



FONDATION  
FRANÇOIS SCHNEIDER

## Call for application

14 october - 1st december 2024

# Contemporary Talents 14<sup>th</sup> edition

### Contemporary Art Competition

Propose a work or a project on the theme of water

Dotation • Acquisition • Exhibition • Publication



## THE FOUNDATION FRANÇOIS SCHNEIDER 24 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION & ARTISTIC CREATION

- An atypical and committed foundation
- A philanthropic foundation in Alsace, located in rural areas and in the heart of Europe
- A willingness to support equal opportunities, in terms of education and artistic creation
- A territory on the banks of the Rhine inspiring a program that celebrates water and promotes interculturality.
- An annual international competition, Talents Contemporains, with a budget of 170,000 euros.
- An art centre of 4,500 m<sup>2</sup>, a sculpture garden and a collection of 90 works of art
- Thematic exhibitions produced by and for the foundation
- A residency program for young artists from schools along the Rhine River
- UCultural mediation promoting exchange with artists and the awakening of the public, especially young people and audiences from all walks of life.
- A collection that travels to international, national and societal institutions

Established in 2000 and recognized as a public utility in 2005, the François Schneider Foundation pursues a dual commitment to education and culture. It enables young graduates from Yonne and Alsace to access higher education through scholarships and supports contemporary artists in developing their careers.

The Foundation promotes creativity through various initiatives dedicated to the theme of water, including an international competition, the acquisition of works for its collection, and the organization of thematic exhibitions in its art center and sculpture garden. It complements its activities with publications, loans,

traveling exhibitions, and a residency program for young artists from schools along the Rhine.

Located in the Rhine region that stretches from Switzerland to the Netherlands, passing through France and Germany, the François Schneider Foundation places interculturality at the heart of its programming and contributes to fostering rich exchanges between artists and the populations of these various territories.

## THE CONTEMPORARY TALENTS COMPETITION

The theme of water holds particular significance within the art center of the Foundation, which is housed in the former bottling workshop of the thermal springs of Wattwiller. Water is thus omnipresent, both in the exhibited works and in the very architecture of the center. It is around this theme that the François Schneider Foundation launched the Talents Contemporains competition in 2011, to reward artists exploring the various facets of this element. Each year, artists from all nationalities and disciplines of the visual arts are invited to propose a work on the theme of water, with a purchase and an award as a result.

The François Schneider Foundation explores the diversity of water through different artistic aspects such as ecology, the environment, philosophy, science, politics, geography, etc. It supports emerging artists by showcasing their works within its art center in Wattwiller, Alsace, and disseminating works from its collection for off-site projects and loans, such as exhibitions, festivals, and biennials.

To this day, **87 artistes were rewarded:**

Yoav Admoni (IS), Akmar (NL), Renaud Auguste-Dormeuil (FR), Nour Awada (FR-LB), Rachael Louise Bailey (GB), Guillaume Barth (FR), Hicham Berrada (MO), Benoit Billotte (FR), Mathieu Bonardet (FR), Bianca Bondi (ZA), Ulysse Bordarias (FR), Muriel Bordier (FR), Jessie Brennan (GB), Emilie Brout & Maxime Marion (FR), Gaëlle Callac (FR), Cécile Carrière (FR), Julie Chaffort (FR), Yves Chaudouët (FR), Claire Chesnier (FR), Etienne Cliquet (FR), Valère Costes (FR), Olivier Crouzel (FR), Edouard Decam (FR), Asieh Dehghani (IR), Céline Diais (FR), Rebecca Digne (FR), Cristina Escobar (CU), Collectif EthnoGraphic (FR-BR), Pascale Ettlin (FR), Laurent Faulon (FR), Sara Ferrer (ES), Etienne Fouchet (FR), Marie-Anita Gaube (FR), Vardit Goldner (IL), Antoine Gonin (FR), Elise Grenois (FR), Bilal Hamdad (DZ), Harald Hund (AT), Arthur Hoffner (FR), Hao Jingfang & Wang Lingjie (CH), Nadia Kaabi-Linke (TN), Zhang Kechun (CN), M'hammed Kilito (UA), Maryam Khosrovani (IR), Elizaveta Konovalova (RS), Jérémy Laffon (FR), Manon Lanjouère (FR), Mathilde Lavenne (FR), Olivier Leroi (FR), Sujin Lim (KR), Rahshia Linendoll-Sawyer (US), Claire Malrieux (FR), Laurent Mareschal (FR), Aurélien Mauplot (FR), Mehdi Meddaci (FR), Eva Medin (FR), Camille Michel (FR), Gustavo Millon (CL), Yosra Mojtahedi (IR), Eva Nielsen (FR), Maël Nozahic (FR), Johan Parent (FR), Benoît Pype (FR), Bertrand Rigaux (FR), Sarah Ritter (FR), Francisco Rodríguez Teare (CL), Benjamin Rossi (FR), Erik Samakh (FR), Sandra & Ricardo (PT), Ugo Schiavi (FR), Aurélie Scouarnec (FR), Alex Seton (AS), Sidorenko-Dutca (MD-RS), Suhail Shaikh (IN), Noemi Sjöberg (ES), Paul Souviron (FR), Elvia Teotski (FR), Thomas Teurlai (FR), Capucine Vandebrouck (FR) et Wiktoria Wojciechowska (PL) et Jenny Ymker (NL).

