

**PHoto**España

Casa **Árabe**

**NUR**

call for applications

**2021**

**NUR نور**

**PHOTOESPAÑA**



Casa Árabe  
البيت العربي

**“NUR” CALL FOR APPLICATIONS  
CASA ÁRABE - PHE 2021**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1. Introduction to the call and its aims**

Casa Árabe and PHotoEspaña jointly present NUR, an open call for applications for a photography exhibition that will be displayed at Casa Árabe's premises as part of the 24th PHotoESPAÑA International Photography Festival, within its official programme, to be held in 2021.

The aim of this open call is to promote and publicise a project that **looks at one or several aspects of Arabic societies, from a contemporary curatorial perspective**. The call seeks to reward attempts to innovate, while conveying current content that have to do with the realities of the contemporary Arab world. This content is presented in a manner which is deliberately open and **non-restrictive as regards subject matter**, so that a wide range of diverse initiatives can be accommodated, without limitations as regards to the content, approaches or working techniques, and so that projects focused on a single artist or projects of a collective nature can be submitted.

The call is aimed at **curators or institutions**, who have demonstrable prior experience and who submit an exhibition project which complies with the guidelines outlined here.

All projects will be reviewed and evaluated by the organisation, which reserves the right not to admit those that do not meet the requirements of the call.

The jury, made up of three experts from the fields of photography and cultural cooperation with the Arab world, will select one exhibition proposal from all the entries received.

The selected project will be on public display in the form of an exhibition at Casa Árabe's Madrid premises (c/ Alcalá, 62) in June 2021, as part of the 24th PHotoEspaña Festival, with the possibility of it being shown at a later date at Casa Árabe's premises in Córdoba (c/ Samuel de los Santos y Gener, 9).

## 1.2. Casa Árabe

Casa Árabe is an inter-administrative entity under public law, run as part of Spain's General State Administration, with its own legal status, full capacity to act and with its own assets. The consortium is made up of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation (MAEC in the Spanish acronym), the Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency (AECID), the Regional Government of Andalusia, the Community of Madrid, Madrid City Council and Cordoba City Council.

Casa Árabe operates as a strategic centre for Spain's relations with the Arab world. It is a meeting point that promotes dialogue between private and public actors and institutions in the fields of culture, education, academia, politics, etc. It was founded in 2006 and has been working ever since with the aim of building bridges, fostering cultural and educational links, as well as awareness and an understanding of the Arab and Muslim world.

## 1.3. PHotoEspaña

PHotoEspaña was born in June 1998 with the aim of being a photography festival rooted in society. Supported by the Fundación Contemporánea and organised by La Fábrica, each year PHotoEspaña turns Madrid and Spain into a focal point for the world of photography. It is a festival designed and created in Spain, which has become an international benchmark thanks to the work and involvement of specialists and actors from the artistic, cultural and political fields, the collaboration of institutions and the participation of the public. PHotoEspaña looks at the past, the present and what is shaping up to be the future.

## 2. TIMELINE

- 11th January 2021 to 28th February 2021: open call for the selection of an exhibition project.
- March 2021: evaluation of proposals and jury's decision.
- April - May 2021: production and development of the exhibition.
- May 2021: assembly.
- June 2021: launch.
- June to September 2021: exhibition at Casa Árabe in Madrid.

## 3. APPLICATIONS

### Eligibility

The call is aimed at Spanish and international curators and institutions that demonstrate, through the CV they submit with their application, previous experience in carrying out exhibition projects.

The application may relate to an individual project or to a group of artists.

For the project to be accepted, it is essential that it should provide a contemporary look at some facet of Arab societies.

The project, with photographic content, must be presented following the template outlined in the application form, in accordance with Annex I. The application will be considered eligible if it meets each and every one of the following requirements:

- A. The applicant, curator or institution must submit only one proposal.
- B. The applicant curator or institution must demonstrate previous experience in carrying out an exhibition project.

- C. The proposal must not have been exhibited in Spain before and must be related to the theme of the programme.
- D. The proposal must not contain content that is racist, violent or pornographic, that violates people's right to privacy, gender equality and in general, any type of content that violates local, community, national or international laws, or that may offend other religions, beliefs or ideologies, or be contrary to the aims of CASA ÁRABE.
- E. The application must include all the items listed in these guidelines.

