

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR NAMIBIAN ARTISTS

The Ethnographic collection of the National Museum of Namibia, the National Art Gallery of Namibia, and the Museums Association of Namibia are looking for artists to capture an ongoing project and its outputs for 10 months, for the second phase of the Confronting Colonial Pasts, Envisioning Creative Futures project. You can read more about the Confronting Colonial Pasts, Envisioning Creative Futures Project [here](#).

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The sub-project “Artistic Research and Communal Knowledge: Building Trust for a Better Future” brings together contemporary artists, knowledge keepers and artisans in Namibia to develop new, more equitable ways of sharing knowledge and skills across generations and urban-rural divides.

At the heart of this process is the collaborative research into 23 culturally and historically significant artefacts that returned from the Ethnologisches Museum in Berlin to Namibia in May 2022, as well as the historical collections at the National Museum of Namibia. Contemporary artists and knowledge keepers will work together to reactivate the knowledge and skills related to the artefacts. Ultimately, this collaborative research and creation process highlights the importance of understanding, sharing, caring, and developing further cultural heritage for creating a better future.

OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS

- The artists will plan and conceptualize their displays within the exhibition.
- One-on-one mentorship by recognized curators in the industry and project experts at the artist's studio.
- Networking sessions with other artists, and workshops with community-based researchers.
- Commission on works produced.
- A stipend that covers the cost of the material.
- Transport to a three-day workshop with community-based researchers and community members.

REQUIREMENTS

- Preference will be given to the artists who have experience working within Namibian historical contexts and with historical material culture.
- Experience with artistic research.
- The ability to work within a community setting, engaging different stakeholders to complete a comprehensive body of work.
- Artists from all creative disciplines are encouraged to apply including but not limited to painters, conceptual artists, printmakers, sculptors, performance artists, poets, sound artists, fashion, and textiles, etc.
- Collaborative research projects are encouraged.
- Namibian Citizen

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ARTIST'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Demonstrate interest and ownership of the narratives shared during the collaborative research and employ your perspective of the subject matter.
- During production, use artistic expression to translate and create awareness of communal knowledge understood as oral histories, performative knowledge as well as artisan skills – which have been preserved and cared for within communities and beyond Western academia.
- Be present at all workshops and supporting events.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

- Each artist's final body of work will be exhibited at the National Art Gallery of Namibia in March 2024. The body of work should be near complete and ready for the exhibition by February 2024.
- An in-depth documentation/creative journal of the research process during the entire project on the returned objects and the collections of the National Museum in their respective communities.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Concept note of your proposed artistic research.
- CV with attached portfolio/dossier.
- The submission of all supporting documents (as one merged PDF document) should be sent to: arckproject24@gmail.com
- No hand-delivered submissions will be accepted.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Deadline for submissions: Wednesday 31 May 2023 at midnight.** No late applications will be considered.
- The artist will be notified by Friday, 05 June 2023.
- Mentorship and planning will run from June 2023 – March 2024

CONTACT

For more information, please contact us by email at arckproject24@gmail.com

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