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## **circusnext • edition 2024 OPEN CALL FOR PROJECTS**

**Application deadline: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 (11 a.m. Paris time)**

A European program of identification and support  
for emerging circus authors

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### **SUMMARY**

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**1/ What circusnext searches for**

**2/ Selection process & calendar**

**3/ Why apply?**

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**5/ How to apply & recommendations**

## What is circusnext?

For over 20 years, circusnext has been making way in circus for emerging authors with original, unusual, or unseen writings of all kinds.

Currently, circusnext undertakes its work in the frame of "circusnext Platform", a European program of identification and support for emerging circus authors with unique writings.

Every year, circusnext launches an open call to select emerging artists who develop a singular approach to circus as authors and wish to develop their creation at a European level.

Coordinated by circusnext (Paris, France), the platform gathers **24 cultural operators** (festivals, creation and diffusion venues), based in **14 European countries**, who support these promising artists by hosting them for creation residencies and showcasing of their works-in-progress and shows.

Eventually, circusnext Platform aims at promoting the diversity of circus writings in Europe and at creating sustainable relationships between cultural professionals, audiences and artists, so the latter can share their views on the world today with as many as possible.

Discover the former selected artists on [our website](#).

### circusnext's Platform members



- 1 – circusnext (FR)
- 2 – Berlin circus festival (DE)
- 3 – CIAM (FR)
- 4 – Cirko (FI)
- 5 – Cirkorama (HR)
- 6 – Cirkusfera (RS)
- 7 – Cirqueon (CZ)
- 8 – Festival Circolo (NL)
- 9 – Festival Perspectives (DE)
- 10 – Tollhaus (DE)
- 11 – La Brèche (FR)
- 12 – La Central del circ (SP)
- 13 – La Grainerie (FR)
- 14 – Latitude 50 (BE)
- 15 – Mercat de les flors (SP)
- 16 – Perplx (BE)
- 17 – Room 100 (HR)
- 18 – Sarabanda (IT)
- 19 – Riga Cirks (LV)
- 20 – Teatro da Didascalía (PT)
- 21 – Subtopia (SE)
- 22 – Teatronas (LT)
- 23 – Tida (IT)
- 24 – Up (BE)

[Info & contact here](#)

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## 1/ WHAT CIRCUSNEXT SEARCHES FOR

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circusnext aims at identifying emerging artists who develop a singular approach to circus as authors.

**Author is understood as** authorship, an artist having authority over their work and a process of *"finding one's artistic signature' and (re)defining one's artistic position as an author of original circus works"* (extract of the editorial of the circusnext's artistic jury).

**Emergence is understood as** a level of professional recognition and should not be confused with youth: there is no age limit for applicants.

**All types of circus creations are admissible except acts:**

all creative contexts, all types of forms, formats, duration, aesthetics, subject, target audience, all circus disciplines and all interdisciplinary endeavours between circus and other art forms.

While examining the projects, the juries are attentive to the following criteria:

- **Originality of the project:** may it be a new approach of circus techniques, an original research process, the construction of an unseen artistic universe, etc.
- **Coherence and relevance project:** how the project is structured, how the elements that compose it are arranged, etc.
- **Quality of the performance:** movement quality, rhythm, stage presence, i.e. the ability to make the intentions of the proposition tangible on stage, etc.
- **Position as an author:** being able to defend one's work and artistic choices, ability to position oneself and one's work in the field of circus art, etc.

N.B: Please note that the definitions of the criteria are not limited to the explanations above which are here only intended for a better understanding.

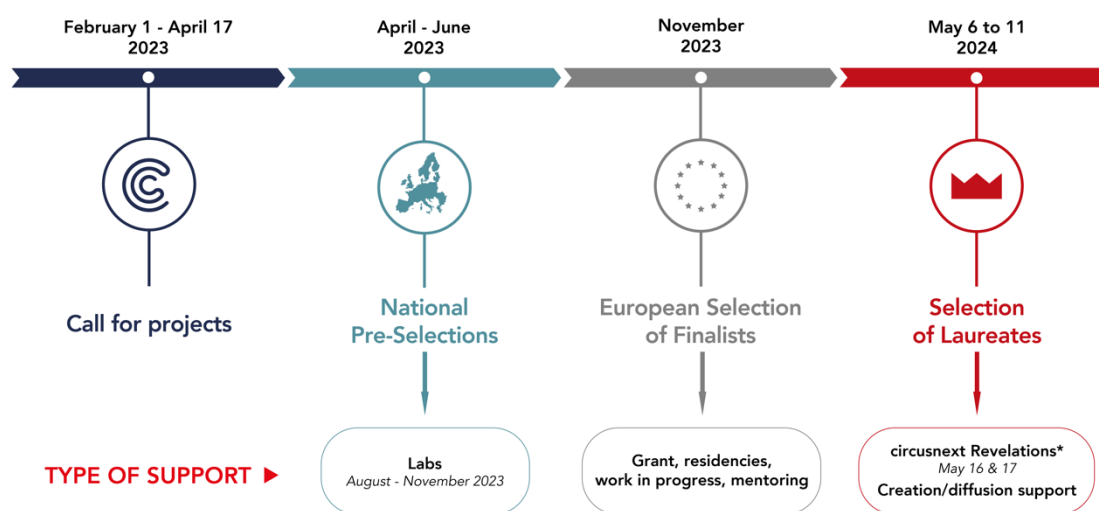
## 2/ SELECTION PROCESS & CALENDAR

It is a **3-step selection process** which starts with the open call on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and end with the on-stage Selection of Laureates in May 2024!

