

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR LARGE-SCALE INSTALLATIONS (SOUNDS, LIGHTS, TEXTS, SCULPTURES, ETC.) WITHIN THE SCI-ART YOUR LIFE! PROGRAMME IN COLLABORATION WITH META SPATIU

1. PRESENTATION

META Spatiu (active since 2016) develops contemporary art projects that support and present the work of Romanian and international artists, with the intention of providing an insightful perspective on the art scene in Central Europe. Until 2022, when it moved to its own space, META Spatiu operated as an ethereal art space, „parasitizing" other spaces - museums, galleries, public spaces - with the aim of developing medium and long-term collaborations with other artistic entities and actively contributing to the promotion of contemporary art and artists in various contexts.

MV sci-art center is a science and contemporary art center founded by the Polytechnic University of Timișoara and META Spatiu, which aims to generate discovery, dialogue and transdisciplinary collaboration. MV sci-art will actively contribute to the consolidation of Timisoara's cultural ecosystem beyond Timisoara 2023, being a long-term initiative involving local, national and international partners. A solid cultural programme is thus taking shape, with a focus on artistic and scientific innovation, transdisciplinary collaboration and the dynamisation of the relationship between the university, the artistic space and the local community.

Sci-art your life! is a programme of contemporary art and science, initiated by the cultural association META Spatiu, with the support of AFCN (Administration of the National Cultural Fund), the Timisoara Project Centre and the Timis County Council, which aims not only to stage cultural products that combine scientific and artistic knowledge, but also to reveal the processes underlying this connection.

Perception and participation play an essential role in this platform-programme that aims to become a cultural landmark for Timișoara, and its main purpose is to make visible processes and connections that are necessary, obvious, but hardly accessible at this moment.

The co-existence of disjunctive elements and the synthesis of common ideas in the fields targeted by the event is imperative for opening new ways of communication, multiple perspectives and real exchange of ideas in the Timisoara community.

The events proposed within Sci-art your life! explore various epistemological areas, from scientific to artistic experiments, from architectural to structural-social building models.

2. PURPOSE

The *Sci-art your life!* programme is an innovative initiative that brings art, science and community together in a unique and creative way. This extraordinary initiative, taking place within the framework of Timisoara 2023, European Capital of Culture, adds inestimable value to the city and the cultural legacy it will leave behind.

Through the connections it creates locally, nationally and internationally, *Sci-art your life!* brings together artists, scientists and the wider community to explore and celebrate the interaction between art and science. Through various events and activities, the programme encourages collaboration and dialogue between these two seemingly different but highly complementary fields.

One of the programme's greatest achievements is to create an environment where artists and scientists can collaborate and create unique and innovative work together. By combining creativity and scientific knowledge, these pioneers explore and convey complex ideas through art, helping the public to understand and appreciate profound aspects of the world we live in.

European and international connections are an essential aspect of the *Sci-art your life!* programme. Through partnerships with other prestigious cities and institutions in Europe, Timisoara becomes a centre for cultural and scientific exchange. This international network of collaboration brings together leading artists and scientists, promoting cultural diversity and the exchange of ideas.

3. TOPICS

The *Sci-art your life!* programme aims to organise an exhibition of large-scale installations in the outdoor space of the MV sci-art centre, creating a platform for dialogue and collaboration between artists and scientists, between nature and technology, between public and private space.

The themes addressed in the project are interdisciplinarity and transformation; the connection between scientific exploration and the organic world; ways of integration into the architectural landscape and the development of new frameworks for a better understanding of the processes animating long-term changes in a public/private space.

The alarming rates of ecosystem transformation are outstripping the human capacity to embrace and experience this perpetual transformation, so much so that the co-existence of innovation and nature is shaping our world in ways as yet unsuspected. How can an environment, both physical and metaphorical, be changed through art and science? What role does the viewer play in this transformation and how can installations inspire a metamorphosis of thought and perception?

The installations must transcend a sterile placement in the proposed space; they must become an integral part of the architecture of the MV sci-art centre, reflecting on the dynamic interaction between architectural structures and societal settings and how art can catalyse transformative interactions in these spaces and generate innovative approaches.

Through the *Sci-art your life!* programme, META Spatiu is looking for proposals for large-scale installations (sounds, lights, texts, sculptures, etc.) to be placed in the outdoor space of the MV sci-art centre. We invite artists to conceive and manifest monumental art installations that transcend traditional boundaries, bridging art and science, igniting new dimensions of thought and sparking transformative dialogues.

We only accept works that are already completed or at a very advanced stage of development (minimum 70% of the installation is already completed). Artworks must

withstand outdoor conditions. We encourage artists to think of solutions that are as sustainable as possible, integrated into the architecture of the space and in relation to the mission and values of the MV sci-art centre.

4. OPERATION

Participants will register by filling in a form. Entered projects will be juried and the selected project will be developed in close connection with the outdoor space of the MV sci-art centre and the organiser's guidelines. The role of META Spatiu is to contribute its knowledge and perspective to the appropriate development of the selected project.

5. PARTICIPANTS

This call is open to artists from any country in Europe, regardless of their level of qualification and from various disciplines such as design, art, architecture, urban planning, photography, or any other field.

Participants can only apply with works that are already completed or are at a very advanced stage of development (minimum 70% of the installation is already completed). Works will be installed in the outdoor space of the MV sci-art centre. The space is a garden of approximately 1,000 square meters.

As the park belongs to the strategic partner UPT, the installation of the artworks will not require the consent of the Timișoara City Hall or other authorisations.

6. EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The jury will consist of 5 members (2 representatives of META Spatiu, 1 representative of UPT, 1 representative of the Faculty of Arts and Design, UVT, 1 sci-art expert).

