



HALSNØY KLOSTER
The Monastery at Halsnøy
Norway
Artist-in-Residence Program

INVITATION TO APPLY

A three-week residency for artists working photo-based, at a beautiful, historical site in Norway. We are now open for applications for 2023, please see below for details. Application deadline is 8. July 2022.



SUNNHORDLAND MUSEUM invites artists working with photography as their means of expression to come to the island of Halsnøy, off the west coast of Norway, to stay and work in a very special place.

THE MONASTERY

comprises the ruins of an Augustine medieval monastery established in 1163. Among the ruins is a small rustic mansion from 1841, where the artists are invited to stay.

The monastery is a part of Sunnhordland Museum, and is situated in beautiful surroundings on the island of Halsnøy at the inlet of the Hardanger fjord.

Over the years the Monastery has become a centre for arts and culture, offering concerts, exhibitions and other kinds of cultural activities. The Monastery is now also becoming a centre for photography, by offering this international Artist-in-Residence program for photographers, and also photographic workshops and lectures.

We have close relations with the art school Sunnhordland Folkehøgskule, which offers studies in drama / film, music, visual arts, sound production, and games design. The school is situated 5 minutes' walk from the monastery.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Pre reformation, when the monastery was operative, the monks came from abroad with their knowledge and skills which were used also for the good of the local population. Goods from this area was shipped out into the world via the monks' trading house in Bergen.

This international exchange serves as an inspiration when it comes to running the residency program. Just as the monks were trading in culture, knowledge and goods, we wish to have an international exchange of arts and culture, exposing the local people to artists arriving with their own background and culture, and exposing the artists to the island, the locals, and their local traditions and culture.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

In short; good quality, good ideas, good people.

We aim for diversity, and are open to looking at all kinds of photobased work.

THE PROGRAM

Sunnhordland Museum offers this residency to artists worldwide.

We encourage both emerging and mid-career artists - preferably with some exhibition experience - to apply.

The museum offers a three-week free stay at the mansion, - a beautiful house with all antique furniture, in a very special historical spot. As can be expected in a historical museum, the house does not offer the highest modern standard, but you will sleep in a very cozy bedroom with a splendid view to the garden and the ruins. There is a bathroom and a well equipped kitchen. There is also a television set, and good internet connection (wi-fi). Simple darkroom facilities will be available on request.

Three artists will be selected for 2023, and the residency period will be three weeks in August / September 2023. Exact dates will be set later after discussing with the selected artists.

The artists who come to Halsnøy will be asked to give a presentation of themselves and their work. This presentation takes place at the monastery, and will be open to the general public.



EXHIBITION

It is further expected from those accepted for the residency, that they will have an exhibition of work made during their stay at the monastery.

This exhibition normally takes place 12 months after the stay.

The museum has regular exhibitions at the site. The artistic director of the program is also curator for the AiR exhibitions, and will be planning and promoting the event in cooperation with the artists.

The main exhibition space is in the basement of the house, but in some cases the whole area and all buildings can be used for the exhibition.

The museum may ask that one piece made during the residency period is donated to the museum's collection.

EXPENSES

As the situation is today, Sunnhordland Museum can not - unfortunately - offer to pay travel expenses or production costs, but we do offer a contribution towards food for each artist. We will also assist our visitors with all practical details and all information they need to make the stay comfortable and productive.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Normally we attend photo festivals in order to do portfolio reviews, and in this way meeting applicants face to face. This is important to us, as we want to do our best to form diverse groups of good people.

However, it is also possible to apply by e-mail to us before July 8 2022.

Please send your application to: oh@oyvindhjelman.com

An e-mail application should include images (preferably in a pdf) or link to images, your CV, and any thoughts and ideas you may have for your stay, should you be selected.

At some point during the selection process, we may want a short conversation with some e-mail applicants on Skype, Facetime, Zoom or similar.

If selected, an official invitation will be sent you, to help you apply for funding in your country.

The selection of artists to be invited is normally done by the end of august each year, for the period of the following year.

TIMELINE

Deadline for applications: 8.July 2022

Shortlist announced: 20. July 2022 (approximately)

Final selection announced: 30. August 2022 (approximately)

We look forward to receiving your application!

Øyvind Hjelman

Artistic Director / Curator
AiR Program

Helén Petersen

Administrative Director AiR Program/
Dept Manager, Sunnhordland Museum



NOTE:

Sunnhordland Museum follows strictly all national guidelines given in connection with the COVID-19 virus. Exceptional circumstances caused by this or similar events, may force us to alter, postpone or - if necessary, cancel the invitations for the residency program.