

# LA BECQUE RÉSIDENCE D'ARTISTES

## FAQ

### 2024 Principal Residency Program

#### What is La Becque | Artist Residency?

La Becque artist residency was developed under the auspices of the Fondation Françoise Siegfried-Meier.

Born in 1914, renowned violinist Françoise Siegfried-Meier showed unswerving commitment to the artists of her time. Generous and passionate, she sought to support several public organizations and institutions in the long-term, particularly in the field of the arts, by creating a foundation bearing her name. Siegfried-Meier's wish for her family's domain in La Tour-de-Peilz to foster meetings and creativity has now been realized with La Becque's residency program – a natural fit for this unique and stunningly beautiful site.

La Becque has the ambition to host artists from all backgrounds and disciplines. Residents will benefit from an exceptional location, great facilities, and networks that will help them accomplish the project they have been selected for.

#### What is the Principal Residency Program?

Participants in our Principal Residency Program will be selected by a transdisciplinary jury of experts. The program is oriented towards established as well as up-and-coming artists with high potential for development.

The residency program dedicates particular attention to projects that focus on the interplay between nature and technology – two notions that are more than ever intertwined and lie at the heart of contemporary concerns.

## Are there other residency programs available at La Becque?

La Becque has developed several partner residency programs which have their own application processes, are announced separately, and have their own rules and juries. La Becque's Principal Residency Program application criteria and guidelines and application forms are only valid for La Becque.

## How can I participate in La Becque's Principal Residency Program?

There is one Call for Applications per year for our Principal Residency Program. Our current Call for Applications (for 2024 residents) opens March 1, 2023, on our website: <https://labecque.ch/en/application-form>.

Deadline for application is March 22, 2023, at 23:59 CEST.

## Who can apply for La Becque's Principal Residency Program?

Our Principal Residency Program welcomes applications from Swiss and international professional artists working in a wide range of disciplines, including:

- Architecture
- Critical writing
- Design (product design, graphic design, design research)
- Film
- Media arts
- Music and sound art
- Performing arts
- Photography
- Visual arts

Curators, critics, and theorists working in research fields connected to cultural practices are also encouraged to apply.

Up-and-coming as well as established artists are welcome to apply. However, applicants should be professionals in their field and strive for excellence. Applicants must show proof of specialized training or an equivalent track record, recognition among their peers, and a history of publicly showing their work.

## Can I apply if I am still studying?

Candidates who are in training at the time of application are not eligible to apply for the residency program. PhD students who have completed their entire course of study and are in the process of writing their thesis may apply.

## Is there an age range for applying?

Candidates must be at least 23 years old but there is no age limit.

## Can collaborators, duos, couples, or collectives apply for the residency?

Yes. However, keep in mind that when we attribute a residency for a specific project, our offer remains the same: collective applicants should take into consideration that their members will share facilities (one apartment and, where appropriate, one exclusive or shared studio space). The grant is adapted for artists' collectives according to the number of members in the group.

## How do I apply? What do I need to submit?

Applicants will be required to complete and upload the following documentation online (find the form at: <https://labecque.ch/en/application-form/>).

The application should include:

- A pitch for your project (max. 700 characters)
- A short biography including a brief description of the applicant's work (max 1,000 characters)
- A description of your project (max 2 pages)
- A full CV (max. 4 pages)
- A reference letter from a professional in the applicant's field
- A digital portfolio

Please read the conditions of participation carefully before submitting your application.

## What are you looking for in the project description?

In the outline of their residency project, applicants should show explicit and structured interest in the guiding themes developed in the Principal Residency Program, e.g., notions of nature and technology, and their interplay.

In the outline of their residency project, applicants should also clearly state in what way their project would specifically benefit from being developed at La Becque, what they expect to draw from our location and our networks, and what specific part of the project would particularly benefit from the residency.

In a nutshell, in what way does the applicant's project necessitate or justify a stay at La Becque?

In addition, applicants should specify their workspace needs – especially if they are applying as a duo or a collective.

## **How long does the Principal Residency Program last? Are there minimum and maximum durations?**

Applicants for a three-month residency should indicate their preference for a specific three-month period and provide a second choice for another three-month period. The three-month blocks available are January - March 2024, May - July 2024, or September - November 2024.

We also offer the possibility of doing a six-month residency by combining two three-month blocks, January - March 2024, and September - November 2024.

## **How frequently can I apply?**

Applicants may apply for the Principal Residency Program once every two years.

