



OPEN CALL FOR EMERGING ARTISTS 2022

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v3.0

WHAT'S ALL THIS?

The Gabriel Caruana Foundation is calling emerging contemporary artists/artist collectives based in Malta to submit their interest in showing their work at The Mill as part of our SPRING programme.

Supporting artists and collectives by exhibiting at The Mill has been a core principle of Gabriel and Mary Rose Caruana, the founders of The Mill - Art, Culture and Crafts Centre and an integral part of what the Gabriel Caruana Foundation envisions.

The Foundation has so far supported over 20 artists in the past four years through the SPRING Artistic Programme. This programme grew organically into a platform for the development and promotion of work by emerging artists/collectives. This enables them to kickstart or further expose their work and artistic career giving them the space to investigate and intervene. The Foundation has recognised the following as important foci in our Strategy for The Mill:

- Understanding and Conscience,
- Community-Driven,
- Connection and Collaboration,
- Innovation and Experimentation and
- Legacy

Since 2017, the Gabriel Caruana Foundation has supported emerging artists by dedicating its exhibition space for solo and collective exhibitions at The Mill. The Foundation strives to support up and coming artists and collectives in various ways through curation, project development, funding and sponsor support, sales of artworks and internationalisation.

IS IT YOU, WE'RE LOOKING FOR?

This call is for artists to show their work at The Mill during 2022, during which we will dedicate time and space to support artists and collectives as part of the SPRING Artistic Programme. A couple of questions first, are you an emerging contemporary artist or artist collective (less than three solo exhibitions?) Are you working on something experimental, or in the contemporary idiom that you wish to

show at our art centre? Are you based in Malta? Yes, then this call is for you! Artists or collectives who have already been selected to participate in previous calls are also eligible to apply.

We also want to ensure that the work forming part of SPRING is in line with our ethos, aims and artistic vision. Consequently, we have recognised the importance of key areas such as:

- environmental awareness,
- sustainability,
- innovation,
- inclusion, and engagement,
- cultural heritage,
- mental health and
- artist activism

to be major elements which shape and guide our work and collaborations. Projects which investigate these aspects are encouraged. Moreover, artists are further encouraged to investigate one or more of these aspects whilst developing site-/context-specific work by relating their projects to:

- The Mill as a space and its associated facets,
- the context and surroundings of The Mill,
- the interrelated communities and/or
- the artistic legacy of Gabriel Caruana and the strategic foci of the Gabriel Caruana Foundation.

We encourage projects which are experimental, challenge the above-mentioned aspects (one or more), make use of various media (as per the below), and which identify, question and investigate issues which are relevant to contemporary society.

Media

We are eager to engage with emerging contemporary artists with various artistic backgrounds and interests including, but not limited to, film and video work, photography, painting, sculpture, contemporary ceramics, installation art, literature, digital art, sound, new media art and performance-based work such as theatre and fashion.



Stefan Spiteri working at The Mill during setting up of SPRING v1.1 exhibition 'Points of Transition'



*Site specific artwork,
Souvenirs from The Mill
(2021) by Sheldon Saliba, part
of SPRING v1.2 exhibition 'un/
usual occurrence'*

WHAT SHOULD YOU SUBMIT?

We will be selecting a maximum of 13 emerging artists or artist collectives/groups based in Malta to feature at The Mill, on our website and social media. To participate in this competitive open call please submit the following by Monday 16th August to projects@gabrielcaruanafoundation.org subject: SPRING CALL 2022:

A motivation letter telling us why you want to be part of this. Be honest, open and describe why this is a good opportunity for you and what you are looking for (what help do you need, how this experience will affect you etc.) Additionally, feel free to propose any particular concept or idea you want to investigate. You can include text, sketches, photos, mood boards, research excerpts - anything which gives us an idea as to what you want to develop.

100 word bio (keep it short, direct and real).

Artistic CV (don't worry if it is short). If you believe that your work CV highly benefits other associated points linked to the application, such as volunteering, (or you do not have any artistic experience yet), it definitely won't be a bad idea to include it.

Selected works from your portfolio, or even snippets of your work if you do not have one yet! (show us what your work is about).

Describe any hidden talents you might have and how you are willing to contribute in running an artist-run space, not more than 500 words (check Voluntary work section below for more details!).

The selection will be carried out through an evaluation committee and therefore the above will enable the evaluation of this Open Call.

HOW WILL WE SUPPORT YOU?

Space allocated and duration of exhibition

The Gabriel Caruana Foundation will be

providing the selected artists with a space at The Mill free of charge for a maximum of three weeks during 2022. The highest ranking artist or collective will be selected for the SPRING Annual Solo exhibition.

Team support

The SPRING Programme is evolving into providing a space for discussion, mentoring and exchanging ideas. An introductory meeting at The Mill will be held with the selected artists and the Gabriel Caruana Foundation team. The Foundation strives to invite mentors to contribute towards the artists' growth, from developing project management skills, to debating artistic concepts and cataloging your work and more.

The team, GCF staff and volunteers, will help in the setting up and dismantling of the exhibition. Subject to prior discussions, the Foundation will make available any equipment or tools at its discretion to facilitate the development, setting up/dismantling and showcasing of the work during the exhibition period.

Marketing

The exhibition will form part of our artistic programming and included on our website and Facebook events. The work will be featured on our website for a three-week period prior to the launch of the exhibition. Social media posts will be dedicated to the selected artists. A press release and GCF Bulletin will feature the selected artist or artist group/collective and the work. Appropriate media coverage which may include online, printed and TV.

Sales

Depending on the nature of work exhibited, it will be made available for sale through the Gabriel Caruana Foundation. Proceeds from any sale made shall go towards the artist/collective and the Foundation, the latter for fundraising purposes.

The works will be made available for sale for a period of one year, exclusively from the Gabriel Caruana Foundation. Terms and conditions apply and will be subject to an agreement between the artists and the Foundation.

The final work exhibited at The Mill will form part of a yearly postcard collection sold by the GCF for fundraising purposes, sales of such postcards go towards the Foundation to further its objectives.

WILLING TO GIVE BACK?

In the spirit of artist-run centres and to further the philosophy of exchange, we are asking each selected artist or artist group/collective to be part of the Foundation by giving back some of your time and talents. As a non-profit we run on the passion and dedication of the team and volunteers. We are asking for 40 hours of your time (within six months from the closing of the exhibition). You can be involved in the different aspects related to the running of The Mill and the Foundation. From giving workshops, greeting guests, assisting in setting up other exhibitions, proofreading, designing of artwork, documenting exhibitions and archives - there's always something interesting to do! Let us know how you are willing to contribute!

DEADLINE

This open call closes on the **16th August 2021, 23:59hrs**. Notification of results will be sent by end-August 2021. An evaluation team will discuss and select all submissions received. Send in your application to projects@gabrielcaruanafoundation.org with the subject line **SPRING CALL 2022**. Email attachments should not exceed 15MB, Wetransfer file submissions are preferred.

QUESTIONS?

Feel free to get in touch by sending us an email on projects@gabrielcaruanafoundation.org.

SPRING v3.0 Open Call Team

Raffaella Zammit - Co-Creative Director & Programme Manager

Elyse Tonna - Co-Creative Director & Curator

Karl Tonna - Design

Marvin Zammit - Website Design and Programming

Raffaella Zammit, Sheldon Saliba and Elyse Tonna - Photos

Site specific artwork, Control Degrees (2021) by Martina Camilleri, part of SPRING v1.3 exhibition 'Unwoven'.



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