### 3.2. Language

The application document must be written entirely in Spanish, English or French. Proposals that are not in one of these languages will not be accepted.

### 3.3. Materials and submission of the application

The application form must be correctly completed and submitted as a PDF file in accordance with Annex I.

Accompanying files must be sent in a single compressed ZIP folder, the size of which is to be no more than 15 MB, to the email address [cultura@casaarabe.es](mailto:cultura@casaarabe.es) with the subject "NUR Casa Arabe - PHE 2021".

Proposals may be submitted up to 11:59 p.m. on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, Spanish time.

For any further clarification on the guidelines, please contact [cultura@casaarabe.es](mailto:cultura@casaarabe.es)

## 4. BUDGET

For the exhibition at the Madrid premises, Casa Árabe will allocate a maximum of 14,000 euros (including VAT) which should be used to cover items such as:

- Curator and artist's fees for the Casa Árabe exhibition in Madrid and Córdoba.
- Travel expenses of curators and artists for the Casa Árabe exhibition in Madrid.
- Insured transportation of work (to and from Madrid). The applicant should bear in mind that it is often, and especially in the case of photography exhibitions, more expedient to produce the exhibition on site (in this case in Madrid) than to hire international transport.
- Production of work: printing of photographs, framing, etc. (Annex II lists the frames that are already available in Casa Árabe and that can be used by the project in order to avoid having to manufacture them).
- Construction of walls and carpentry features that are not in place in Casa Árabe (Annex II details the features that are already in place in Casa Árabe and that do not need to be manufactured).
- Rental of audio-visual equipment not available in Casa Árabe (Annex II details the items already available in Casa Árabe that do not need to be rented or purchased).

The amount allocated to the selected project (a maximum of 14,000 euros including VAT) will be managed directly by Casa Árabe, which will be responsible for making any and all payments relating to items such as those described above.

Other essential items, not included in the previous list, such as the design of the exhibition graphics, production of the exhibition graphics (production or printing of cutting vinyl, exterior canvases,

leaflets, posters, etc.), assembly and disassembly work, insurance during the exhibition (excluding insurance for international transport), PR and promotional activities, etc. will be covered by Casa Árabe and PHotoESPAÑA, without the cost of these items being deducted from the budget allocated to this call.

Similarly, in the event of travel to Casa Árabe's premises in Córdoba, additional costs for production and transport from Madrid to Córdoba will be the subject of an additional budget on the part of Casa Árabe and will not be included in the budget allocated to this call.

## **5. OBLIGATIONS OF THE SELECTED PROJECT.**

The winning curator or institution must accept the following obligations which will be set out in a contract:

- The drafting of a detailed final plan in which all the requirements for the exhibition must be included.
- The delivery of a final work listing with image description, measurements, technical description and insurance value.
- To provide all the necessary documentation (texts, images, etc.) for the press release, for the design of PR materials (canvases, invitation, brochure, etc.) and for the room graphics (introductory text, biographies, room sheets, posters, etc.)
- To obtain from the artists and/or lending institutions the necessary permissions and the assignment to Casa Árabe and PHotoESPAÑA of the rights to public display of the works for promotional purposes as well as their reproduction in the brochure, on the internet and in any other printed or digital media.
- To act as a liaison with the artist(s) for everything related to the display and handling of their works in the space.

## **6. EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

Applications will be evaluated on the basis of the information submitted:

- Application form (see Annex I).
- An exhibition proposal that will be particularly assessed for its innovative character, its artistic quality and its examination of an issue concerning Arab cultures and societies, from a contemporary perspective.
- The jury will also assess the technical and budgetary feasibility of the exhibition. For this reason, a list, which is as detailed as possible, of the technical and production requirements of the project is requested.
- The track record of the curator or institution, particularly their previous experience in the area of photographic projects.

The decision as to the selected project, which must be substantiated, will be the responsibility of the jury and may not be appealed.

## **7. JURY**

The jury is made up of a technical committee of experts from the world of art and cultural cooperation with the Arab world.

