

# **ONASSIS Air OPEN CALL 23/24**

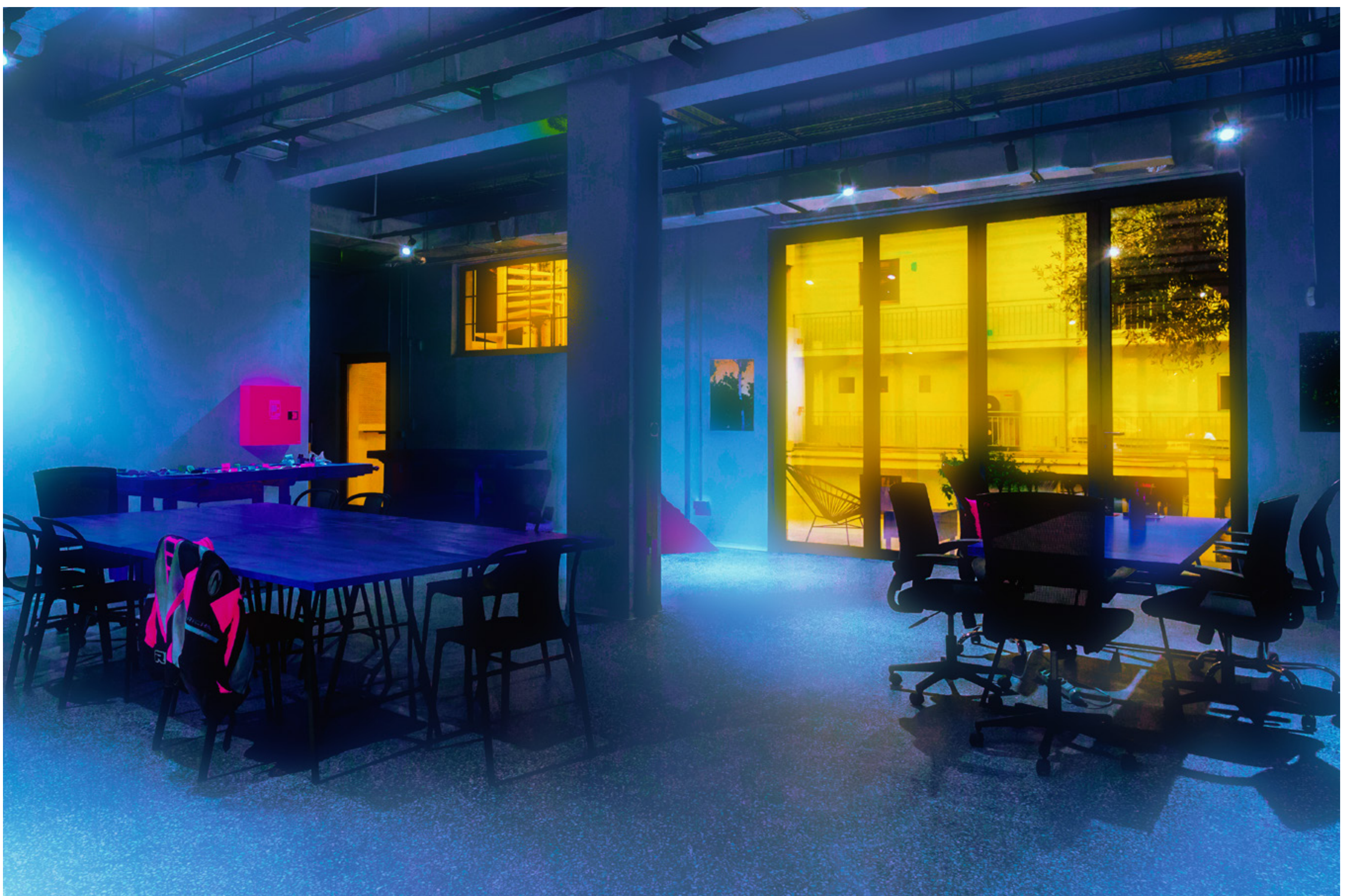
Onassis AiR is an international artistic research and residency program in Athens, Greece. Founded on the principles of learning and doing with others, Onassis AiR grounds its mission in supporting the artistic process by offering space and dedicated time to arts professionals from various backgrounds and disciplines to delve deeper into their practice without any requirement to present a final work. By practicing peer-to-peer methodologies, our aim is to establish a different culture of being and working together where the participants set their own conditions of work. Therefore, since 2019, our programs constantly evolve based on the discussions we have and the feedback we receive from our peers, as well as from our program participants.

