

1. Objectives

The main objectives of the LOOP Discover Award, a project by LOOP, sponsored by Estrella Damm, are:

- a. To promote and to disseminate videos and films by international artists.
- b. To introduce the selected works in professional exhibition circuits.
- c. To encourage experimentation and innovation in the field of audiovisual creation.
- d. To bring video art closer to the general public.

2. LOOP Discover Award

An international jury made up of acclaimed professionals in the contemporary art sector will single out 10 finalists, among whom will be the winner of the prize, worth €5,000. The awarded work will furthermore be considered to be included in the LOOP Collection, currently on loan to the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art (MACBA).

The selected works will be part of an exhibition organised by LOOP, scheduled to take place at the Antigua Fábrica Estrella Damm in November, as part of LOOP Barcelona 2018.

All the finalist works might be considered for future projects by LOOP, such as screenings in international fairs and festivals, itinerant exhibitions and other curated proposals.

Furthermore, they will be promoted and given visibility through the LOOP network.

2.1 Audience Award

All works selected in the second stage of the open call (40 videos) will be made available on the LOOP Discover Award's online video channel and submitted to a public vote. The most voted video will be part of the final exhibition along with the other 10 finalists, and included in other possible screenings.

The Audience Award winner will also be eligible for the LOOP Discover Award.

3. Participants

Artists over 18, of any nationality or place of residency can apply, individually or as a group. Several aspects of the artistic career of the participants will be taken into account, such as their participation in other exhibitions, open calls and awards, as well as their academic background.

Artists who submitted works in the past editions of the Award can apply again.

4. Works

Only one work per artist or group will be accepted. The submitted works can be either premières or proposals that have already been exhibited. They must have been produced not earlier than January 1, 2016.

The maximum running time recommended for the work is 15 minutes.

Single-channel works are primarily sought, although two or multiple-channel works adapted to a single channel may be also submitted.

Videos may be submitted in Catalan, Spanish or English. Videos with dialogues in a different language must be subtitled in one of those three options, preferably English. For those videos originally in Catalan or Spanish, we strongly recommend subtitling in English, in order to ease up the works' evaluation by the international jury, as well as for their possible presentation in international exhibition circuits.

5. Theme

The Planet We Share: (Video) Art towards a Habitable Future

The theme of this edition is much more than an issue, it is one of the biggest challenges we face as a species: how can we make the Earth a habitable place? How can we direct ourselves towards a sustainable future?

The human being has been transforming the environment at its whim for millennia. In the last century, there have been more changes at an economic, social and technological level than in the previous 250,000 years. We travel faster than ever, but species also disappear at an unprecedented speed. Our life expectancy lengthens, but toxic emissions keep growing. We are increasingly hyperconnected, but the consumption of raw materials raises at a frenetic pace.

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The acceleration and disproportion with which we modify the environment is taking us to a point of no return. Every day new questions and new challenges that involve us both as individuals and as a community arise: pollution, global warming, overpopulation, depletion of natural resources, climate change, loss of biodiversity and deforestation.

It is clear that we must reformulate some of the pillars that uphold our society. Eco-cities, renewable energies, geoengineering, food sovereignty, the Slow Movement or responsible consumption can be the keys to an alternative model that minimises our ecological footprint and makes the Earth a habitable place for future generations.

We want to put on the table: what kind of alliances can be established between ecology and video art? How can video art promote sustainable development and inspire alternative models? How can we rethink from the artistic practice the new ecological challenges? In what ways can we work together as artists, philosophers, scientists and activists to propose new possibilities?

We seek works that inform, inspire, denounce, propose, raise awareness, engage, hold accountable, confront... In short, works that help us imagine and bring forth a more sustainable future.

6. Selection Process

All the submitted works that meet the requirements of the open call will undergo three selection stages.

The first stage will be conducted by the Award's internal team with the collaboration of an advisory committee that will narrow down the selection to 40 works.

In the second stage, an international jury of experts will select the 10 finalist videos (which will be part of the exhibition),

In the third and final stage, the international jury will select the winning work among the finalists.

FIRST STAGE

The first stage will be conducted by an advisory committee through a series of viewing sessions, in which curators, artists, art critics and managers of cultural institutions will also participate. This first selection round will narrow down the videos to 40.

