

Open call *Destiny*

INTRODUCTION

SACO Contemporary Art Festival has been held annually since 2012 in the Region of Antofagasta, in northern Chile, as an independent initiative of the Colectivo SE VENDE Mobile Contemporary Art Platform. Its objective is to establish a permanent core of reflection, critique and dialogue in the Atacama Desert through an encounter of artists, experts, works and public in a territory marked by the lack of institutions dedicated to pursuing those ends. In the copper capital, it proposes as an alternative to go into depth in excavations no less valuable, no less urgent, and of a renewable wealth: creativity and dialogue.

Each version has a particular focus and unique characteristics. This way, the lands to be excavated are being renewed annually, avoiding the depletion of resources in the deposits.

SACO8

SACO8, the eighth version of the Contemporary Art Festival invites artists to participate in the open call for the main exhibition entitled *Destiny*. The creators selected will have a week's residency in ISLA, with all expenses paid, for the materialization and assembly of their works. After the inauguration, they will participate in a trip of contextualization of the territory, toward the interior of the Atacama Desert.

A judging panel will select seven winners, according to the quality of the proposals received, their pertinence to the curatorial line and to the exterior space to be intervened: the Historic Melbourne Clark Pier of Antofagasta.

No proposals for intervention outside the pier (in the sea, among the rocks, in the breakwater, etc.) will be accepted, nor any type of projections. The exhibition will operate only with daylight. The winning works must guarantee an exhibition period of not less than two months.

PARTICIPANTS

Visual artists of any nationality can participate.

This call is open to professional and self-taught artists, with no limit as to age, education received, professional experience, employment or other factor. The principal criterion that will be subject to evaluation is the quality of the proposal, its viability and pertinence.

Artists who are employed by the Colectivo SE VENDE, organizer of the event, or artists who exhibited in SACO7 *Origin and myth* cannot participate.

DESTINY / curatorial text

If there is anyone who knows how to go into the present, it is the creators. They have the gift of sensing what is approaching, even without understanding it; capture, for example, the hazard before the thunder turns into a storm. They do not have supernatural powers nor hidden knowledge, but rather probably a particular sensitivity, corresponding to the conjugation of an attentive way of looking that goes beyond what is visible, with a mind that deconstructs what it perceives. *Outsider* within society, or at least guardian of the margin faced with the norms, dynamics of the herd, beliefs and rituals. The artifice mistrusts the glorious future, here as well as there; is in the seats when society carries out its show of eventuality. Rising to the political scene turns out to be fruitless when it is not possible to finalize even the first act due to distances of script. But continuing to be part of this cast from the lower deck, maintaining this dual role of spectator and participant at the same time, enables capturing processes, tensions, dance steps that sometimes lead to a precipice not distinguished by those on the stage, due to a matter of perspective and angle. Also, because the noise from the speakers impedes seeing; attention soon slips.

Last year we wondered about origin, now we inquire about destiny, extending the existential arc between *where do we come from?* and *where are we going?* between *arrival* and *departure* in the great airport of the infinite. We are seated at the point of encounter, a little lost, it must be acknowledged. In times of the Western crisis of religions, of the generalized discredit of governors, of the rebirth of the weeds of

extremism and the disillusion with instant recipes, it seems that the compass is not updating. The system crashed.

Fatalism, the philosophic doctrine, is present at different scales in all religions. It considers events as inevitable, denying the freedom of the subjects and imposing the irremediable. Everything is said, we are puppets in a play written by a divine power. There is a terrible attraction in this way of thinking, since it frees us from any responsibility for our acts. Do we design the path of the rivers or are we the trunk that drifts and cannot choose either the course or the mouth?

The future is the present, just in a little while longer. And the present doesn't exist, since by thinking about it, it becomes the past. We can leave out the ephemeral present, but never the origin, in order to sniff out what is to come.

We are left with two strong cranes capable of lifting our understandably deteriorated self-esteem as *Homo sapiens*: science and art. An evolved society will replace priests and politicians with scientists and artists. We must prepare ourselves for that, exercising our abilities; selecting what we will leave and what we will take with us, foreseeing the swells that await us on our way to ports and interconnections, and planning the transfers and final destinations, the intimate and the universal.

SACO8 proposes to understand the artist's role as a subject capable of going into the present, pulling back the curtain and revealing something of what is glimpsed there, so that we might have the chance to restart the compasses.

DATES

2018

December 7 – opening of the open call.

2019

March 7 – closure of the open call at 12:00 midnight (Chile continental time). First half of May – publication of the list of winners.

May – confirmation of participation, technical questions and purchase of tickets.

June – detailed definition of each staging.

July 9 – inauguration of SACO7 (exhibitions in halls).

July 24 – start of residency in ISLA, Antofagasta.

August 1 – inauguration of the exhibition *Destiny*.

August 1 – 3 – contextualization trip to the Atacama Desert.

August 4 – closure of residency and return of the participants.

September 5 – closure of the exhibition *Destiny*.

DOCUMENTS FOR APPLYING FOR SACO8

1. Plain photocopy of the personal data page of the current passport, with an expiration date after August 30, 2019.
2. In case a Chilean visa is required, indicate the time from the request to when it is delivered, and a list of the documents to be presented.
3. Biographical note with a maximum of 800 characters including spaces, in Word, Arial 12, letter format + link to website, if any.
4. Portfolio with no more than 10 recent works, maximum of 3 MB in pdf.
5. General idea and description of the proposed work to be carried out on the Historical Pier of Antofagasta, maximum of 500 characters including spaces and title.
6. Outline of the work (can be photographs of mockups, drawings, photomontage or any other visual language that clearly gives account of the idea to be materialized), maximum of 3MB in pdf only.
7. Technical datasheet on the work, specifying the materials to be used and the type of assembly. The proposal must conform to the budget available. Any project that does not comply with this requisite will be inadmissible.
8. Portrait type photograph, at 300 dpi (for social media, pamphlets and other distribution channels).
9. Applicants are free to attach any other type of document that could contribute to analyzing the proposal, no more than 3MB. In the case of videos, links can be attached.

LANGUAGE

All documentation for SACO8, as well as questions by email are received and answered in Spanish and English.

COHERENCE OF THE WORK WITH THE LOCATION

Since 2016 the principal SACO exhibition has been held on the Historic Melbourne Clark Pier of Antofagasta, an important patrimonial landmark in the historic quarter of the city. According to the organizer's policy, any work that infringes upon the integrity of the site or intends to intervene in an irreversible manner will be considered inadmissible. Also, the proposal must respect all current regulations on the intervention in a public space of a patrimonial nature.

Proposals must be unique, designed especially for this open call, according to its theme and context. With the pier being a public space of high pedestrian traffic, with wind, sun and moisture, it is emphasized that proposals should be temporary, resistant, or intended for their procedural destruction, disposable, made of low-cost materials and without a high value in technical solutions. The construction of walls or partitions is not considered as support on the pier.

THE DRIEST PLACE ON THE PLANET

The residency includes a two-day trip to the Atacama Desert, with shared lodging, where the guests can carry out interventions *in situ*, if they wish, through prior coordination with the organizers.

CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

The Colectivo SE VENDE open call covers:

1. Round-trip airfare from the capital of the country of residence to Antofagasta, economy class, and not subject to changes.
2. Technical and logistical support in the assembly.
3. Transfers to and from the airport in Antofagasta.
4. Lodging in double and triple rooms with self-service breakfast in the common cafeteria in the residence center.
5. For the materialization of the work *in situ*, whether in total or in part, its design and detailed technical datasheet must be provided at the latest 60 days

before the artist's arrival. Proposals already approved by the production team will not be modified or redesigned. The materials for the projects will be developed according to local supplies, with prior consultation and the artist's approval.

A maximum amount of U\$1,500 (one thousand five hundred U.S. dollars) will be assigned for the execution of each intervention on the Historic Melbourne Clark Pier in Antofagasta, which includes:

- Purchase of materials
- Labor for the fabrication and assembly
- Local transportation

The budget assigned for each work will be managed and executed by the SACO8 production team. The works are not returned and are destroyed when they are disassembled.

If part of the work is materialized in the country of origin, it must be sent two months prior to the artist's arrival, by the transportation service stipulated by the organization, providing data on the packing, weight and volume in order to calculate the transportation cost. The material sent is considered part of the work and not as a finished work, so it must be declared upon entering Chile as a sample with a value of no more than 100 USD. The organization is not responsible for delays and/or losses in transport, and the artist will have to resolve the proposal with alternatives existing in the city.

6. Lunches and dinners with a selection of two meals throughout the residency. There is the possibility of a vegetarian menu with prior notice. Vegan meal is not served. Any other consumption during the stay in Antofagasta will be at the artist's account.
7. Trip to the Atacama Desert by bus. Visit to craters, geoglyphs and other points of interest.
8. Mediation, distribution and registration.
9. Publication of a documentary video and bilingual book of SACO8. Shipment of three copies of the book to the address provided by the artist.

The winners of SACO8 promise to:

1. Agree with the technical and curatorial team on all the details of the materialization of the work prior to the residency, within the organization's possibilities.
2. Participate in the residency and materialize the work according to the technical specifications agreed with the production team, complying with the work calendar.
3. Follow the rules of the patrimonial site of the exhibition and ISLA's regulations for cohabitation.
4. Give a conference on their artistic production or a workshop at a school if asked, and collaborate with the mediators.
5. Participate in the interviews for the documentary video and collaborate with the technicians, photographers and production and distribution team.
6. Have travel insurance and a visa, if necessary.

SACO8 JUDGING PANEL

The SACO8 judging panel will be composed of five recognized representatives from the world of contemporary art, coming from different countries. The judging panel reserves the right to declare opening(s) null and void.

OTHERS

Participation in this open call implies full acceptance of the conditions. By sending an application, the artist declares being the author of all its content, according to current copyright laws.

MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO SEND APPLICATIONS

Open ISLA commissioner: Fernanda Fábrega

Send questions to convocatoria@proyectosaco.cl

Send applications with subject "Convocatoria SACO8" (SACO 8 Open Call)

to: convocatoria@proyectosaco.cl with a copy to convocatoriaSACO@gmail.com

A photographic record, aerial video and planimetry of the Historic Pier of Antofagasta are available at www.proyectosaco.cl.

www.proyectosaco.cl

www.colectivosevende.cl

YouTube channel: Proyecto SACO

Facebook: SACO Contemporary Art Festival

Twitter: @ProyectoSACO

issuu.com/colectivosevende



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