

Partner search

Culture sub-Program

Strand/category European cooperation project / Small scale cooperation project

Deadline October 2015

Cultural operator(s)

Name I/O

Short description I/O is a nonprofit foundation based in Amsterdam. The foundation's focus lies on the creation and support of interdisciplinary art projects, using technology as an important tool (live electronics, internet, mobile phones, video projection), as well as rethinking ways the audience can experience or be part of a performance.

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Project

Field(s) Archaeology, public archaeology, community archaeology, cultural heritage management, performance, community performance, site-specific performance, theatre, contemporary music-theater, food culture, ethnography, museum education

Description **FoodLab**
In recent years, archaeology and performance have creatively merged, in order to work with concepts that both disciplines are interested in, like the body, the space, the memory and the narration. The result of this 'interaction' is a hybrid discipline that uses performative practises to examine and communicate the

archaeological material, and archaeological practises to approach the art of performance (cf. Pearson & Shanks 2001).

The main thematic interest of the interdisciplinary project *FoodLab* centers on the complexity of food experience, as it is traced within the archaeological record. Through this material-rich and evocative phenomenon the project aims to generate to its audience sensorial memories and thus activate the archaeological material allowing a deeper connection with it.

The creative team will generate the project's material by participating in three different archaeological programs, incorporating in its creative process archaeological fieldwork and ethnography. These programs are:

- A. The archaeological field survey at the Almyros area, Greece, conducted by the University of Amsterdam.
- B. The systematic excavation of the University of Amsterdam at the 10th century B.C.-1st century A.D. site of Satricum, Italy.
- C. The rescue excavation at the Medieval monastery of Bethlehem at Blokker, the Netherlands, conducted by the Archaeological Service of Hoorn.

These three sites will allow the artists to explore a spectrum of cultural heritage sites giving the opportunity to approach different aspects of the phenomenon under study. It will also allow them to explore how public archaeology communicates and interacts with the local communities and the general public in different kinds of research environments: a systematic excavation, a rescue excavation and a field survey.

The project's final outcomes will be of various types:

- Three distinct site-specific, community performances on the three different archaeological sites.
- A performance combining the data and the experience of the entire project, presented in a range of venues and functioning as a "mobile" narration of the above archaeological projects to the general public.
- Educational programs with the participation of youngsters of the local communities, aiming to introduce them to the sites as well as to an alternative approach of the material past.
- An interactive archive installation comprised by the project's documentation material, giving access to the methodology and the tools developed throughout the creation process.

As a starting point, the team will use its previous experience on the performance/archaeology project *The Meal* (2011), official Greek entry for the 17th Mediterranean Young Artists Biennale in Milan (cf.

Hamilakis & Theou 2013). Through *FoodLab*, the artistic tools and language that the creative team devised during their previous work by combining strategies found in art fields such as performance, theater and contemporary music, will be further developed. Finally, through this project it will be explored how the documentation material can be used in the performative event, as such or refracted, through the use of technology.

Partners searched

Countries

All eligible countries with an emphasis on the Netherlands, Italy and Greece

Partners suitable for the project *FoodLab* would be:

- institutions active in the cultural heritage management sector
- archaeological institutions
- educational institutions
- art institutions
- performing arts venues and festivals
- gastronomy institutions
- performance production
- web design teams

Profile

These partners could support the project's actions within one of the three countries in which the excavations take place (NL, GR, IT), or host individual actions in other eligible countries, enhancing the project. The project's activities include:

- educational programs
- art residencies for the development of the artists' methodology
- ethnographic fieldwork
- archaeological fieldwork (excavation, field survey)
- creation of an online platform
- communication with a general audience / marketing of the project
- digital documentation
- production of the community performance(s)
- production and/or presentation of the final performance
- production and/or hosting of the interactive archive installation

FoodLab's frame is flexible and would be open to include an additional excavation to the project in any of the eligible countries, in case a partner shows interest in hosting it.

Other

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