

**CITY TRIO:
BELFAST - NICOSIA - ROTTERDAM**

INFORMATION ON ROOFTOP ARTIST RESIDENCIES



ROOFTOP ARTIST RESIDENCIES

The ECRN partners from Belfast ([Urban Scale Interventions](#)) Nicosia ([Urban Gorillas](#)), and Rotterdam ([Rotterdamse Dakendagen](#)) invite artists who live and work in Belfast, Nicosia, and Rotterdam to participate in three Rooftop Artist Residencies. Each city will select two artists from their city to participate in a residency in the partner cities.

This is your call if:

- You are a creative individual (+18 yrs old) curious to explore urban rooftops on a European scale.
- You are engaged with urban topics with a critical and creative perspective on architecture, urban planning, cultural heritage, community spaces & public spaces.
- You have been waiting for that unique opportunity to exchange with other creative people in European cities and expand the scope of your creative work.
- You are a resident or your activity is based in Belfast (or Northern Ireland more broadly) or Nicosia (or Cyprus more broadly) or Rotterdam
- You are able to work in collaboration with other individuals and institutions also across far distances.
- You can communicate well in the English language.

For more information on the ECRN Rooftop Artist Residencies visit ecrn.city

For more details and information

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THEMES

GEOPOLITICS, EMIGRATION and ROOFTOP SENSATION/FEEL

GEOPOLITICS

The cities of Belfast, Rotterdam and Nicosia deal with different elements of physical segregation that disrupt the continuity of public spaces and prevent the development of cohesive community life. The river Nieuwe Maas in Rotterdam, the Peace Walls in Belfast and the Green Line (a.k.a the UN Buffer Zone) in Nicosia preserve physical, social and mental barriers in these urban territories. On the rooftops you can oversee the physical barriers clearly; the perfect place to reflect on the themes connected to geopolitics.

EMIGRATION

Emigration in Europe in the last centuries has created different population shifts and social amalgams that are reflected in our cities. The cities of Belfast, Nicosia and Rotterdam are the homes to people who originate from different parts of the world and who shape the future of the city as well. Belfast and Rotterdam also share a history as harbour cities from which thousands of Europeans shipped off to the New World. How can we use the vantage point of a rooftop to reflect on these topics and the changes our cities have undergone?

ROOFTOP SENSATION / FEEL

A 360 degree view of the horizon, room to breathe and only muffled sounds of the city below. The experience of being on a rooftop can have a physical effect on city dwellers: valuable, yet hard to measure or define. Like a walk on the beach. We are interested in exploring how the experience of 'being on a rooftop' (from a communal, individual and/or animal standpoint) can be utilised in urban planning and architecture, as a lens through which we design urban environments to better serve the needs of those who inhabit them. How can we make 'that rooftop feeling' work for us?



ARTIST PROFILES

Residency in Belfast (for applicants from Nicosia and Rotterdam)

- **Artistic disciplines desired:** The two residencies are open for artists working with visual art / plastic art / street art/ digital art & multimedia / performance art / architecture & spatial interventions / sound & audiovisual art
- **Proposed dates of the residency:** June-October 2022 (Exact dates to be agreed with partners cities and artists upon acceptance)
Also, 5 weeks of research working online prior to the residency and 1 week of feedback / follow up after the residency
- **More information about the organisation and the city context:** USI welcomes artists from all backgrounds and are particularly interested in creating an exchange between amateur, early-career and more established artists to further enrich the knowledge exchange that takes place during the residency period. As placemaking, participation, and co-design are at the heart of everything we do at Urban Scale Interventions we would love to host artists who plan to integrate participatory processes and co-creation in their rooftop research and interventions.
What Urban Scale Interventions can offer you: Through creative engagement, impactful design and quality delivery, [Urban Scale Interventions](#) helps cities, governments and organisations to improve the lives of the people they serve. Our organisation facilitates an array of community-based projects and can offer support in engaging with a variety of stakeholders within your residency. For more information on what we've been up to with Belfast Rooftops, and how your work could inform what we do next, see [Belfast Rooftops](#). We also run and operate [Banana Block](#), a partnership with the national museum body with a range of programming and space available. We can offer a lively creative studio space, collaboration with our in-house designers, architects, illustrators and web team and attendance to some of Belfast's most creative and interesting events.
More info on the city context: We want to nourish an array of fresh perspectives for the future of rooftops in Belfast and their relationship with



the history of the city, geopolitics, building good relations, resilience, and environmental sustainability.

