

MILL'S REALTY SALON

– a Needcompany fellowship

CALL FOR PRESENCE

In theory there is no difference between Michelangelo, Louise Bourgeois, Martha Graham and Simone de Beauvoir: they all start out from that empty moment, that blank canvas, and then decide when they will let the world in. The time Michelangelo spent staring at his block of marble before he carved the *Pietà*: that is *noiseless time*.

Nowadays, when art is systematically being associated with the realm of commodities, when the work of art needs to meet the demands of production and deliver results saleable on the market, with **MILL'S REALTY SALON** we want to mark out the moment of *noiseless time* – when the realms of beauty and reality come together and feed the artistic process.

With **MILL'S REALTY SALON** we want to address the question of whether the era of BEAUTY is over and whether REALITY has now become the main topic of artistic interest. Is it the case that the true moment of exploration occurs when one word is mistaken for another? We wish that the artists of the salon, instead of going in one direction or another, remain open for the clash of these two notions – in its poetic and formal quest.

MILL'S REALTY SALON was born out of the desire to continue the multidisciplinary artistic exploration that Needcompany began more than 30 years ago. We want to create a space in which to keep heritage on the move and open ourselves up for new encounters with artists of different generations, experiences and visions. As one of the most funded independent theatre organizations in Flanders, we feel an urge to share resources in the current crisis, to create possibilities for those in need and to create awareness of the sensibility and precariousness of those who keep the arts alive.

MILL'S REALTY SALON is related to MILL – Needcompany's artistic house in the heart of Sint-Jans-Molenbeek, which, since March 2017, has been a place for thinking, creating, rehearsing, connecting and exchanging.

MILL'S REALTY SALON is neither a residency nor a production-oriented programme. We are explicitly committed to supporting artists in thinking, dreaming and creating timelessly. Our wish is to support the artistic process by providing an environment and the required resources.

To apply for **MILL'S REALTY SALON** we are only inviting artists (whether individuals or collectives) who have never collaborated with Needcompany before.

The budget of **MILL'S REALTY SALON** is 10 000 euro, which will be granted to one or several artists, depending on the specific needs of their proposals.

In addition to financial support, Needcompany offers support in kind: a residency room at MILL (writers' room), use of the studio at MILL (play room), and a dramaturgical dialogue with the members of Needcompany. The selected artists will be given the opportunity to present their work to the public at MILL.

The fellowship is open to all nationalities & ages and designed for artists who have developed an independent body of work over a number of years.

We encourage applications from artists who have a link with Brussels, the heart of international thinking.

The timeframe of the fellowship is February–December 2021.

The jury will consist of the representatives of the artists, staff and board members of Needcompany, and a guest jury member.

HOW TO APPLY

Send us the following information:

YOUR NAME, DATE OF BIRTH and PLACE OF RESIDENCY

& the following attachments:

- 1) Your CV outlining your artistic experience
- 2) Your digital portfolio
- 3) Your statement, addressing the following questions:
 - Why are you applying for **MILL'S BEAUTY SALON**?
 - What does your artistic practice consist of today?
 - What do you propose for **MILL'S BEAUTY SALON**? (describe your concrete plan and estimate its budget and/or production conditions)

Email your application (up to 10MB) to: millsalon@needcompany.org

Deadline for submissions is **5 December 2020**. Results will be announced on **8 January 2021**.

Any questions? Email Kasia Tórz (kasia@needcompany.org), Needcompany's artistic & programme developer.