

An aerial, high-angle photograph of a city, likely Oslo, showing a dense urban grid with buildings, streets, and a large body of water (the fjord) cutting through the city. The image is in black and white with a grainy, high-contrast texture.

Open Call for Curator

Oslo Architecture
Triennale 2019



Application Deadline: 18 October 2017

Required Information: clearly articulated curatorial proposal, selective portfolio of relevant work, curriculum vitae and letters of recommendation (further details below).

Salary: €100 000 (including tax)

Oslo Architecture Triennale (OAT) seeks a Chief Curator or Curator Team for its seventh triennial, which will be held in Oslo, during autumn 2019. The Curator will have primary artistic responsibility for the core programme of OAT 2019, including the development of its conceptual and thematic framework, research and programming. Proposals in English, from individuals or collectives of any nationality and country of residence are openly invited to apply.

Oslo Architecture Triennale is the Nordic region's biggest architecture festival, and is one of the world's prominent arenas for the dissemination and discussion of architectural and urban challenges. Through exhibitions, conferences, debates, competitions, publications and events across different formats and media, OAT seeks to challenge the field of architecture, engage the public and inspire local, Nordic and international debates concerning architecture and urbanism.

OAT's main target groups include the inhabitants and users of the city, decision makers, professionals and international visitors.

As a triennial event, OAT strives to develop content of a high quality over a period of three years. OAT therefore aims to not only display, but also explore and investigate issues of architecture and urban development through alternative and interdisciplinary projects and practices.

Oslo Architecture Triennale 2019

As a physical manifestation of political systems, culture and social structures, architecture plays an important role in how we perceive and shape our societies. In a time when democracy and current systems of power are being challenged, with change as an increasingly present and accelerating force in our global and local societies, OAT 2019 aims to raise a discussion on the role and relevance of architecture in the future.

Supported by an opening and closing event, OAT 2019 aims to present a core programme consisting of at least one exhibition, one project in a public space, a publication, a conference and an international academic forum. In addition, there will be a digital publication series in collaboration with e-flux Architecture, and within the curatorial framework, OAT will develop an extended programme in collaboration with relevant local and international programme partners.

All parts of the core and extended programme will be developed to include and engage the various target groups of OAT.

Organisation

OAT is a non-profit organisation. It consists of six member institutions, whose directors make up the OAT Board of Directors, and eight associated member organisations. OAT's executive team (the secretariat) comprises a Director, Programme Manager, Communication Manager and Financial Manager (some of which are part-time positions). The secretariat will be responsible for project management, administration and communication, and will support the Curator concerning programme coordination and local relations.

Read more about OAT, its member organisations and target groups in **Appendix I**

Curatorial framework

As Curator, you will work in collaboration with OAT's secretariat and member institutions. You will report to the Director, and Board of Directors.

The Curator will lead the research work prior to OAT 2019 and work in close collaboration with OAT member organisations and e-flux Architecture to develop and produce the different parts of the OAT 2019 core programme.

See **Appendix II** for more information about the core programme partners.

The main venues for OAT 2019 will be Arkitektenes hus (The Architects' House), Design and Architecture Norway (DOGA), the National Museum – Architecture, and The Oslo School of Architecture and Design.

The Curator is expected to work within established budgets and progress plans, and give active support in fundraising, sponsorship activities, international relations and networking.

Submission requirements

An application form is available **here**

Applications must be sent by 18 October 2017. Only digital applications will be accepted.

The application for the position of Chief Curator must include:

- a.** A short synopsis of the theme and concept, as described in point b. (max 200 words)
- b.** A conceptual and thematic curatorial proposal for OAT 2019 (max 1500 words over a total of max five A4 pages). This should include a description of the overall theme and concept for OAT 2019, along with a proposal for the core programme and a description of its relevance to OAT's target groups. (Incorporating at least one exhibition, one project in a public space, a publication, a conference, an international academic forum and a digital publication series)
- c.** A progress plan, including the research period prior to OAT 2019 (max one A4 page)
- d.** Structure of the curatorial team (max one A4 page)
- e.** Curriculum Vitae (max one A4 page per person or team member)
- f.** A selection of references/accomplished projects (max two A4 pages)
- g.** Two letters of recommendation, including contact details

Applications must be written in English and submitted through the online application form. The curatorial proposal must be uploaded in a single PDF file of max size 8MB.

Submitted material that is not listed above or exceeding the maximum content length will not be considered by the jury.

Selection Criteria

Relevance and consistency of the curatorial theme and concept.

Communication and dissemination potential to all parts of OAT's target group.

Collaborative skills.

Interdisciplinary possibilities.

Documented relevant experience.

