



Call for applications – residency – visual arts Residency of 54 days // Spring and Autumn 2026

USINE UTOPIK

The association ADN – Usine Utopik is a centre for contemporary artistic creation with a mission to support and promote visual arts and contemporary writing in a rural environment. Residencies take place at Usine Utopik, located in the old horticultural greenhouse of Tessy-sur-Vire, a village with about 1500 inhabitants.

Here artists can participate in live-in residencies where they realize specific projects, conduct research, or develop new directions in artistic practice, which will result in an exhibition. The centre offers help during all the different phases of the artist's work, research and exhibition.

Usine Utopik also offers residencies for authors and presents a diverse cultural program (exhibitions, art library, public lectures, publications, etc.) that facilitates interactions between artists and the local art community.

RESIDENCE

This application call regards all artists with a successfully completed art degree and with a professional artistic practice in contemporary creation (painting, sculpture, installations, photo, drawing, ceramic, performance, etc...), regardless of age and nationality. Usine Utopik organises six residencies a year, from spring to fall, and welcomes **three artists at the same time. This set-up demands collaboration between the artists** for the final exhibition.

During the residency the artists are asked to question their work regarding the territory, its history and its geography.

The project needs to take the particularities of the building into account. The greenhouse of Usine Utopik offers a large space of 1500 m²; there are workshops as well as an exhibition space of 400 m² (20 meters long and large, and 4 to 6 meters high). This space is very bright, which limits certain projects (images broadcasted by beamers or on television screens, etc.). **Projects also need to be aware of the greenhouse effect** of the building; projects that use fragile materials or photography may be difficult to realize.

All these limitations need to be studied for video projects, photography, drawing, fragile installations, etc. A visit of the place before the residency could be helpful to see if the project is achievable. Digital projects can be possible because of a high-definition camera. Innovative projects that use new technologies are encouraged.

The residency takes place for a period of 54 days. **The artist needs to be present at least 45 days** during this period. If the artist needs some time off for professional reasons, to participate in other exhibitions for example, he can take a maximum of three consecutive days off (with a total of 9 days) on the condition that this is compatible with the planning of the residency. If this agreement is not respected, the artist gets a penalty of €50 per day of absence.

RESIDENCE TEMPORALITY

First period: from 24 of march to 15 of may 2026

Second period: from 25 of august to 16 of October 2026

REMUNERATION

The artist will benefit from a creation grant worth € 2,250 gross and financial assistance for production costs associated with the residence, up to a maximum of € 1,500 upon presentation of supporting documents.

ACCOMMODATION

The housing is covered by Usine Utopik. Every artist gets a personal room in an apartment, shared with the other artists in residence. Next to three private bedrooms with private bathroom, the apartment consists of a shared living room and kitchen. The workspaces of 60 m² can be found in the centre.

Technical support is available within the limits of the centre. Usine Utopik provides the artists with tools. Water and electricity are covered by Usine Utopik. The workshops are equipped with Wi-Fi.

Usine Utopik takes care of all the costs for the opening of the exhibition (communication, vernissage, etc.).

Telephone costs and travel expenses (to and from the centre) are not covered by the centre.

The artist is highly recommended to have a car at his disposal, because Tessy-sur-Vire does not have any form of public transportation. The nearest city is Saint-Lô at a distance of 18 km.

DISTRIBUTION AND MEDIATION

The works created during the residency are property of the artist. At the end of his residency, the artist presents his artistic project in the exhibition space. The art work is subject of public mediation. Usine Utopik publishes a booklet, sized A5, with information about the artist and the work made during the residency.

COUNTERPART

The artist needs to be present during the opening days of the centre. During the residency, he can be asked to present his work, to participate in meetings or workshops with visitors (schools, leisure centres, welfare centres, etc.) allowing an exchange with the public during the creative process.

APPLICATION

The selection is made on the following criteria:

- **Statement of intent, describing the project**, the research that the artist would like to conduct, and the media that the artist would like to use. The project needs to be conceived for the specific space of Usine Utopik and needs to take the particularities of the building into account.
- Portfolio, including images of the artist's work and/or exhibitions and a text on the work.
- Up to date CV.
- Copy of official document that certify you are professional artist.
- Social security number (especially for European union resident)
- Official document that demonstrates the ability to invoice. (A1 certificate)
- Certificate of liability insurance

Applications has to be sent by e-mail. Only PDF format (not downloadable on a server) will be regarded. The subject of the mail must be: **LASTNAME Firstname- Candidature arts-plastiques 2026**

The applicants are informed about the results of the selection by e-mail. **Because of the substantial number of applications, we cannot give any specific precisions about the selection.**

The selection committee will gather at the end of November 2025. The selected artists can be invited to participate in a phone interview or Skype meeting after that date.

Applications must be sent before the 05 of OCTOBER 2025 to:

Xavier Gonzalez, directeur de l'Usine Utopik
Centre de Création Contemporaine – Relais Culturel Régional
La Minoterie
Route de Pont-Farcy
50420 Tessy-sur-Vire

or by e-mail to: usineutopik@gmail.com

For any further information, contact Xavier Gonzalez - director of Usine Utopik,
or Gwendoline Hallouche - executive assistant, on: +33 233 06 01 67 or usineutopik@gmail.com