- **Sandra Maunac, independent curator specialising in photography.**  
She is director of the Trobades & Premis Mediterranis Albert Camus in Menorca. She has been promoting projects that have focused on matters related to the image for over ten years. Her main objective during the early years of her career, as a specialist in post-colonial issues and cultural studies, has been to promote artists from the non-Western world in order to provide other viewpoints, to challenge the hegemony of the predominant Western image and to enrich our perceptions of the world. Always from an international, global, multifaceted and diverse perspective, she is convinced that it is our duty to do away with cultural borders.
- **Claude Bussac, director of PhotoEspaña.**  
Managing Director of La Fábrica, Arts section and Director of PHotoESPAÑA. The holder of a degree in economics from the University of Paris and a DESS (Specialised Higher Education Diploma) in cultural management, she was Director of Artistic Studies at Casa de Velázquez and Deputy Director of the Círculo de Bellas Artes. She is the head of PHotoESPAÑA, Festival Eñe and the cultural activities of the Royal Botanical Garden and has been awarded the *Officier de L'Ordre Arts et Lettres (Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters)* by the French Ministry of Culture.
- **Nuria Medina, Culture Coordinator of Casa Árabe.**  
She is in charge of programming and publications involving exhibitions, film, music, performing arts, literature, etc. She has a degree in sociology (specialising in social anthropology) from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, while her postgraduate studies at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, the Moscow State Linguistic University, and Georgetown University (Washington DC) focused on the analysis of socio-cultural identities. She holds a master's degree in cultural management from the Universitat de Barcelona and has extensive experience in cultural cooperation and development from her time working in the AECID (Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency) in Jerusalem. She is the co-author of several publications on social anthropology and contemporary Arab culture.

## 8. RESULTS AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Given the current circumstances resulting from the Covid-19 virus, the organisation reserves the right to modify these rules, as well as the deadlines mentioned here, and may even suspend the exhibition.

If there are any changes to the call, these will be announced via the same channels used to advertise the initial call and/or through the Casa Árabe and/or PHotoESPAÑA websites.

With the submission of each proposal, each applicant declares that they are familiar with the content of these rules, which they accept without reservation.

When the jury has made their decision, the successful applicant will be notified via e-mail, at the e-mail address provided in the application form, during the second half of March 2021.

Casa Árabe will sign a contract with the entity or curator selected, which will establish the terms for the running of the exhibition.

## 9. EXEMPTION FROM LIABILITY

Casa Árabe and/or PHotoESPAÑA are exempt from any liability arising from the relationship between curators, artists or third parties involved in the exhibition projects.

**10. REPRESENTATION**

The proprietor of the selected project shall not have any power of attorney or power to represent Casa Árabe or PHotoESPAÑA against third parties, and consequently may not enter into any contract with third parties in the name and on behalf of said entities, which shall be solely entitled to decide upon, agree to, formalise, conclude or enter into any business relationship with third parties.

**11. NON-ASSIGNMENT**

The proprietor of the selected project may not assign the rights and obligations derived from having been selected to third parties without the express written authorisation of Casa Árabe.

## ANNEX I - DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CALL

The documents requested must be sent in PDF format and in a compressed ZIP file the size of which must be no greater than 15 MB. These documents are:

1. Information on the applicants (curator(s) or institutions)

1.1. If the applicant is a curator, a curriculum vitae detailing their professional background is requested, with particular emphasis on curatorial projects of a photographic nature.