Terms and Conditions

- The Call for Curator is open to individuals as well as collectives of any nationality and country of residence.
- The successful applicant or collective shall stay partially or temporarily in Oslo, as required by the project's development.
- In case of non-Norwegian residency, a valid Formular RFI - 21 (Certificate of Tax Residence) is required.
- The working languages of OAT are Norwegian and English.
- OAT reserves the right not to select any applicant or collective if they do not meet the profiles and skills deemed necessary.
- The agreement between the successful applicant or collective and OAT will be effective only after closing and signing all legal terms, conditions and contracts. If the contract for any reason cannot be closed and signed, OAT will reopen the negotiations with other shortlisted applicants.
- A jury will shortlist and interview a maximum of four applicants and choose the Chief Curator or Curator Team. OAT will not give feedback on proposals that have not been shortlisted by the jury.
- Interviews with the shortlisted applicants will take place in Oslo on 29 November 2017. Travel and accommodation arrangements for the invited shortlisted applicants will be coordinated and paid for by OAT.

Jury

The jury will be announced on the OAT website: www.oslotriennale.no

General information

- No fees or expenses will be paid for the submission phase.
- The receipt of proposals will be acknowledged by email.
- The names of the jury members will be published on the OAT website.
- Applicants may submit questions about the Call to submissions@oslotriennale.no until 2 October 2017. All questions and answers will be published on the OAT website.

Appendix I – About Oslo Architecture Triennale

Oslo Architecture Triennale is the Nordic region's biggest architecture festival, and one of the world's prominent arenas for dissemination and discussion of architectural and urban challenges. Through exhibitions, conferences, debates, competitions, publications and events across different formats and media, OAT seeks to challenge the field of architecture, engage the public and inspire local, Nordic and international debates concerning architecture and urbanism.

OAT is a knowledge-driven Triennale, which continuously develops and produces content with relevance that goes beyond the Triennale itself. OAT builds networks, engages and inspires debate among professionals, business communities, decision makers and the public across borders, sectors and professions.

OAT is held every third autumn in Oslo, over a period of approximately ten weeks. The main target groups for OAT's include the citizens and users of the city, decision makers, professionals and international guests. OAT is financed through membership fees, public subsidies, funds and grants from private sponsors.

History of OAT

OAT was established by the National Association of Norwegian Architects in 2000. In 2009, OAT was founded as a non-profit organisation with the National Association of Norwegian Architects (NAL), The Oslo School of Architecture and Design (AHO), Design and Architecture Norway (DOGA), the Oslo Architects' Association (OAF), the National Museum – Architecture and Oslo Business Region as members.

Since 2015, the Association has been extended to include eight associated members from the field of architecture and urban development: the Association of Consulting Architects in Norway, Bergen School of Architecture (BAS), FutureBuilt, the Norwegian Organization of Interior Architects and Furniture Designers (NIL), the Norwegian Association of Landscape Architects (NLA), the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and ROM for Art & Architecture.

OAT has had the following titles for its six previous triennials:

2000: Ways of living

2003: Visions for the Capital

2007: The Culture of Risk

2010: Man Made

2013: Behind the Green Door – architecture and the desire for sustainability

2016: After Belonging: A Triennale In Residence, On Residence and the Ways We Stay in Transit

The secretariat and Board of Directors

From 2018 the OAT secretariat will be located at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design. Hanna Dencik Petersson is Director of OAT.

The OAT Board of Directors comprises of: Alexandria Algard (NAL), Nina Berre – Chair (National Museum – Architecture), Ole Gustavsen (AHO), Joakim Skajaa (OAF), Trude Gonnæs Ugelstad (DOGA), Fredrik Winther (Oslo Business Region).

Appendix II – Core programme partners

Oslo Architecture Triennale has a big network of cooperating partners whom we will collaborate with to develop and produce both the core and the extended programme of OAT 2019. As Curator, you will work closely with the OAT secretariat and OATs core programme partners to build and develop the different parts of the core programme.

Design and Architecture Norway (DOGA)

Design and Architecture Norway (DOGA) promotes design and architecture as tools that create economic, social and environmental values throughout Norwegian businesses and the public sector. DOGA is part of the Norwegian government's range of initiatives for increased innovation.

At DOGA, we work on the role design and architecture plays in the designing of future Norway. We do so by developing new knowledge, facilitating collaborations between designers, architects and businesses, and by sharing knowledge about how design and architecture can be tools for innovation. We also experiment with new solutions by being an arena for development, innovation and testing.

DOGA works on a national and international scale – often in collaboration with its vast network of people, companies and institutions throughout the public and private sectors. Its facilities in Oslo house several multipurpose spaces, including a major exhibition hall.

The National Association of Norwegian Architects

The National Association of Norwegian Architects (NAL) is an independent members organisation for Norway-based architects with an approved college or university degree. It works to represent its members' interests and to promote high quality architecture throughout Norway. NAL participates in public debates about architecture and local development, and has a strong voice in architecture-related political debates.

NAL offers professional development through additional education, pilot projects, magazines and other activities:

Architectural Competitions

NAL is a consultant and facilitator when working with Norwegian architectural competitions. It assists its clients with planning and implementing competitions, whilst providing guidance and advice throughout the process.

