

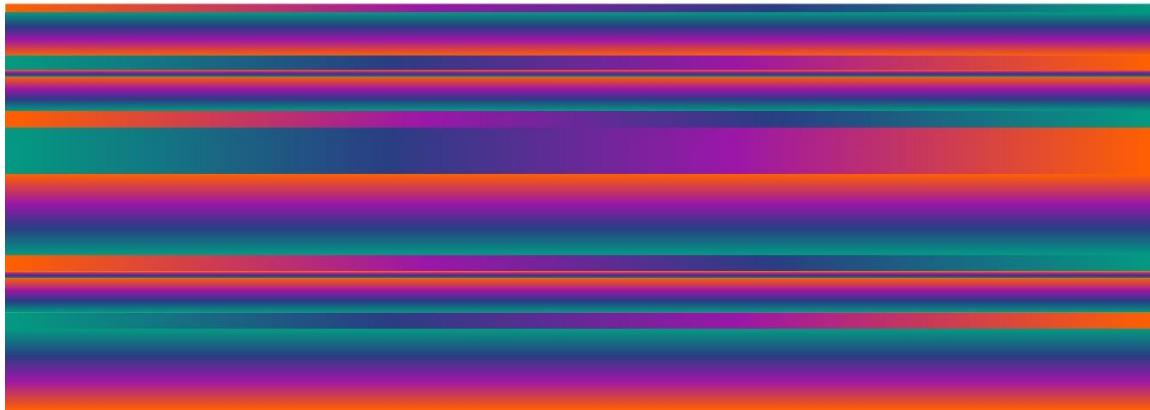
Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia together with Arts at CERN and International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS) launches an open call for Connect India

Dual residency at
CERN and ICTS

Apply by
12.12.2022

arts.cern
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Connect India



3 November 2022. The Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia together with Arts at CERN and the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS) Bengaluru announced today a new open call for the Connect programme - "Connect India". This second edition offers one joint residency for two artists, one from Switzerland and one from India. The residency is fully funded, and it is aimed at artists with a distinct interest in a cross-disciplinary approach and a strong engagement with fundamental science.

Connect is a collaboration framework that was launched in 2021 by Arts at CERN and Pro Helvetia to serve as a platform for interactions and dialogue between artistic and scientific communities across the world.

Based on last year's edition, Connect South Africa, the international format of Connect India will bring an artist from Switzerland and an artist from India together to participate in a residency at CERN in Geneva and at the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS) in Bengaluru. This residency exposes the artists to two unique scientific facilities as well as the fundamental research that is conducted there. While CERN offers a unique range of experiments in particle physics, the ICTS engages in research areas that include statistical and condensed matter physics, physical biology and mathematics.

Artists interested in applying to Connect India are invited to submit a proposal detailing a process of artistic research to be carried out in dialogue with CERN's and ICTS' scientific communities.

"Arts, Science and Technology are seen today as an exciting intersection," says Akshay Pathak, head of Pro Helvetia New Delhi, the liaison office of Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia in South Asia. However, in our part of the world, historically, and even today in many ways, these aren't seen as separate but understood in a certain wholesome unity. We hope that through Connect India, artists from varied disciplines feel encouraged to engage with or further unravel this intersection, and also experience and converse with the pathbreaking work led by two leading scientific institutions in India and Switzerland."

"Connect is a unique opportunity for artists and scientists to open a dialogue, enrich each other's creativity and forge new links between their communities. For the winning artists, it will be a once-in-a-lifetime chance to explore ground-breaking research environments at CERN and in India," says Mónica Bello, curator and head of Arts at CERN.

"ICTS is very excited to be partnering in Connect India as it meshes very well with our view on Science and Arts as two sides of human creativity at its best," says Rajesh Gopakumar, head of ICTS, adding, "We extend a warm welcome to the selected artists to come and enrich our intellectually stimulating atmosphere by bringing in their novel perspectives. We are looking forward to open ended conversations and other engagements between artists and scientists that will spark new directions of inquiry."

Online applications for Connect India are open from 3 November until 12 December 2022. On 23 November, Connect Info Day will give applicants the opportunity to find out more about the residencies and put their questions to the Connect India team. A jury of cultural experts and scientists will select the winning artists, who will start their residencies in 2023. The winners will be announced in February 2023.

You can find more information and apply to the programme at the following links:

- [Link for Swiss artists to apply to Connect India](#)
- [Link for Indian artists to apply to Connect India](#)

About Pro Helvetia New Delhi

Pro Helvetia New Delhi is part of the Swiss Arts Council's worldwide network of liaison offices. PHND supports and disseminates Swiss arts and culture in South Asia. It promotes cultural exchange, develops and nurtures long-term partnerships, initiates co-productions and supports residencies. More information on [Pro Helvetia New Delhi](#).

About Arts at CERN

Since its founding in 2011, Arts at CERN has been fostering the dialogue between artists and physicists in the world's largest particle physics laboratory. Artists across all creative disciplines are welcome to CERN to experience the way the big questions about our universe are pursued by fundamental science. Programmes at CERN comprise research-led artistic residencies that take place on-site or remotely, art commissions as well as an exhibitions & events programme. More information on [Arts at CERN](#).

About the International Centre for Theoretical Studies (ICTS)

ICTS is a unique initiative in Indian science, which has a threefold mandate. Apart from creating an in-house research program of international quality in theoretical sciences, it aspires to become a hub that connects the Indian scientific community with the international community through its programs, thus bringing together scientists to solve some of the outstanding problems posed by nature. ICTS also actively engages with civic society in spreading awareness of exciting scientific developments and fostering the scientific temper. More information on [ICTS](#).

For media queries, please contact Chitra Kalyani at ckalyani@prohelvetia.in