## **I have applied before and I am applying again: do I need to submit a full application?**

Yes. All applicants should submit a complete, up-to-date application.

## **Can I postpone my residency?**

The selected artists commit to coming to La Becque on the dates agreed with the team following their selection. For organizational reasons, it is generally not possible to postpone a residency.

## **Who reviews my application?**

Applications are first reviewed by La Becque's administrative staff to make sure they fit the requirements outlined in our Application Criteria and Application Guidelines. Applications that fit requirements are then reviewed by our Principal Residency Program Jury.

The composition of the jury will change from year to year. For our next call for applications, the jury will be composed of:

- Alexandre Babel (percussionist and composer, Berliner Ensemble, Eklekto Geneva Percussion Center)
- François J. Bonnet (composer and theoretician, director of INA-GRM, Paris)
- Patrick de Rham (director of Arsenic, Lausanne)
- Stefanie Hessler (curator and writer, director of Swiss Institute, New York)
- Boris Magrini (curator, HEK Haus des elektronischen Künste, Basel)
- Deborah-Joyce Holman (artist and curator)
- Elise Lammer (curator and art critic, Institute Art Gender Nature, Basel)
- Mai-Thu Perret (visual artist)
- Stefano Stoll (director of Images Vevey)

As well as:

- Tamara Jenny Devrient (member of the Board of Fondation Françoise Siegfried-Meier)
- Luc Meier (director of La Becque Artist Residency)

## **What will my living space be like in La Becque?**

Artists-in-residence are provided with a live/work apartment for the duration of their stay. The apartments are specifically designed for their use. Each apartment is 80sqm in size, with a fully equipped kitchen, a washer and dryer, a separate bedroom and bathroom, and a flexible main living/workspace of approx. 40sqm, plus a terrace facing Lake Geneva.

## **Can I have an extra workshop?**

Depending on the needs outlined in their application, residents will also be allocated the exclusive or shared use of one of our artists' studios. Our studios have a surface area of 30m<sup>2</sup> and a ceiling height of 3.70m and offer plenty of natural light.

## **What facilities are available to artists?**

La Becque includes a professionally equipped music and recording studio. Residents also have access to La Becque's wood workshop, which is equipped with several machines for cutting and assembling wooden parts. A workshop for ceramic production is also available, equipped with a 45cm x 60cm kiln. One of the workshops has a 3D printer (Ultimaker 2+).

A library is also available to residents.

## **What is required from residents during a residency?**

Residents will be required to contractually commit to La Becque's code of conduct. They are encouraged to interact with other residents, as well as with contacts relevant to their project which La Becque will provide. La Becque's administrative staff will conduct simple interviews with residents at regular intervals to ensure the progress of their project.

Residents will also be asked to write a report on their residency once it is completed.

## **Do I have to participate in public events?**

Open studios are organized after each 3-month residency session. This is an opportunity for residents to present their ongoing research to art professionals and the public. Participation in this event is appreciated but not compulsory.

In addition to the open studios, La Becque regularly organizes events outside of the residencies, such as discussion circles, concerts, and screenings. Residents may be invited to participate in these events on a voluntary basis. Residents are welcome to attend any of these events.

## **How much is the monthly stipend and what does it cover?**

Residents will receive a monthly grant of CHF 1,500 to cover their living costs and part of their production costs. The amount of the grant is adapted for collectives according to the number of members in the group.

## **How much will a residency cost me?**

La Becque contributes to the travel costs of the residents, with limits on participation based on total costs.

If the residency project is expected to incur significant production costs, it is the responsibility of the resident to find additional funding for the project.

## **Who takes care of the travel documents?**

Before the start of their residency, residents are responsible for organizing their own trips and applying for any visas that may be required for their stay. They should also ensure that they have valid health and accident insurance covering their stay in Switzerland.

## **Can I come with my family?**

Yes, partners and/or children may stay with residents during their residency. La Becque tries to be as flexible as possible to accommodate partners and/or children in the different residency programs, but we remind you that the resources available to residents are the same whether they come alone or accompanied (an apartment, possible individual or shared access to a workshop, and a monthly grant).

La Becque offers additional monthly financial support of CHF 1,000 to help with childcare costs. However, La Becque does not offer specific assistance or activities for children, but we are happy to refer parent artists to the various childcare and school facilities.

## **Can I bring my pet?**

No pets are allowed at La Becque.