A venue for training, dissemination and exchange of experience

NAL offers professional development through additional education in different areas. It organises seminars and conferences within different subjects, and hosts one of the biggest annual events for architects in Norway: Arkitekturdagen (Architecture Day)

Environment and sustainability

NAL is at the forefront regarding the environment and sustainability. It works closely with the authorities and other collaborators – aiming to increase cooperation between architects, consultants and other operators in the construction industry.

The National Museum – Architecture

The National Museum – Architecture is a part of the National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design. Its mission is to collect, conserve, research, exhibit, and promote knowledge about architecture. The National Museum – Architecture possesses Norway's most extensive collection of architectural drawings, photographs and models, with a total of over 300,000 objects.

The museum's education and exhibition activities seek to strike a balance between the historical and the contemporary. Its aim is to increase interest in architecture by making it more accessible to a wider audience, thus creating experiences that provide insight, have an emotional impact, and arouse people's enthusiasm.

In close collaboration with the museum's own curators and project group, the Oslo Architecture Triennale Curator will develop OAT 2019's exhibition and help it reach the museum's target groups and audience.

The museum is located at Bankplassen 3 in central Oslo. The building was originally designed by Christian Heinrich Grosch and was completed in 1830. For many years, it was the main office for Norges Bank (the central bank of Norway). It was later redesigned as a museum by Sverre Fehn, whose design included the 325m² glass pavilion where OAT 2019's exhibition is to be displayed. Sverre Fehn won the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 1997.

Oslo Arkitektforening (The Oslo Association of Architects)

Oslo Arkitektforening (OAF) is the largest local association of architects in Norway and organises the members of the National Association of Norwegian Architects (NAL) throughout Oslo and Akershus. Together with NAL, OAF is based within Arkitektenes hus (The Architects' House) in central Oslo, which is the venue for a regular series of programmes consisting of lectures, talks and debates. In addition, OAF contributes to public debates on planning and architecture, runs a free architecture consultancy for the city's inhabitants, and produces exhibitions, publications and other events.

In previous versions of OAT, OAF has contributed with content such as excursions, events, publications and exhibitions. For OAT 2019, OAF is keen to work closely with OAT's curator on developing content that is relevant to local architects and the city of Oslo. Arkitektenes hus is a great potential meeting place for architects and others with an interest in architecture. That being so, we hope to further develop it in the future, and any events connected to OAT should therefore be considered part of that venture.

Oslo Business Region

Innovation and entrepreneurship are key to a more robust, diversified and sustainable future economy for Norway. Oslo Business Region's ambition is to be a driving force for this development. Its main mandate - granted by the city of Oslo - is to build a stronger startup ecosystem, and to make Oslo more internationally recognised for its distinctive qualities. Nordic tech has become hot, and for a relatively compact city, Oslo punches far above its weight. It builds bridges between startup companies, corporates, and as the world's first smart city accelerator, individuals and investors. We invite the world to Oslo every year, during Oslo Innovation Week (www.oiw.no).

At the same time, Oslo is one of the most unrecognised cities in the world compared to others with a more established reputation. In collaboration with VisitOSLO and The Oslo Region alliance,

Oslo Business Region has developed an international brand management strategy for Oslo (www.oslobrandbox.no). Being a pioneer, Oslo has decided to forgo having a logo or a slogan for branding purposes. We believe actions speak louder than words, and that values are stronger than slogans. Expect Oslo to be trailblazing, enriching and genuine!

The Oslo School of Architecture and Design

The Oslo School of Architecture and design (AHO) offers a unique research-based education of international standing. Since its establishment in 1945, it has built a solid national funding base and is prominently ranked internationally. AHO awards three Master's Degrees in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Design, as well as a PhD programme. The school follows a studio-based model, with a faculty-to-student ratio that encourages individual development and collaboration. The school has approximately 650 students.

As a constituting member of OAT, AHO has contributed in many ways throughout the years by way of exhibitions, lectures, studio courses, seminars, events, workshops and other formats. For OAT 2016, AHO launched a new initiative called The Academy, adding a strong pedagogic component to the programme. The Academy was organised as a one-week workshop in an abandoned museum building in Oslo (Stenersenmuseet), and managed to assemble 124 students and 34 faculty members from 14 schools around the world. AHO wishes to build upon this experience when developing its contribution to OAT 2019.

e-flux Architecture

For OAT 2019, the selected curator will collaborate with e-flux Architecture to produce an online editorial project. This will be comprised of newly commissioned content from a wide range of multi-disciplinary perspectives, as well as viewpoints around a single concept that departs from the curatorial theme by offering new insights.

Each contribution will be distributed via email with a distinct graphic identity to the e-flux Architecture subscriber list, which includes over 90,000 readers. Additionally, the content will be published online and collected on a dedicated project page.

Besides these two media formats, e-flux conversations will offer a space to specially engage with a wider audience, whilst e-flux.tv will allow for the dissemination of audio-visual content.