

OPEN CALL UFO LIGHT ART FESTIVAL 2027

Call for works for the indoor exhibition at Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki

§ 1. General provisions

1. These Regulations set out the rules for the open call for works (hereinafter the “Open Call”) for an exhibition presented at Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki as part of UFO Light Art Festival 2027 (hereinafter the “Festival”).
 2. The Festival will take place from 26 February to 7 March 2027 in Katowice, Sosnowiec and Mysłowice, as part of the Katowice and GZM – Polish Capital of Culture 2027 programme.
 3. The Open Call is organised by Katowice Miasto Ogrodów – Krystyna Bochenek Cultural Institution (hereinafter “KMO”). Miasto Ogrodów is the organiser of the Festival and the entity responsible, pursuant to the agreement concluded, for engaging artists and obtaining works, as well as covering the costs arising therefrom.
- Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki is the co-organiser (hereinafter the “Co-organiser” or “Zamek Sielecki”).
4. The Open Call is open, single-stage, free of charge and voluntary. Submitting an application constitutes acceptance of these Regulations.
 5. The languages of the Open Call are Polish and English. In the event of any discrepancies, the Polish version of the Regulations shall prevail.

§ 2. Purpose and curatorial scope

1. The purpose of the Open Call is to select existing works or feasible adaptations thereof for an indoor exhibition at Zamek Sielecki, forming part of the Festival programme Dream!
2. The exhibition brings together artists from the region and artists active in the national and international art scenes, presenting a variety of contemporary practices involving light and media.
3. Light should be a significant material, medium, tool of perception or element influencing the space or the viewer’s body. The mere presence of a monitor, projector or backlighting does not in itself determine whether a work fits the profile of the Open Call.
4. Eligible works may include, in particular, installations, objects, light sculptures, projections, video works, interactive, sound-based, analogue and hybrid works, provided that light performs an essential artistic function in them.
5. A maximum of 8 artists or collectives may be selected for the exhibition, subject to § 7(6).

§ 3. Eligibility

1. The Open Call is primarily addressed to emerging artists or artists at an early stage of their artistic practice, including those who have recently begun working in the field of media art. This criterion is not related to biological age.
2. The Open Call is open to adults and artistic collectives. In the case of a collective, a person authorised to act as the contact person and conclude the agreement must be designated.

3. Programming priority will be given to applicants connected with the Upper Silesian–Zagłębie Metropolis region.
4. Formal art education is not a condition of participation. Applicants may include in their CV academic or non-formal education, exhibitions, projects, publications, residencies or other experience relevant to the submitted work.
5. Members of the Selection Committee and persons whose relationship with a Committee member could reasonably raise doubts as to the impartiality of the assessment of a given application may not participate in the Open Call.

§ 4. Requirements for submitted works

1. Each individual artist or collective may submit a maximum of one work.
2. The application must concern an existing work or an adaptation of an existing work that can be realised within the Festival schedule and approved budget. The Open Call does not provide funding for the production of an entirely new work. Any exception requires prior written consent from KMO, as the funding entity, and from Zamek Sielecki with regard to venue, technical and organisational conditions.
3. The work must be created by the applicant, must not infringe the rights of third parties and must not contain content contrary to the law.
4. The work must be suitable for safe presentation inside Zamek Sielecki throughout the exhibition period. Zamek Sielecki reserves the right to refuse to admit a work, make its presentation conditional upon modifications, or discontinue its presentation if required for the safety of people or the building, the protection of the historic monument, compliance with the law, or technical or organisational reasons.
5. Works requiring special conditions, including blackout, high power consumption, suspension, anchoring, the use of liquids, smoke or lasers, high sound levels or continuous supervision, must be described in detail in the technical specification.

§ 5. Application procedure and required materials

1. Applications must be sent by 20 November 2026, 23:59 Central European Time, to: opencall@zameksielecki.pl
2. The email subject line must read: “UFO 2027 Open Call – first name and surname / collective name”.
3. A complete application must include: (a) the application form; (b) the title, year of creation and description of the work; (c) a description of the artistic concept and technical aspects – no more than 300 words in total; (d) four representative photographs; (e) optionally, a link to a video of up to 1 minute; (f) an artist CV; (g) a technical rider and preliminary adaptation budget; (h) the required declarations.
4. Text documents must be submitted in PDF format. Photographs must be saved as JPG or PNG files, each no larger than 5 MB.
5. Video material must be made available via an active link that does not require logging in and remains valid at least until 15 November 2026. The Organiser is not responsible for links that do not work or have expired.
6. The total size of the email must not exceed 25 MB.
7. Incomplete applications, applications submitted after the deadline or applications that do not meet the formal requirements may be disregarded. The Organiser may request missing information or documents once, within a specified deadline.

