

**GUIDE 2009**

**THE DANISH ARTS COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE FOR  
VISUAL ARTS**

# WHAT YOU CAN APPLY FOR

## THE DANISH ARTS COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE FOR VISUAL ARTS

### **The Visual Arts Committee supports the following areas:**

1. Production of works
2. Exhibition and marketing
3. Artist associations and censored exhibitions
4. Institutions' exhibition business through support for operations and for new initiatives
5. Local visual arts councils

### **The Visual Arts Committee does not support:**

1. Projects outside the scope of the Visual Arts Committees area
2. Public visual decorations
3. Exhibitions that are started before the application deadline
4. Work productions that are finished before the application deadline
5. Studio rent
6. Students

### **CRITERIA FOR THE INDIVIDUAL FUNDS:**

#### **1. SUPPORT FOR PRODUCTION OF WORKS** (only the individual artist can apply)

The main task of the committee for the next four years is to support the production of new visual artistic works for exhibition in Denmark or abroad. The committee therefore allocates about half of its annual appropriation (14.4 million DKK in 2008) for this purpose. The committee primarily aims at supporting projects that cannot be supported in any other way. In connection with grants for the production of works, rules have been laid down for the repayment of the grant in relation with sales ([link to rules for repayment](#)).

#### **What you can apply for:**

- Visual artists' expenses for materials, workmen, technical assistance, and the like in connection with production

#### **The committee will support:**

- Production of a particularly ambitious or comprehensive work
- Productions that represent a particular effort or a new development compared with the artist's past works
- Projects by younger artists
- Growth layer
- Visual artistic productions targeting children in particular
- In connection with production of works, the committee can give grants for artists' fees; however, the maximum will be 5,000 DKK per week, for no more than four weeks.

**The committee further focuses on:**

- The contemporary art scene's diversity, combination of different practices, their diverse production and display conditions, and thereby varied needs for support
- Cultural diversity, including greater responsiveness and openness to more diversified art concepts
- New art practices
- The consideration of the breadth of Danish art life

**2. SUPPORT FOR EXHIBITION AND MARKETING**

The Danish Arts Council's Committee for Visual Arts wishes to give higher priority to exhibitions and marketing, and therefore a budget of 5 million DKK has been set aside for this purpose in 2008. These funds shall cover activities such as support for individual exhibitions and support for marketing.

**What you can apply for:**

- Transportation of works, lease of premises, insurance, websites, catalogues, publications, and so on

**The committee will support:**

Exhibition projects:

- Expenses in connection with the practical aspects of important exhibitions or marketing projects, where the artists or independent curators are exhibition organizers or responsible for the project. To a limited extent, the committee also supports important exhibitions for contemporary arts in state or state-authorized exhibition institutions or places
- Cooperation between exhibition sites, in order to support exhibitions displayed in several places in the country
- Initiatives that promote and create momentum in the local visual art environment and the arts debate locally, as well as promote the new, large municipal commitment to lift cultural tasks
- Major exhibition projects with the participation of both Danish and foreign contemporary artists that promote artistic dialogue and has a network-building character, thereby promoting contemporary art in Denmark

Written communication:

- Catalogues and monographs that appear to be important for the individual artist and/or generate debate for the contemporary arts
- Publications, both physical and digital, that are important as documentation of the individual artist's work
- Publications, both physical and digital, that contribute to the understanding of the contemporary arts and its development

Artists' own websites:

- Professional websites that communicate the work of the artist

**The committee has a particular focus on the professional visual arts in:**

- Exhibitions and projects that incorporate cultural diversity
- Innovative communication projects
- Communication projects that aim to engage a larger audience
- Debate-generating communication projects

**Further information:**

Established exhibition sites, museums, art centers, and galleries are encouraged to pay the artists if they participate in the work of building the exhibition at the site. The fees will be set at a minimum of 200 DKK / hour and requires at least the same financing (at least 100 DKK / hour) paid by the exhibition site. Any fee subsidy should be applied for together with the general application.

**3. SUPPORT FOR ARTIST ASSOCIATIONS AND CENSORED EXHIBITIONS**

The committee aims to support artists' associations and censored exhibitions to the extent that it deems that the exhibitions are of equal quality as the other individual exhibitions that the committee supports. The assessment committee will also check if the artists' association or censored exhibition contributes significantly to the promotion of a local, professional visual arts environment. Similarly, the Committee will examine applications in conjunction with the display options, which are for the exhibiting artists.