After completing a three-year programming cycle, in September 2022, Onassis AiR embarked on a new chapter that brings together individual research residencies via yearly Open Calls as well as research and development fellowships commissioned by [Onassis Culture](#) or awarded via our [International Networks](#) in partnership with other institutions.

From its new location in the lively neighborhood of Neos Kosmos, Onassis AiR is seeking to become a meeting point for cross-disciplinary thinking and experimentation between local and international artists and researchers.



[Onassis AiR](#) is part of the [Onassis Foundation](#) that supports [culture](#), [education](#), and [health](#) initiatives in Greece, [New York & Los Angeles](#), and internationally. [Onassis Stegi](#) hosts theatrical and musical productions, film screenings, art and digital shows both inside and outside the center's walls on Syngrou Avenue. [Onassis Education](#) department gives thousands of academic scholarships for BA, MA and PhD study abroad and in Greece. The Onassis Foundation has an extensive contemporary art collection, as well as the [Cavafy Archive](#) and the [Onassis Library](#).





Breaking the boundaries between what is considered high and low culture, Onassis Culture seeks to initiate bold discussions that shake and shape society, asking what could be happening if we look into reality from a different perspective. By bringing together creative practitioners from different strands of life and practice through our various programs, we create the conditions for the collision and exchange of ideas, bringing forward themes that concern our societies today —democracy, human rights, and mental health. We are deeply rooted in the city we live in and invested in exploring the urban and street culture. At the same time, we look outwards to our peripheries, the rural areas, rituals, crafts, food culture, and vernacular knowledge produced outside of the metropolitan centers.

As our programs expand, so does our urge to stay relevant to the needs of our artistic community, while being part of larger discussions that are happening worldwide regarding the role and function of cultural institutions in today's society. To do so, in November 2021 we invited all our previous participants to join us in a year-long collective thinking process. Our aim was to reassess and redefine together our program's scope, the needs of the people who will become part of Onassis AiR as well as the current challenges that arise within our field of practice.



**TAILOR-MADE  
EXPERIMENTATION  
EXCHANGE / COMMUNITY  
PERIPHERIES / RESEARCH  
LOCALITY / COLLECTIVE  
URBAN CULTURE / CRAFTS  
FOOD / RITUALS / RURAL  
BALKANS / MEDITERRANEAN  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
MENTAL HEALTH**



Last fall, a dedicated group of past participants came together to imagine how Onassis AiR could grow and welcome new residents, while continuing to support the existing community. Our group mixed perspectives from different geographies and creative practices, remaining committed to cultivating a common ground rooted in a specific sense of place and locality. For us, this ground begins in Athens—with its many communities, its present and past histories—and radiates outward, in dialogue with the wider Balkan and Mediterranean region and other parts of the world. We are interested in building a situated residency, attentive to the concerns, issues, and idiosyncrasies of its surroundings. We strive to create a space for practitioners from different walks of life to find support and carry out their research and projects, gathering fresh inputs from near and far. With a tailor-made residency we hope to better respond to the actual needs and concerns of each individual or group of practitioners, while also encouraging collective thinking.

The ONASSIS AiR OPEN CALL 2023/24 is the outcome of this process.





Tailor-made Residency



For the current ONASSIS AiR OPEN CALL 2023/24, we invite you to apply for a Tailor-made Residency running between September 2023 and July 2024 in Athens, Greece.

