

TORINO SOCIAL IMPACT ART AWARD

Torino Social Impact Art Award Art and social innovation

"Every valuable human being must be a radical and a rebel, for what he must aim at is to make things better than they are."

Niels Bohr

The **Torino Social Impact Art Award** is the result of the desire to create a dialogue between art and social innovation, with the aim of initiating **actions that can have an impact on the present, in the contemporary society**. Starting with the conviction that art is capable of providing tools and physical spaces in which to question urgent social issues, the project fosters experimentation in the field of the arts as a catalyst for the development of new responses or structured solutions.

A potential ally and driver of social innovation, art can offer unexpected visions, in fact, capable of breaking down social constructs such as those of gender and those propagated by the dominant religions, while also granting a voice to those who run the risk of exclusion from contemporary systems of production.

The "Torino Social Impact Art Award", at its third edition in 2022, is promoted by Torino Social Impact¹, in collaboration with Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo², created and coordinated by Artissima³, in order to offer two young artists residing in Italy the opportunity to take part in a residency in Torino for the creation of a new work. The award is aimed at young people with **training in the world of contemporary art whose histories and family/life experiences have enabled them to live within different cultures in an international context**. To facilitate the professional insertion and growth of people with a multicultural and migratory background is a way of opening to diversification of the Italian social fabric. This focus on a multicultural and migratory background attributes value to the artist's cultural diversity, which can be linked to: origin in Third countries (nationality), experience of growing and maturing in a foreign country or inside a non-European family context (long-term residence/experience in Third countries, or young people of Italian nationality with parents from Third countries).

Through art, people perceived as "Others" have the possibility of making their voices heard, creating unexpected scenarios, new languages and forms of communication that have the potential to subvert what we perceive as "normal" in everyday life.



Fondazione
Compagnia
di San Paolo

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The project

The project covers a thirty-day art residency for two emerging talents whose vision and background enable them to narrate the contemporary society of Torino in a transverse way, as emblematic of a country in a phase of transformation.

Selected through a call issued to the main Academies of Fine Arts and Universities in Italy, they will have the possibility of living in and discovering the city of Torino, investigating it through a photographic work or a video work that will later be shown Artissima 2022 (3/6 November 2022) and/or in institutional contexts.

The guidelines for 2022, titled **Rebellions and rebirths: the creative potential of confrontation**, calls for reflection on the theme of social conflict in its various manifestations and latent forms: a tangible, concrete phenomenon that has always relied on art as a peaceful means of expression with a strong potential for protest at the same time. Challenge and dissent can become a generative and creative tool if the confrontation does not take the form of destructive attitudes and behaviours, but is instead mediated with the aim of developing new visions and social transformations. Social conflict, in fact, besides shedding light on questions of social and spatial equity, can also generate new representations, ideas, exercises of negotiation and contamination, resistance and mutual aid, leading to the birth of innovative practices and original languages. Within the complexity of social interaction, art can only be an ally in this challenge of re-composition and regeneration.

The third edition of the "Torino Social Impact Art Award" concentrates on photographic and video production, and invites the artists to use this medium of expression, offering a contribution to the transformation of social perception of particularly urgent themes or life stories considered "distant".*

At the start of the residency one full day of workshops is planned, with the aim of encouraging relationships and exchanges between the artists and the territory. An interactive-experiential itinerary will be organized to enable artists to get acquainted with the local context. The city can be crossed from one end to the other with the no. 4 tram line, famous in Torino for its route from the Mirafiori Sud district to the northern district of Falchera. The route will be interspersed with encounters and visits to significant locations, such as the Orti Generali or the Case dei Quartieri, which operate – often in a total break with their own past – to confirm a certain imaginary of the city based on values such as proximity, relations, networking, experiences of cooperation, mutual aid and respect for the environment.

The artists can rely on a **tutoring service conducted by Matteo Mottin and Ramona Ponzini**, founders of the art project Treti Galaxie⁴, who together with Artissima and Torino Social Impact will accompany the winners in the discovery of the city and its most significant cultural and social phenomena. The young talents will be guided through the production of the work and will be able to interact with the curators of the project and with a number of representatives of the Torino Social Impact network active in the territory, exploring the world of entrepreneurial initiative and social innovation.

The videos and photographs produced by the selected artists during the residency will be presented at Artissima 2022, disrupting the usual mechanisms of the art market through which artists are only seen at the fair if they are represented by a selected contemporary art gallery.

**In 2019 many artists have narrated the multi-ethnic story of contemporary society and its transformations in major solo exhibitions, including Walid Raad (1967, Lebanon) at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, and the Iraqi artist now residing in the United States Michael Rakowitz (1973) at Castello di Rivoli.*

The Residency

"Torino Social Impact Art Award" will host the selected artists for a thirty-day residency (half board) at the **hospitality partner Combo**⁵, an innovative hospitality concept at Porta Palazzo, a historic and multicultural district in Torino.

The selected artists will receive a contribution for the production of the work (materials, equipment and other costs involved in the production of the video, including extras, post-production, etc.) and for the stay in Torino (including meals not covered by the half board arrangement, and transportation), of 3000 euros (subject to tax withholding).

Requirements and procedures of participation

The call, whose second edition is titled **Rebellions and rebirths: the creative potential of confrontation**, is aimed at young artists:

- who live in Italy, with a multicultural and migratory background, acknowledging the importance of the phenomenon of migration in the shaping of the future society;
- who attend or have attended Academies of Fine Art or Universities in Italy and/or abroad, or have presented their research and work in festivals or exhibitions in Italian or foreign institutions or galleries, and intend to develop their career path in the world of contemporary art;
- who are from 21 to 35 years of age;
- who are able to take part in the entire thirty-day residency programme in Torino (end of June - end of July 2022);
- who intend to create a work through moving images of photography.

