



Opportunity for Contemporary Choreographers

In less than 7 months, Valletta will hold the title of European Capital of Culture 2018. The Valletta 2018 Foundation is responsible for the implementation of this title, and the creation of an exciting, contemporary programme with empowerment, engagement and participation at its heart. The Foundation seeks to give artists the opportunity to create new and exciting work to be presented as part of the Valletta 2018 Cultural Programme but which also has a future beyond the year and beyond our geographical boundaries.

In this Call, the Foundation is inviting emerging and mid-career choreographers to attend a preparatory seminar by Laura Kumin on the 29th July 2017 and to then submit a proposal for a 40 to 50 minute contemporary dance work. A Jury will then select up to two works to be produced in collaboration with the Foundation and premiered in Summer 2018 as part of the Valletta 2018 Cultural Programme.¹

The work needs to be original and innovative and based on an idea that fits in the overall concept of the narrative of Valletta 2018, An Island-Wide *Festa*, or any of its three themes: Island Stories, Future Baroque and Voyages. It also needs to be created with export in mind as the Foundation intends this to be an opportunity for emerging choreographers to produce work which can be submitted for consideration of European Dance networks such as the Aerowaves network and its Aerowaves Twenty selection. The Valletta 2018 Foundation will assign a Production Manager to coordinate with the selected applicants and produce the work. Site-specific work is eligible for the call as long as it is easy to export while remaining true to the original artistic concept. The work should be easy to include in a double bill and with limited technical requirements.

Proposals will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- the originality and innovation of the idea
- relevance to the Valletta 2018 narrative and/or its themes
- ability to tour with the piece
- overall quality of the proposal
- choreographer/s's ability to successfully realise the project

Preference will be given to proposals that:

- demonstrate a clear artistic vision
- demonstrate ability to translate the idea into choreographic work with clarity and confidence

¹ Persons employed by Public Cultural Organisations involved in this call may not apply.

- demonstrate ability to collaborate with the Foundation and the Production Manager assigned to them to produce the work

Chosen works will receive:

- A maximum of 6,000 Euro + VAT to cover choreographer's fees, rehearsals and performance of the work. This would be performed over a maximum of 2 nights in Summer 2018
- Mentoring sessions with guest artists and a dramaturg, to advise the choreographer/s in their development
- Professional production of the work in an event which will form part of the Valletta 2018 Cultural Programme
- Inclusion in the 2018-19 Malta Showcase
- A video of the work which is professionally filmed in preparation for submission to international networks such as Aerowaves

Eligibility

- Applications may be submitted by an individual choreographer or as part of a collaboration between several choreographers. A collaborative proposal must be submitted by a Lead Applicant.
- Applicants/Lead Applicants must be Maltese citizens or residents in Malta and must be able to work in Malta and in possession of a VAT number. Applicants/Lead Applicants may however collaborate with international performers.
- The Applicant, in case of individual applicants, or at least one of the applicants in a collaboration, has to have attended the preparatory seminar by Laura Kumin held on the 29th of July 2017. Exceptions will only be made in case absence is justified by a legal medical certificate to be submitted with the application.
- Each Applicant/Lead Applicant may only submit one proposal. It is however possible to collaborate as a performer with other Applicants.

How to apply

Proposals must be submitted via email to participate@valletta2018.org by not later than the 15th October 2017. All files attached to the application must be well labelled. Late applications will not be considered.

Proposals must include:

- A filled-in application form and a scan of the ID Card and/or Residence Permit of the Applicant
- A one-page description (not more than 1000 words in total) including the idea for the work, supported by relevant research and a statement on why you want to take part in this call and on your plans to present this work at international level.
- An estimate of the cost for creating and performing the work. This should not include production of the work as this will be taken care of by the Foundation.
- A 2-min sample of the movement research that you intend to develop (to be submitted as links to online videos on Vimeo or Youtube, with passwords if protected)
- A working, proposed stage design and technical rider, that is flexible and subject to changes during the development of the piece. This will better facilitate our understanding of your original vision for the proposed work.
- A declaration of commitment to submit the work for the consideration of the Aerowaves Twenty selection in 2018 for the 2019 selection
- Bios of the choreographer/s

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- A list of required performers in terms of how many are required and specific skills sought. It is not required at this point to indicate the identity of performers as it is understood that auditions may be necessary in case the proposal is selected
- Sample of past work (to be submitted as links to online videos on Vimeo or Youtube, with passwords if protected)

The Valletta 2018 Foundation reserves the right not to select any proposal if the desired quality is not reached.