

Scotland
+ Venice

OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

SCOTLAND + VENICE 2023

18th INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE
EXHIBITION – LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA

THE LABORATORY OF THE FUTURE

Architecture &
Design Scotland
Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Introduction

Founded in 2003, Scotland + Venice is a major, international project that promotes the best of contemporary art and architecture from Scotland on the world stage, positioning Scotland as a distinct, dynamic and diverse centre for creative excellence. The project seeks to foster ambitious, innovative work in the fields of contemporary art and architecture, strengthened through international dialogue, professional exchange, critical review and public engagement. The Scotland + Venice partners are Creative Scotland; British Council; Scottish Government; Architecture and Design Scotland; V&A Dundee; National Galleries of Scotland.

The opportunity

The Scotland + Venice partners are now inviting proposals for a major exhibition to be staged at the 18th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice - La Biennale - from 20 May to 26 November 2023. This is a significant opportunity to present new ideas and practice from Scotland at one of the most prestigious international showcases for architecture in the world. Proposals should provide a strong and compelling response to the overall [themes of La Biennale as set out by the curator Lesley Lokko](#). We are looking for proposals that explore how good architecture and the built environment can be more available to and inclusive for everyone creating places that are healthy, sustainable, and thriving. We are also interested in issues of diversity, community empowerment, whole place collaborations, climate change, and life in a post covid world.

Proposal should be informed by and respond to the ambitions of Scotland + Venice:

- To make a critically relevant contribution to international discourse about art and architecture and generate international opportunities for Scotland's creative sector.
- To make a strong, globally relevant and distinctive contribution to La Biennale which showcases the best of Scottish art, architecture and design.
- To strengthen Scotland's reputation as an ambitious, innovative connected centre for the arts and architecture, internationally open to new ideas and partnerships.
- To strengthen public interest in and engagement with contemporary art and architecture internationally and in Scotland.
- To support the creative and professional development of students, artists, architects, curators and producers.
- To maintain and develop a proactive and progressive approach to equalities, diversity and inclusion and sustainability across the project.
- To develop Scotland + Venice to achieve best value for money with clear governance, management and reporting structures.

Who can apply

Proposals can be made by organisations and / or creative teams based in Scotland with a strong connection to architecture as a creative discipline and with the knowledge and experience to deliver an ambitious internationally relevant exhibition in the dynamic environment of La Biennale. Proposals should clearly explain the focus of the project, the curatorial approach and the plans for management and delivery, including design and graphics. The team is expected to have curatorial and exhibition making experience as well as strong project management skills. Proposals should clearly describe the roles of all involved and plans for evaluation should also be considered.

The Scotland + Venice communications teams and an external PR agency, will support the promotion of the project. The selected team will contribute to the media and marketing campaign and represent the project at press/ public events.

Project Budget

An indicative budget of £250,000 has been earmarked for the project and all proposals will need to demonstrate that they can be achieved within the available resources. There is also an ambition to grow the core budget through strategic fundraising and the appointed team will be expected to participate in fundraising for the project alongside the Scotland + Venice partners.

Scotland + Venice Venue

Scotland + Venice has secured the venue on a four-year rental, enabling more effective and sustainable working practices across the Scotland + Venice art and architecture projects. Further information on the venue can be found in the supporting documentation provided.

Collateral Event Status

We expect Scotland + Venice to be accepted as a Collateral Event at the 2023 Biennale. The proposal will be a key part of the Collateral Event application to the Biennale which will need to be made by 10th October 2022. In the unlikely event that the project is not accepted as a Collateral Event, options for the project will be reviewed by the Scotland + Venice partners.

Public benefit/legacy

In addition to participation in La Biennale, a key objective is for the project to connect with people in Scotland and internationally, to share knowledge and deliver a positive legacy so that this project provides benefit over time and influences future practice and work. Plans for a presentation of the project in Scotland through a physical tour, digital media or legacy material should be considered, however this is not expected to be fully delivered within the scope of the identified budget.

Professional Development Programme

Scotland + Venice is committed to providing development opportunities for individuals across the teams we work with as well as through a dedicated Professional Development Programme for students, graduates and early year professionals. Working with different partner organisations including art and architecture schools and universities and colleges we provide a unique opportunity for students to work in Venice at the exhibition and develop their own area of research.

These opportunities have been highly valued and have seen our participants go on to exciting careers across the sector. The appointed team will play a lead role in supporting the administration of the programme and management and care of the team in Venice.

Equalities, Inclusion and Diversity

Scotland + Venice is committed to building and maintaining a culture where the values of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) are intrinsic to and embedded in all areas of our work. We expect those we work with ensure that equalities, diversity and inclusion is central to programming and that day-to-day work and opportunities are accessible and inclusive.

Environmental Sustainability

Scotland + Venice is committed to building and maintaining a culture where environmental sustainability is intrinsic to and embedded in all areas of our work. We are committed to reducing and minimising the environmental impact arising from our activities and expect those we work with to work sustainably, ethically and with care within the context of both Scotland and Venice.

Supporting documents

STRATEGIC BACKGROUND
VENUE INFORMATION
SUBMISSION INFORMATION
APPLICATION FORM
HEADLINE BUDGET