The call for projects is open until **April 17, 2023** (11 a.m. Paris time).

### circusnext edition 2024

### Selection Process



\*Public presentations of work in progress

The first 2 steps are based on a written application and video (see documents required below). The last step is an on-stage Selection in Paris.

At each step of the selection, a specific jury chooses the projects for the next steps.

STEPS	BASED ON	THE JURIES	DATES	NB OF PROJECTS
<b>1<sup>st</sup> step</b> National pre-selections	Written selection	Applications are discussed by 12 national committees composed of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>circusnext Platform representatives</li> <li>local professionals</li> <li>One or more members of circusnext's artistic jury</li> </ul>	April > June 2023	<b>Up to 60*</b> projects may be pre-selected (up to 5 for each committee)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> step</b> European selection of Finalists		Pre-selected projects are discussed by the European jury composed of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all circusnext Platform representatives</li> <li>circusnext's artistic jury</li> </ul>	Nov. 2023	<b>12 projects</b> are Finalists
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> step</b> Selection of Laureates	On stage selection + interview	Finalist projects present on stage a 15 to 20 min. of their artistic material in front of professionals and are interviewed by the jury.	6 to 11 May 2024**	<b>4 projects</b> are Laureates

		The jury is composed of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• circusnext's artistic jury</li> </ul>		
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\* Average: 35-40 pre-selected projects among 130 applications per edition.

\*\*The 4 Laureates will also present their work in progress in front of general audience the 16 & 17 May 2024 during the "circusnext Revelations" event.

### Focus on the Selection of Laureates:

During the Selection of Laureates, the 12 finalists will:

- present work in progress of their creation in front of professionals of circusnext choice
- pitch their project in front of professionals
- be interviewed by the artistic jury

*N.B: note that technical conditions are limited, two stages will be shared. Accommodation, transport, and meals will be covered.*

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### 3/ WHY APPLY?

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At each step of the selection, your project benefits from visibility towards professionals in the circus field throughout Europe and gets supports. Note that each support is financially covered by circusnext (*Lab, residencies, work in progress, Selection of Laureates*).

#### a) For pre-selected projects - 1<sup>st</sup> step

- **A 10-day Lab\* at a Platform member venue abroad** (outside the country of application)

#### b) For Finalists - 2<sup>nd</sup> step

- **€3000 co-production grant**
- **European residency opportunities** at circusnext Platform members' venues with work in progress presentations in front of European audiences
- Encounters with European professionals
- **A 15 to 20-min presentation** of your artistic material in front of professionals in Paris at Théâtre de la Cité Internationale (6 to 11 May 2024)

#### c) For Laureates - 3<sup>rd</sup> step

- **A 15 to 20-min presentation** of your artistic material in front of general audience in Paris at Théâtre de la Cité internationale (16 & 17 May 2024)
- **One more year of support** for: residencies, touring & networking opportunities among the circusnext Platform members venues (until May 2025).

#### \*Focus on the European Labs

Each Lab gathers 8 to 9 pre-selected authors from different countries for 10 days and is facilitated by an experienced artist. The main goal of a Lab is to work collectively on each other's projects with a focus on circus writings and dramaturgy. It is not mandatory to participate.

#### The dates and venues of the Labs are the following:

- Cirkorama (Croatia): 25 August > 3 September 2023
- Sarabanda (Italy): 4 > 13 September 2023

- Subtopia (Sweden): 18 > 27 September 2023
- La Grainerie (France): 2 > 13 October 2023
- Circusnext (France): 11 > 21 October 2023
- UP (Belgium): 6 > 16 November 2023

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#### 4/ IS MY PROJECT ELIGIBLE TO CIRCUSNEXT PLATFORM?

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##### a) Who can apply

- Individuals or company (no legal structure required when applying)
- Emerging circus authors (see definition below)
- No age limit (min. 18 years old)
- European residents whose production is based in a Creative Europe country (see list below)
- No circus degree is required
- You should not be studying in a circus school after June 2023
- No previous Jeunes Talents Cirque Laureates or circusnext shortlisted/Laureates

##### Eligible countries

- European Union: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland (Republic of), Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands
- Other countries participating in the Creative Europe programme: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Kosovo, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Ukraine

##### b) Who is considered emergent

circusnext and its partners evaluate emergence regarding to each national context.

It is a question of professional recognition, not a question of age.

Evaluation of emergence is based on the following:

##### 1/Number of previous professional creations as an author

You can apply with:

- your 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> creation as author in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Republic of Ireland
- your 3<sup>rd</sup> creation in all other eligible European countries

*N.B: self-produced creations do not count.*

2/Visibility: have your previous creations (as author/s) toured significantly at European/international level?