The artists will be selected by the **Committee of "Torino Social Impact Art Award"** composed of Luigi Fassi, Director of Artissima, Mario Calderini, Politecnico di Milano and spokesperson of Torino Social Impact, Alberto Anfossi, Secretary General of the Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo, Lorenzo Sassoli de Bianchi, President Fondazione ICA Milano, Ilda Curti, Rete Italiana di Cultura Popolare, Matteo Bergamini, editorial director of Exibart, Matteo Mottin and Ramona Ponzini, founders of the art project Treti Galaxie and tutors of the third edition of the award.

To take part, artists should send the following documentation to segreteria@artissima.it by **23 May 2022**:

- curriculum vitae;
- portfolio in PDF format, maximum 15 pages (max. 10 MB);
- a letter (max. 2 pages) explaining why the residency in Torino can be important for the development of their work and research;
- a short text on the theme (max. 2 pages).

Evaluation criteria

Application dossiers that do not comply with the stipulations of the call regarding admissible candidates and projects, or are lacking in complete and appropriate documentation, will not be taken into consideration. These applications will thus be excluded from the evaluation phase.

In the evaluation of the projects, the following factors will be assessed:

- quality and originality of the research, methods and languages utilized;
- personal and critical vision of the artist in the presentation and development of reflections on the theme **Rebellions and rebirths: the creative potential of confrontation**;
- reasons for participating in the residency based on the development of the artist's work.

Results of the selection and procedure

After the conclusion of the evaluation and selection procedure, the chosen artists will be contacted by Artissima for confirmation of acceptance of the residency. The financial support of 3000 euros will be issued upon submission of receipt, in two instalments: on the start of the residency, the other upon its completion.

For more information please write to segreteria@artissima.it

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¹ **Torino Social Impact** // The Torino Social Impact platform brings together over 195 in the metropolitan area (companies, financial institutes, service industries, public and private institutions) to reinforce the local ecosystem and revitalize it as one of the best places in the world for experimentation with new ways of doing business and finance, pursuing objectives of economic-financial sustainability and measurable goals of social impact.

Torino Social Impact operates to encourage forms of economically sustainable business aimed at tackling emerging social problems by exploiting new technological opportunities, and to position Torino on the global map of investments of social impact, attracting private investments that can make a concrete contribution to the development of the impact economy in the territory.

www.torinosocialimpact.it

² **Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo** // Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo (FCSP) was established for philanthropic purposes, to promote cultural, civil and economic development, on the strength of its assets and heritage. The Foundation pursues three goals: Culture, People and Planet, which are in turn divided into 14 missions. The decision to adopt these three goals stems from FCSP's desire to align itself with the international shared framework of the United Nations, which established the 2030 Agenda in 2015, asking individual countries to adopt the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the associated 169 targets, as well as the whole philosophy that led to them being formulated. Sustainable development is the Foundation's goal and the ideal continuation of a journey begun in 1563, when seven citizens formed the religiously-inspired civic association that took the name of "Compagnia di San Paolo", with the clear philanthropic aims of helping the poorest people of Turin. Almost 500 years later, with a rich, complex but coherent history behind it, FCSP now operates in Piedmont, Liguria and Valle d'Aosta. in the sectors permitted by Italian legislative decree 153 of 17 May 1999; under the terms of its Constitution, it chooses its areas of intervention every three years.

www.compagniadisanpaolo.it

³ **Artissima** // The leading international fair of contemporary art in Italy, ranking in the top ten art fairs in the world thanks to its identity and history, its focus on research, its curatorial dimension and talent scouting.

The artistic direction, the profound knowledge of the evolution of the art market, the organizational and strategic capacity as well as promotional force, have amplified the perception over the years of Artissima as a brand able to produce successful projects together with its partners. For a number of years now the fair has supported and guided sponsor companies in the creation of special projects oriented towards "storytelling" to expand media coverage and to sustain partners in their positioning.

The organization of Artissima is coordinated by Artissima srl, a company of Fondazione Torino Musei, founded in 2008 to manage the fair's artistic and commercial relations. The Artissima brand belongs to Regione Piemonte, Città Metropolitana di Torino and Città di Torino. www.artissima.art

⁴ **Treti Galaxie** // Treti Galaxie is an art project founded by Matteo Motin and Ramona Ponzini. Its goal is to work with artists in a broad-based manner, respecting their ideas and projects, and helping them to produce and develop exhibitions in all-round terms.

For this reason it chooses not to have a fixed venue but to seek out a space each time which is best suited to the project it's working on. Since March 2016, it develops a series of solo shows in which the artists dialogue with the hidden urban fabric of Turin, redesigning the use of historical sites of the city such as the Mole Antonelliana, the Royal Lounge of the Torino Porta Nuova Train Station, the Pastiss Underground Fortress and the Ex-MOI Arcades, and signing collaborations with the National Cinema Museum of Turin, Grandi Stazioni Rail, the Pietro Micca Civic Museum, Parcolimpico and Acer. In 2020 it curates the project Endless Nostalghia, dedicated to the work of movie director Andrei Tarkovsky, among the winners of the Toscanaincontemporanea2020 grant. In 2021 it's co-curator of Supercondominio3 for Castello di Rivoli - Museo di Arte Contemporanea.

www.tretigalaxie.com

⁵ **Combo** // A new generation hospitality hub merging travellers, locals, and curious people of all kinds. A radically unique form of lodging, hosting a public space with cultural programming and a radio station, housed in historic buildings in the liveliest cities of Italy.

A versatile and contemporary breeding place at the service of the arts and culture, stimulating conviviality and fostering contaminations. Combo is a new meeting point between those who visit the city and its residents: a dynamic, fluid and open site in town.

www.thisiscombo.com