-known and respected partner institutions (museums, galleries, cultural centres, etc.) **in the islands** and **on the continent** of the Mediterranean throughout the following year. Moreover, your works will become central focal points of the **public events** – conferences, discussions, public talks, etc. – that are to accompany the expositions.



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