

Céline Le Guillou, winner of the Frac Bretagne-Art Norac Award 2023

Launched in 2020, the Frac Bretagne-Art Norac Award aims to support the international professional development of artists living and working in Brittany.

Among the 43 received applications, a professional jury selected 4 artists. Their works are presented at Frac Bretagne from Octobre 13, 2023 to January 14, 2024.

After meeting each artist in their studio, Victor Gorgulho, curator of exhibitions and Lucas Albuquerque, curator of residencies programm at Instituto Inclusartiz, attributed the Frac Bretagne - Art Norac 2023 Award to Céline Le Guillou.

Céline Le Guillou will be in residence at the Instituto Inclusartiz in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in March and April 2024. At the end of this residency, her work will be the subject of a solo exhibition.



Céline Le Guillou

Born in 1994, lives and works in Quimper and Courtils.

Céline Le Guillou studied at the ESAAA in Annecy, then at the EESAB-site de Quimper where she obtained her diploma in 2018. Attentive to what happens in the studio, to the act of creation as such, her approach is underpinned by the attention given to the materials she uses. She then perfected her skills in clay techniques at the European Institute of Ceramic Arts in the Haut-Rhin. She continued with several exhibition projects, including the residency programme Les Chantiers at Passerelle centre d'art contemporain in Brest and the Minoterie21 residency in Morbihan.

Earth is an infinite source of inspiration, which, fortunately, millennia of creation have still not dried up. It was there, it seems, before anything else, and will remain there, after all. Céline Le Guillou has taken that into account. If they're going to live together for a long time, they might make sure it's a pleasant one.

So, with her two curious and passionate hands, she massages her beloved earth, feeling it, cradling it and examining it, brooding over it and raising the temperature until she finds the one that suits her best. On the ground, the earth swarms in small, smooth mounds that borrow their shapes from clouds, weights or a loaf of bread, just as ready to soar to the heavens as to anchor itself firmly to the ground or fill our stomachs. On the walls, it mixes with water, transforms into paint, liquid, vaporous, as if to signify the states it can take on when it is quietly withdrawn into its kiln, waiting for the artist to come and retrieve it.

The earth is an infinite source of mystery, and Céline Le Guillou has an insatiable appetite for it. And the two meet with delight. The earth contains a little of everything that surrounds it, inhabits it and covers it for the duration of this pleasant cohabitation. It is these spontaneous and almost magical inputs and components that the artist strives to catalogue as she manipulates, in order to find the recipe that will link the familiar and the unknown in a true place of her own.

Horya Makhlof, art critic, cultural mediator and art historian

FRAC BRETAGNE - ART NORAC AWARD

A project led by Frac Bretagne thanks to the support of Art Norac

Frac Bretagne and Art Norac have been engaged in the construction of the artistic landscape in Brittany for a long time, with the goal of revealing the artistic talents and initiatives present within the region in the context of contemporary national and international artistic scenes.

In 2020, Frac Bretagne and Art Norac have chosen to join forces in their engagement with local artists by creating the Frac Bretagne–Art Norac Award. The goal of the award is to help bring artists active in the region to the international scene, in order to promote the professionalisation of their journey beyond the borders of France.

Each year, a partner structure in Europe or the rest of the World that is prepared to welcome an artist living and working in Brittany to produce a personal exhibition will be associated with the program.

For this third edition, the international partner institution is the Instituto Inclusartiz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, which will host the winner's monographic exhibition in 2024.

Le Frac Bretagne

The Frac Bretagne, founded in 1981 by the National Government and the Brittany Regional Council, is a leading institution in the western region of France. Since 2012, it has been located in a building designed by the French architect Odile Decq in Beauregard park in Rennes. Its 5000+ works collection is recognized regionally, nationally.

Through an ambitious program of exhibitions, dissemination and documentation of the collection as well as numerous programs for the public, the Frac Bretagne's artistic and cultural project, entitled "Making archipelagos", aims to question the ways in which the institution can address the legitimate aspirations of our contemporary society. Inclusivity, diversity and openness towards other fields of discipline in Brittany and the rest of the world are important facets of its mission, developed through a horizontal and participative mediation policy, the inclusion of the Frac in international circulations, and its dedication to co-productions with other institutions. It is also committed to addressing gender equality and issues of eco-responsibility.

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Art Norac, the Award sponsor

Art Norac is an organization dedicated to the patronage of the arts, led by the agri-food group Norac. Founded in 2005 by Bruno Caron, Norac's founder, the organization supports contemporary creation and participates in its dissemination to the general public and to employees of Norac group companies. For the Norac group, Art Norac provides a mean to actively participate in society and to develop its social responsibility in Rennes, where its head office has been located for many years. Art Norac notably supports various contemporary art initiatives and actors in Rennes and Brittany (Master MAE, 40mcube, the Archives of Art Criticism...).

art NORAC

Instituto Inclusartiz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Founded in 1997, Instituto Inclusartiz is a non-profit cultural organization based in Rio de Janeiro whose ambition is to promote global contemporary art through an art corridor connecting the Lusophone world with the education of artists, curators, researchers and sponsors at every stage of their careers.

At the head of one of the most prestigious and complete artistic residency programs in the country, Inclusartiz has hosted more than thirty names in the segment, including renowned artists and curators, such as Yuko Hasegawa (Japan), Hans Ulrich Obrist (Switzerland), Amanda Abi Khalil (Lebanon), Gerda Steiner & Jorg Lenzlinger (Switzerland) and Valeska Soares (Brazil), and promising talents such as Maxwell Alexandre (Brazil), Manauara Clandestina (Brazil), Vivian Caccuri (Brazil) and Xadalu Tupã Jekupé (Brazil).

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