§ 6. Schedule

Stage	Date
Open Call announced	30 October 2026
Application deadline	20 November 2026, 23:59
Formal verification and assessment	23–26 November 2026
Announcement of results	26 November 2026
Confirmation of participation by selected applicants	by 4 December 2026
Final technical rider and budget	by 18 December 2026
Agreements and preparation of works	December 2026–February 2027
Installation	22–25 February 2027
Exhibition	27 February–7 March 2027
Dismantling	by 14 March 2027

1. The Organiser, after consulting KMO on matters within KMO's remit, may change the dates for important organisational, technical, financial or legal reasons, or for reasons beyond its control. Information about any change will be published in the same place as the Open Call announcement.

§ 7. Verification and Selection Committee

1. Formal verification will be carried out by a team appointed by the Organiser.
2. Artistic assessment will be carried out by the Selection Committee composed of: Andrea Möller – Stichting Media Art Friesland; Dr Adriana Zimnowoda – Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki; Małgorzata Malinowska-Klimek – Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki.
3. All Committee members have equal voting rights. The Committee takes decisions by a simple majority and draws up minutes. The Committee shall elect a chairperson before the assessment begins.
4. A Committee member must disclose any conflict of interest and withdraw from assessing the relevant application. The withdrawal will be recorded in the minutes.
5. Following the artistic assessment, applications recommended for participation will undergo a separate technical review by Zamek Sielecki and a financial review by KMO. A positive outcome of both reviews is a condition for the realisation of a work. A negative outcome may result in a proposal to modify the work, the selection of a reserve work or withdrawal from its realisation; this will be recorded in the minutes.
6. The Committee may select no works or fewer works if the quality of the applications, technical conditions or budget do not allow the exhibition concept to be realised.

§ 8. Evaluation criteria

1. The Committee will assess applications according to the following criteria: (a) artistic quality and coherence; (b) consistency with the profile of UFO and the Dream! programme; (c) the significance of light in the concept of the work; (d) the relationship with the space of Zamek Sielecki and the audience experience; (e) technical feasibility, safety and adequacy of costs; (f) the developmental potential of participation for an artist at an early stage of their practice; (g) the coherence of the selected group of works.

2. Proposed scoring method: [TO BE APPROVED: 0–5 POINTS FOR EACH CRITERION, EXCEPT FEASIBILITY, WHICH IS ASSESSED ON A PASS/FAIL BASIS].
3. The regional criterion may be applied as part of the programming policy, but does not replace the assessment of artistic quality.

§ 9. Results

1. The results will be published on 26 November 2026 at www.zameksielecki.pl. www.zameksielecki.pl
2. Selected applicants and applicants placed on the reserve list will be notified by email.
3. The announcement of results may include the applicant's first name and surname or collective name, place of residence, title of the work and a brief justification for the selection.
4. The Committee's decision is final with regard to the artistic assessment. These Regulations do not provide for an appeal procedure, except in the event of an obvious procedural error being reported within three working days of the announcement of the results.
5. The Organiser does not guarantee individual feedback to all applicants.

§ 10. Conditions of participation for selected applicants

1. Participation in the exhibition is conditional upon signing a separate agreement with KMO or another designated funding entity. The agreement will specify, in particular, the scope of adaptation, dates, fee, costs, transport, insurance, installation, dismantling, the parties' responsibilities and the rules for using documentation. Zamek Sielecki will be a party to such an agreement only if this is expressly stated in its provisions.
2. The selected applicant undertakes to cooperate with the curatorial and technical teams, provide information necessary for safe realisation and refrain from making significant changes to the work without prior agreement.
3. The artist's presence during installation will be agreed individually.
4. Failure to confirm participation, failure to sign the agreement by the deadline, a significant change to the work or the inability to realise it safely may result in an invitation being extended to an applicant from the reserve list.
5. The Organiser will provide support from the curatorial team during the preparation of the exhibition, within its organisational capacity. Participation in networking events, residencies or partner projects may be offered, but does not constitute a prize or a guaranteed benefit.

§ 11. Artist fee and costs

1. KMO will pay each selected artist or collective an artist fee of PLN 2,500 gross. This obligation arises only upon the conclusion of an agreement.
2. The maximum materials or adaptation budget funded by KMO for one work is PLN 2,500 gross. Exceeding this limit requires the prior written consent of the funding entity.
3. KMO will cover only agreed and documented transport, travel and accommodation costs, up to the limits specified in the agreement. Costs incurred without the prior written approval of the relevant entity will not be reimbursed. Zamek Sielecki is not responsible for paying these costs unless a separate agreement provides otherwise.

