

The Three Seas Art Festival 2025

The new recurring Three Seas Art Festival will take place in a biennial format. Nearly 100 artists and curators from 14 countries of the Three Seas Initiative and the entire region participate in the events, featuring exhibitions, discussion panels, a variety of workshops, and meetings.

The starting point of the Festival will be a simultaneous artistic residency, bringing to Kraków artistic duos, curators, and curatorial teams from Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine, and Turkey, as well as a team representing Belarusian civil society. Working together using art-based research methods, the participants will reflect on various models of fair development.

The residency teams' work will be on view from May 2025 at the main exhibition in Bunkier Sztuki in Kraków. Additionally, the virtual version of the exhibition will ensure accessibility for the societies of the Three Seas countries, engaging an international audience in an art-inspired dialogue about the most pressing contemporary issues.

The Three Seas Art Festival supports the priorities of the Polish Presidency of the EU Council. The event aims to build international understanding and social support for increasing the capacity for collective defense, protecting people and borders, counteracting disinformation, freedom of economic activity, sustainable energy transformation, forward-looking and independent food production and adequate social security, including health security.

Project implemented with the financial support of International Visegrad Fund as part of the „Smart Power of Culture – Challenges of a Common V4 Identity vs. the Three Seas Perspective” project and the Commission of National Education University in Kraków as part of the „Excellence Initiative – Research University” program.

acb belongs to Three Seas Initiative Cultural Cooperation Network (3SICCN): Uniwersytet Komisji Edukacji Narodowej w Krakowie (Kraków, Polska), MNAC Bucharest (Bukareszt, Rumunia), SNG – Slovenská národná galéria (Bratysława, Słowacja), Liptovská galéria Petra Michala Bohúňa (Liptowski Mikulasz, Słowacja), Muzeum umění Olomouc (Ołomuniec, Czechy), Muzeum Fotografii w Krakowie (Kraków, Polska), Ośrodek Dokumentacji Sztuki Tadeusza Kantora Cricoteka (Kraków, Polska), Fundacja Sztuki Trójmorza (Kraków, Polska), acb Gallery (Budapeszt, Węgry), < rotor > association for contemporary art (Graz, Austria), AICA International (Paryż, Francja), VMU International (Wilno, Litwa), Vilniaus dailės akademija (Wilno, Litwa), Kyiv National University of Technologies and Design – KNUTD (Kijów, Ukraina), Львівська національна академія мистецтв (Lwów, Ukraina), MET (Ateny, Grecja)

Web: <https://3siartfestival.uken.krakow.pl/>

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Festiwal-Sztuki-Tr%C3%B3jmorza-3-Seas-Art-Festival-61572742240740/>

Programme 2025

February 9-24

Residency of artistic and curatorial duets at the Institute of Art and Design and the Institute of Painting and Art Education, Faculty of Art UKEN in Krakow.

February 20

Creative Laboratories: Middle Grounds and Derivatives

Participatory workshop on new media art, intermedia collaboration and artistic research organized on the platform of the HegeLabs.

speakers: Anna Olszewska, Jiří Suchánek (Svitava Lab), Pavla Beranová

moderated by: Barbora Kundračková

The workshop will take place on: February 20, 2025, between 10 am – 1 pm at the: AGH University of Science and Technology. Stanisław Staszica in Krakow, Faculty of Humanities, Czarnowiejska 36 – building C7, room no. 15

April 25 – June 8

Designed Communities – Between Reality and Vision

Podbrzezie Gallery, ul. Podbrzezie 3, Krakow International design exhibition accompanied by poster exhibitions in urban spaces: „Tolerance Poster Show” 13/04–26/04/2025 and „Poster Challenge 6” 27/04–11/05/2025. The exhibition is also part of the main program of this year’s edition of Krakow Art Week Krakows.

April 25 – June 30

Kruche obraz / Fragile images – international exhibition at the Ethnographic Museum in Krakow

MEK, ul. Krakowska 46, Krakow

April 26 – May 15

Shifted Horizons” – international exhibition of visual arts around the idea of multidimensionally understood „Crossing spaces”

Potocki Palace, Rynek Główny 20, Krakow

The exhibition is also part of the main program of this year’s edition of Krakow Art Week Krakows.

