Fundação
Centro Cultural
de Belém

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Diogo Seixas Lopes Creation Grant 2027

Regulations

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1. CONTEXT

1.1. About the MAC/CCB Architecture Centre

The MAC/CCB Architecture Centre addresses contemporary issues in the discipline, establishing itself as a space for critical production and the creation of knowledge. The centre organises exhibitions, grants, publications and public programmes in a continuous system of research, reflection and dissemination. At the intersection of practice, research and teaching, it promotes an informed and critical reading of the built environment, encouraging the creation of new content and different ways of thinking about architecture.

The Diogo Seixas Lopes Creation Grants form part of this programme as a means of supporting contemporary creation and encouraging the production of new work directly related to the Architecture Centre's annual thematic strands.

1.2. About the exhibition *Doce da Casa*

The exhibition *Doce da Casa* proposes a reflection on the everyday architecture that structures life in contemporary cities. Bringing together a body of new photographic work produced by contemporary photographers invited specifically for the purpose, it explores the territories of collective housing, urban peripheries and the anonymous landscapes that form the backdrop to contemporary collective experience.

The exhibition will be on view at the MAC/CCB Architecture Centre from 20 October 2027 to 19 March 2028.

1.3. About the Diogo Seixas Lopes Creation Grant

Established by the MAC/CCB Architecture Centre in tribute to architect Diogo Seixas Lopes (1972–2016), a leading figure in Portuguese architectural thought and the first Consultant to Garagem Sul, the Diogo Seixas Lopes Creation Grant supports the creation of new artistic work around the Architecture Centre's annual thematic strands.

In 2027, the grant is conceived as an integral part of the exhibition *Doce da Casa*. The selected applicant will develop an original project conceived specifically for this exhibition, contributing to a critical collective portrait of contemporary everyday architecture.

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2. OBJECT OF THE CALL

2.1.
These regulations set out the terms for awarding the Diogo Seixas Lopes Creation Grant 2027, promoted by the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém through the MAC/CCB Architecture Centre.

2.2.
A single grant will be awarded to support the development of an original project conceived specifically for this exhibition, contributing to a critical collective portrait of contemporary everyday architecture and for inclusion in the exhibition *Doce da Casa*.

2.3.
The project must focus on the territories of collective housing, urban peripheries and everyday landscapes that shape the daily experience of Portuguese cities.
The aim is to prioritise an approach that reveals the architectural, spatial, cultural and social qualities of these contexts, contributing to a critical reading of ordinary architecture and to a collective portrait of the contemporary territory.

2.4.
The project must be developed specifically under this grant and may not consist merely of presenting work produced previously.

2.5.
The project will form part of the exhibition *Doce da Casa*, alongside work by Francisco Ascensão, Rory Gardiner, Max Creasy, Giulietta Margot and Gili Merin.
The selection, editing and presentation of the images are the exclusive responsibility of the curatorial team for the *Doce da Casa* exhibition and the Architecture Centre, with due regard for the authorship and artistic integrity of the project developed by the grant recipient.

2.6.
The grant includes two curatorial follow-up sessions.
The first session will take place immediately after the grant is awarded and will present the exhibition's conceptual framework and discuss the project's overall objectives.
The second will take place once production is complete and will focus on reviewing the project and selecting images for incorporation into the exhibition.

2.7.
Production must be completed by **1 June 2027**, allowing the exhibition design, catalogue and other communications materials to be developed.

2.8.
Submitting an application implies acceptance of the timetable set by the Architecture Centre for this purpose and participation in the follow-up sessions provided for in these regulations.

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3. ELIGIBILITY AND EXCLUSION CRITERIA

3.1. Who may apply

a) Portuguese or foreign photographers whose practice demonstrates a sustained engagement with architecture, the city, landscape or territory;
b) Each applicant may submit only one application.

3.2. Eligibility requirements

a) The project must be developed specifically for this grant;
b) The application must demonstrate that the proposal is suited to the exhibition's objectives;
c) The applicant must undertake to complete production by 1 June 2027;
d) The applicant must participate in the curatorial follow-up sessions set out in section 2.6;
e) The project must be developed in Portugal.

3.3. The following will not be accepted:

a) incomplete applications;
b) applications that do not comply with these regulations;
c) applications incompatible with the stated timetable;
d) applications proposing the presentation of photographs produced previously;
e) applications submitted by jury members, staff directly involved in organising the grant, or persons in a situation of conflict of interest;
f) applications submitted by persons who are not in good standing with the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém.

3.4. Ineligible expenses

The following are ineligible:
a) expenses incurred before the contract is signed;
b) expenses funded by other entities;
c) fixed costs associated with the applicant's professional activity;
d) expenses not directly related to project production.

4. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

4.1.

The Diogo Seixas Lopes Creation Grant is worth €6,000 **(six thousand euros)**.

4.2.

The amount awarded is intended to cover the full development of the project, including costs associated with the creative process, travel, accommodation, production, post-production, equipment hire or purchase, and any other expenses directly related to its realisation.

4.3.
The grant is a form of financial support for artistic creation. The recipient is responsible for meeting any tax obligations that apply to them by law, without prejudice to any obligations incumbent on the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém under the law.

4.4.
The financial support amounts to the full sum awarded by the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém under this scheme.

4.5.
Payment will be made in two instalments:
a) **50%**, after the grant agreement has been signed and when the first curatorial follow-up meeting takes place;
b) **50%**, once the project is complete and all materials resulting from the work and required under these regulations have been submitted.