The committee does not want its support to form the foundation of the artist associations and the censored exhibitions existence; the support should be limited to grants. In 2008, the Committee for Visual Arts has allocated 1 million DKK to support the artist associations and 400,000 DKK for the censored exhibitions.

**What you can apply for:**

- Transportation of works, lease of premises, insurance, websites, catalogues, publications, and the like

**The committee will support:**

- Artists' Associations and censored exhibitions that have high quality and / or represent a rethinking of the exhibition form
- Artists' Associations and censored exhibitions that contribute significantly to the safeguarding and promotion of the local professional environment

**The committee has a particular focus on:**

- Ensuring a fair geographical distribution that strives to provide professional working visual display options locally

**4. INSTITUTIONS' EXHIBITION BUSINESS THROUGH SUPPORT FOR OPERATIONS AND FOR NEW INITIATIVES**

It is the committee's position that the principal must be the Ministry of Culture and the municipalities, to ensure ongoing cultural institutions and basic operation. The Committee's task is to provide partial funding for the operation, and this is earmarked for exhibitions and the exhibition business; this is not necessarily permanent.

The Committee aims, in principle, to support major exhibition sites that do not have other sources of funding and cannot sustain operations on commercial terms.

Exhibition sites seeking an operational grant from the Danish Arts Council's Visual Arts Committee will have to explain how their profile and exhibition practice differs from the other exhibition spaces, and how they contribute specifically to the total Danish exhibition landscape.

**What you can apply for:**

- Operational or operational-like grants
- Completely new exhibition and communication initiatives

**The Committee will support:**

- Major exhibition sites whose main function is to display contemporary art, that are operated by a professional art technical director, and receive operating subsidy from the local municipality
- Major exhibition sites whose main function is to display contemporary art, who have no other funding, and cannot sustain operations on commercial terms
- Completely new exhibition and communication initiatives that represent emerging trends and initiatives and are aimed at the growth layer. Support must be in the form of a lump sum for operations or otherwise. The committee in 2008 allocated a budget of 3.5 million DKK for this purpose. Support should be given in order to help get a project started. A one-year funding will provide an opportunity to view and identify the sustainability of the project, profile, and future funding

**The Committee has a particular focus on:**

- Ensuring a fair geographical distribution of subsidies for operations
- Ensuring a fair distribution of subsidies for operations to institutions who represent different exhibition profiles

**5. SUPPORT FOR LOCAL VISUAL ARTS COUNCILS**

The Danish Arts Council's Committee for Visual Arts aims to give higher priority to the local visual arts councils. The Committee encourages the establishment of additional local visual arts councils, and has therefore earmarked a budget of 800,000 DKK for this particular purpose. A precondition for the grant is that the municipal visual arts committee should mainly consist of professional working visual artists and art professionals with the relevant professional background, and that co-financing from the municipality is included with an amount equivalent to the grant applied for.

The Visual Arts Committee's support should be a basic subsidy to the local visual arts councils and general business activities such as exhibitions, workshops, festivals, guest artists, and should promote and create momentum in the local, professional visual arts environment as well as increase exposure of the professional visual arts locally.

**What can you apply for:**

- Exhibitions, workshops, festivals, guest teachers, and similar

**The Committee will support:**

- Activities initiated by local visual arts councils (where professional visual artists and/or art professionals are in majority) and are co-financed by the local authorities

**The Committee has a particular focus on:**

- Being able to support and strengthen initiatives that promote a positive development for the local professional visual arts
- Ensuring the breadth and diversity of the Danish arts life, taking into consideration the different conditions for Danish art throughout the country

# REPAYMENT RULES

## **Rules for repayment of operational grants from the Danish Arts Council's Visual Arts Committee in case of sales of works**

Under Section 4.2 of Order No. 1004, 29 November 2003, Law on visual art, the Danish Arts Council has set forth the following rules for repayment of grants from the sale of works, on which the Danish Arts Council's Visual Arts Committee has made production subsidies under Section 4 of the Law on visual art.