May 14 – August 31

Revealing what is partly sensed / Ujawniając to, co ledwie przeczuwane

The main exhibition of the festival presenting the effects of the work of artists participating in the residency

Bunkier Sztuki Contemporary Art Gallery, pl. Szczepański 3a, Krakow

May 15

International conference at the International Cultural Centre in Krakow, including a panel discussion „Common development – 25 years of the Visegrad Fund”

ICC, Rynek Główny 25, Krakow

May 16

Szpagetowa dzikość – performance by Erik Sikora

Cricoteka Centre for Documentation of the Art of Tadeusz Kantor, Nadwiślańska 2/4, Kraków

July 16

Opening of the exhibition „Kantor. Therapies of Visions”

Cricoteka Centre for Documentation of the Art of Tadeusz Kantor, Nadwiślańska 2/4, Kraków

Resulting from the recent residencies, *Revealing What is Partly Sensed / Ujawniając to, co ledwie przeczuwane*, opens on 14 May 2025 and runs until 31 August 2025 at Bunkier Sztuki, Krakow.

Curators: Kata Balázs-Miklós, Weronika Plińska, Agnieszka Sachar

Co-organizers: University of the National Education Commission in Kraków, Three Seas Arts Foundation

Artists: Pavla Beranová / Jiří Suchánek, Uršula Berlot, Ričardas Bartkevičius / Vaiva Jucevičiūtė-Bartkevičienė, Gözde Ju, Morus Project (Kleopatra Tsali, Hanna Norrna, Irini Gonou), Ciprian Mureșan, NURT (Mykhaylo Barabash, Tereza Barabash, Roman Haideichuk, Yaryna Shumska), Kristoffer Ørum, Anna Pichura, Wendelin Pressl, Ala Savashevich, Dimitar Shopov, Erik Sikora, Rita Süveges

Curators of the national teams: Melike Bayık, Călin Corneliu Dan, Áron Fenyvesi, Kristian Handberg, Vaiva Jucevičiūtė-Bartkevičienė, Kaja Kraner, Barbora Kundračíková, Elli Leventaki, Margarethe Makovec, Ostap Manulyak, Vera Mlechevska, Olga Mzhelskaya, Weronika Plińska, Alexandra Tamásová

The exhibition showcases collaborations between artists and curators, featuring the creative duo Rita Süveges and Áron Fenyvesi, with support from acb.

The exhibition title has been drawn from an essay by Danish social anthropologist Kirsten Hastrup. In it, the author concludes that creativity is a process that occurs between talented individuals and the culture in which they operate. In her view, being creative is not only about discovering things that did not previously exist but also about proposing new ways of understanding the reality we already know by revealing what is only partly sensed. The curatorial team's task was to identify key intersections and crucial themes, capturing common threads in the work of artists from 14 countries who participated in the project.

The organizers invited cultural institutions from the countries belonging to the Three Seas Initiative—Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Greece, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Hungary—as well as from Denmark, Turkey, Ukraine, and the Civil Society of Belarus. Each institution selected a curator and an artist or artistic collective who proposed a work on a topic of their choice from a broad range of issues related to fair development. The joint exhibition was preceded by two artistic residencies. Some of the artists created works during their stay in Kraków, while others used this time for research.

The exhibition is part of a new Central European project that, in future editions, is set to travel to other locations across the region. In line with the vision of its initiators—institutions forming the Three Seas Initiative Cultural Cooperation Network (3SICCN)—art is to be seen as a means of anticipating and prototyping solutions to the most pressing challenges of our time. Perhaps, in this context, the works on display also serve as a preview of a new order, one whose presence we can only partly sense.

Virtual tour: <https://3siartfestival.uken.krakow.pl/2025/09/02/wystawa-glowna-vr-main-exhibition-vr/>

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue published by UKEN.