



**Open Call 2022**

**G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize**

## 2 The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Vision and Mission

The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation is a non-profit organization founded in 1993.

Our **vision** is to be a source of inspiration for future generations and a point of reference for artists and art lovers.

Our **mission** is to support and promote contemporary art and culture and to aid lifelong learning and the transmission of knowledge to future generations.

Based primarily in Crete, and guided by our love for art and culture, our initiatives aim to inspire and engage everyone from the local Cretan community to artists all around the world. Through educational and experiential workshops, art exhibitions, residencies as well as the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize, we wish to provide contemporary artists with ground for experimentation and development. We aspire to create and maintain an active network of people from every field of culture that will continue to grow, offering mutual support and exciting opportunities for future collaborations.

### 3 The Art Prize

Our love for art, combined with a desire to support and promote the advancement of artistic creativity, led to the establishment of the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize in 2019.

The Art Prize aims to support the work of contemporary artists, who we believe constitute one of the most dynamic and global expressions of the creative capacities of contemporary Greece. It is also a culmination of a thirty-year long effort to strengthen Greece's artistic leadership, which right now more than ever needs the appropriate visibility and assistance within the contemporary globalized environment of artistic production.

The Art Prize supports contemporary artists by offering them the opportunity to create a work of art that will not only become part of the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Collection and will remain on permanent view, on site, at the Sculpture Garden at Minos Beach art hotel in Agios Nikolaos, Crete, but will join an important cultural heritage as well.





Theodoros Zafeiropoulos & Yorgos Rimenidis, *Come with the Wind* (2019)  
Recipients of the 1st G&A Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize

The Sculpture Garden at Minos Beach art hotel is a shared legacy of both the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation and bluegr. It stems from a deep love for art and the need to bring culture and hospitality together.

The [1st Art Symposium](#) was realised in June 1988. Thirty two artists and five speakers from Greece, Europe and the United States gathered in Crete, at Minos Beach art hotel. They conversed and created, in this public arena, in an exclusive landscape where the elements intertwined, where sand, rock, water and wind came together to trigger the imagination and the senses in every possible direction. The artists were invited to create works inspired not only by their cultural backgrounds and artistic interests, but by their surroundings as well. These site specific artworks, most of which are still on display today, have become vital parts of the natural environment of Minos Beach art hotel. Thus, the foundations were laid for what is today an exemplary collection of contemporary art, a Sculpture Garden comprising more than fifty site specific artworks on permanent display.

The success of the first Art Symposium led to the realisation of two more, in 1990 and 1993. The [2nd Symposium](#) invited sixteen renowned artists and six speakers from the Mediterranean to explore the concept of a New Mediterranean Cultural Identity. Three years later the [3rd Art Symposium](#), exploring the relationship between art and politics, brought together twenty two artists and seven speakers. Following the end of the Cold War, the Symposium invited artists whose freedom of expression and output had been curtailed by totalitarian regimes.

With each Symposium, the collection grew further, as more works were added to it. Today, including geometric, expressionistic, realistic, standing, hanging, leaning, attached to walls, free-standing and interactive sculptures as well as sound and video installations- the collection is not only characterised by a plurality of artistic and aesthetic approaches but is also a window into the variety of experimentations and creative concerns of the late 20th century onwards, offering an invaluable platform for the study of contemporary art.





Linda Benglis and Kostas Tsoclis installing their works  
1st Art Symposium, 1988

## 7 The Collection

The Sculpture Garden at Minos Beach art hotel in Agios Nikolaos, Crete, is at the same time an independent entity and an integral part of the specific site. It includes more than fifty works on permanent display most of which are site specific, created with the garden of Minos Beach and the surrounding area of Agios Nikolaos in mind. The majority were created during the Art Symposia, while others were added later, through exhibitions such as *Riches of Cyprus* (1996), where eight Cypriot artists were invited to make new conceptual connections between two iconic islands, the solo exhibition of Giannis Parmakelis titled *Mechanics 1978-2006* (2006), the multifaceted installation *Sea to Shore Stories* (2016) by Kostas Ioannidis and Georgia Kotretsos' site specific installation *4 Cents: On Show for 500 Years* (2018).