The **Tailor-made Residency** is a program of individual residencies, each lasting for a maximum of three months. Each residency stems from the participants' needs and aims to foster and expand the broader Onassis ecosystem. We invite applications from anyone in need of support, who is interested in engaging with the locale of Athens.

We welcome artists, curators, designers, dancers, chefs, gardeners, activists, writers, educators, legal advocates, performers, economists, architects, film-makers, and other practitioners **from any medium of expression or discipline, from anywhere in the world**, who are yearning for space, focused time, and stimulating conversations that can help **to kick-off, further develop, or finalize a project**. We invite those who are interested and open to moments of exchange and collective study.

All participants are invited to use the Onassis AiR space and resources to develop their thinking and practices without the expectation of presenting a final work. Rather, residents are encouraged to engage with the [Onassis AiR Community](#) through an offering, in the form of a workshop, an in-progress presentation, a lecture or screening, or any other format they wish to propose.



Additionally, the program offers professional development activities including mentoring sessions, presentations and peer-to-peer feedback sessions, organized site-visits to local art spaces and other institutions, and opportunities to meet and connect with local artists and arts professionals.

The total number of residencies that will be awarded for the period September 2023 to July 2024 is twenty four (24).

A short video documentary that brings together some of our collective moments can be watched [here](#).





## Resources

The following resources will be offered to all participants of the Tailor-made Residency program:

- An individual artist fee of €1.300 (euros) per month.
- A production budget of €500 (euros) that can be used to cover any research and production expenses for the period of the program (materials, equipment, travel expenses, fees to third parties, etc.).
- For participants who do not live in Athens, travel expenses (airfare, ferry, train, etc.) covered for their return trip to/from Athens, as well as to/from the airport or train station to the shared accommodation in Athens (up to 400 euros for travel within Europe and up to 1000 euros for overseas travel).
- For participants who do not live in Athens, accommodation in Athens in a shared apartment (single room occupancy for each participant, shared bathroom, kitchen and living room).
- The program has reserved a dedicated, collective budget that can be used for invitations to other practitioners or organizations that could contribute in the form of a workshop or seminar, for collective site-visits and research trips, or other professional development needs addressed by the AiR Community.
- We have established a tradition of daily lunches to connect and spend some time together away from our desks and our busy schedules. All participants have access to a well-equipped kitchenette as well as to an in-house restaurant that offers cooked meals based on a seasonal and low-cost menu. All the groceries for the collective lunches are covered by Onassis AiR.
- Opportunities to engage in the art scene in Athens through structured activities and networking events.
- Access to a program of planned group activities.
- We have a basic inventory of professional video & DSLR cameras and lenses, microphones, sound recorders, portable LED panels, speakers, audio mixer, projectors, computer and large LCD screens, an A3 Xerox printing tower, as well as some mechanical tools for light construction work.
- Over the past years, we have built a growing library of books specialized on contemporary art and aimed to support our programs and the research carried out by the artists and art practitioners that use the space. Our growing collection focuses on critical theory, art & politics, institutional critique, curating, philosophy, and photography, among other thematic areas, and includes exhibition catalogues, artist monographs, and artist books.
- All accepted participants can take advantage of the resources of other initiatives and units of the Onassis Foundation, including free access to events, performances, workshops, and other activities of the Onassis Foundation.

**Note: Onassis AiR does not have dedicated, furnished artist studios, a makerspace for craftwork, or other construction work.**







## Spaces

Onassis AiR is located in the neighborhood of [Neos Kosmos](#), right behind the Onassis Stegi. Functioning as a space that is meant to be shared and used collectively by all current and previous participants, **Onassis AiR does not offer individual artist studios**, but instead it is a modular space that transforms according to the needs of those using it each time, seeking to establish a safe and inclusive collaborative working environment. As we believe in continuity of supporting participants and their artistic journey, all previous participants of our programs are invited to use the space and resources throughout the year. As a future participant of the program, you will have similar access after the completion of your residency.

