

## CALL FOR ARTISTS

### 2020 Guandu International Nature Art Festival (Taipei, TAIWAN)

# “SEEK”

Guandu Nature Park is inviting entries to 2020 Guandu International Nature Art Festival “SEEK”. The selected artists will create their artworks in a natural setting using only natural or eco-friendly materials during a 4-week residency in Guandu Nature Park in Taipei, Taiwan. Artists who are concerned about the relationship between humans and nature are welcome to apply before the deadline on **July 21, 2020**.

Deadline for Entries | July 21, 2020

Result Announcement | August 07, 2020

Residency Date | October 02- October 04, 2020 (Field Study); October 06- November 01, 2020 (Resident create artworks, Public Presentation & Opening Workshops)

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Due to COVID-19, eligibility requirements update.

In concern of COVID-19, to cooperate with entry Management Measures and Epidemic Prevention, we are having additional information and regulation updates on the Open Call.

Eligibility requirements for the Open Call this year will **only accept Local Artists (with ROC Nationality) and Foreign Artists who resident in Taiwan (with Alien Resident Certificate or Alien Permanent Resident Certificate)**. In consideration for the health and safety, declaration of illness is required. Please complete the **Health Declaration Form**.

## About The Festival

Guandu International Outdoor Sculpture Festival, dating back to 2006, was Taiwan's first large-scale natural art festival held in a conservation park. The Park is located in Guandu Wetland, a place with unique estuary culture and diverse ecosystem. The Festival takes place annually and invites artists all over the world to create site-specific outdoor installations by using natural materials. The purpose of this Festival is not only about art and aesthetics but also about delivering messages caring for the environment. Public participation also plays an important part in the Festival. Through communication and cooperation with local communities and volunteers, artists are able to learn from local wisdom and try to blend in the local culture in their works.

With the experience in the past ten years, the Festival has come to a new stage in 2016 by resetting its title to "Guandu International Nature Art Festival." The triangle composed of river culture, wetland conservation, and environmental art is still the solid foundation of the curatorial concepts. Guandu International Nature Art Festival is expected to serve as a catalyst to deepen the public's awareness of our environment, as well as care for local cultures. It is hoped that every single participant of the Festival will take the initiative to connect with their surroundings, to get inspired by nature, and to make an effort in finding a way to a sustainable future.

- Website <http://www.guandu-natureart.tw/>
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GuanduNatureArtFest/>
- Youtube <https://goo.gl/K5S3uE>
- Online Catalog <https://goo.gl/H4yqcj>

## Theme

### “SEEK”

*Always continue walking a lot and loving nature, for that's the real way to learn to understand art better and better.*

— Vincent van Gogh

There's no doubt that planet Earth is awe-inspiring. It definitely has lots of interesting facts about Earth that you may, or may not know. Exploring the world is not as dangerous as you thought, we can discover the big truths through a small thing, which will bring a new pinnacle of exploration and discovery. Keep life interesting by exploring with the character of curiosity and tenacity.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau was a Genevan philosopher, writer, and composer of the 18th century. His philosophy usually termed as “Naturalism”. He contended that all the ills and miseries caused by civilization are due to a departure from a state of Nature. Returning to Nature, therefore, was his method to cure our earth in troubles. Vincent van Gogh embraced “Naturalism” as an inspiration in his artistic expressions, he observes the world from a unique perspective, tries to find the supernatural power from nature, feel it and use brushes as a tool to express his ultimate mysterious care for life.

Discovering nature's hidden treasures, that have ever-changing knowledge in it. The more often people get close to the nature, the more it gets the opportunities to observe, they will gradually generate some insights and emotions. Furthermore establish an intimate emotional connection, showing respect to the natural environment that provides everything to humans.

Take action and start exploring in wonderful nature journey;

See by sights, search by hand and unearth the facts about the amazing nature!

## **Program Details: SEEK “Memories”**

Entering the 15th years of the Art Festival, what caught their eyes in the first sight of Guandu Nature Park for those invited artists on the past 14 years? What kind of people or things in the Guandu area left you with deep impression? Perhaps the history and stories of Guandu have been hidden for a long time, disappeared, or even unknown in this era? Finding hidden stories are like hide-and-seek, we need to search them by traces of tracks, sounds or memories.