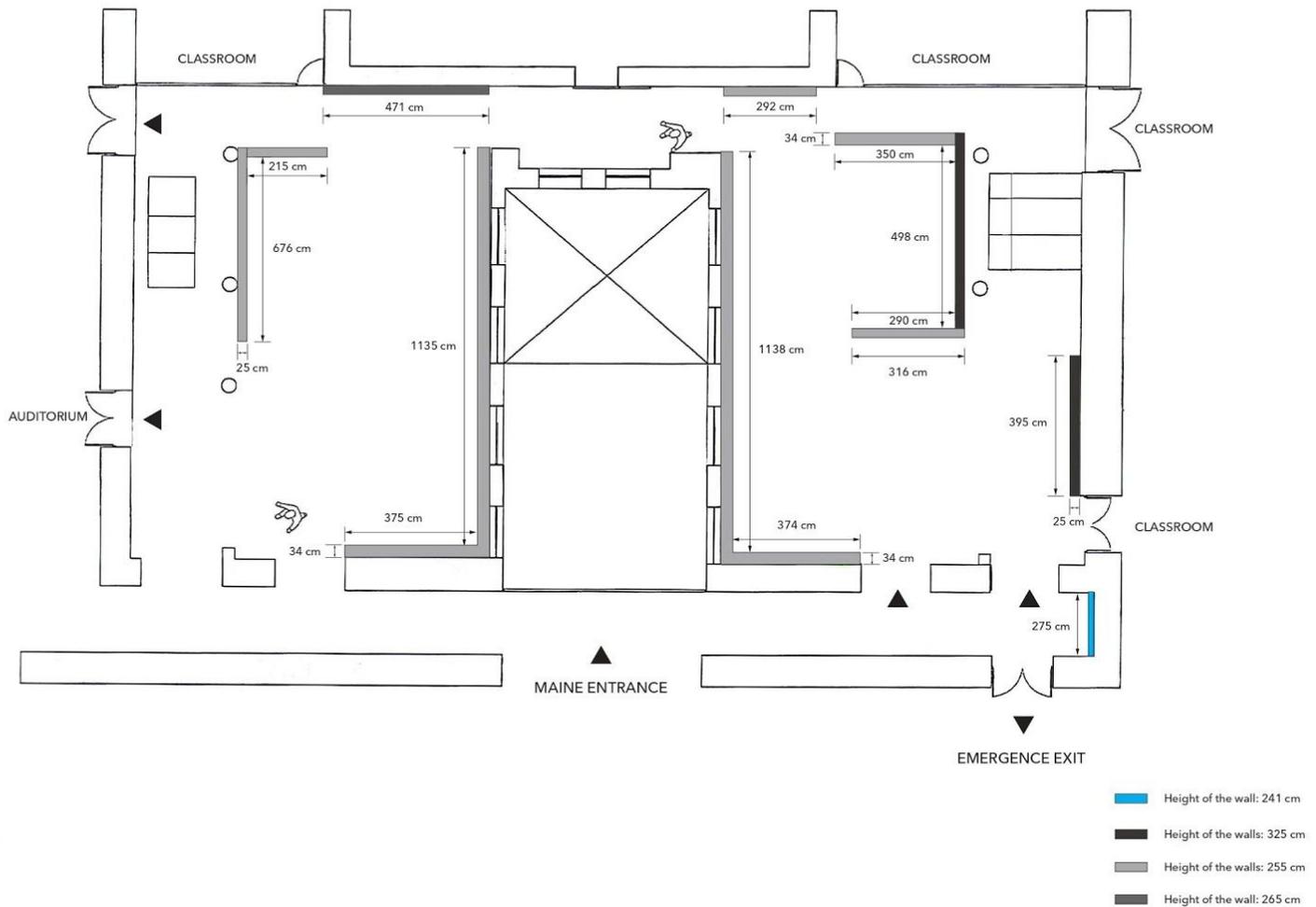
1.2. If the applicant is an institution, an activity report and documentation relating to previous exhibition projects is requested, with particular emphasis on projects of a photographic nature.

2. Dossier for the project being submitted, which must include:

- Project description (max. 1,000 words)
- Nominal list of the proposed works, including the following:
  - a) Creator(s)
  - b) Dimensions and technical characteristics
  - c) Images of the works
- Preliminary exhibition proposal tailored to the specifications of Casa Árabe's exhibition space (see Annex II). This proposal can be outlined in greater detail or modified, should it be selected.
- As detailed a list as possible of the technical and production requirements for the proposal, as well as a breakdown of estimated costs. This will allow Casa Árabe to evaluate the proposal both from a technical point of view and from the point of view of its budget costs, which should not in any case exceed the 14,000 euros (VAT included) allocated to the project.

**ANNEX II - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF CASA ÁRABE'S EXHIBITION SPACE IN MADRID**

**Floor plan of the exhibition space:**



**DESCRIPTION OF CASA ÁRABE'S EXHIBITION SPACES**

**Layout of the exhibition spaces:**

Located at street level, the space is divided into two symmetrical areas (which are) separated by a courtyard and hallway. The exhibition space is transitional and is flanked by classrooms where Arabic is taught, the auditorium and the bookshop. People visiting the building for other activities such as conferences, film screenings, Arabic classes, etc., are required to pass through the exhibition spaces in order to access other areas. This means that projects which are especially noisy, or which require total darkness are not suitable for this space.