Onassis AiR offers two large coworking spaces equipped with projectors and sound system, a shared office and events space, a rehearsal studio that can be used upon availability (pre-booking required), a fully equipped kitchenette for preparation of light meals, a library, storage spaces, a beautiful patio that can be used for open air screenings and events, a small vegetable garden in our terrace with seasonal herbs and vegetables that can be used for our lunches. Additionally, based on their research needs, participants can benefit from access to other rehearsal spaces, a recording studio, and other resources of the Onassis Foundation. All spaces are wheelchair accessible.



## To Consider Before Applying

- **Be available** for a one-on-one, online interview (approx. 30 minutes) between **May 8-18, 2023** with the Onassis AiR Team, if selected during Phase II of the selection process.
- **Fully commit** to the residency for the selected period. You are encouraged to take part in collective activities jointly decided by yourself and the Onassis AiR Community and Team. These might include workshops, regular check-ins with the Onassis AiR Team, and evening and weekend field trips in or outside Athens. In taking part in the program, you agree to be available (in person or online) 5 days a week, for the duration of your residency (minimum 4 weeks, maximum 12 weeks).
- **Be present in Athens** for the most part of your residency, taking into consideration that the city is a focal point of the program. Applicants who pass to the interview stage (Phase III of the selection process) and experience any form of mobility constraint (due to health issues, visa issues, etc.) are welcome to discuss with the Onassis AiR Team a hybrid residency

model. This alternative could take place both on-site and online, provided that the time online does not exceed the time on-site.

- **Offer back** to the Onassis AiR Community, in the form of a workshop, an in-progress presentation, a lecture or screening, a skill-sharing session, or any other format you wish to propose.
- **Participate in the Open Days**, a series of monthly events that will run throughout the year and are open to the public. This is an opportunity to meet and exchange with the local audience and other art professionals and share your artistic research or work in-progress through short talks, presentations, workshops, performances, or screenings. The format of the Open Days is co-shaped by the participants based on their needs and artistic practice each time.
- **Share workspace with others.** All participants must have an interest in working, thinking and being with peers and participate in collective activities.





# Selection Process

The selection for the ONASSIS AiR OPEN CALL 2023/24 is based on a peer-to-peer process by the current and previous program participants (Onassis AiR Fellows). The selection will be done in three (3) phases.

## Phase I

Here, each application will be reviewed by two Onassis AiR Fellows, independently of each other.

Each Fellow individually reviews all applications assigned to the duo, based on the answers to the application questions listed below, without seeing personal information (i.e. name and bio) and supporting documents like work samples.

If one or both reviewers believe the answers satisfy the selection criteria, the application proceeds to Phase II of the selection process. If both reviewers believe the answers do not satisfy the selection criteria, or both are unsure, the application will not proceed to Phase II.

## Phase II

In Phase II, the chosen applications, including the requested supporting materials, will be reviewed in detail by Onassis AiR team in collaboration with an external selection committee ([Sepake Angiama](#), [VASKOS](#)).

## Phase III

In the final phase, interviews will be conducted through video conference with each of the pre-selected applicants. Following the interviews, the final selection of residents will be made. Each selected participant will be informed not later than June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

# Selection Criteria

- ♦ Relevance and urgency of your proposed project
- ♦ Onassis AiR being a suitable environment for your project to flourish
- ♦ Awareness of the context of Athens and the wider region in which the city is situated
- ♦ An understanding of the [ethos](#) of Onassis AiR and the aims of the Tailor-made Residency



# Application Form

Candidates who wish to submit an application must create a personal account at the Onassis Directory through the application link and they can fill in the application and upload the required supporting documents gradually until the deadline for submissions.

Your answers in the application form and information in the supporting documents should be in **English**.

In the online application form, applicants are asked to provide:

- Personal Details
- Contact Information
- Proposed title of the project
- Biography in a narrative form (2,000 characters / approx. 300 words)
- CV/Resume as a PDF attachment (2-page limit)

On the application form, you will be asked to select the length of your residency **-one, two, or three months**. Keep this length in mind as you read the questions below.