4. The method of payment, accounting documents, payment deadlines and rules for settling costs will be specified in the agreement.
5. There is no application fee for the Open Call.

§ 12. Transport, installation, safety and liability

1. The scope of responsibility for packing, transport, installation, operation, dismantling and return of the work will be agreed individually and set out in the agreement. Until the work is formally taken over by the entity designated in the agreement, the artist bears the risk of its accidental loss or damage.
2. The Organiser may require installation instructions, electrical diagrams, certificates, information about materials and other documents necessary to assess safety.
3. Zamek Sielecki may refuse installation, refuse to admit a work for presentation or discontinue its presentation if the actual parameters of the work differ from those stated in the application, the work poses a risk to people or the building, violates regulations, recommendations of relevant services or conservation requirements, exceeds the approved budget, or the required documents have not been provided. This does not give rise to an obligation on the part of Zamek Sielecki to pay compensation.
4. The rules governing insurance of the work from the time it is received until it is returned will be specified in the agreement. The artist will declare the insured value, which will be confirmed by the entity designated in the agreement. Zamek Sielecki is liable for loss of or damage to the work only to the extent arising from an agreement concluded by it and applicable law, excluding damage resulting from defects in the work, improper packaging, undisclosed technical properties, the artist's instructions or force majeure.

§ 13. Copyright and documentation

1. The applicant retains the economic copyright to the work.
2. The applicant represents and warrants that they hold the rights necessary to submit and publicly present the work, including rights to any works, likenesses, recordings and other materials belonging to third parties that have been used. If a third party makes a claim, the applicant undertakes to promptly provide documents confirming the rights held, cooperate in defending against the claim and remedy any damage suffered by Zamek Sielecki as a result of this representation being untrue, in accordance with the applicable law.
3. Upon submission of the application, the applicant grants Zamek Sielecki and KMO a royalty-free, non-exclusive licence to use the submitted photographs and short video excerpts for the purpose of conducting and promoting the Open Call, assessing applications, announcing the results and archiving them. This includes recording, reproducing, making them publicly available online, publishing them on websites and social media, and using them in information materials relating to the Festival, worldwide, for a period of five years. The licence includes the right to make technical modifications necessary for publication, without interfering with the artistic message.
4. The scope of the licence for the promotion and documentation of the exhibition, the fields of exploitation, duration, territory, attribution and image consents will be specified in detail in the agreement with the selected applicant. The Organiser does not acquire the right to create artistic adaptations of the work without separate consent.
5. The Organiser undertakes to credit the author of the work and materials in accordance with the information provided by the artist, where the nature of the material allows this.

§ 14. Personal data

1. The controller of participants' personal data is Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki.
2. Data will be processed for the purposes of organising and deciding the Open Call, contacting participants, publishing the results, taking steps prior to entering into an agreement, and fulfilling legal and archival obligations, on the legal bases specified in the information notice attached as Appendix 4. Data may be disclosed to KMO, members of the Selection Committee and cooperating entities only to the extent necessary to conduct the Open Call and deliver the Festival.
3. Before publication, the information notice must specify at least the legal bases for processing, data recipients, retention period, data subjects' rights, whether providing data is voluntary, any transfers outside the European Economic Area (EEA), and the right to lodge a complaint with the President of the Personal Data Protection Office (UODO).
4. Consent to data processing should not be required where the appropriate legal basis is taking steps prior to entering into an agreement, performance of an agreement, a legal obligation or a legitimate interest. Separate consent may be required for optional promotional purposes, particularly the publication of an image.

§ 15. Amendment or cancellation of the Open Call

1. The Organiser may amend these Regulations, suspend or cancel the Open Call only for important reasons, in particular legal, financial or technical reasons, reasons relating to safety, or force majeure.
2. The Organiser may also make changes after the application deadline if they are necessary for legal, financial, technical or organisational reasons, reasons relating to safety or the protection of the building, or decisions of the co-organiser. Where possible, such changes will not infringe rights acquired under agreements already concluded.
3. The Organiser will promptly notify applicants of changes at the place where the Open Call was published and, once the application process has begun, by email to those who have already submitted applications. Amendment, suspension or cancellation of the Open Call before an agreement is concluded with a selected applicant does not constitute grounds for claims against Zamek Sielecki, except for liability that cannot be excluded by law.

§ 16. Final provisions

1. These Regulations enter into force on the date of publication.
2. Questions concerning the Open Call may be sent to: opencall@zameksielecki.pl
3. Matters not regulated herein shall be governed by Polish law and the provisions of agreements concluded with selected applicants. Announcement of selection does not constitute the conclusion of an agreement or a promise to conclude one. Any disputes with the Organiser will be resolved by a court having jurisdiction under generally applicable law.
4. The appendices form an integral part of these Regulations: Appendix 1 – Application Form; Appendix 2 – Technical Specification; Appendix 3 – Applicant Declarations; Appendix 4 – GDPR Information Notice.