## COMPETITION TERMS AND ELIGIBILITIES

This competition is open to major visual artistes, of all nationalities, at the mid-point of their career, the eligible disciplines are the following : **painting, drawing, sculpture, installation, photography, video, textile, or any other form of plastic or visual art** (live performance and music are not included).

**For installations and sculptures**, artists may submit either an **existing work or a project**. In the case of a project, a production budget of a maximum of 50,000 € must be attached.

For other art forms, **only an existing work** can be submitted. No additional production budget can be allocated for paintings, drawings, photographs or videos. The work presented, which may consist of a set or a single piece, must be unique. (for video or photography if the work includes editions, the prize is different, see rules). Films, live shows and performances will not be eligible.

→ **Each candidate may present only one work or one project per year. A work proposed to the competition cannot be represented in the competition the following year or afterwards.**

→ **Proof of a professional artistic activity and/or being a graduate of an art school.**

→ **Have a solid artistic background:** work recently exhibited in institutions, galleries, festivals, etc. or have participated in an artistic residency.

→ **Technical criteria:** oils on canvas and drawings must not exceed the size of 320 x 210 cm for a single piece. Diptychs and triptychs are accepted.

## ENDOWMENT

A maximum of 4 to 7 winners will be selected from among the applicants and will receive the following prize money :

→ **15,000€ each for the acquisition of their work which will become part of the Foundation's collection.**

The following are also part of the endowment:

- Participation in a **group exhibition** at the Foundation's art centre.
- A **bilingual publication** presenting the work of the laureates
- A **video portrait** of each of the laureates

For the realisation of the **works presented in the form of projects (sculpture or installation), a maximum envelope of 80,000€ is made available**, divided between the different projects according to the needs of the artists and the decisions of the jury. In this case, the files must include a detailed budget of the production costs with an estimate. The budget must not exceed 50 000€ per project.

For photographs and videos, if the print is not unique, the prize is €8,000 (see the rules for details). However, it is advisable to propose a unique edition for the competition

## ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION

Artists are invited to submit their offerings on the water theme, realistic or utopian, figurative or abstract, whilst offering a singular and sensitive viewpoint on this theme

## THE CALENDAR

- **October 14, 2024, at 10:00 AM – December 1, 2024, at 11:59 PM (local time): Call for applications**
- **December 2024 – February 2025** : the Committees of Experts will meet to choose about thirty finalists
- **March 2025** : Announcement of the finalists in the press, on the website and on the Foundation's social networks
- **Spring 2025** : Selection of the winners by the International Grand Jury and announcement of the winners to the press, on the website and on the Foundation's social networks
- **Autumn 2026** : Exhibition of works at the François Schneider Foundation in Wattwiller (Haut-Rhin, France)

NB: The Foundation reserves the right to change the dates.

Any application or incomplete file after the closing of the call for applications cannot be modified. Please note that the platform may be overloaded during the last hours before the closing time due to a surge of last-minute applications.

# THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF JUDGES

## THE COMMITTEES OF EXPERTS

Five expert committees made up of gallery owners, art critics, curators and prize-winning artists form pairs that analyse 200 entries each and shortlist the finalists. The thirty or so finalists are then presented to the grand jury.

## THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF JUDGES

This Jury, chaired by Jean-Noël Jeanneney, includes well-known personalities from the world of the arts. From this 14th edition, they will elect from among the thirty finalists 4 to 6 award-winning artists, including two works in the field of sculpture and installation.

Le Grand Jury en 2025 sera composé de :

- **Jean-Noël Jeanneney**, former president of “Radio France”, former Secretary of State and former president of the “Bibliothèque Nationale de France” – Paris (France)
- **Constance de Monbrison**, Head of Insulinde collections, musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac - Paris (France)
- **Alfred Pacquement**, Honorary General Curator of Heritage – Paris (France)
- **Ernest Pignon-Ernest**, Artist, Paris (France)
- **Roland Wetzell**, Director of the Tinguely Museum – Basel (Switzerland)
- **Rosa Maria Malet**, Director of the Joan Miró Foundation 1980-2017, member of the Board of Directors – Barcelona (Spain)

*NB: The expert committees and grand jury are subject to change depending on availability.*

### In brief

- an annual international contemporary art competition dedicated to the theme of water.
- a unique collection with some seventy works by 80 winning artists.
- more than 800 entries per year from over 100 countries.
- **4 to 7 winning artists are awarded annually for their project or work:**
  - Artists may submit an **existing work** in any discipline (painting, drawing, photography, video...) and will be awarded €15,000 if they win.
  - Artists may submit a **project work** in the field of sculpture or installation only. A maximum budget of €50,000 must be attached to the project. If the artist is the winner, he/she will be awarded €15,000 and the production budget of the work will be covered by the François Schneider Foundation.
- The artists will benefit from a group exhibition in the Foundation's art centre, a bilingual publication and the acquisition of their work.
- a maximum endowment of 170,000 euros per year:
  - 15,000 euros per prizewinner
  - 80,000 euros devoted to the production aid for several sculpture or installation projects (depending on the jury's choice).

## LE DOSSIER DE CANDIDATURE

Participation in the competition can only be done electronically after registration on the website of the François Schneider Foundation: [www.fondationfrancoisschneider.org](http://www.fondationfrancoisschneider.org)

In the event of technical difficulties relating to the internet, applicants will contact the Organizer as soon as possible. We invite you to submit your applications as early as possible to avoid server slowdowns and therefore your application does not reach us on time.

Application files must be written in French for French-speaking candidates, and in English for other candidates.

These files must include :

### **Partie administrative**

- Registration form and signed regulations read and approved (PDF format)
- Copy of your identity document (front / back identity card or passport) (PDF format)

### **Partie artistique (œuvre réalisée ou projet à produire, en sculpture ou installation)**

- Your curriculum vitae and / or presentation of the collective of artists, justifying an artistic background (work recently exhibited in institutions, galleries, festivals, etc. or having participated in one or more artistic residencies) (PDF format, 2 pages maximum).
- Your portfolio / artistic presentation of your work with visuals and texts required (PDF format, 20 A4 pages maximum, 20 MB maximum)
- A note of intent presenting the work or project and the artist's approach for the competition, intellectual and creative approach (PDF format, 2 pages maximum) as well as a short presentation of the work (maximum 1,100 characters with spaces).
- A precise technical description of the existing work or project (sculptures, installations), title, materials, technique, dimensions, weight, constraints and technical means required for the exhibition, assembly or transport of the work (PDF format, 1 page maximum).
- A detailed production budget of up to € 50,000 for works presented in the form of projects for sculptures and installations (PDF format). It presents the cost of the production costs with estimates: materials, audiovisual, intervention of companies/craftsmen, transport costs (transport if specific, customs, crane...) transport costs for the follow-up of the project. The Foundation does not finance research and creation residencies. Artists' fees are included in the 15 000€ grant and do not have to be included in the budget.
- 3 to 5 color visuals (photo, drawing, diagram, modeling, plan, etc.) (JPG format, 5 MB maximum per visual).
- Video extract for the video works. It is possible to attach a video capture for the other works (painting, sculpture, etc.) in order to contextualize it (format MOV/MP4, 4Giga maximum).

**NB: The jury will be sensitive to the clear and concise nature of the dossier and to the coherence of the proposal in relation to the collection of the François Schneider Foundation.**

**Any file that is incomplete or does not comply with the above instructions will not be submitted to the Committees of Experts and the International Grand Jury.**



## INFORMATIONS AND CONTACT

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