3/Financial support: have your previous creations (as author/s) received important creation subsidy from a public body?

▲ Emergence criteria apply to all artists considered as authors of the creation project, but it does not apply to performers. Collectives including an author who is non-emerging, are ineligible.

A non-emerging outside eye who holds in fact the position of co-creator makes the project ineligible.

##### c) What projects?

- all circus creations in progress except acts, from any circus discipline(s) are admissible
- no premiere planned of the creation before the *circusnext Revelations* event in Paris (16 & 17 May 2024)
- You can only apply as an author with one creation project per edition: if you are not pre-selected at the 1<sup>st</sup> step, you may apply again for the next edition

#### d) Where can one apply?

- online at [circusnext.eu](https://circusnext.eu)
- the country of application mentioned in the form should be **the country where your production is based**

#### e) Required availability in 2024

Applicants should be available to present extracts of their artistic material on stage in Paris: during the Selection of Laureates if they are selected as Finalists & during the *circusnext Revelations* event if they are selected as Laureates.

Please check your availability before applying:

- **6 to 11 May 2024:** Selection of Laureates
- **15 and 16 May 2024:** *circusnext Revelations* event

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## 5/ HOW TO APPLY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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It is an online application process. All requested compulsory documents should be filled in and uploaded online. [Click here to apply](#).

**Deadline to apply: 17 April 2023 (11 a.m. Paris time).**

### A - REQUESTED DOCUMENTS & INFORMATION

#### 1 • An application form on your project

On our website, you can find a PDF version that compiles the questions found in [the online application form](#): it is a working document intended for you to get a glimpse of all the questions beforehand.

The final application form must be filled in online on JotForm.

#### Language:

- For all applicants: the application should be filled in in English AND if you wish, you may add response in the language of the country where you are applying
- For applicants in France: the application should be filled in English and in French
- For applicants in Italy: the application should be filled in English and in Italian

List of eligible languages: Bosnian, Croatian, Czech, Dutch, Estonian, French, Finnish, Flemish, German, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Serbian, Spanish, Swedish.

=> *If your language is not in this list, please fill in the application in English only.*

#### 2 • A provisional creation calendar

You must upload your provisional creation calendar (from your first working session to your premiere, even if provisional) in the online JotForm application.

#### Format:

- 1 PDF
- entitled "Name of the project\_Creation calendar"

#### 3 • A video

The video should help the jury understand your project better and is additional to your written application. **The video must not be a teaser or a promotional video!**

Format:

Maximum length: 10 minutes

Limited editing (I.e. not a teaser)

Content:

Ideally it should show your movement, technique, scenography elements used in the project you're applying with.

If you don't have any footage of your project yet, you may use extracts of your previous projects.

If you wish, it may include an oral presentation of the project you are applying with.

You should add the link in the online JotForm application.

## **B - OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS**

### **Other visual material**

You can add any other visual material you find relevant to help the jury understand your project, artistic path, artistic universe, and technical requirements.

Requirements:

- Maximum 2 extra PDFs
- Entitled "*Name of the project\_visual material*"
- Upload in the JotForm online

For instance, the extra PDFs may include:

- artistic dossier or mood-board
- link to other videos
- CVs/full biographies
- research elements (research notes, storyboards, drawings, photos etc.)
- technical rider

### **Provisional budget**

You can send a provisional budget including support granted or asked, with category of expenditure.

It can help the jury see how far you are in the development of your project.

It is not mandatory!

*Format:*

- 1 PDF to upload in the JotForm online
- Entitled "*Name of the project\_provisional budget*"

## **C - RECOMMENDATIONS TO APPLY**

If you have any doubts on your eligibility do not hesitate to contact [info@circusnext.eu](mailto:info@circusnext.eu) or register to an [info session online](#).

### Deadline anticipation:

We strongly recommend that you submit your application in advance of the deadline to make sure that there are no technical problems.

### **1 - Read the useful documents**

Carefully read the call for projects and the entire application form.

The documents are available on [our website](#).



## 2 - Prepare all the required information and documents

The application is an online process in JotForm.

We advise you to:

- Gather the information requested in the application form: write your answers in a Word document to copy/paste them later in the online JotForm application.
- When answering the application form questions, try to avoid repetitions.
- Prepare the obligatory and optional documents:
  - A link to a video (10 min. maximum)
  - Provisional creation calendar
  - Prepare the other optional documents you would like to attach to your application (research notes, drawings, storyboard, videos, photos...)

## 3 - Submit your application

- Go to [www.circusnext.eu](http://www.circusnext.eu) in the open call section
- Fill in the online JotForm
- Upload the documents required in the JotForm

**You can start and finish your application later:** click on "save and submit later", then "skip create an account".

Once you have clicked on the "Submit" button: a few minutes after, you should receive an e-mail confirming we have received your application. It will also include a link to an anonymous survey to help circusnext improve its future selection process and therefore help future circusnext artists.

**Please be careful while naming your files!**

- For visual material: "Name of the project\_visual material 1 or 2"
- For creation calendar: "Name of the project\_creation calendar"

**Good luck on your application!**

Contact: [info@circusnext.eu](mailto:info@circusnext.eu)

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