5. APPLICATION PROCESS

5.1.
The application process will follow this timetable:

- Applications open: **25 November 2026**
- Closing date for applications: **01 February 2027**
- Assessment of applications: **February 2027**
- Announcement of results: **01 March 2027**
- Submission of materials produced: **01 June 2027**

5.2.
Applications must be submitted in Portuguese or English, exclusively via the online form provided for this purpose by the MAC/CCB Architecture Centre.

5.3.
Each applicant must submit a **dossier** in PDF format.
The dossier must not exceed **12 A4 pages**, excluding the cover.

5.4.
The dossier must include:
a) **Cover**, identifying the applicant and giving the title of the proposal;
b) **Curriculum vitae**, no longer than one A4 page;
c) **Statement of intent and project description**, no longer than one A4 page, including:

- conceptual framework;
- photographic approach;
- territories, buildings or contexts on which the project will focus;
- working methodology;
- provisional production schedule.

d) **Selection of up to ten photographs** relevant to the application, with one photograph per page.

The arrangement, sequencing and editing of the images are an integral part of the dossier and will be taken into account when assessing the application.

5.5.
Only applications that fully comply with the structure and limits set out in these regulations will be accepted.

5.6.
The Architecture Centre may request further information about submitted dossiers.

6. ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION OF APPLICATIONS

6.1.
The MAC/CCB Architecture Centre is responsible for verifying the eligibility of the applications received.

6.2.
Eligible applications will be assessed by a jury comprising:

- Filipe Magalhães (Curator, Architecture Centre, MAC/CCB);
- Nuria Enguita (Artistic Director, MAC/CCB);
- Giulietta Margot (external member and specialist).

6.3.
Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:
a) the quality and consistency of the applicant's photographic practice;
b) the proposal's conceptual relevance;
c) the project's suitability for the objectives of the exhibition *Doce da Casa*;
d) the quality of the selection, arrangement and editing of the images submitted;
e) the project's feasibility.

6.4.
Whenever it deems necessary, the jury may invite applicants to an interview to clarify specific aspects of their proposals.

6.5.
The jury reserves the right not to award the grant if it considers that none of the applications meets the required quality standards.
The jury's decision is final and not subject to appeal.

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

7.1.
The outcome of the competition will be announced publicly on **1 March 2027**.

7.2.
The selected applicant will be notified by email.

7.3.
The grant is conditional on the execution of a grant agreement, which will set out:
a) the beneficiary's details;
b) the purpose of the grant;
c) the project development schedule;
d) the payment schedule;
e) the rights and obligations of the parties.

8. OBLIGATIONS OF THE GRANT RECIPIENT

8.1.
After notification of the decision, the grant recipient must sign the grant agreement within a maximum of ten working days and submit the administrative documents required to formalise the awarding of the grant, namely proof of identity, tax identification number, proof of IBAN, and certificates confirming that they are in good standing with the Tax Authority and Social Security, or equivalent documents where applicable.

8.2.
The recipient undertakes to develop the project in the exercise of their creative autonomy, in accordance with the proposal submitted, observing the timetable set out in these regulations and the conditions of the grant agreement.

8.3.
Once the project is complete, the following must be submitted to the MAC/CCB Architecture Centre:
a) the final set of photographs selected for inclusion in the exhibition;
b) the corresponding final digital files, in a format agreed with the curatorial team;
c) captions, identification of the locations photographed and any other information required to produce the exhibition, catalogue and other communications materials.

8.4.
The recipient undertakes to work with the curatorial team during the editing, production and installation of the exhibition whenever considered necessary, as part of the planned follow-up sessions and to meet the needs arising from the inclusion of the project in the exhibition.

8.5.
Unjustified failure to comply with the obligations set out in these regulations or the grant agreement may result in the grant being revoked and in the full or partial repayment of any sums already received.

9. COPYRIGHT AND RIGHTS OF USE

9.1.
The authorship of all photographs produced under this grant remains with their respective author.

9.2.
The grant entails the granting to the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém of a free, non-exclusive licence, with no territorial limit and for an indefinite period, for the following purposes:
a) exhibiting the photographs in the *Doce da Casa* exhibition;
b) reproducing the photographs in the exhibition catalogue;
c) using the photographs in communications and promotional materials for the exhibition;
d) using the photographs in publications, digital platforms and other institutional media of the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém relating to the activities of the Architecture Centre.

9.3.
Any use of the photographs for commercial or editorial purposes unrelated to the institutional activities of the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém requires the author's prior permission.

9.4.
The author must be identified whenever the photographs are used.

10. PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

10.1.
The personal data provided by applicants will be processed by the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém, as data controller, solely for the purposes of administering this procedure and awarding the grant, in accordance with the applicable personal data protection legislation.

10.2.
Personal data will be retained for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes for which they were collected and to meet applicable legal obligations.

10.3.
Applicants may exercise their rights of access, rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, objection and data portability in accordance with the legislation in force.

10.4.
The Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém will take appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security and confidentiality of personal data processed in connection with this procedure.

11. ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES

11.1.
The Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém adopts measures to prevent, detect and penalise acts of corruption and related offences, in accordance with applicable legislation.

11.2.
In connection with the award of this grant, applicants may be asked to provide the information considered necessary to meet legal obligations relating to the prevention of money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

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12. FINAL PROVISIONS

12.1.
The Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém reserves the right to amend these regulations where exceptional circumstances warrant, and must notify applicants of any such amendments before the procedure is concluded.

12.2.
Any matters not covered by these regulations will be resolved by the Board of the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém.

12.3.
Submitting an application implies full acceptance of the terms set out in these regulations.