Every year, artists who came for the art residency at the Guandu International Natural Art Festival behave like migratory birds, migrating from various places to Guandu Nature Park in a period of time, and then endlessly flying to the different world go on with their lives. This year we hope that the artists will "returned to home" and retrace the memories of their intersection with Guandu. With the 2020 Guandu International Natural Art Festival theme "SEEK", to have a conversation between historical and cultural archives, residents' memories and natural landscape textures to reproduce common "memory" between people and nature.

There is not limitation in the form of artwork from contemporary art, visual art, performing arts, installation art, and sound art. Following the principle of being environmental friendly and create artworks by conveying the value of bird research that brings out trigger ecological conservation awareness.



## 1. Guandu Nature Park : <https://gd-park.org.tw/> (4 Artworks)



Located at the junction of Tamsui River and Jilong River, Guandu Nature Park is a nature park of wetland preservation with landscape consisting of an integrated wetland environment of swamp and pond. It is a great inhabitation for a rich variety of organisms, as well as an important pass-by stop for migratory birds in their annual migration route.

Hence, it has been recognized by BirdLife International as an "Important Bird Area" (IBA).

The Park, authorized by Taipei City Government, is currently administered under the Wild Bird Society of Taipei (WBST) and devotes care to wetland and wild birds' conservation.

We will select **4 artists** to create his/her artwork in the Main Area of Guandu Nature Park. Main Area is the region of the Park which opens for the public with admission hours and fees. It includes the Nature Center, bird watching cabins, ponds, trails, and other educational facilities. Other areas of the Park are preserved for birds and other wildlife which are restricted to public access. Visitors can observe wildlife via telescope or attend the guided tour arranged by the Park in order to visit the restricted areas. In addition, the Park has designed many environmental education programs that give opportunities to people to interact with nature and acknowledge the importance of environmental preservation.

Possible locations for artwork:



## 2. XDZ Hotel : <https://www.facebook.com/xdzhotel/> (1 Artworks)



Along the busy Dadu Road, Taiwanese-style historical hotels stands in Guandu for half a century, witnessing the prosperity and passing of Guandu Railway Station, still silently guarding the land in Guandu, providing travelers and locals with quality accommodation away from home. In the early days, "XDZ Hotel" hung up their signboard at the corner of the main road to and from the train station. At that time, it was very lively in front of Guandu Railway Station. Station was demolished in 1988 that caused affection to the hotel business.

Although the prosperous scene is no longer, some old guests still regularly visiting the hotel to find a temporary residence. XDZ Hotel is still being passionate and never ceased its business. By now XDZ Hotel has been renovated but it still retains some of its past appearances.

We will select **1 artist** to create his/her artwork at the Outdoor of XDZ Hotel, passing the tales of the hotel. The artist can set the artwork at the outdoor of the hotel along to stairs, to get attract of the attention from drivers/cyclists and people passing to the metro station.

Possible locations for artwork:



## Timetable

Field Study Period	Oct. 01	Artists Hotel check-in
	Oct. 02	Venue tour
	Oct. 03	Field study
	Oct. 04	Art Proposal Discussion
Residence Period	Oct. 06- Oct. 31	Period of installation
	Nov. 01	Opening Art Festival
	Nov. 02	Artist depart
Exhibition Period	Nov. 01- Dec. 31	End of the artwork exhibition

★ Off days (Mondays): Oct. 05, Oct. 12, Oct. 19, Oct. 26

★ Any change to the current timetable will be made in accordance with notifications from the organizer, and will be announced on the official website of Guandu Nature Park and Guandu International Nature Art Festival.

## Qualification

1. **Only accept Local Artists (with ROC Nationality) and Foreign Artists who resident in Taiwan (with Alien Resident Certificate or Alien Permanent Resident Certificate).**
2. Artists should be interested in the relationship between nature, human, and environment and committed not to harm the environment during artwork creation.
3. Artists should have experiences in working with volunteers, local residents, or students. While working on their artworks, they should be able to spark interest of general public to participate in the process of such artistic creation.
4. For the foreign applicants, it is required to have basic English conversation skills to communicate with the staff of Guandu Nature Park and the ability to mingle with other artists, local residents, and students.
5. Artists as a group is eligible to apply. However, the organizer will offer only one funding (see below) for the group. Artists should agree to share all the funding & support without dispute.



