

CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR IRISH ARTISTS
Memory of the Irish Hospital in Saint-Lô
Tribute to Samuel Beckett
October 2026



© Usine Utopik, 7ème édition du Festival des bords de Vire – Olena Dodatko, Memory

EVENT PRESENTATION

Led by the **Arts et Architectures à l'Ouest Association**, and in partnership with the **City of Saint-Lô** and **L'Usine Utopik**, a **Regional Cultural Relay**, the call for projects focuses on the **creation of in-situ sculptures within the Saint-Lô area**.

This call for projects is part of the 80th anniversary of the Irish Hospital of Saint-Lô.

In December 1945, Saint-Lô was donated a modern, fully equipped hospital by Ireland at the initiative of the Irish Red Cross, following the destruction of the city during the 1944 bombing. The hospital employed 12 doctors, 23 nurses, and 7 administrative staff, including the writer **Samuel Beckett** as a steward, who stayed on site for six months and wrote his essay, *The Capital of the Ruins*. The hospital ceased operations in the early summer of 1956. (Sources: Wiki manche)

This event is primarily a regional project that brings together all the local businesses and cultural and tourism stakeholders involved.

The works will be installed in partner businesses based on the artists' projects. The final selection will be made in the presence of the artist.

The spirit of the event:

The originality of the event stems from the creation of the in-situ sculptures (in the spirit of the Symposium) in front of the public. The artist designs a work specifically for the region, drawing inspiration from the history that links Ireland to Saint-Lô.

KEY DATES

Site-specific creative residency from October 1st to October 10th, 2026

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

THE ARTISTS

Selection Method

- The event is open to any artist proposing a project and an artistic approach that meet the event's criteria and objectives.
- The event is also open to young talent. A specific place may be made for emerging artists based on the quality of the projects. "Young talent" refers to students in their penultimate or final year at Fine Arts schools, or those who have graduated within the past year. The organizers reserve the right to assess eligibility for this category or the general category.
- Visual artists will be selected by a committee of professionals.
- The call for projects is open to artists of all nationalities. **Particular attention will be given to artists of Irish nationality.**
- Ten sculptor-artists will be selected.
- The selection committee's decisions are final and will be communicated personally to candidates in September 2026, without the jury being required to justify its decisions. To facilitate the selection process, the jury reserves the right to request additional information from candidate artists.

Remuneration:

A lump sum grant of **€2,500** including tax will be awarded to each selected artist. Transportation costs are covered by a **flat rate of €500**.

Project execution:

The artist will create the sculpture in situ over a period of 10 days, from October 1st to October 10th, 2026.

The organizer offers artists, if they wish, the possibility of an early arrival on September 30th and a departure on October 11th.

Materials:

Materials proposed by the organization:

- Douglas fir trunk, 3m x 0.80cm in diameter
 - 3 Corten steel sheets, 300 x 150cm x 3mm, or other metal sections
 - Vire blue granite blocks from the Saint Michel de Montjoie quarry (maximum 3T blocks)
 - Tools proposed by the organization: welding stations, consumables, lifting equipment, air compressor, etc.
- Artists are required to bring their own personal tools and work equipment necessary for the creation of the work.

Covered by the organizer:

- Catering and accommodation for the artist (accompanying persons will not be covered) within the territory during the creation of the work and the opening.

Insurance:

- The artist is required to be professionally insured to cover any damages related to civil liability. The artist agrees to provide proof of this insurance upon request from the organizer.

Works:

- The works become the property of the Arts and Architectures à l'Ouest Association, which undertakes to showcase the work with a presentation label including the artist's name, the creation date, the title, and the materials. The artist retains intellectual property rights to their work, in accordance with the Intellectual Property Code. The Arts and Architectures à l'Ouest Association undertakes to respect the moral rights of the ARTIST over his WORKS, in accordance with the intellectual property code.

Communication:

- The organizer is responsible for communication to promote the event. As such, the artist authorizes the organizer to reproduce their work for the purpose of promoting the event.



©Usine Utopik, 7ème édition du Festival des bords de Vire - Chloé Coomans, Just we plant

THE APPLICATION FORM

To participate in the call for applications for **The Memory of the Irish Hospital in Saint-Lô and Tribute to Samuel Beckett**, the application form must be submitted by post or email (PDF format only) with the following elements (the application must be compliant and complete to be registered):

1. The duly completed application form (on the last page of this document) including a detailed presentation of the project(s) (maximum 3) including a statement of intent for the artistic project, motivations, and technical details (information on materials, colors, anchors, resistance, etc.).
2. An up-to-date curriculum vitae outlining the artist's background and experience (degrees, courses, exhibitions, residencies, publications, grants, etc.).
3. A summary artistic portfolio (including a biography, a text presenting the artist's overall approach, and 10 previous visuals of works produced. For each visual: artist's name, title, medium, and location).
In the case of collaborative works, the applicant's creative contribution must be clearly indicated.

Application Details:

The application must be written in French or English.

Application form to be submitted before August 30th, 2026

ARTS ET ARCHITECTURES A L'OUEST.
Z.I Neptune 1
775, rue Louise Michel
50000 SAINT LO

Or by email: 3aouest@gmail.com

Email subject: **LAST NAME First Name - Application: Irish Artist**

Additional Information

Xavier Gonzalez, Director / Gwendoline Hallouche, Cultural Coordinator
+33 2 33 06 01 67 or usineutopik@gmail.com
www.usine-utopik.com

APPLICATION FORM

This form must be completed as accurately as possible to provide us with all the information necessary for project selection. You may add additional sheets for sketches and explanations.

Last Name/First Name:

Residing at:

Telephone Number:

Email:

SIRET Number/Professional Number:

Social Security Number:

Project Title Artist's Last Name/First Name

Explanatory Note about the Project (summary in 100 words maximum)

TECHNICAL DETAILS OF THE PROJECT

Number of pieces/elements/modules comprising the work, in the case of a series (optional)

Height (in meters):

Length (in meters):

Width (in meters):

Diameter (in meters):

Total surface area (in m2):

PROPOSED MATERIALS:

LIST OF TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT REQUIRED FOR ASSEMBLY OF THE WORK: