



2026 Edition

Call for artistic projects

as part of the *Fête de mai*

Environmental art - Gesves (Belgium)



Gesves, November 2025

Dear Madam, Sir,

The Vagabond'Art association organises "La Fête de Mai", in Gesves, in the heart of the Province of Namur, in Belgium since 2001.

The aim of this event is to create art installations surrounded by nature that will then belong to the community and are located along hiking trails.

Eager to continue this positive experience, Vagabond'Art asbl, is actively preparing the 26th edition of May Festival and is looking for exceptional artistic projects to be carried out from May 14 to 24, 2026. We would like to invite you to participate in our call for projects.

You will find the general terms and conditions and the entry form in the appendix pages.

Looking forward to reading you, please receive the expression of our cordial greetings,

Christian Beelaert
President



Types of works

"La Fête de Mai" is an event organised by Vagabond'Art ASBL. The approach will consist of developing a work of art in nature. Among the diversity of approaches or practice of environmental art (land art), more than an ephemeral, temporary or quickly disappearing creation, we are looking for installations with a minimum estimated life expectancy of five years.

Natural materials are preferred.

The project can be presented by an artist or an artists' collective.

The artist has the technical skills necessary for a personal realisation of his work. If the creation of the work requires some assistance, the artist specifies in the registration form the type of aid requested. However, no technical skills are provided by the association.

Implantation of the work

"La Fête de Mai" highlights 16 hiking trails crisscrossing more than 6500 hectares of Condruzian landscapes (Province of Namur, Belgium) over 135 kilometres. Access to them is free and open to all throughout the year. These trails host art installations in the countryside.

The art installations created following this call for projects will be installed in the natural site presented and described on the association's website: <https://lafetedemai.org/> .

Completion period

The artist's intervention for the production of his work will take place in May 2026, the inauguration is set for May 24, 2026.

Depending on the specific needs of the project, the artist may request a longer presence on the site, or spread over several weekends. However, on the one hand, the fee for the realisation of the work is fixed and on the other hand, the presence or at least the availability of the artist during the week of May 14 to 24 is desired. The artwork must be completed by Friday, May 23, 2026.

During the presence on site, the artist may be required to meet the public, especially schoolchildren, in a spirit of awareness/mediation or continuing education. The association ensures that this type of intervention does not prejudice the time it takes to produce the work and schedules such meetings in good understanding with the artist.

Terms and conditions of the call for projects

Each artist has the right to submit multiple projects, for different sites proposed.

Each project is sent as a PDF file to vagabondartasbl@gmail.com , including:

1. The entry form, attached to this document (points 1 and 2), completed and signed;
2. The presentation of the project and the fact sheet attached to this document (point 3) accompanied by sketches and the necessary technical details;
3. An artist CV, a portfolio of recent achievements with an indication of the materials and dimensions of the works.

Projects are sent to the association via vagabondartasbl@gmail.com by midnight on January 15, 2025 at the latest.

Entry Form Details

The artist specifies in the form the site chosen among the ones proposed on the website <https://lafetedemai.org/>, the dimensions of the work and an estimate for the prices, volumes and weight involved for each material used (stone, earth, clay, wood, iron, etc.).

The artist specifies which elements of the work are likely to require maintenance, so that it is carried out without distorting the intention of the creation. It gives an estimation of the duration of their work.

Signing the entry form implies acceptance of all provisions set out in these Terms and Conditions. (Only the French version of these Terms and conditions shall be binding and official, and shall prevail over all other translated versions).

Financial conditions

For their performance, each artist (or collective of artists if the project is collective) will receive a fee of 1500 EUR TTC which cover the expenses and the trip.

The association is responsible for providing the material requested and necessary for the realization of the work.

These sums will only be released on presentation of an invoice, a proof of debt or any other document of equivalent legal value.

Any social security contributions or taxes whatsoever arising from this fee are chargeable to the artist.

The artist's possible accompanying person will cover all his expenses (meals, travel). Accompanying persons are welcomed within the limits of the association's possibilities.

Conditions of stay in Gesves

The artist or the artists of the collective will be accommodated and fed free of charge with a local.

<http://www.lafetedemai.org>

Selection procedures

The selected projects will be chosen by a jury bringing together members of the association and contemporary art professionals.

The main evaluation criteria are:

- creativity;
- the use of natural materials;
- the possibility of integrating the work into the local environment;
- the cost and feasibility of the project in terms of material, human and financial statements of the association;
- the estimated lifespan of the work.

The jury's decision is sovereign and does not call for justification.

The result of the selection will be communicated to the artist as soon as possible and by January 31, 2026.

Communication and image rights

A communication plan is now being developed around the "La Fête de Mai" event, in which the works created and the artists will be highlighted (written and audiovisual press, posters, programmes). In addition, the work will be referenced in the retrospective of the works located on our website: <http://www.lafetedemai.org>.

The artist authorises Vagabond'Art ASBL to promote his or her work, on any medium whatsoever and by any means, including, but not limited to, making it available online, including integration into an audiovisual, television or multimedia presentation (regardless of the medium, form, name and destination), exploitation by audiovisual, television (including cable and satellite) and multimedia means, provided that the honour or reputation of the artist is not harmed.

The participating artist graciously authorises the association to use the images of his or her work and of itself with the aim of promoting the cultural and tourist aspects of the region and the project.

Insurance

The artist insures himself against illness and accidents. Civil liability is covered by the association.

Ownership of works

According to the law, art installations located on private or public land are automatically the property of the owners of the said land. The artist therefore renounces all property rights over his work. At the same time, the association prohibits any commercial or commercial exploitation of the artistic installations.

The association is the sole judge of the upkeep, maintenance or dismantling of the artistic installations, in accordance with their original design.