

# LA BECQUE RÉSIDENTICE D'ARTISTES

## FAQ

### 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?

The Principal Residency Program is subject to a three-week call for applications in March every year, seeking applications for residencies to be held the following year.

Applications can only be made via the form available at <https://labecque.ch>.

## 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, art critics, and researchers working in fields related to cultural practices are also encouraged to apply.

Both up-and-coming and 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?

Applicants who are in training at the time of applying are not eligible for the Principal 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 limit for applying?

Applicants must be at least 23 years of age at the beginning of the year of residency, but there is no upper age limit.

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

Applicants will be required to complete and upload the below-mentioned documentation online (find the form on: [www.labecque.ch](http://www.labecque.ch)).

The application should include:

- A pitch for your project (max. 700 characters including spaces)
- A short biography including a brief description of the applicant's work (max 1,000 characters including spaces)
- 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 this year's conditions of participation carefully before preparing your application. Applications may be submitted in either English or French. However, please note that some members of the jury are not fluent in French and will therefore use automatic translation tools to help them understand applications written in French.

## 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.

An apartment can comfortably accommodate two adults or a small family. For groups of three or more adults, we advise applicants to organize themselves according to the needs of the project and the limitations of the accommodation.

For duo or collective applications, candidates must include in the portfolio the number of projects requested by discipline (see above) that they have completed as a collective. If the duo or collective has completed fewer projects requested by discipline together, or has not yet completed a project together, candidates must include a maximum of five projects (in total, not five projects per person) in the portfolio that represent the practices of the collective and/or each member of the collective.

## **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 must state a preference for a specific three-month period and propose a second choice for another three-month period. The three-month blocks available each year are January-March, May-July, and September-November.

We also offer the possibility of carrying out a residency for a total of six months, combining two 3-month blocks, e.g., January-March and September-November. Consecutive six-month residencies are generally not possible.

## **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 ensure that they meet the application criteria and rules. Applications that meet these requirements are then

reviewed by the jury of the Principal Residency Program. The composition of the jury changes in part from year to year and can be found on our website.

## **What will my living space be like at 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 80 sqm in size, with a fully equipped kitchen, a washer and dryer, a separate bedroom and bathroom, and a flexible main living/workspace of approx. 40 sqm, plus a terrace facing Lake Geneva.

## **Can I use 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 30 m<sup>2</sup> and a ceiling height of 3.70 m and offer plenty of natural light.

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

La Becque has a professionally equipped music and recording studio. Residents also have access to La Becque's wood workshop, which features a wide range of machines for cutting and assembling wooden parts. A workshop for ceramic production is also available, equipped with a 45 x 60 cm kiln and a potter's wheel. Finally, a 3D printer (Ultimaker 2+) and a library are 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. A deposit, which is deducted from the final month's grant, will be paid once this report has been submitted to La Becque.

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

Open studios are organized after each 3-month residency period. 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 Open Studios, La Becque regularly organizes public events alongside residencies, such as studio tours, discussion circles, concerts, and screenings. Residents may be invited to take part directly, but acceptance is voluntary. Residents are welcome to attend all these events.

## **Who lives at La Becque and who visits La Becque?**

La Becque regularly organizes public events on its La Tour-de-Peilz site, which feature a diverse and sometimes large audience in some of the site's shared spaces, including the garden. Some of these events involve residents in their program, while others do not. In addition, artists who are invited to take part in these events may be invited to stay for short periods at La Becque. Other artists, juries, and La Becque partners are also frequently invited to stay. Residents are informed in advance of these events, visits, and temporary "neighbors." They are invited to take part in the events and to welcome the visitors, who will also respect the integrity of the residents. La Becque guarantees a welcoming and safe environment for all its guests.

## **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 stipend).

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, except for assistance dogs, which are of course welcome.