



## **Residence: Digital Arts and Environment**

In 2019 Goethe-Institut Kigali and Rwanda Arts Initiative (RAI) invite again an artist from the field of new arts to Rwanda. During the four-week residence the focus is on the topic of sustainability/ecology.

After the open Call for Applications a jury is going to choose and invite an artist for a four-week residence stay in Kigali. The artist will be accommodated in the Rwanda Arts Initiative. During the stay the artist is invited to deal with challenges of the climate change and questions on ecology and sustainability.

The residence takes place in the course of the year 2019. The exact timeframe is fixed in consultation with the local institutions and the artist. The Rwanda Arts Initiative and Goethe-Institut are looking forward to applications from artists working in the field of photography, video, new media and installations or location-based interventions, whose art deals with the topics environment and sustainability.

During the four-week stay, the artist is invited to engage in discussions about the local environment in order to develop new ideas and to confer their hitherto acquired knowledge in arts. The objective is an experimental encounter with the Rwandan context. The art and cultural scene in Rwanda is still in the very beginning. That is why exchanging and talking to young artists and being interested in the local art plays an essential role during the stay and is a core aim of the residence program. Together with the Rwanda Arts Initiative it is expected to occur at least a short workshop.

Kigali is a thriving, rapidly transforming city. Cultural entrepreneurs and the civil society are searching for their place within a planned-through capital, inside the densely populated country in the heart of the continent.

Rwanda appears in the international feuillets, because of its efforts regarding the topics of ecology and sustainability. The Rwandan government and the green opposition party have put these issues at the top of their agendas, because Rwanda is highly affected by the consequences of the climate change. Not only the polity but also the civil society discusses ecological topics – this is something the artist can participate in during the residence.

Sustainability and digitization are the key issues in the intra-African exchange. Artistic interventions ought to establish new perspectives on it.

The residence program “Digital Arts and Environment” invites artists, but also students at academies of art and universities/colleges with focus on applied art, who artistically question the connection of digitalization and sustainability/ecology. With the participation of the civil society it is possible to deal with the climate change and protection. Additionally, the role of environmental protection, in the Rwandan state program, can be scrutinized. Besides digitalization, Rwanda also appears as a pioneer of environmental protection on the African continent. After the prohibition of plastic bags, Rwanda is a role model for more countries on the continent and beyond.

The residence is not result-oriented, but should contribute in improving the exchange between Rwanda and Germany. One focal point is to engage in discussions with local people and beyond Kigali’s city borders up to the thousand green hills.

### **APPLICATION FORMAT, DOCUMENT AND PROCESS**

- Cover letter, dossier and CV in English, with specification of preferred time of stay
- The selection will be conducted in agreement with a jury composed of actors from the Rwandan art and cultural scene

### **APPLICATIONAL DEADLINE**

- We are momentarily accepting applications for 2019. The deadline is March 15th, 2019.

### **GOODS AND SERVICES**

- The Goethe-Institut will cover the costs of flight and visa fees as well as the arrival and departure via public transport. An artist allowance of 2000€ will be paid for as well as eventual production means as of a max. of 1000€.
- The accommodation (single room with common areas, shared bathroom and kitchen) will be provided by the *Rwanda Arts Initiative*. It is set in the central, lively and very secure neighborhood of Kimihurura.

### **CONTACT**

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*Entrance to Rwanda Arts Initiative, Kimihurura*



*Garden view of Rwanda Arts Initiative*