## How To Apply

We sincerely welcome artists to take part in this annual event. Deadline for proposal submission is **July 21, 2020**. The proposals can be written in either English or Chinese. Please make sure that you have the following documents ready, and submit via email at this address: [festival@gd-park.org.tw](mailto:festival@gd-park.org.tw)

### Required Documents :

We will only be accepting DOC or PDF files for document files and JPG and JPEG files for your image files. The size of each image file should be between 500KB-1MB.

#### A. Details of Proposal should include:

1. **Your motivations.** Explain why you want to apply for our event and the specific environment issues that you care about. (max. 1 page).
2. **An artwork proposal.** Include a brief description and a simple sketch or computer graphics. Drafts of your work including estimated size of the creation and materials needed. Artists can refine or modify their proposal to fit the space after the field study and site observation.
3. **Public interactivity.** Artists should design a public interactivity (workshop, performance, or any type of activity) to be implemented during the opening weekend.

#### B. Self-Introduction should include:

1. **Personal CV.** Include your background and experience, awards, and past exhibitions. Be sure to include your full name, current mailing address, phone number, and nationality.
2. **A portfolio of your previous artworks.** Please introduce 6 of your previous related works with details of title, date of completion, the material used, and venue where they were exhibited.

\* Proposal completeness will be taken into serious consideration during the judging process.

\* Submission will not be returned.

\* The design should be new or original, not previously published or used in any country before the date of application for registration. Artists that enter with work that is not their original creation will be disqualified.

## Health Declaration Form



<https://forms.gle/uHBS2wx6J7kHq6wUA>

Due to COVID-19 disease, for the health and safety, declaration of illness is required. Please complete fill in the Health Declaration Form. Be sure that the information you'll give is accurate and complete.

## Funding

1. **Artist's fee NTD\$ 80,000.** According to the income tax rule in Taiwan, the organizer will deduct tax from the payment based on the applicable rate (e.g. 20% for non-resident) stipulated in the law. Therefore the actual amount the artists receive will be less than NTD\$ 80,000. The organizer will pay this fee by New Taiwan Dollars in cash.
2. **Transportation.** Provide transportation fees (Domestic Flight, Taiwan High-Speed Rail, Taiwan railway, Bus, Metro, etc., the receipt must be retained) for domestic and foreign artists from artist's residency place to Hotel. The reimbursement does not include the costs associated with passport & visa expenses. Artist will have to book the ticket and pay the fee in advance by him/herself. The organizer will pay the reimbursement by New Taiwan Dollars in cash after artist's arrival in Guandu.
3. **Pick-up/drop-off service** will be provided. However, artists who plan to have personal trips in Taiwan after the residency will have to take care of the transportation own-self.
4. **Accommodation.** From October 01, 2020 (check-in) to November 02, 2020 (check-out). Each artist will receive accommodation in a single room with individual bathroom. For anyone accompany the artist, an additional bed will be charged by the hotel accordingly.
5. **Materials support.** The organizer will assist to collect on-site natural materials (e.g. reed, wood, stone, bamboo, leaf etc.) or recycled objects. The organizer has a shared budget for all artists for purchasing materials like hemp ropes, eco-paints, bamboo etc. Artists who need to purchase materials must consult with the curator first.
6. **Meals.** Lunch will be provided by Guandu Nature Park every working day. Breakfast and Dinners are not included. The average cost for a meal in Taiwan is between NTD\$ 80-300.
7. **Local transport.** Artist can use the public transport system such as the metro, bus, or public bike to shuttle between the hotel and the Park and travel around Taipei. The organizer will provide an EasyCard with pre-stored value to the participant.

## Guidelines & Requirements

1. Use only environmental friendly materials.
2. Use local materials first.
3. Stability and secureness: Safety is our first priority. The artwork should be made to last at least 3 months or more. It should also be designed to weather gracefully over time and reveal the different stages as it decays. For safety concerns, the Park retains the authority to dispose or dismantle the artwork.
4. Community involvement: Artists will work with volunteers and local residents to create their artworks. Public participation is one of the key elements of this event.
5. Artist should prepare a public presentation to share their experience and previous artworks to local residents during the residency.
6. Artists should be involved in any related event such as press conference and opening.

## Contact

1. Email [festival@gd-park.org.tw](mailto:festival@gd-park.org.tw)
2. Phone +886-2-28587417 ext. 230 (Ms. Hang, Sheau Shyan)