After the call closes on **5th of September 2023**, the evaluation committee will have one week to rank the proposals on the basis of a grid, after which it will meet - in plenary - on 12th of September to rank the results and arbitrate any ties.

Exclusion of participants due to non-compliance with the open call rules and evaluation is the sole responsibility of the jury.

The jury's final decision will be communicated on **15th of September 2023** via the website (www.metacontemporary.ro) and to the beneficiary or beneficiaries at the email address they have provided.

7. SELECTION CRITERIA

- Relevance to the general objectives and theme of the Sci-art your life! call as mentioned in point 3.
- Innovative and experimental character.
- Clarity of the proposal and adaptation to the collaboration methodology within the programme and respect of the open call timetable.
- Degree of integration of the installation into the architecture of the space.
- Use of various technologies and unconventional materials.

- The fact that the proposal takes into account social, ecological and/or environmental impact aspects will be assessed.
- Adaptations of previous projects may be submitted, provided they are substantial and relevant to the theme of Sci-art your life!
- Original and visionary proposals that are able to break through established frameworks will be appreciated.
- Diversity of approaches and experiences will be appreciated, as well as integration within all proposals that will be selected.

8. TERM

- Installation proposals may be submitted from **August 15, 2023** through **September 5, 2023, 23:59 (EEST)**.
- Results will be announced on **September 15, 2023**.
- The final exhibition will be opened on **October 15, 2023**.

9. UNDERTAKINGS OF THOSE SELECTED

- The selected persons undertake to submit all the documents required for the signature of the contract by **19.09.2023**, after the selection of the projects has been published on the META Spatiu website (www.metacontemporary.ro).
- The selected persons also undertake to agree with the project partners on the production plan and expenditure for the development of the project.
- They also undertake to complete and properly document the proposed projects.
- Respect the rules for the use of the META Spatiu gallery spaces and the MV sci-art centre.

10. LOGISTICS

Upon request and following the completion of the registration form, for selected participants residing outside Timisoara, META Spatiu will manage and cover travel and accommodation expenses (max. 5 days) of one person per project.

Each selected project will receive a budget of maximum 20.000 RON to cover the production costs of the project and the artist's fee.

The cost of transportation of the work, assembly, disassembly is the responsibility of the author.

11. APPLICATION DEADLINE AND INFORMATION REQUESTED

All those interested in participating in the call must complete and submit the form that appears on the www.metacontemporary.ro website before **September 5, 2023 at 23:59 EEST**.

Proposals may be submitted in English or Romanian, with preference given to the latter if both languages are spoken.

Information requested in the registration form (*required field):

Romanian form: <https://forms.gle/bEX291J8rD1YDuLeA>

English form: <https://forms.gle/3eftT3EbsMgyXQWS8>

About the applicant:

- Personal and contact information*
- Short narrative biography*
- City and country of residence*
- Travel requirements yes/no*
- Accommodation requirements yes/no*

About the project:

- Title of work*
- Description of the concept of the work*
- Keywords*
- Detailed description of the project, including*
 - project context and references
 - technical details and requirements
 - materials used
 - production and installation schedule, as far as possible, each of the phases
- Estimated project development budget of up to RON 20,000. This budget will be shared and evaluated with collaborators at the start of the project*
- Attachments*
- Link to a short video explaining the project of maximum 3 min (in English or Romanian). It can be a video recorded with a mobile phone in which the applicant explains the idea they are proposing*
- Graphic documentation of the installation*
- How did you find out about this call?*
- Comments

11.1 Documents to be submitted if your project is selected for contracting:

- Copy of identity card or passport
- Signed project development budget
- For foreign residents: tax residence certificate
- Certificate of bank account ownership
- Important! If a project has more than one author: they will agree and designate one person as project leader.

11.2. Final documentation on the project developed

- Description of the final project
- Technical file (with specifications on composition, operation, start-up/shut-down instructions if necessary, evolution from initial idea to final prototype and all relevant information for understanding the installation
- Graphic, photographic and audiovisual documentation produced as a documentary record of the evolution of the installation

12. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Entrants shall be responsible for the originality of the projects they submit and warrant that they legitimately own all intellectual property rights in the projects and, in this respect, warrant the peaceful use thereof by META Spatiu and expressly disclaim any liability for any direct or indirect damage or harm that may be derived from the breach of this warranty, without prejudice to any unauthorised material that is not their property. The authors and their collaborators (or, as the case may be, the persons participating as legitimate holders of the rights necessary for the development of the project) authorise META Spatiu to use, in whole or in part, the various elements of the project and, as the case may be, its results (whether texts, images, graphics or videos) exclusively for promotional and biographical purposes of META Spatiu.

13. PARTICIPANT'S IMAGE RIGHTS

Participants understand that they may appear in images (photo, video, etc.) made in connection with their art project for further informational or promotional dissemination of the Sci-art your life! activities initiated by META Spatiu and they authorize this use. Participants also agree that their image may be used in catalogues or other documents produced as part of the Sci-art your life! activities.

14. DATA PROTECTION

Personal data entered in the form will be collected and used in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 679/2016 (GDPR), in order to facilitate communication and the organisation of the event in optimal conditions.

15. ACCEPTANCE OF RULES AND PROCEDURES

Participants, by simply registering for the Open Call and completing the registration form accept these rules and procedures.

16. CONFLICT RESOLUTION

In order to resolve any problem or dispute arising from the open call, please contact the META Spatiu team so that both parties can reach an amicable solution.

In the event that such an amicable settlement is not reached, the parties, expressly waiving their own jurisdiction, submit to the courts and tribunals of the city of Timișoara.

For questions about the open call for proposals for installations, please write to contact@metacontemporary.ro, indicating "Open Call "Sci-art your life!" in the subject line.