

Open Call Performance Jeannette Ehlers 2024

Message from the artist:

«Dear friends and community members,

In the scope of the forthcoming exhibition to be held at MAAT between September 17th 2024 and March 17th 2025, *Black Ancient Futures*, you are warmly invited to take part in the Open Call for finding two performers to join myself in *We're Magic. We're Real #3 (These Walls)*.

This performance will be a significant moment that embodies the lineage and tradition of hair as a powerful symbol and as an identity marker of Black diasporic culture. The hair braids create a poetic metaphor for the relationship between culture and nature, body and landscape, history and the present. The traces and joining of kinship, solidarity, and healing will be central to this exhibition, focusing particularly on Afro-Caribbean histories in further reflection of the representations and borders of Blackness.

You are most welcome to apply and become part of the process of performing *We're Magic. We're real (These Walls)*. Please note that this open call is exclusively open to People of Color (POC) due to its scope».

Jeannette Ehlers

Project description:

Between 24 July and 7 August, MAAT and the artist Jeannette Ehlers invite you to participate in the Open Call for the performance *We're Magic. We're Real #3 (These Walls)*, by Jeannette Ehlers. The performance will take place on 17 September as part of the opening of the exhibition *Black Ancient Futures*. Presented at the MAAT Gallery, MAAT Central and MAAT Garden between 18 September 2024 and 17 March 2025, the exhibition brings together a group of international artists from the African diaspora, some of whom are being presented in Portugal for the first time. Set against a backdrop of profuse visual density, the exhibition opens up wide-ranging thematic fields including mythology, ecology, science, technology, fiction and African history.

Jeannette Ehlers, who will present two works in the exhibition, began developing the performance series *We're Magic, We're Real* in 2020. The entire work series makes use of hair as an important identity marker among the African diaspora, as a simple yet powerful gesture. Performers with African heritage will be connected to MAAT's facade by way of long cornrows, as if the braids were growing out of the walls, which will remain on display at MAAT throughout the exhibition.

Accompanied by the sound of the roar of the Atlantic, the performers move slowly back and forth in front of the building, repeating a sentence from time to time, each in a different language: Portuguese, English and Danish. Quietly but insistently, they attract the attention of passers-by. Grief and strength are

present in equal measure in the meditative performance, which expresses a yearning for life outside the plantation system, and for the forest as a literal and symbolic sanctuary.

Regulation for the participation in the Performance *We're Magic. We're Real #3 (These Walls)*

Duration of the performance: the performance will take approximately sixty (60) minutes.

Payment: The service provided within the scope of the *We're Magic performance. We're Real #3 (These Walls)* will be paid. Each selected person will receive an artist fee for their participation in the performance and rehearsal.

1. Eligibility and application process

- 1.1 Applicants of Portuguese and foreign nationality resident in Portugal may participate in the Open Call (hereinafter referred to as "participants").
- 1.2 Participants must be available for a rehearsal day on a date to be set in the second week of September 2024 and on the day of the performance, 17 September 2024.
- 1.3 Experience and professional training in the performing arts will be valued but is not required.
- 1.4 The application process involves filling in an application form available on the MAAT website.
- 1.5 When applying, candidates must submit their CV and a cover letter in English (maximum 350 words) in PDF format and a photograph of themselves (face and full body).
- 1.6 The application form and CV must be written in English for consultation with the artist Jeannette Ehlers.
- 1.7 Due to the nature of the activity in question and the context of its execution participants must identify as female, be aged between 25 and 50, and belong to the black community.
- 1.8 Failure to comply with the above points will result in the application not being accepted.

2. Selection of applications:

- 2.1 Fundação EDP guarantees the confidentiality of the processes and documentation received.
- 2.2 The two selected applicants will be informed of their selection by a member of the MAAT team.
- 2.3 The EDP Foundation does not cover accommodation and travel costs for applicants who live outside Lisbon.
- 2.4 The selection of applicants will be conducted by the artist Jeannette Ehlers, with the support of the MAAT team, through the elements required in points 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7.
- 2.5 Selection decisions cannot be appealed.

3. Personal Data Processing

- 3.1. Fundação EDP, a public utility legal entity with the unique corporate and commercial registry number 506997286, headquartered at Avenida Brasília, Central Tejo, 1300-598 Lisbon, is responsible for processing the personal data of the applicants participating in the Open Call, namely, the data provided through the application form, the CV and respective cover letter, as well as the photograph provided.
- 3.2. Fundação EDP will process personal data for the purpose of confirming compliance with eligibility requirements and managing the application process within the scope of this Project, based on the execution of the contract established between the EDP Foundation and the participants when they accept this Regulation and proceed with the application in the Open Call, in order to allow the realization of the Project, compliance with the Regulation, and to effectuate their participation.
- 3.3. The names of the selected participants will be made public through the MAAT website, and the Fundação EDP is not responsible for any subsequent sharing that users and visitors of the MAAT website may perform.
- 3.4. The personal data of the participants will be kept for the period necessary to ensure that the purposes that motivated their collection are achieved, the deadlines for prescription and expiry of the rights arising therefrom, unless Fundação EDP is required to keep them for a longer period by force of law.
- 3.5. Participants have the right to request from Fundação EDP access to personal data concerning them, as well as their rectification or erasure, and the limitation of processing, or the right to object to processing, as well as the right to data portability, in accordance with applicable legislation in this matter. To exercise rights, as well as for any question related to the processing of personal data, you may contact the data controller through the address visitar.maat@edp.pt.
- 3.6. The personal data of the participants may be processed by a suitable service provider contracted by Fundação EDP. Said service provider will exclusively process the data for the purposes established by the EDP Foundation and in compliance with the instructions issued by it, adhering to the legal norms on personal data protection, information security, and other applicable regulations.
- 3.7. Fundação EDP may have to communicate the personal data to third parties if this is necessary to comply with legal obligations, in case of judicial orders, or to respond to requests from public or governmental authorities.
- 3.8. Within the scope of this Open Call, if you consider that Fundação EDP has violated the rights you have under the applicable

legislation on personal data protection, you may file a complaint with the National Data Protection Commission.

- 3.9. For any additional questions related to the matter at hand, the participant may also contact the data protection officer (DPO) of Fundação EDP, whose contact details are: Email dpo.pt@edp.com.

4. Miscellaneous

- 4.1. Participation in this Open Call necessarily implies the full and unconditional acceptance of all the conditions provided for in this Regulation.
- 4.2. Fundação EDP reserves the right to change, suspend, or cancel the Open Call if force majeure circumstances occur.
- 4.3. Participants hereby waive any compensation for damages or losses arising from their application, in case of unavailability of access to the website.
- 4.4. Any unauthorized attempt to invade the computer systems or communications supporting the Open Call will be considered illegal and reported to the competent authorities for the appropriate effects.
- 4.5. In case of an unforeseen situation arise not covered by this Regulation, Fundação EDP will interpret it according to the rules set out in this Regulation or, in their absence, based on the general applicable rules and with recourse to equity, reserving the right to make any modification to the respective Regulation or to the realization of this Open Call, canceling, extending, or suspending it without any prior notice, should a force majeure reason occur, without the Participants having the right to any compensation.
- 4.6. Fundação EDP will not be liable for any human or technical error that may occur during the Open Call, which does not result from intentional misconduct or negligence, accepting the participants in the Contest that it is hereby exonerated from any liability arising therefrom.
- 4.7. None of the entities involved can be held responsible for the non-fulfillment or defective fulfillment of this action if such non-fulfillment or defective fulfillment arises from facts or circumstances that are not under the control or domain of the parties, namely disturbances in the telecommunications platforms and access to them, computer errors, power outages and/or fluctuations, state of war, serious alteration of public order, serious accident in the facilities or with equipment of any of the parties, earthquakes, explosions, fires, floods, sabotage, strikes not called by the parties and/or orders issued by any judicial or administrative authority.
- 4.8. This Regulation is governed by Portuguese law. Any issues that arise regarding the interpretation, validity, or execution of this Regulation, which cannot be solved consensually between the

Parties, will be submitted to the Judicial Court of the District of Lisbon, with express waiver of any other.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

I live outside Lisbon. Can I take part? Yes, although the EDP Foundation will not cover the travelling and accommodation costs of participating artists.

What is the required time availability? Availability will be requested for an online meeting with the artist and members of the MAAT team, as well as in-person availability for two full days in September for rehearsals with the artist and the performance.

What dates are allocated for the programme? A rehearsal day in the second week of September on a date to be set and a performance day on 17 September 2024.

Where will the performance and rehearsal take place? In the MAAT building in Lisbon.

I don't come from an arts background or have any artistic experience, can I take part? Yes, although training and experience in the performing arts are valued.

Is participation remunerated? Yes, there will be an artist's fee awarded for the performance and rehearsal.

How does the selection process work? The selection of candidates will be conducted by the artist Jeannette Ehlers, with the support of the MAAT team, using the elements required in the application.

For any questions, please contact: visitar.maat@edp.pt



maat