



## Call for Artists: »TRANSITIONS« – Multimedia Art Exhibition

The Leo Baeck Foundation's arts and culture programme [DAGESH. Jüdische Kunst im Kontext](#) (Jewish Art in Context) in cooperation with the global network for Jewish culture, [Asylum Arts](#) cordially invite Jewish artists from across Europe and the Americas to participate in a multimedia arts exhibition »TRANSITIONS« that will premier in Berlin on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

»TRANSITIONS« seeks to create a new Jewish visibility that transcends borders in a European and transatlantic exchange. Via video and sound art, text composition, and other forms of visual and digital arts, selected artists will showcase their experience and understanding of solidarity and resistance through aesthetics and artistic practice from a shared and yet diverse contemporary Jewish perspective.

The concept of »TRANSITIONS« describes a liminal space, a threshold condition in which society currently finds itself, both socially and politically. A "betwixt and between" state, where the usual order of things is disrupted and new potentials and limits can be challenged and explored. With »TRANSITIONS« we seek to aesthetically explore ways to create newness founded on the very loss and (transgenerational) trauma of the original places. Speaking from a multiplicity of situated Jewish positions, the art pieces in the exhibition will display the artists' engagement with political events, discourses and movements that impact and mobilise them in their specific context.

- *In appreciation of elements of otherness as well as forms of commonality, where can art be a means for solidarity and resistance to push for social change?*
- *How can conflicts and generational gaps within Jewish communities be artistically addressed to transition to a paradigm shift?*
- *What political and societal challenges, realities, and possibilities move Jewish artists within their specific geographic and social contexts? How can solidarity with one another and for one another be artistically expressed with other groups and struggles?*

The multimedia exhibition will be part of a three-day Festival of Contemporary Jewish Art running under the same theme. The international festival connects artists with one another, encourages coalitions and contributes to shaping a creative, academic, and societal transition through the Art of Resistance ("*Wehrhafte Kunst*"). »TRANSITIONS« will subsequently exhibit in a number of European countries, such as Poland, Hungary, Netherlands, Greece, UK, and Austria (dates and places tbd).

### Description:

14 international artists will be selected to contribute to »TRANSITIONS«. Each artist will receive a lump-sum payment of 1700 Euros in total. A key component of »TRANSITIONS« is based on digital formats, digital exchanges and means of collaboration. We are interested in seeing how artists creatively translate their work, practice, aesthetic and ideas in the digital form.

For your application you are free to submit a concept for a new work but we also encourage candidates to apply with a completed work that you wish to further develop as part of »TRANSITIONS«.

Proposals need to be submitted by Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 12 PM (CET).

### **Project Requirements:**

(1) A digital-based art production that engages with the idea of »TRANSITIONS«. In addition to the artwork, artists are requested to write a short text about their work in English. The format of the overall exhibition will be developed in a collective process and coordinated by the DAGESH curator.

(2) A video, audio or text-based journal reflecting on the process, the exchanges and one's own Jewish identity and reality in the respective contexts. Guiding questions and technical guidelines for the digital journal will be provided by DAGESH upon a successful candidacy. DAGESH will be producing a short documentary with the provided formats (upon consent of participating artists).

(3) Participation in regular online meetings that will be facilitated by DAGESH. The meetings will encourage room for exchange, learning and reflections. We will ask participating artists to share information about their artistic work, methods and processes related to »TRANSITIONS«. We will facilitate conversations about the link between the artists' work and their Jewish self-conception, how it affects their political engagement and ideas of solidarity/coalitions. Before each meeting, participants will be sent questions and requests for short inputs about their work or respective contexts to facilitate a fruitful group discussion.

Meetings will be held via Zoom from 6-8 PM (CET) on April 21<sup>st</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup>, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Timeline:**

- Submission deadline is Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 12 PM (CET).
- Successful candidates will be informed by April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Selected artists are required to participate in a joint zoom call on Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> (6 PM, CET).
- Participation in regular online meetings (see above).
- Submission of the final art work and digital journal on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

All further information on technicalities, logistics, communication and content will be shared with successful applicants.

### **Application Criteria:**

- Artists from across the European continent, North, Central and South America. Artists need to be residents of the country they are referring to in their application or have been living at least three years in the country they are applying from.
- Artists ages 25 – 50.
- Artists working with single- and multi-channel video, video installation, digital text, animation, photography, VR and sound art, and other forms of digital art. The exhibition will predominantly focus on digital forms and digitalised expressions of art.
- Applicants need to be able to articulate a strong relationship to their Jewish identity.
- Applications should be submitted in English.

- Artists based in or from Poland, Hungary, France, Italy, Spain, the UK, Austria, the Netherlands, Central and South America are particularly encouraged to apply.
- DAGESH aims to support the art work, positions and background of Jewish artists with underrepresented voices.

### How to apply:

Only works submitted through our [online submission platform](#) will be considered. To be eligible for the selection the following materials have to be submitted:

- A concept for an art work to be part »TRANSITIONS« (1-page, PDF): The concept for the piece can be a completed work that you would like to further develop as part of TRANSITIONS. We will assess the conceptual description as well as the feasibility of the production's realisations.
- A completed online application form.
- A CV (max. 2 pages).
- Three references of existing works.

### Installation:

We will provide projectors, monitors and DVD/DIVX players for the show. Multiple single-channel works will be screened via a projector. If the work is required to be screened via a projector exclusively, or more than two projectors/monitors are needed, please indicate the special requirements in the submission.

### Copyright & Social Media Permission:

Artists that are subsequently approved for »TRANSITIONS« agree for their work to be published on our printed and digitalised catalogue. We will use the submitted artwork and selected parts of the digital journal for social media and press purposes.

### Contact:

Please contact Julia Alfandari, if you have any questions about the exhibition or application process: [transitions@dagesh.de](mailto:transitions@dagesh.de)

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