Some of the artists represented in the collection are:

Magdalena Abakanowicz, Lynda Benglis, Costas Varotsos, Costas Tsoclis, Theodoros, Katia Roka, Eleni Mylonas, Eliseo Mattiacci, Michael Kapsalis, Carlo Ciarli, Andrea Fogli, Nicos Alexiou, Lucilla Catania, Giorgos Gyparakis, Serhat Kiraz, Rena Papaspyrou, Vettor Pisani, Klara Borbas, Boris Despodov, Dimitris Dokatzis, Ingrid Fragantoni, Froso Michalea, Dmitri Gutoff, Malgorzata Koscielak, Angelos Skourtis, Tamas Trombitas, Nikos Sotiriadis, Marios Spiliopoulos, George Kypris, Cecilia Campos, Klitsa Antoniou, Giannis Parmakelis, Lily Garafulic, Nikos Kourousis, Christos Petridis, Maria Loizidou, Tamas Hencze, Nikos Charalambidis, Kostas Ioannides, Georgia Kotretsos, Theodoros Zafeiropoulos and Yorgos Rimenidis

Explore the collection further [here](#).





Magdalena Abakanowicz, *The Painful Pyramids* (1993)  
3rd Art Symposium, "Art and Politics"



## G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize 2022

### OPEN CALL

The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize supports contemporary artists by offering them the opportunity to create a work of art that will become part of the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Collection and will remain on view, on site, at the Sculpture Garden at Minos Beach art hotel in Agios Nikolaos, Crete. **The successful candidate will be invited to realize the specific project which they have outlined in their submitted proposal.** For the current OPEN CALL we invite artists to apply to the second iteration of the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize. Applications are open until 30 January 2022.

Any Greek or Cypriot artist, with a demonstrated artistic career, is eligible to apply.

The submitted proposal must outline an artwork that can be exhibited outside and that is site specific, taking into consideration the specific exhibition site of Minos Beach art hotel in Agios Nikolaos, Crete. It primarily concerns (but is not limited to) large scale works in durable materials designed to be part of their landscaped surroundings, such as sculptures, installations, sound installations and works related to time-based artistic practice.

Before starting your application, please make sure you have read and understood the Terms and Conditions (below) and consulted the visual material on the Foundation's [Website](#), regarding the Sculpture Garden at Minos Beach art hotel where the artwork will be exhibited permanently. Additional visual material is available in the Minos Beach art hotel's street view on [Google Maps](#). Finally, on [Clio Muse Tours](#) you can find a list of the existing artworks currently on display with accompanying information and texts for each one.

## G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize 2022

### Important Information

Please, send your application to  
**gnamamidakisfoundation@gmail.com**  
 with the subject line “ART PRIZE  
 APPLICATION\_FULL NAME.”

The **application** can be completed either in Greek or English. Applicants will first be asked to present their artistic work as well as the reasons why they believe that their course so far is in line with the objectives of the Art Prize (max. 1000 w) and then to present their proposal, its dialogue with the specific geographical area and surrounding community and how it is in line with the vision and mission of the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation (max. 1500 w).

In the same email with your application, please also include (in single PDF):

- **An updated CV** (2 page limit)
- **A Portfolio** containing examples of past completed works that demonstrate originality and creativity, examples that show your artistic progression and experimentation as well as interdisciplinarity and innovative thinking and the central ideas/themes permeating your work. Above all, your portfolio should be a reflection of your artistic personality.

Please, include works that you believe are relevant to your application.

Please, send all the above material (Application + CV + Portfolio) in **one email**. CV + portfolio must be **one PDF** file no larger than 15MB, the name of which must be your full name. **Other file types and separate emails will not be accepted.** Please, include links to any audio or video material in the PDF.

