

Open Call SPORELATION @ MY-CO BUILD

1/2

Artist-in-Residence-Program of the CRC „MY-CO BUILD: Biomanufacturing, Characterisation and Sustainability Assessment of Fungal-Based Building Materials“

Residency Period: 3 months
mid-October 2026 – mid-January 2027

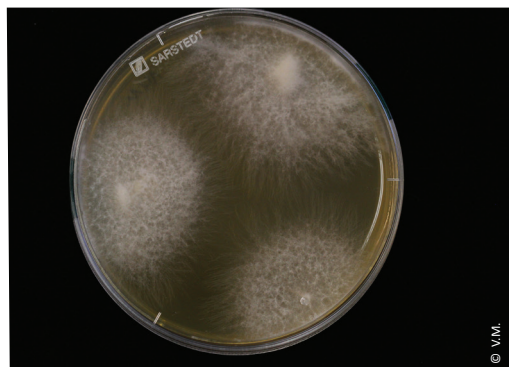
Eligible to participate: national and international artists from all disciplines, such as visual arts, installation, media art, performance, sound art, design, architecture, and bio art

Application deadline: September 10, 2026
<https://www.my-co-build.com>
<https://www.tu.berlin/b-nerle>

Through the SPORELATION@MY-CO BUILD artist-in-residence program, the Collaborative Research Centre “MY-CO BUILD: Biomanufacturing, Characterisation and Sustainability Assessment of Fungal-Based Building Materials” invites artists to explore the research questions of our consortium from an artistic perspective. The starting points include topics such as:

- Mycelium as a living material,
- Material cycles, transformation, and sustainability,
- Biological processes as design partners,
- Architecture and organic systems,
- Human and non-human actors,
- The future of construction in the context of ecological challenges.

These themes serve as inspiration. Applications may freely interpret these questions or develop new questions and explore them from various artistic perspectives.



About the CRC MY-CO BUILD

The Collaborative Research Centre MY-CO BUILD at the Technical University of Berlin, together with other partners, is conducting research into the development of novel, sustainable building materials based on mycelium—the thread-like cells of a fungus—combined with organic materials. The focus is on materials whose growth, properties, and potential for architecture and construction are being investigated through an interdisciplinary approach. Researchers from the fields of architecture, biotechnology, materials science, engineering, and humanities are collaborating on innovative solutions for a resource-efficient building culture of the future.

Through the Artist-in-Residence program, the research network aims to strengthen the dialogue between artistic practice and scientific research and to create a space where scientific and artistic methods can converge and learn from one another. The goal is to open up new perspectives on fungus-based materials and sustainable construction, to promote interdisciplinary exchange, and to make research accessible to diverse social contexts. The residency is intended to provide impetus—both for scientific work within the Collaborative Research Centre and for the further development of artistic practice. The CRC MY-CO BUILD explicitly does not view the Artist-in-Residence program as a tool for communicating scientific findings, but rather as a space where different forms of practice and knowledge can meet—and thereby aims to provide room for independent artistic research, experimentation, and interaction within the research network.

The Residency

As part of a three-month residency at our network, you will have the opportunity to engage with our researchers during this time—you will gain insights into the ongoing subresearch projects and participate in selected events organized by the Collaborative Research Centre.

The residency provides a space for:

- artistic research and experimental working methods,
- interdisciplinary exchange, and
- the development of new artistic works and/or processes.

At the end of the residency, the resulting works / research findings are to be presented to the public in an appropriate format. This could be, for example, an exhibition, installation, performance, publication, or a public workshop.

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Who we're looking for

We are seeking national and international artists from all disciplines, such as visual arts, installation, media art, performance, sound art, design, architecture, bio art, and hybrid or interdisciplinary formats.

Requirements

- an independent artistic practice,
- openness to experimental and interdisciplinary approaches,
- willingness to actively participate in scholarly exchange.

An academic background is not required.

Proficiency in English or German is required.

Benefits

The SFB MY-CO BUILD offers:

- a three-month artist-in-residence program with a project grant of €5,000,
- opportunities for exchange and access to selected research infrastructures,
- organizational support during the residency.

Selection Criteria

Selection will be made by an interdisciplinary jury. The following aspects will be evaluated in particular:

- Artistic quality,
- Relevance to the themes of the SFB MY-CO BUILD and potential for dialogue between art and science,
- Feasibility within the three-month residency.

Application Materials

The following documents must be submitted by email by September 10, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. (CEST):

- A project proposal of no more than three A4 pages outlining the connection to the MY-CO BUILD Collaborative Research Centre for the residency. The project outline should describe the idea and process and highlight connections to potential interactions within our research network.
- Artistic portfolio (max. 20 pages) providing insight into previous work. Interest in and connection to the residency's focus may be explained in an artistic statement (max. 500 words).
- Current CV.

All application materials must be combined into a single PDF file, which must be named as follows: LastName_FirstName.pdf

Submit via email to

Gudrun Rauwolf (Curator of the AiR-Program SPORELATION@MY-CO BUILD)
g.rauwolf@tu-berlin.de

Announcement of the 2026 Residency

by September 25, 2026