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Magnolia ART RESIDENCY

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Houle Program 2027

Deadline for applications: November 16, 2027

A residency program for queer and feminist activists, artists, and cultural workers from Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Egypt,Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Lybia, Iran, Sudan and Yemen living in the EU or in their countries of origin.

For its third residency call, MAR aims to offer a space specifically for individuals from Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lybia, Iran, Sudan and Yemen. These countries are marked by ongoing political crises, genocide and political repression, which have resulted in a tragic loss of life and the displacement of thousands of people. Many artists and activists carry a heavy psychological burden due to the traumas they have experienced, both in their countries of origin and in their new homes.

Houle! will bring together 4 to 6 selected artists and activists that identify as queer and/or feminists. The residency program is for multidisciplinary artists and activists.

Houle! offers a unique space where these artists and activists can rest, recuperate, take time to develop their practice and connect with new networks.

Each individual residency will last between 4 to 8 weeks, with two residents at the same time**.** Artists and activists in residence should be open to work with each other and with the local community, to share meals sometimes within the residency with strict consideration and care for the maintenance of the house and the garden.

The program will run from April 15 to October 30, 2027 and will include:

• Visa assistance
• Round-trip ticket *(Due to current financial constraints, confirmation of whether flights can be covered will be communicated before March 15, as we are actively working on grant applications and fundraising initiatives. In the meantime, it is important for applicants to be aware that there is a possibility they may need to cover their own travel costs. MAR can provide invitation letters and general letters of support for funding applications)*
• Local transportation
• Accommodation *(We strongly encourage applicants to seek external funding to help cover accommodation costs. Securing funding will not influence MAR jury selection comity decision. However, it will greatly contribute to accommodation costs, support the sustainability of the residency, and sponsor future artists. MAR can provide invitation letters and general letters of support for funding applications)*
• Catering
• A shared small library
• An outside kitchen & an indoor kitchenette
• An outside workshop: we provide hand tools, power tools, office supplies, projector, a sound system and an extra speaker.

• A large garden

Outcome

We invite residents to curate an evening according to their own interests, whether to present a work, share a meal, or host an open discussion with the MAR public. There is no obligation or pressure, these moments can unfold at the residents' own pace.

Here's how the residency was lived by former residents:

"What I'll carry with me forever is the calm, slowness and tranquility that the residency offers, the extremely generous fig trees, representative of the people who run the space, and beyond everything, the people I met there, their energy and warmth. I'm thankful for this break I had from a daily exhausting life and the recharge it gave me."

"What is special about this residency is that it really was about the artist without any pressures of producing things, we just got to learn from each other and work on our artistic project... In addition to bike rides to the sea and the many warm events that took place on the island and at Magnolia. I not only got time alone but also got time to meet lovely people, many of whom are artists and activists that live and visit the island. "

"The residency provided me with what I needed: a space to rest and reflect, and to work a little on a writing project at my own pace, in a quiet atmosphere. Importantly for me too, the people involved in the residency, from organizer to fellow residents, and the community around MAR in Eresos and beyond, created opportunities for good connections in a residence that became a beautiful shared home."

"The experience allowed me to meet individuals I would probably never have the chance to encounter otherwise, especially from different Arab countries as Lebanon/ Beirut, I think it's really important to be exposed to more artists who speak the same language and share the same culture."