### Selection Process & Dates

#### January 30, 2022

Applications for the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize close at 23:59 (UTC+02:00).

#### February 2022

All applicants will be informed via email about the result of their application. Selected artists will be asked to submit a model/blueprint of their proposed work. If necessary, there is possibility of visiting Minos Beach art hotel.

#### March 2022

The selection committee will select and announce the winner.



## G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize 2022

### Terms and Conditions

- The application can be completed in either Greek or English.
- Applications are evaluated by an advisory committee consisting of visual artists-University Faculty Members, Art Historians and Curators, the Artistic Director as well as the Chairman of the Board of the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation.
- The award for the selected proposal is **10.000 EUR**. (Necessary provision of appropriate legal document-invoice.)
- The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation will award 50% of the total amount to the selected artist upon acceptance of the Art Prize and the assignment of the work. The remaining 50% will be awarded upon the delivery of the finished project. The process follows all legal requirements and requires the issuing of an invoice between the Artist and the Foundation. To receive the money, the selected artist will need to have a bank account which corresponds to the details of the invoice issuer.
- Upon acceptance of the Art Prize, the artist commits to creating and delivering the specific artwork outlined in their winning proposal. The artwork must be site specific, i.e., designed for the Sculpture Garden at Minos Beach art hotel. It is recommended that the proposed work be conceptually related to the already existing works exhibited in the specific space.
- The artist is personally responsible for every stage of the creation process.
- The artwork will be presented to the public in a designated ceremony.
- Upon its completion, the artwork is bequeathed to the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Collection. Its creation process and the final result will be published on the Foundation's website and advertised on social media and through the electronic newsletter.
- The residency of the winning artist will commence on the day of the recipient's announcement, will last for two (2) months and end upon the delivery of the finished artwork. During this period, the selected artist will have the opportunity to visit the facilities of Minos Beach art hotel twice, for a period of ten (10) days in total. Accommodation and hospitality on the premises concerns the process of preparation and research as well as the final installation of the artwork.

## G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation Art Prize 2022

### Terms and Conditions (cont.)

The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation provides:

(a) Collaboration of the artist with the Foundation's Artistic Director and support with the artist's research throughout the preparation of the artwork.

(b) Transportation and residency, including accommodation and meals, at Minos Beach art hotel in Agios Nikolaos, Crete.

(c) Guidance and support throughout, including with the acquisition of necessary materials and technical support.

(d) The organization of the accompanying exhibition and its promotion.

(e) The creation of printed and electronic material for the promotion, including the accompanying catalogue and relevant publications.

(f) The possibility for a presentation of the artist's overall work and career through the organization of a public presentation/lecture in Agios Nikolaos, Crete.

– The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation aims to cultivate collaborations beyond the Artist Residency Programme and to support the winning artists through its network. The Foundation offers letters of recommendation to all winning artists of the Art Prize for further financing and development of their work and research.

– The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation reserves the right to disclose any accompanying material related to the exhibition on its website and social media platforms.

– The support of the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation should be explicitly mentioned in every form of communication of the subsidized Residency.

– Applicants acknowledge and accept that in the event of inaccurate or misleading information or statements their application will be withdrawn from the evaluation process.

– Regarding the processing of personal data in this application, the respective applicant is solely responsible for the legal transmission of personal information regarding third parties (eg. Artists) to the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation and is also responsible for informing said parties about the transmission of their personal data to the G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation.

– The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation is in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). More information can be found [here](#).

– For more information about the Art Prize and/or application process you can email us at: [admin@gnamamidakisfoundation.org](mailto:admin@gnamamidakisfoundation.org)



A large, leafy tree stands on the left side of the image. To its right is a black metal sculpture of a DNA double helix. The background is a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The foreground is filled with dense green bushes and plants.

**APPLY NOW**