

# Call for applications

Artistic Research Lab

European Post-Master in collective artistic research and experimentation

At Casino Display, Luxembourg



# FOLDS

The line of a folded piece of paper also breaks the quiet pattern of the lines beneath it – those that join to form the material.

It is a simple gesture to bring one side over the other and flattening the fold beneath one's fingertip

One side is temporarily suspended mid-air, caught in the interplay between the fold and gravity.

There, in the in-between, hovers the infrathin – just there, barely not there yet almost palpable.

Upon closer look, making out the beginning and the end of a fold becomes quite challenging.

Folds are complex figures, embodying both unity and discontinuity.

Within a fold lies something that may – or may not – wait to be unfolded

Twofold or manifold stories, layering, resting upon each other

*Expliquer, c'est défaire les plis*

To explain is to undo the folds

*Complicquer, c'est de faire plusieurs plis*

To complicate is to create many folds

*Simplifier, c'est n'en faire qu'un*

To simplify is to make just one

Folds also bear a certain speculative ethos

Some things fold or are folded under pressure

They might be folded away, but not indefinitely

After all, a piece of paper can only be folded eight times

Sealing the letter with a fold

Folded into the archive

While time folds unto itself

For this first edition of the Artistic Research Lab as a European Post-Master program, we will be investigating the way “folds” can act as conceptual tools to articulate the criticality of artistic gestures, to uncover the relationalities inherently emerging in collective encounters, and to experiment with their narrative potentialities.

## **Artistic Research Lab**

The Artistic Research Lab is a European Hub in Collective Artistic Research and Experimentation divided between a Post-Master program and a forum for Master’s students. This Post-Master’s program is dedicated to bridging diverse artistic research traditions across Europe, establishing a hub for shared knowledge, experimentation, collaboration and collective artistic inquiry that transcends borders and disciplinary boundaries. It is led by a consortium composed of Casino Display and Casino Luxembourg – Forum d’art contemporain (Luxembourg), École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels de La Cambre (La Cambre – Brussels, Belgium), Haute École des Arts du Rhin (HEAR – Strasbourg/Mulhouse, France), and Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten (KABK – The Hague, Netherlands) and École Nationale Supérieure d’Art et de Design de Nancy (Ensad Nancy – France).

### ***Program Focus***

The Artistic Research Lab invites participants to engage in an in-depth exploration of artistic research methodologies, fostering new approaches to knowledge creation through practice-led experimentation. Emphasizing collective thinking, the program challenges the traditional modernist view of the artist as a solitary creator. Instead, it cultivates a collaborative model of artistic practice, where resonance and dialogue emerge between artist-researchers, even when their thematic focuses differ.

### ***Process-driven Exploration***

At the core of the program lies the concept of *l’art en train de se faire* – art in the making. This process-driven approach encourages participants to embrace the fluidity of artistic creation, prioritizing the evolution of ideas, methods, and practices over finalized artworks. By immersing themselves in experimental and transitory artistic processes, participants move beyond static outcomes, engaging deeply with the unfolding nature of creative work.

### ***Para-Academic and Para-Institutional Approach***

While the Artistic Research Lab operates alongside traditional academic and institutional frameworks, it remains intentionally para-academic and para-institutional. This positioning enables the program to maintain an open-ended, dynamic engagement with academia and cultural institutions while fostering alternative methodologies and questioning established norms. Supported by a consortium of art schools and a cultural institution, the Artistic Research Lab grants participants access to institutional and expertise and resources while preserving its commitment to independent, exploratory approaches.

### ***Experimentation and Transdisciplinarity***

Situated within a transdisciplinary meeting space, the program encourages participants to explore uncharted territories of knowledge through experimentation. Artist-researchers are invited to test unfinished ideas, engage with emerging concepts, and challenge fixed ontologies in favor of more fluid, adaptable frameworks. This environment prioritizes a logic of deceleration, allowing ideas to mature and develop without the immediate pressure of finalized production.

The Artistic Research Lab promotes a space where transdisciplinary boundaries are questioned, and where embracing uncertainty is a vital part of the artistic research process. Through cross-cultural exchange, collaborative inquiry, and innovative practices, the program fuels the creation of new knowledge and understanding in contemporary art.

### ***Institutional Support and Collaboration***

The Artistic Research Lab is supported by a consortium of European art schools and cultural institutions, including Casino Luxembourg – Forum d’art contemporain and Casino Display (Luxembourg), École Nationale Supérieure d’Art et de Design de Nancy (Ensad Nancy – France), École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels de La Cambre (La Cambre – Brussels, Belgium), Haute École des Arts du Rhin (HEAR – Strasbourg/Mulhouse, France), and Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten (KABK – The Hague, Netherlands). Through these partnerships, participants engage with professionals from the cultural sector, gaining valuable research and experimental opportunities. By the end of the program, participants will be uniquely positioned to navigate both institutional and academic spaces with confidence and insight.

### **What is covered?**

Travel costs to Luxembourg and back within Europe

Accommodation and per diem in Luxembourg during the research weeks

Production budget of EUR 2,000 per participant

Access to the technical facilities and materials of Casino Display

### **Who is eligible?**

Eligible candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Hold a Master's degree (or equivalent)
- Reside within the European Union.
- Have completed their degree within the six academic years preceding the 2025–2026 academic year

### **Research Weeks**

From 29 September to 3 October 2025

From 17 to 22 November 2025

From 26 to 30 January 2026

From 23 to 28 February 2026

From 20 to 24 April 2026

From 25 to 30 May 2026

### **How to apply?**

To submit your application or for any further questions please contact

Charles Rouleau – project coordinator

[charles.rouleau@casino-luxembourg.lu](mailto:charles.rouleau@casino-luxembourg.lu)

**Please include in your application**

- A short text (200 to 300 words) or a page of visual thinking reflecting your perspective on the topic “FOLDS”
- Portfolio
- CV

**Deadline: 6 June 2025**

Shortlist will be announced on 13 June 2025

Interviews: Date to be determined

Announcement of the cohort: 27 June 2025

The jury for the selection will be composed of Casino Display's team and one juror from each of the partner schools.

A collaboration between Casino Display, Casino Luxembourg – Forum d'art contemporain, École Nationale Supérieure d'Art et de Design de Nancy, École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels de La Cambre, Haute École des Arts du Rhin, and Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten