

What can the countryside
offer that the city can't?

open call

SUPERGAU

What is SUPERGAU

SUPERGAU is an imaginary landscape, a culturally virgin landscape. SUPERGAU needs no buildings, no nostalgia, no tradition. SUPERGAU is a landscape where art is something new, something that still has to find a place, a landscape where anyone can be a viewer and no-one is an expert.

SUPERGAU is free of the weight of the city with its programmed cultural spaces, free of museums, theatres, cabarets and salons that have to be filled with target groups. It is free of the concept of public space, SUPERGAU knows only landscape. SUPERGAU is area. SUPERGAU has forest and meadow landscape, seascape, residential landscape, tarmac and concrete landscape. In SUPERGAU, all these forms of landscape can become stages, scenes of artistic action.

SUPERGAU turns things inside-out, declaring the countryside a cultural centre and the city periphery. Cultural spaces are inverted, and are suddenly roofless museums, theatres, cabarets and salons, without walls, and thus boundless.

SUPERGAU is temporary. Work on and in it will take two years, culminating in a ten-day festival.

What we're looking for

- artists, whose approach does not distinguish between city and country side, who need space, who appropriate and occupy space.
- artistic contributions with no rustic sentimentality, but with a feeling for the often brutal reality of rural areas as economic regions, habitat and cultural space.
- artworks embracing outdoor space as their habitat. Outdoor climatic conditions make artistic forms of expression – such as land art, installations & sculptures, performance, theatre & dance and literature – particularly suitable. However, SUPERGAU would like to invite also sound art, video art and new media with all their electronic sensitivity, to exhibit outdoors.
- cross-over works entering into cooperation with visitors, residents and artists in the creation and/or implementation.
- artworks that encourage participation, dialogue or discussion.
- site- or region-specific artistic contributions – though looking less to the past than to the present or a possible future.
- SUPERGAU is a 100% outdoor event. All artworks must be presented outdoors, with the exception of temporary structures made by the artists as part of the artwork.

Venues

For the first event, we will declare the Flachgau region a SUPERGAU [superregion]. The projects may be held anywhere within the entire Flachgau (= political district of Salzburg and surroundings), making available an area of 1,005 km², consisting of 40% agriculture, 40% forest, 4% water and 16% other areas.

The approximately 150,000 Flachgau residents are distributed over 37 municipalities, including three towns and six market towns. The physical proximity of the Flachgau to the directly adjacent provincial capital Salzburg forces city and countryside into a strong, almost magnetic relation. The countryside is the urban fringe, while at the same time the city is at the fringe of nature.

How can the countryside, so close to and so dependent on the city, emancipate itself? The cultural, economic and social attraction exerted by the city is felt far into the Flachgau, just as the quality of living, fresh air and beneficial effects of country life draw city dwellers far into the rural districts. This is the key question and the context of SUPERGAU: only a SUPERGAU can be sufficiently strong and powerful to challenge the urban absolute rule over contemporary art.

Payments

The artistic directors can accept into the programme a maximum of 30 artworks (by artists, groups or ensembles) from the open call. Since production costs for artworks may vary widely, according to expenses for manpower and materials, the flatrate contribution provided by SUPERGAU is divided into three categories:

A. € 1,000 to € 5,000	15 artworks
B. € 5,001 to € 10,000	10 artworks
C. € 10,001 to € 30,000	5 artworks

These three categories and the given number of artists are merely indications, with no details of quality or importance of the individual works. They play no part in the programming, supervision or implementation, nor will they be mentioned even after the adjudication.

The above-mentioned flatrate contributions are gross amounts; they include fees, production and implementation costs, accommodation and travel expenses. Candidates are welcome to use additional funds from other sources to support their submissions. Application is open to individuals, groups and ensembles at any stage of their career. Applicants must be at least 18 years old.

All participants in the production must receive fair remuneration. In addition, SUPERGAU will offer support during the preparation and the festival itself, as well as professional documentation and promotion of the art-work.

Payment will be made in the form of sponsorship by the Province of Salzburg.

Application documents

All required documents are to be sent as a single pdf file by 11:59 pm on Friday, 31 January 2020, to kultur@salzburg.gv.at

The single pdf file, containing no more than 8 pages (maximum size 10 mb) should include the following information:

<u>Page 1</u>	Brief description of the project (max. five sentences explaining the essence of the project), for publication on the SUPERGAU website)
<u>Pages 2-6</u>	Project proposal (image, text, drawings etc. = detailed description of the idea and the technical implementation)
<u>Page 7</u>	Cost breakdown in accordance with chosen category A, B or C
<u>Page 8</u>	Brief CV, e-mail, telephone number, link to personal website (if any)

Multiple entries of the same project in different categories are not permitted. Video works should be either embedded in the pdf or presented by means of storyboard or screenshot. The submitted work will be evaluated on the strength of a single pdf file (8 pages) containing all the required documents.

Projects will be selected by a jury, together with the artistic directors.

Implementation period

SUPERGAU will be held in May 2021. Preparation time begins with the official announcement of all participants from the March 2020 open call.

Closing date for open call entries	Friday 31 January 2020
Jury meeting	Friday 29 February 2020
Announcement of artists	Monday 16 March 2020
Possible work period	April 2020–May 2021
SUPERGAU	10 days in May 2021

Questions

Questions concerning the open call may be directed to contact@supergau.org