Appendix 1. Application Form

Full name / name of collective:

Collective representative:

Year of birth (optional):

Place of residence / work / study and connection to the region:

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Email address:

Telephone:

Website / portfolio:

Title of the work:

Year of creation:

Technique / media:

Dimensions and duration:

Description of the concept and technical aspects (max. 300 words):

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Video link (optional):

List of attached files:

Appendix 2. Technical Specification

1. Location and method of placing or suspending the work.
2. Blackout requirements and acoustic conditions.
3. Power supply: voltage, maximum power, number of circuits and type of connections.
4. Electrical, electronic, lighting, laser, thermal, moving or smoke-emitting components.
5. Equipment provided by the artist and equipment expected from the Organiser.
6. Installation description, number of people required and estimated duration.
7. Operation during the exhibition and start-up / shutdown procedure.
8. Safety and fire safety requirements.
9. Insured value and packing method.
10. Preliminary adaptation budget, itemised.

Appendix 3. Applicant Declarations

1. I have read the Regulations and accept their provisions. ☐
2. I am the author or a person authorised to submit the work and present it publicly. ☐
3. The submitted work and materials do not infringe third-party rights; I hold all required consents and licences. ☐
4. The information provided is true and accurate, and the technical parameters of the work have been presented reliably. ☐
5. I grant the licence described in § 13(3) of the Regulations for the purposes of conducting the Open Call and announcing its results. ☐
6. I have read the information notice concerning the processing of personal data. ☐

Date and signature:

Appendix 4. GDPR Information Notice [TO BE FINALLY REVIEWED BY THE DATA PROTECTION OFFICER BEFORE PUBLICATION]

1. Personal Data Controller

The controller of your personal data is Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki. You may obtain information about the processing of your personal data at its premises in Sosnowiec, ul. Zamkowa 2.

2. Data Protection Officer

The Data Protection Officer appointed by Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki is Michał Pośpiech. You may contact him in person, by email at iod.pospiech@gmail.com or by telephone on 515-041-778. iod.pospiech@gmail.com

3. For what purposes and on what legal basis do we process your personal data

Your personal data are processed on the basis of the Act of 25 October 1991 on Organising and Conducting Cultural Activity (consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2017, item 862, as amended), for the purpose of exercising rights, fulfilling obligations laid down by law or carrying out a task in the public interest. Processing may also be necessary to conclude or perform an agreement to which you are a party. You may also be asked to give consent to the processing of personal data for a specific purpose and within a specific scope.

4. Are you required to provide your personal data and what are the consequences of not providing them

Providing your personal data may be a legal or contractual requirement or a condition for concluding an agreement. If you do not provide the data, we may be unable to carry out a statutory task, which may result in consequences provided for by law, or we may be unable to perform or sign an agreement.

5. To whom may we disclose your personal data

Your data may be disclosed to entities authorised under applicable law or entities with which the Controller has concluded an agreement. These may include, for example, IT service providers working for the Controller, law firms or the Municipal Office in Sosnowiec.

6. How long will your personal data be stored

Your personal data will be stored only for the period necessary to achieve the purpose for which they were collected or for the period specified by law. Once the purpose for which the data were collected has been fulfilled, the data may be stored solely for archival purposes, in accordance with applicable regulations. In most cases, the retention period for personal data at Sosnowieckie Centrum Sztuki – Zamek Sielecki follows from the Regulation of the Prime Minister on office instructions, uniform material records classification schemes and instructions on the organisation and scope of operation of in-house archives.

7. What rights do you have in connection with the processing of your personal data

In connection with the processing of your personal data, you have the right to request access to your data from the Controller, to have them rectified or to restrict their processing, and the right to data portability. Your rights may be restricted in accordance with the GDPR. The Controller will exercise your rights upon request.

8. Where can you lodge a complaint concerning the processing of your data

If you consider that the processing of your personal data infringes data protection regulations, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the President of the Personal Data Protection Office, headquartered in Warsaw at ul. Stawki 2.

9. Can you withdraw your consent to the processing of personal data

Where you have given consent to the processing of your personal data, you also have the right to withdraw that consent at any time. Withdrawal of consent does not affect the lawfulness of processing carried out before the consent was withdrawn.

10. Will your data be subject to automated decision-making

Your personal data will not be processed by automated means and will not be subject to profiling, unless such processing is permitted by law, which provides for appropriate measures to protect the rights and freedoms of the data subject.