



room to bloom

# Summary

I AM NO  
LONGER  
ACCEPTING  
THINGS  
I CANNOT  
CHANGE.  
I AM  
CHANGING  
THE THINGS  
I CANNOT  
ACCEPT.

Room to Bloom supports 100 young feminist artists.

It is a training and peer learning programme. It funds 15 artistic productions, which will be staged in international Biennales (Palermo, Kiev, Warsaw).

The supported artists will engage in constructing feminist and postcolonial artistic narratives of Europe.

The partnership involves artistic and cultural organisations from France (Alternatives Européennes), Sweden (Museums of Cultures of the World, Gothenburg), Italy (Alternative Europee, Rizoma) and Germany/Greece (AthenSyn).

Associated partners include the Kiev Biennale, Warsaw Biennale, Biennale Arcipelago Mediterraneo, Fundacio Aroa (ES), Gals 4Gals (PL), Izolyatsia (UA), Fundacja Nasz Wybór (PL) and other informal partners from Ukraine, Poland and beyond.

« a woman must have money  
and a room of her own if she is  
to write fiction »

**VIRGINIA WOOLF**

# Background

Whereas migrants and women, from Malevich to Picasso, from Tamara de Lempicka to Sonia Delaunay, famously contributed to the making of European Arts, their access to the world of arts remains extremely limited today.

Beyond a few famous faces, women and migrants struggle to be effectively contributing to the making of the European cultural and artistic discourse, not from a lack of ideas or capacities but because the structural obstacles they face are not of those that one can easily fight individually.

Room to Bloom recognises that it's more than time to build on that and provide artists and cultural operators to navigate patriarchalism and racism in the world of arts and to open up the space for them to bloom in a transnational Europe.

The project promotes young female and notably artists from migrant backgrounds and provides them with better tools to operate in the European cultural scene. It focusses on postcolonial feminism, and is open to all genders and origins.

The project will:

- Train, assist and support of 100 young promising artists and create professional opportunities.
- Create a network of feminist artists and migrant background artists, made of more established and younger artists and arts professionals.
- Formulate proposals for running post-colonial feminist art practices.
- Create feminist and post-colonial narratives for a Transnational Europe, which is expressed through the final productions by 15 young artists for young innovative Biennales.
- Support emerging artists to produce artwork to be performed and showcased in internationally visible events.
- Young artists are supported by a board of 15 more experienced artists, who deliver training and accompany the projects' development.





# Activities





Room to Bloom project will specifically:

- Organise a regional forum for artists (ArtGora 2021) in Kiev, which aims to set the grounds for further reflection and collaboration of about 40 artists. The forum will produce a manifesto, which will provide the red-line for the development of an Anti-Manual for Postcolonial Feminist art practice.
- Organise two trainings on Eco-Feminism (Greece) and on Postcolonial Feminism (Greater Paris), aiming at developing the capacities of young artists. The development of a shareable training manual will accompany the process. (30 artists each).
- Create a European transnational network of feminist and post-colonial established artists, which can act as a support group and a resource for the direct members of the network, and beyond that for a larger audience of art institutions and cultural managers.
- Support emerging artists to produce artwork to be performed and showcased in internationally visible events.

- Facilitate access to women and postcolonial artists, which practice will be duly documented during the process in order to provide an index, a database of relevant artistic projects and art practices.
- Contribute to developing consciousness of the challenges of postcolonial feminist art practices among cultural managers and practitioners, institutions and funders.
- Contribute to improving and developing the practice of feminist postcolonial management of the partners' institutions themselves.
- Reinforce burgeoning collaboration between geographically peripheral Biennales.



**SISTERHOOD**

**SMASHES**

**BORDERS**



# Production

- 15 grants of 1000 euros for exhibition at Biennales.
- Anti-Manual for a Feminist Art & Cultural Practice - this document will list questions raised by feminist art practice today and present solutions and ideas developed by organisations and artists throughout Europe.
- Catalogue.
- Indexing of Young European Feminist and Migrant background Artists available to all.



THERE  
COMES A  
TIME  
WHEN SILENCE  
IS BETR-  
AYAL.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

# Timeline

**Start date**

September 2020

**End date**

January 2023

**Regional Forum and Trainings**

Spring and Autumn 2021

**Production**

Summer/Autumn 2021

**Exhibitions and Performances**

2021/2022

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## CREDITS ILLUSTRATIONS

Page 3: Edinah for Fine Acts @wildlogic, *Changing The Things*

Page 9: Joulia Strauss & Marina Naprushkina

Page 11: Raha Amiri (first poster) and Clara Stella Hüneke (second poster)

Page 14: WISH Women In Solidarity House (Lesbos)<https://www.facebook.com/wishlesb>

Page 17: Edinah for Fine Acts @wildlogic, *Silence is Betrayal*

## FUNDERS & PARTNERS



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