— Your preferred residency period between:

- September 2023-November 2023
- February 2024-April 2024
- May 2024-July 2024

— Answers to the following 4 questions:

## Question 1

**What will your focus (research, project, activity etc.) be during your residency? (max. 300 words / 3 minutes)**

Please describe your project and approach.  
Include a proposed title for your residency in Athens.

## Question 2

**How would this residency be urgent in relation to your practice? (max. 250 words / 3 minutes)**

Please describe how your proposal is urgent, both in relation to your overall practice and to the present that we, as practitioners, live in.



### Question 3

**How could it relate to the locality of Onassis AiR?**

**(max. 250 words / 3 minutes)**

Please describe how you could engage, be in conversation with, or directly address Athens and the broader region.

### Question 4

**Propose something you could offer to the Onassis AiR community during your residency.**

**(max. 150 words / 2 minutes)**

This could be: a presentation, a workshop, a screening, a reading, a meal, a concert, a guided walk, or another form that feels appropriate. It could be something you've done in the past or something new to you.

**Note: You may use different mediums to answer these questions: text, audio, or video. Depending on the medium you choose, please pay attention to ensuring your anonymity and to the word or time limits for each question**

— **Please include two work samples** that you believe are relevant to your application.

**Note: If your work samples are time-based, make sure their duration is limited to 3 minutes.**

— You can only apply **with one project**.

## Important dates

### February 20, 2023

Onassis AiR Open Call 2023/24 application platform opens.

### March 20, 2023

Deadline for submission of all applications (no exceptions). All applications must be submitted not later than 12:00 noon (Coordinated Universal Time, UTC+2).

The Open Call online platform will go offline after the specified time and no exceptions will be made for any applicant for any reason.

### April 24, 2023

All pre-selected applicants informed and interviews scheduled.

### May 8-18, 2023

Interviews with each pre-selected applicant.

### May 26, 2023

All selected participants are informed by email.

### June 12, 2023

All applicants will be informed by email about the result of their application.





Tailor-made Residency

Photographs: Pinelopi Gerasimou | Design, Photo Editing & Artworks: Onassis Creative Studio



## FAQ & Facts

The residency is for anyone who lives and works in Greece or anywhere in the world. It is for those seeking a non-homogenous, inclusive, and collaborative environment with other practitioners coming from diverse disciplines and practices.

We seek to establish a safe and welcoming space that ensures participation of the widest range of participants. All spaces are wheelchair accessible.

Since the program is open to participants living and working in Greece as well as international participants, the working language of the program is English.

There are no age restrictions.

There is no requirement of formal academic degrees.

Collectives are eligible to apply. Due to the limited financial resources of the residency, maximum two representatives of the collective can take part. They will be paid separately (each will receive the full fee).

Although we do not have yet the infrastructure to offer child-care, we will investigate other support mechanisms for selected applicants with children on a case-by-case basis during the interviews.

Onassis AiR does not offer individual studio spaces. All spaces are meant to be shared and used collectively by the residents. Furthermore, Onassis AiR is a growing community of peers, with previous participants having access to all spaces and resources. As a future participant of the program, you will have similar access after the completion of your residency.

Onassis AiR is a research and production space; however, it is not equipped to accommodate all types of artistic production. Please refer to the 'Spaces' and 'Resources' sections above.

Your details will be stored securely for the purposes of this application. We will delete your application and any associated documents after twelve (12) months.

If you have general questions during the time that the Open Call online platform is open (between February 20 – March 20, 2023), about the application or the nature of the program, please email [air@onassis.org](mailto:air@onassis.org) (Monday to Friday, 10:00-18:00 UTC+2). We will not be able to answer any questions after the final deadline of the Open Call (March 20, 2023, 12:00 noon, UTC+2).



# APPLICATION FORM

[CLICK HERE](#)