

COMMON GROUND PROJECT

OPEN CALL
deadline: December 17, 2021

created by
supported by

kika nicolela
transcultures
pépinières européennes de création





For almost two years now the human species faces an invisible, faceless, brainless yet highly efficient enemy: a virus that menaces our lives and our way of life. While the virus does not discriminate and treat us all equally, this menace exposed our fragility not only as beings, but also as a society – social inequality, government control, structural racism and domestic violence as being some of the issues that were exacerbated by this crisis. Furthermore, confinement forced us into an unprecedented period of isolation, during which we had to face ourselves, and try to find alternative ways of being together and connected to each other.

Researchers worldwide have pointed to the fact that the transmission of viruses from wild animal species to humans is directly related to the degradation of ecosystems provoked by human economical and commercial activities. A lot of the factors that facilitated the emergence of this pandemic is closely linked to the global climate crisis and the rest of environmental disruptions of the Anthropocene. So while the first and more urgent response to the pandemic should be focused on human health, we need to think of new ways of being in this planet and to build a more sustainable, just, inclusive society.

The [COMMON GROUND PROJECT](#) proposes a creation of an international database of artworks produced from December 2019 to December 2021, that deal directly or indirectly with these questions. We invite artists around the world to share video, image, sound, text and/or web based pieces. Out of this database, a series of online and offline events and exhibitions will be curated.

The main immediate goal is to collect a large and varied snapshot of artistic reactions to the covid-19 pandemic. How did people in various corners of the world cope with the confinement and the post-confinement? How can we reshape the world and break with old patterns? This project should grow exponentially, and beyond the covid-19 crisis, so we can keep reflecting on how to create common grounds amongst humans and between humans and more-than-humans.



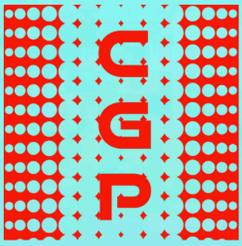
All submitted pieces are shared on the social network pages of the project (if so wished by the submitters), with descriptions and links to the participating artists. This way, all submissions are somehow visible, for we understand that, independently of a selection based on subjective perceived quality, every submitted piece is relevant to the examination and understanding of how/what artists are creating in this specific context.

On a subsequent phase, selected artworks will be showcased in different events - offline and online exhibitions, screening and performances. Whenever possible, the selected artists will receive the corresponding artist fee for each event.

This project is supported by Transcultures (interdisciplinary centre of digital & sound cultures - La Louvière - Belgium) and European Pepinieres of Creation (international network supporting various collaborations for the contemporary arts - based in Paris) as part of their "No Lockdown Art" ongoing initiative launched in Spring 2020. This project will benefit from their large network and possibilities of distribution in various places and countries.

The Common Ground Project was initiated in April 2020 by the artist and independent curator Kika Nicolela, with invited artists only. For the 2021 edition, we are releasing this international open call.

Check [here](#) for more info.



DEADLINE:
DECEMBER 17.

SUBMISSION

- Fill the [form](#) and follow its instructions to send your files.
- The project submissions is open to artists worldwide.
- By submitting your files to the project, you confirm their authorship.
- By submitting your files to the project, you confirm that you allow the Common Ground Project to archive them in its database.
- Artists will be contacted and informed before each and every public presentation of their works.
- All artists retain copyright of their original work as submitted.
- You can participate with as many artistic files as you want, but please keep in mind the project's framing: video, sound, text or web based works that have been produced since the beginning of the covid crisis. The work should reflect direct or indirectly on the impact of the crisis, the lockdown, their consequences and/or speculations about the future following these events.

TECHNICAL INFO

video

Any running time / Minimum resolution 1920px X 1080px / Recommended format: .mp4 or quicktime with h264 codec file / Minimum 15 Mbps data rate

sound

Any running time / Format : WAV, AIFF preferred, but also possible mp3 or AAC with minimum 128 kbps bit rate

text

Format : .txt file

You can submit your writings in text format, but you can also perform it, record it and submit it in sound or video.

web

Link to web based work

CONTACT

If you have any further questions or if your project doesn't fit the proposed formats, please contact us on

common.ground.submissions@gmail.com