Residency in Nicosia (for applicants from Belfast and Rotterdam)

- **Artistic disciplines desired:** The two residencies are open for artists working with visual art / plastic art / street art/ digital art & multimedia / architecture & spatial interventions
- **Proposed dates of the residency:** late June-beginning of July 2022 (Exact dates to be agreed with partners cities and artists upon acceptance) Also, 5 weeks of research working online prior to the residency and 1 week of feedback / follow up after the residency)
- **More information about the organisation and the city context:**
[Urban Gorillas](#) welcome artists from all backgrounds who adopt participatory processes and co-creation to develop their rooftop interventions. Artists can be either professional or amateurs.
What Urban Gorillas can offer you: The Urban Gorillas encourages community-based projects and can facilitate and support the communication with local stakeholders. The results of the residency will be showcased in the [Pame Kaimakli](#) festival (7-15th of July TBC) offering the opportunity to interact with the local and migrant community of Kaimakli. The 2022 edition of the Pame Kaimakli festival brings the notion of playfulness in community interaction in public spaces, offering the possibility to include the aspect of play and games in the artwork of the artist.
More info on the city context: Nicosia is a small southern city with many underused flat rooftops. The rooftop level offers the possibility to experience the “last divided capital of Europe” as one urban continuum, where the North / South socio-spatial segregation begins to dissolve and mosques and churches meet in the same skyline. We welcome different perspectives on the Rooftops of the Kaimakli area and/or the walled city of Nicosia which are affected by the [Green Line](#) dividing the city.



Residency in Rotterdam (for applicants from Belfast and Nicosia)

- **Artistic disciplines desired:** The two residencies are open for (1) multidisciplinary artists with an interest in urban planning and architecture and (2) literature and spoken word artists.
- **Proposed dates of the residency:** 30th of May until 13th of June 2022
Also, 5 weeks of research working online prior to the residency and 1 week of feedback / follow up after the residency)
- **More information about the organisation and the city context:**
Rotterdamse Dakendagen (Rotterdam Rooftop Days) would love to host artists who are willing to connect and/or work with the local community in their discipline. Artists can be either professional or a student.
What Rotterdamse Daken Dagen offer to the artist: Our organisation encourages artists to work together with local artists. We can facilitate and support communication with the local community. Partners of [Rotterdamse Dakendagen](#) (Rotterdam Rooftop Days) are Poetry International and Rotterdam Architecture Month. During the residency Rotterdam Rooftop Days organises its yearly festival and a unique project: Rotterdam Rooftop Walk. You can read more about these projects on our website.
More info on the city context: Rotterdam features over 18 km² of flat rooftops, most of which unused. Our organisation has been addressing this issue since 2014. Our annual festival brings the city's roofscape to life as an open laboratory, proposing a possible future of a more vibrant, social and sustainable city that utilises its many flat rooftops to the fullest. Celebrating rooftop heritage and egging on developments, reflecting on them through arts and culture, creating awareness and addressing – in a public arena – what is needed to take the city's rooftop use to the next level.



ARTIST'S RESPONSIBILITY

- To be present during the residence period determined by each city.
- To participate in preparatory online meetings with the residencies host partners
- To produce a site-specific art project resulting in an intervention or performance on the roofscape of one of the cities.
- To hold public talk or a workshop (Creative Courses) in the country of origin in collaboration with the host organisations.

REMUNERATION & CONDITIONS

- A fee of 2000€ for the residency period for developing a Rooftop Art Project and presenting it as part of the festival taking place in each city.
- A production budget to be agreed to be spend during the residence in materials and other costs related to art project/artwork
- Travels, accommodation and three meals/day during the residency period will be covered.
- An additional fee of 500€ for developing a Creative Rooftop Course in their home country to present their research and findings.

APPLICATION & TIMELINE

[APPLY HERE](#)

Deadline for applications: 28th February, 2022

Announcement of selected artists: 14th – 17th March, 2022

The 6 artists will be selected by the ECRN consortium.

