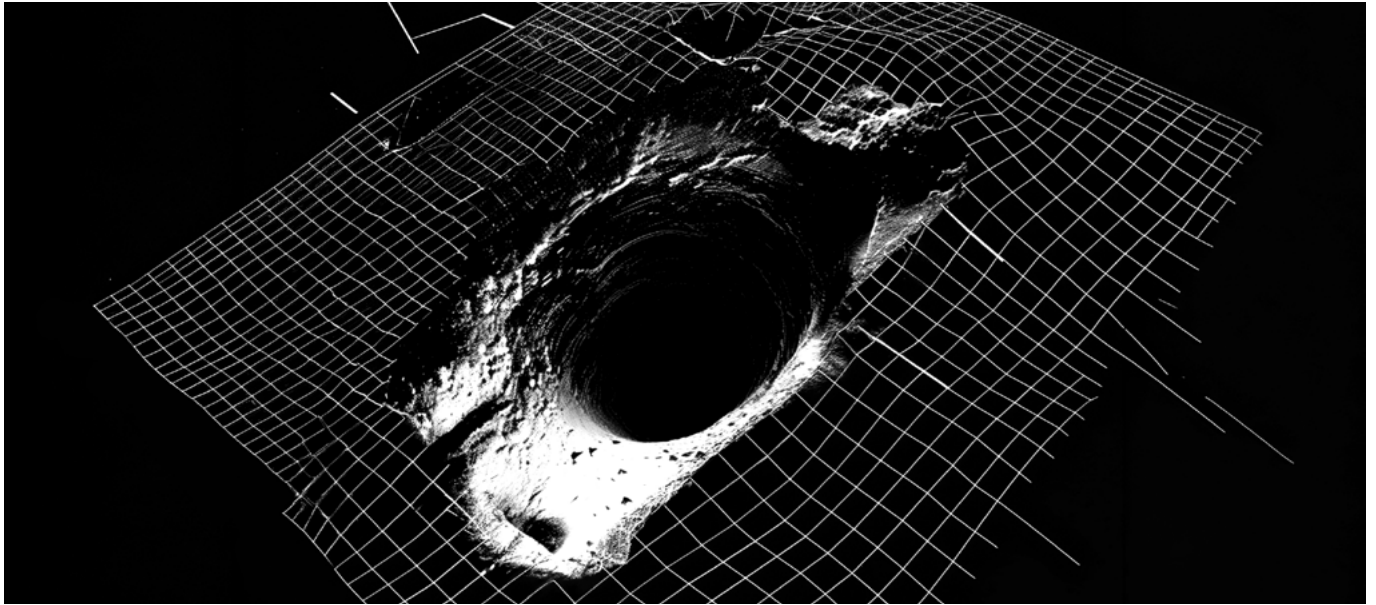


CHORNOBYL40

OPEN CALL 2026

Virtual residency and international
exhibition.



MANIFESTO

Chornobyl40 is a European artistic program exploring the multiple legacies of the Chornobyl disaster – not only as a past event, but as an ongoing condition shaping our present and future.

Chornobyl is not just a place.
It is a territory of invisibility, contamination, resilience, and transformation.

A rupture in time. A slow disaster. A living system.

We invite artists, designers, researchers, and hybrid practitioners to engage with Chornobyl as:

- _____ a landscape
- _____ a memory
- _____ a political reality
- _____ a speculative horizon

This is not a call for illustration.
This is a call for interpretation, friction, and critical imagination.

THE PROGRAM

Chornobyl40 unfolds in three phases:

PHASE 1: VIRTUAL RESIDENCY

- __ 40 selected participants
- __ September – October 2026
- __ Online
- __ Weekly sessions (Tuesdays, 14:00–18:00 CET)
- __ 30 hours total (minimum 90% attendance required)

A structured yet open process guiding participants from:
idea → concept → pre-production

During the residency, participants will engage in:

- __ Talks on Chornobyl, ecology, and contaminated territories
- __ Encounters with artists, thinkers, and technologists
- __ A Concept Creation Hackathon
- __ An XR Concept Development Workshop (exploratory, non-technical)
- __ A Mental Health & Eco-Anxiety Lab (4h)
- __ Collective discussions and peer feedback



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Participants will also benefit from tailored mentoring sessions with international professionals.

PHASE 2: SELECTION & PRODUCTION

At the end of the residency, 20 projects will be selected for production and exhibition.

Selection will be based on the residency deliverables:

- video presentation
- project documentation
- live pitch

Selected projects will receive production support and be presented as part of the international exhibition.

PHASE 3: EXHIBITIONS

The 20 selected projects will be presented as part of a European touring exhibition in 2027:

Madrid – Berlin – Toulouse – Kyiv

Artist presence is optional, but encouraged – especially when the exhibition takes place in the artist's country of residence.

WHAT WE OFFER

For the 40 selected participants:

- Access to a curated, high-level residency program
- Talks, workshops, and mentoring
- A European network of artists and professionals

For the 20 selected projects:

- €500 production grant for fully digital works
- €1000 production grant for installations requiring physical materials
- Inclusion in an international exhibition

Please note: travel, accommodation, and transportation costs are not covered.

WHO CAN APPLY

We welcome:

- Artists
- Designers
- Researchers
- Collectives
- Interdisciplinary and hybrid practices

Open internationally. No age limit. Emerging and established profiles are equally encouraged.

WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS?

We are not looking for answers.

We are looking for positions.

Projects may engage with:

- Ecology and post-disaster environments
- Memory and trauma
- Geopolitical narratives
- Invisible forces (radiation, data, systems)
- Technological imaginaries
- Nuclear energy
- Misinformation and perception

CONSTRAINTS

Projects must:

- Relate to Chernobyl (directly or indirectly)
- Be adaptable to multiple exhibition contexts
- Consider eco-responsibility (materials, production, transport)

Both are welcome:

- New projects (developed during the residency)
- Existing works (adapted)

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SELECTION CRITERIA

All criteria are equally weighted:

- Artistic quality
 - Relevance to the Chernobyl40 manifesto
 - Eco-responsibility
 - Digital dimension
 - Emotional and critical impact
-

SELECTION PROCESS

40 participants will be selected for the virtual residency.

Applications will be reviewed by the consortium members and an external jury. The external jury will provide scores and feedback; the final selection will be made by the consortium.

At the end of the residency, the same process will be used to select 20 final projects for production support and exhibition.

EXPECTATIONS

Participants are expected to:

- Commit to the full residency (minimum 90% attendance)
 - Attend weekly sessions
 - Actively engage with peers and mentors
 - Contribute to a collective process
 - Deliver final materials
-

TIMELINE

May 19, 2026 → Open call launch
July 12, 2026 → Application deadline
End of July 2026 → Announcement of 40 selected participants

HOW TO APPLY

Submit your application in English via the Google Form.

Required materials:

- Bio / CV → link
- Portfolio → link
- Project proposal → PDF, 2 A4 pages maximum

Language: English

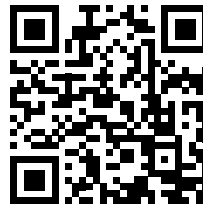
CONTACT

For any questions related to the open call, please contact: contact@gate22.net

APPLICATION

Via Google Form (application is free):

<https://forms.gle/5btrxy7LwfY8QyFW6>



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