Room area in square metres: 160 m<sup>2</sup>

Room length in metres: 65.25 m

**Videos from previous exhibitions held in the same space:**

- “Juego de Pistas” (Treasure Hunt), 2015: <https://youtu.be/aDeZ3bHSaCl>
- “Un impulso extraño” (A Strange Impulse), 2017: <https://youtu.be/EbJhQkwm-bw>
- “En un instante, Marruecos” (Morocco in an Instant), 2018: <https://youtu.be/ohEtRJPYw2U>
- “Los marroquíes. Fotografías de Leila Alaoui” (Moroccans. Photographs by Leila Alaoui), 2019: <https://youtu.be/knWKHcO1wE4>

**Walls:**

Most of the walls on which the work is hung are MDF facings.

**Ceilings:**

The ceilings are technical (false ceilings) with aluminium sheets suspended on a grid pattern.

**Lighting system:**

Ceiling mounted rails with reorientable and adjustable PHILIPS spotlights.

**Loading and unloading:**

For loading and unloading, the Casa Árabe premises must be accessed via Calle O'Donnell, vehicles must be parked in the front yard and from there, materials must be transported to the rooms by appropriate means and sufficient personnel.

The vehicle access gate has a maximum height of 340 cm and a width of 280 cm.

The access door to the building (interior) has a maximum height of 202 cm and a width of 151 cm.

**EXHIBITION EQUIPMENT and FURNISHINGS AVAILABLE IN CASA ÁRABE**

The material available at Casa Árabe is outlined below. Any other item (frames, stands, display cases, etc.) not included in this list must be manufactured on an ad hoc basis and the manufacturing cost accounted for in the project budget.

**Display cases:**

1. MDF display case with methacrylate cover, 80 x 60 x 100 cm (+20 cm methacrylate cover).
2. Display case with anthracite grey metal profile, 120 x 60 x 90 cm (including the box, which is 29 cm high). It has a glass cover on top.

**Stands available:**

1. MDF stand, 45 x 45 x 90 cm.
2. MDF stand, 90 x 90 x 60 cm.
3. MDF stand, 100 x 35 x 75 cm.
4. MDF stand, 100 x 35 x 75 cm.
5. MDF stand, 50 x 50 x 100 cm
6. MDF stand, 60 x 60 x 70 cm.

**Monitors available:**

1. Monitor, 80 x 59 cm. Screen, 69 x 39 cm.
2. Black frame monitor, 97 x 56 cm.

3. Black frame monitor, 44.5 x 30 cm.

**Frames available:**

1. Grey frames:
  - 8 frames, size 42.5 x 32.5 cm.
2. Brown frames:
  - 4 frames available, size 42.5 x 32.5 cm.
3. Black frames:
  - 1 frame, size 20 x 30 cm.
  - 1 frame, size 23 x 30 cm.
  - 2 frames, size 25 x 32 cm.
  - 4 frames, size 32 x 32 cm.
  - 3 frames, size 30 x 43 cm.
  - 3 frames, size 30 x 50 cm.
  - 2 frames, size 32 x 42 cm.
  - 4 frames, size 31.5 x 47 cm.
  - 5 frames, size 32 x 47 cm.
  - 9 frames, size 42 x 42 cm.
  - 6 frames, size 42 x 57 cm.
  - 1 frame, size 42 x 66 cm.
  - 5 frames, size 49 x 72 cm.
  - 1 frame, size 32 x 52 cm.
  - 5 frames, size 62 x 62 cm.
4. White frames:
  - 1 frame, size 55 x 77 cm.
  - 1 frame, size 57 x 106.5 cm.
  - 3 frames, size 79.5 x 98 cm
5. Natural beech frames:
  - 1 frame, size 25.5 x 25.5 cm.
  - 1 frame, size 40 x 60.6 cm.
  - 1 frame, size 67 x 88 cm.
  - 1 frame, size 68 x 83 cm.
  - 1 frame, 74 x 94 cm.
  - 8 frames, size 41 x 31.5 cm