

CALL FOR A CURATORIAL PROJECT

LA BOX 2021.2022

THE SITE

The Ecole nationale supérieure d'art (National School of Art/ENSA) in Bourges is housed in a 17th-century building in the Old Town. Bourges itself is in central France, two hours from Paris. Covering some 7,000 square metres, the school offers its students extensive workspaces plus well equipped technical workshops that are regularly renovated and updated.

The School is qualified to award a National Postgraduate Degree in Fine Arts – a Master's – and its emphasis is on the kind of inventiveness and creativity that are only possible in a setting where interpersonal exchange and ideas are part of the everyday scene; this is a generous, receptive place conducive to artistic encounters and intermeshings. The teaching programme is part of a study and research context whose constantly evolving methods stimulate creative thinking, open-mindedness and discussion, while also sparking students' curiosity and combining practical applications with critical analysis.

The La Box gallery is one of ENSA's principal teaching tools. Every year it features artists from France and abroad in ten exhibitions relating to the study programme. For more than ten years now the gallery has entrusted part of its planning to young guest curators. Chosen and monitored by the ENSA teaching team, the curators work on experimental programmes involving the active participation of the students, who thus find themselves in close contact with major figures on the contemporary scene and with the realities of drawing up an exhibition project.

THE AIM

Part of the exhibition programme at the La Box gallery – from January 2020 to the end of April 2021 – will be organised by a freelance curator, a critic or an art collective.

The project must fit with the School's concerns, but there is no predefined exhibition format: it is up to the curator to decide on the mode of presentation, which may take the form of several exhibitions or a single, open-ended one. The curator (or the collective) can also come up with proposals for cooperative ventures with different partners (local, regional and more).

The curator can propose a seminar for ENSA students during the school year 2021. Or develop it, with an existing teaching module allowing to integrate the students into the realisation of the exhibition programme while also providing a broader view of what is at stake in curatorial practice ([For more information](#)). Curators may be invited to participate in student assessments or to meet them individually.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The curatorial project is chosen by a [selection committee](#) comprising ENSA head Antoine Réguillon, ENSA teachers Stéphanie Jamet and Ferenc Grof, and Véronique Fréjabue from La Box.

The project submission must meet the requirements stated above, be clearly outlined and be compatible with proven curatorial practice. The selection committee will take into account its experimental aspect and its interconnections with emergent art scenes.

FINANCIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The overall budget for the curatorial project is 25,000 euros. This sum includes production and transport of works, communication and a possible publishing costs, artists' travel, fees and accommodation costs as well as travel expenses for the curator(s), up to a total of 20,000 euros; plus curator's expenses up to 5,000 euros.

The curator's fee will be paid on presentation of an invoice (company registration number required). The project may also include financial input from other private or public sources.

ORGANISATION

The curator will work in association with the ENSA teaching team, and in particular with the committee in charge of the programme: Stéphanie Jamet and Ferenc Grof.

He or she will be assisted by the full-time La Box team: Véronique Fréjabue (director of La Box), Jessie Morin (registrar) and Edwige Béclair (assistant registrar).

In the interests of student participation, the programme drawn up by the curator will take account of the academic calendar in terms of vacations and examinations.

Candidates are reminded that a programme like this demands considerable time and commitment. Regular on-site meetings with the ENSA team are vital, as is responsiveness, by email or telephone, during the preparation of the programme. The presence of the curator is required during the installation of the exhibition and at the opening.

Should the curator be a collective, ongoing interaction and coordination between members are essential in order to ensure consistency in their dealings with ENSA and the La Box team.

To encourage regular presence on the part of the curator during the project and its educational segment, La Box offers accommodation for the duration of the mission in an apartment rented from the CROUS student services body: <http://www.bourges-technopole.fr/fr/le-site-lahitolle/projet/residence-marie-curie>. This system can also provide accommodation for some of the guest artists during the presentation.

THE CALENDAR

Applications to be sent by email to curateurslabox@ensa-bourges.fr

Date limit of sending: 31 March 2021 - Midnight

Shortlist of 4 applications: April 2021

Applicants interviewed by the selection committee: May 2021

Initial proposal of a schedule for January/April 2021: June 2021

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CANDIDATURE

The candidature application must **be sent by email, in PDF format**.

It may be written either in English or in French, and must include the following:

- a completed application form
- a CV
- a text of no more than 800 words presenting the planned curatorial project (illustrated by no more than 20 visuals) and explaining the reasons for candidature
- an estimated budget

Applications which are incomplete or which do not respect the requested format will not be considered.

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SA
BOURGES
NATIONAL
HIGHER
SCHOOL
OF ART

LA BOX
GALERIE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN
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18006 Bourges cedex
www.ensa-bourges.fr

La Box bénéficie du soutien du Ministère de la Culture,
de la Direction régionale des Affaires culturelles du
Centre-Val de Loire, du Conseil régional du Centre-Val de
Loire et de la Communauté d'agglomération Bourges Plus.

APPLICATION FORM

CURATORIAL PROJECT LABOX 2021.2022

Family name First name

Date of birth.....

Address

Postcode..... City

Tel. Mobile

Email adress

Company registration number

Qualifications (school and year)

<p>Summary of the curating project 5 lines max.</p>	<p>.....</p>
<p>Possible partners in the project</p>	<p>.....</p>

How did you find out about this call for applications: