



3rd INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF ASUNCION JOJAHA / PARITY

COPEN CALL BIA 2019 *Visual Arts Projects*

The International Biennial of Asuncion (hereafter, BIA) is a cultural, artistic and social project, organized from an educational standpoint by the Asociación Bienal de Asunción (Aso-BIA). The BIA seeks to engage with contemporary issues of the Paraguayan context and its trans-local dimension. In its third edition, the BIA 2019 commits to becoming a space for reflection, dialogue and imagination around gender, subjectivities, ethnic and social groups; migratory processes and current forms of transculturality; economic inequalities and accessibility; armed conflicts and environmental issues, as pivotal situations of the contemporary global scene. These topics will be approached in this biennial from the perspective of *jojaha*/parity.

The Guaraní word *jojaha* refers to agency in terms of notions of equality, equity, and reciprocity and to reflective operations of recognition and administration of differences and the common imaginary. Moreover, the concept of parity should not be limited to the legal sphere - equality legislated in the field of law - but to inclusion in social practice: *jojaha* as a balance of two parts of a whole, above a supposed recognition in a right to societal participation.

The diverse participation that the BIA aspires to demands a multi-faceted and complex social space, in formal, conceptual and poetic terms. Our curators advocate for approaches emphasizing trans-disciplinary processes aimed at the convergence of cultural references, that is to say dissimilar fields of knowledge and praxis itself. This curatorial proposal seeks to transcend the traditional boundaries of disciplines and enhances post-autonomous practices, including contemporary analysis of traditional media and repertoires.

An expectation of the BIA 2019 is to offer the city of Asuncion, and by extension the country, a platform for critical thinking that generates inclusive spaces of dialogue between artists, researchers, critics, audiences and institutions. The BIA proposes itself as an event for creative experimentation with long-term effects in society.

The BIA seeks to consolidate the city into the national and international circuits of art events, making Asuncion a destination of interest for organizations, theorists, artists and audiences that share cultural concerns and its artistic and creative expressions.



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GENERAL REMARKS

The BIA 2019 presents the call for submissions to the 3rd edition of the BIA, with the support of the Office of the First Lady, the Museum of Sacred Art and the National Secretariat of Culture of Paraguay. The submissions must meet the following criteria:

I. INFORMATION ABOUT PARTICIPANTS

Participating artists, both independent or from national and international artist collectives must be 18 years of age or older. If any of the members of a project submitted to this call do not meet this requirement, the project will be disqualified.

The works selected by the 3rd edition of the BIA must not be under consideration for any other national or international event as of their inclusion until after the event.

The selected projects will be part of the BIA 2019 until the end of the event, without the possibility of being withdrawn in advance.

II. PROJECTS RELATED

The proposals must relate to the *jojoha / parity* statement of models of equality in terms of representation, participation or as a creative strategy. Projects may include the use of techniques, languages, resources and technology, taking into account multi, inter and trans-disciplinary approaches that propose new angles the language and poetics of art. The proposals may engage the following topics but must relate to the theme of *jojoha / parity*:

Gender, sexuality and subjectivity: Tensions between traditional and contemporary modes of social constructions, and identities (both individual and collective). Micro-political practices. Insubordinate and subversive sexualities. Consensus and disagreements. Discrimination. Institutional violence. Expressive and linguistic becomings. Interference between market and differences. Construction and deconstruction of binarisms. The pathologization of identity, corporality and sexuality.



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COPEN CALL BIA 2019

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Ethnic and racial issues: Right to self-determination, representation and respect for spaces of expression. Subaltern memories and historical recoveries. Political participation. Intercultural dialogues. Affirmative policies and difference. Racialization, segregation and hybridizations. Critical interculturality and transculturality.

Environment: Preservation and sustainability. Critique of exclusionary models of development. Food sovereignty and technologies of production. Climate change. Deforestation and intensive and extensive productive practices. Relations between ecological biodiversity and culture. Relations between gender and environmental policies.

Migration: Fortified borders. Forced displacements due to the environmental deterioration, political, social and economic crises. Refugees. Crisis of migratory policies.

Economic inequalities: Social classes, gender and ethnicity. Economic policies and possibilities of influence.. Tensions between formal and informal economy. Problems of access to land. Participation in the Market and crisis of ways of correlation and cultural appropriation. Gender and economic participation. Criminalization of social struggles.

Accessibility: Exclusion and inclusion of people and collectives in parallel and alternative cultures, due to generational, linguistic and gender differences. Participation of people with special abilities.

Interdisciplinary knowledge: Crisis of hegemonic epistemological models. Ancestral knowledge. Epistemologies of the South. Indigenous knowledge. Open source technologies. Non-authorship practices. Transversalities between artistic means of expression and aspects of daily life. Developments and technological challenges.



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III. REGARDING PRODUCTION AND ARTWORK TRANSPORTATION

- 3.1 The artwork that must be sent to Asuncion will have to be made in such a way as to allow an easy transportation of the piece (in case of a large format, they should permit disassembling, being folded or rolled up). The materials used must not be substances prohibited by sanitary and/or transportation safety rules (combustible and flammable), nor contain products harmful to the environment.
- 3.2 All expenses related to the selected projects and their production shall be the responsibility of their respective creator. The assembly and maintenance of each piece will be assessed by BIA staff, given the complexity of the case. In the case that the artist is not physically present, the organizing entity can install the artwork pending instruction from the artist.
- 3.3 Aso-BIA guarantees the exhibition of the works selected, as well as their custody for the duration of their display. Artists are free to contract insurance services should that be in their interest.
- 3.4 The return of the artwork will be carried out by the Biennial of Asuncion Association, within a six month period, commencing at the end of the event.

IV. APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- 4.1 All applicant projects must be submitted between March 1st and June 1st 2019 at 11:59 pm (PYT Paraguayan time).
- 4.2 The projects must be submitted to the email address: concursobia@bienaldeasuncion.org.



3rd INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF ASUNCION
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Visual Arts Projects

4.3 Once selected, the accepted artwork must be sent to the following address from August 10th and until September 10th, 2019:

Oficina BIA 2019

Edificio Segesa, Oliva c/ Alberdi
2do piso, Oficina 7.
Asunción, Paraguay CP 1209

Applicants must submit:

- a) Personal information: Name, nationality, place of residence, e-mail, phone number, website or art-related social media links, photographs of at least 5 previous works and personal photo in digital format (300 dpi).
- b) Curriculum Vitae and an artist bio (300 word maximum) to be used for press releases and local fundraising and sponsorship campaigns.
- c) Project Information: A synopsis of the work including title, a technical description, dimensions, medium and photo credits for accompanying images.
- d) Digital copy of the authorization signed by the owner or holders of the artistic project to be presented for exhibition during the BIA.

V. COPYRIGHTS:

In cases where the project uses or includes images, sounds, texts or any material whose intellectual property belongs to third parties, participants must declare and show all the necessary documents proving the rights of usage and exhibition of the material, thus releasing BIA and its organizers from any possible claims from third parties, as such each participant is responsible for possible eventual infractions to the Copyright Law in effect.



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Participation in the event implies a declaration from the artist as the legitimate creator of their work.

VI. SELECTION COMMITTEE

6.1 Applications will be evaluated by the curatorial team of the 3rd International Biennial of Asunción – BIA 2019, constituted of Dannys Montes de Oca (Cuba), Bettina Brizuela (Paraguay), Damián Cabrera (Paraguay) and Omar Estrada (Canada-Cuba). The intent of the curatorial panel is to promote diverse and complex artistic concepts as well as a multiplicity of individual and social imaginaries.

6.2 The curatorial team of BIA 2019 reserves the right to determine the number of projects selected. The committee will base their decisions on the proposals in accordance to the curatorial intentions already expressed in these rules and conditions.

VII. NOTIFICATION OF PROJECT SELECTION:

Selected artists will be notified only by e-mail to the email address given when applying. Subsequently, the complete list of participating artists will be published on the website and on social media platforms of the International Biennial of Asunción. The selection of projects does not imply a commitment of remuneration to their respective creators.

VIII. ARTWORK EXHIBITION

The selected works will be exhibited during the 3rd International Biennial of Asunción - BIA 2019 from October 1st to November 1st 2019 and will be hosted by several public and private spaces in the city, to be determined by the curatorial and museography team.



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IX. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The participants express their consent to be bound by these terms and conditions, and by acceptance of participation, give their explicit unconditional agreement to authorize BIA 2019 to use and reproduce their work for dissemination, promotion, publication, printing, exhibition and communication to the public, of all the material that the participants provide to the BIA 2019 through their registration in the event by any means of communication created or to be created, including without limitation, journalistic material, books, advertising and commercials, audiovisual material, urban graphic, sales points, posters, internet, television or radio broadcasts, both in Paraguay and abroad, all at the sole discretion of BIA 2019, without compensation, payment or indemnification obligations.

X. CONTENTIONS AND REGISTERED OFFICE

10.1 Participating in this contest implies the total acceptance of these bases and conditions, thus submitting voluntarily to the set of rules here established.

Carmen Zambrini

PRESIDENT

International Biennial of Asuncion 2019

Oficina BIA 2019

Edificio Segesa, Oliva c/ Alberdi

2do piso, Oficina 7.

Asunción, Paraguay CP 1209.

Asuncion, February 12, 2019