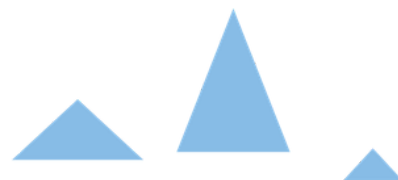


# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS LUZ X KULTUR ENSEMBLE PALERMO AUTUMN 2026 - 3RD EDITION



## EUROPEAN RESIDENCY FOR FILM DEVELOPMENT - SÈTE, FRANCE

Luz and Kultur Ensemble Palermo associate again to launch the third edition of Luz Lab and to offer four residency grants for film writing and film development. Luz Lab is open to film scriptwriters and directors based in Italy (Sicily) and Germany aged under 36 with projects in early development phase. Will be selected two projects from Italy and two projects from Germany.

Luz Lab is a european film lab dedicated to film projects in the early stages of development. Its format is hybrid, combining a writing residency in France at Villa Salis, a mentorship programme, and participation in the Cinemed Meetings, the industry meetings of CINEMED Film Festival in Montpellier. The City of Sète (Villa Salis) the Festival CINEMED are partners of the Lab.

Throughout the year, Luz organises European residencies to support young filmmakers and the emergence of new talent in the film industry in the Occitanie region. Bringing together European film professionals, Luz coordinates the residencies and provides tailored support to filmmakers during their stay.

Luz Lab is part of Kultur Ensemble Palermo's programme. It is supported by the Franco-German Youth Office (OFAJ-DFJW) and the Institut français Italy within the framework of Kultur Ensemble Palermo, a strengthened cultural co-operation between the Institut français and the Goethe-Institut in Sicily. In Palermo, Kultur Ensemble runs a cultural programme also encompassing a multidisciplinary residency programme. On a European level, Kultur Ensemble Palermo promotes the mobility of artists between France, Germany and Italy.

The detailed programme will be shared with the selected residents.

### TIME FRAME

The four-week residencies will take place in Sète, France,  
from 12 October to 8 November 2026.

A project by



With the support of



In collaboration with





## CRITERI DI CANDIDATURA

- Field: film (director, scriptwriter).
- Film project in development phase (fiction or documentary, feature-length film), with or without producer.
- Be aged under 36 at the moment of the residency.
- Be based in Italy/Sicily or Germany.
- To be free from other professional commitments during the residency period.
- Good command of French and/or English language.

It is essential that candidates be already involved in a professional process that allows them to fully appreciate the commitment required to develop their project.

## THE RESIDENCY INCLUDES

- A return journey between the place of residence (Italy or Germany) and Sète, max. 400 euros.
- A stipend of 1000 euros for 4 weeks of residency.
- Private room in the Villa Salis with access to a shared kitchen.
- Shared workspace at Villa Salis.
- Two online preparatory sessions prior to the residency.
- Accreditation for the CINEMED festival in Montpellier (16-24 October 2026).
- Preparation, participation and special support during the Cinemed Meetings, professional industry meetings for the development and production of film projects in the Mediterranean region.
- Individual and group mentoring provided by a professional in the field.
- Participation in networking events with local professional and artists.
- A conclusive event for the residency, open to the public.

The lab is designed to alternate between mentoring sessions, group work and individual writing sessions, working on one's own project. The residents may be asked to take part in professional, school and/or public meetings (not exceeding 30% of the residency time).

## DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE APPLICATION

All documents must be submitted in a single document in PDF format.  
In German or French or Italian with English translation.  
Applications without an English version will not be considered.

- CV (max. 2 pages) with contact information and date of birth
- Motivational letter (max. 1 page)
- Project's logline (a few lines)
- Project synopsis (max. 3 pages), first treatment if available
- Note of intent (max. 1 page)
- Moodboard (optional)
- Artistic portfolio (max. 5 pages) with with links to previous works
- Copy of a valid identity document
- Letter of recommendation (optional)

Applications can be sent until Sunday 28 June 2026 midnight  
by email to the following email address:  
[kulturensemblepalermo@gmail.com](mailto:kulturensemblepalermo@gmail.com)

The jury will deliberate during the week of 6 July 2026.

For any inquiries please contact:  
Judith Testault - [judith.testault@institutfrancais.it](mailto:judith.testault@institutfrancais.it)



## OBLIGATIONS OF THE RESIDENTS

The selected residents must:

- Send a signed copy of the residency contract and the residency's internal regulations to the organisers before departure.
- Participate in the residency during the specified period and be free of other professional commitments.
- Be covered by a civil liability insurance valid in France for the duration of the residency.
- Participate in two preparatory online meetings before the residency with the organizers.
- Participate in the CINEMED Film Festival's Cinemed Meetings and other organised professional or industry meetings.
- Participate in other various events organised by the residency (meetings with the public and school groups, presentation of works, meetings with other residents of the programme).
- Provide photos (portrait) and biography for social media and websites.
- Send a residency report to Kultur Ensemble Palermo and Luz at the end of the residency.