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These 40 selected videos will be made available on the online video channel and submitted to a public vote. The most voted video will also be part of the final exhibition and subject to inclusion in other possible screenings.

SECOND STAGE

In this second stage, an international jury will evaluate the 40 videos previously selected by the advisory committee and shortlist the 10 finalists that will be part of the exhibition at the Antigua Fábrica Estrella Damm, as well as other screenings.

The jury is comprised of three expert members of the arts sector and a representative of LOOP Barcelona, who will evaluate the works according to their relevance to the proposed theme, their artistic quality, the novelty of their approach and the artist's career.

THIRD STAGE

In this third and final stage, the international jury will finally announce the winner of the Award, after a second round of votes.

7. Jury

—Jaap Guldemon, Director of Exhibitions at the EYE Film Museum (Amsterdam).

—Lorena Muñoz-Alonso, freelance art critic and writer (London).

—Hiuwai Chu, Exhibitions Curator at MACBA.

—Carlos Durán, Founding co-director of LOOP Barcelona.

8. Online Voting

The videos will be released on the online video channel the day after the advisory committee has selected the 40 candidates. The voting process will be open until October 1, 12:00 PM (GM +1)

No prior registration will be required to access the voting process. Every user will be allowed to express their preference for more than one video, but will not be able to vote for the same video twice.

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9. Entry

Entering this open call is free of charge.

Entries must be submitted online, through the website of the open call:

www.loop-barcelona.com/discover.

A completed application form will have to include:

- The applicant's personal details.
- The applicant's CV and personal statement.
- Information about the submitted work (title, year, running time, technique, synopsis, etc.).
- Definition and justification of the topic.
- A link to the work (we recommend that the video is uploaded to either Vimeo or YouTube) that must be available until late October. Should applicants fail to provide the link ahead of the selection process, their work will not be reviewed.

10. Deadline

The call opens on May 23, 2018 and the deadline for entries is July 20th 2018 (until 23:59, GMT +1).

11. Decision

The 40 shortlisted videos will be announced and published online by the end of July. The 10 finalists will be announced and published online on October.

The winner will be revealed during the opening ceremony of the exhibition, scheduled to take place at the Antigua Fàbrica Estrella Damm during the first half of November, 2018.

The organization reserves the right to modify some of the dates.

12. Exhibition Touring

With the objective of disseminating and introducing the selected works in professional exhibition circuits, as well as promoting the Discover Award, LOOP reserves the right to tour the finalist works, either in a screening or exhibition format, to other contemporary art institutions (such as museums, foundations, institutes, etc.) and events (such as fairs, festivals, etc.). The participating artists will be informed of each collaboration.

13. Acceptance Terms

Entering this call implies the full acceptance of its terms and conditions and the renunciation of any claim.

14. Legal Conditions

14.1. Acquisition and Tax Legislation

Should LOOP Barcelona decide to acquire the winning work, the economic value of the Award will be deducted from the work's price (if the latter were higher). This Award is subject to all applicable tax deductions (which will be subtracted from the endowment itself), in accordance with the tax legislation in force.

14.2. Exhibitions Rights

The authors are responsible for the copyright of their works, exempting LOOP Barcelona of any legal responsibility. By submitting a proposal to this open call, artists declare that their work does not infringe intellectual property rights or images of third parties.

The authors of the videos selected in the second phase (the 40 shortlisted proposals) are committed to make their video available for public voting on the online channel until the 10 finalist works are announced. The authors will be duly contacted and informed in advance.

The authors of the 11 finalist videos are committed to make their work available for public viewing on the open call's online video channel until the beginning of the Award's following edition. The authors will be duly contacted and informed in advance.

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The finalist authors, whose work will be featured in the exhibition, will be required to transfer the files with their works for proper display. Those videos that cannot be viewed correctly will not be part of the final exhibition, nor will they be included in the Award's future itinerancies.

14.3. Communication Rights

By accepting these conditions, all selected authors transfer to LOOP Barcelona, in a non-exclusive way, the rights to reproduce fragments or use still images of their work for communication and promotional purposes in online and offline media, during the open call's period or on the occasion of future itinerancies of the exhibition. Authors will always be contacted to request prior authorisation according to future uses of their works.

15. Contact

For any questions regarding this open call, please contact: discover@loop-barcelona.com.