1. The Danish Arts Council's Visual Arts Committee may provide funding for the production of new visual art works / projects in connection with exhibitions in Denmark or abroad, including visual arts production that is targeted at children and young people.
2. Subsidies will be given to the visual artists' cost of materials, craft and technician assistance, and the like. In addition, the committee may give grants for limited artist fees. The total subsidy is named production subsidies.
3. Production Grants will be awarded as grants to advance payments on the condition of all or part of the sale of works, apart from production subsidies of up to 50,000 DKK, which is exempt from the requirements for repayment by sales.
4. For artists who receive production subsidies from 50,000 DKK to 200,000 DKK, the following conditions apply:
  - If the artist sells the work / project in connection with the exhibition, the production subsidy will be paid back fully or partially, depending on the income from production (sales, grants from the Visual Arts Committee, and possibly other income) exceeds the documented production costs, fee grants awarded by the Visual Arts Committee, and a distribution fee of 25 percent of the sales price.
  - Four months after the exhibition end, the artist must either provide the Visual Arts Committee with a sworn statement that the work / project was not sold, disclose the sale price achieved, or reveal that a sales agreement has been entered into.
5. For artists who receive production subsidies of 200,000 DKK or above, the following conditions apply:
  - If the artist sells the work / project within five years after organizing the exhibition, the production subsidy will be paid back fully or partially, depending on the income from production (sales revenue, grants from the Visual Arts Committee, and any other income) exceeds the documented expenses, fee subsidies granted by the Visual Arts Committee and a distribution fee of 25 percent of the sales price.
  - No later than four months after a sale, the artist must inform the Committee about the sales price, or, five years after the exhibition took place, provide a sworn statement to the Visual Arts Committee that the work/project has not been sold.
6. The Danish Arts Agency calculates the repayment amount based on documented information from the artist about the selling price achieved in conjunction with the artist's accounting for production.  
Selling price, in this context, means the sales price that is achieved by the artist after deduction of any commission fees and the like. If the artist is registered for VAT, both the expenditure and revenue shall be stated without VAT.

7. The rules for repayment apply to the production subsidies granted by the Danish Arts Councils International Visual Arts Committee via transferred appropriation from the Visual Arts Committee in connection with participation in international biennials and the like.

# FACTUAL INFORMATION

## ABOUT THE DANISH ARTS COUNCIL'S VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE

### Members of the Danish Arts Council's Visual Arts Committee, 2007-2011

Elisabeth Toubro, chairman (Visual artist)

Marianne Torp, vice-chairman (Museum manager)

Niels Erik Gjerdevik (Visual artist)

Hanne Nielsen (Visual artist)

Mette Sandbye (Lecturer)

### Legislation and idea basis

The Danish Arts Council's Visual Arts Committee shall promote the development of arts in Denmark in accordance with the Visual Arts Act, which requires that the committee can support production of visual arts, provide support for exhibitions of contemporary arts and operating subsidies to institutions and other activities that are deemed appropriate for promoting the visual arts.

### The Visual Arts Committee's grants policy, 2008

The Danish Arts Council's Visual Arts Committee has formulated its grants policy for the next four years through its action plan. The action plan describes how the committee will work in the next four years to promote visual arts in Denmark.

Four years is a long time. The Visual Arts Committee's support therefore must be dynamic and flexible. The Committee therefore wishes to commit to openness to new trends and to reprioritize the support accordingly. The action plan can be read on the Danish Arts Agency / the Danish Arts Council's website.

The Committee's total appropriation is 31.7 million in 2008, to be distributed in five areas of support. Within all the support areas, the Committee sets priorities and allocates grants to projects that, in its view, comply with its grant policy.

### Contact regarding the Danish Arts Council's Visual Arts Committee:

The Visual Arts Agency's Visual Arts Centre

Birgitte Lindeneg T: 33 74 45 35 E: birlin@kunst.dk

Theis Pedersen T: 33 74 45 34

Part-time employees: Karen M. Olsen and Annu Kevarinmäki T: 33 74 45 36 E: karols@kunst.dk and annkev@kunst.dk

# **AN APPLICATION'S WAY THROUGH THE SYSTEM**

## **- 10-WEEK RESPONSE DEADLINE**

Eight (8) times a year, the Secretariat of the Danish Arts Council's National and International Visual Arts Committees receives numerous applications; thus, it takes time to process them. The envelopes are opened, the applications are sorted, and then they are typed into TAS, the administrative system for grants used by the Danish Arts Agency. At the same time, the applications are checked to assess if any information or appendices are missing. This step ensures that the applications contain sufficient materials that will serve as bases for the committees' decisions. These tasks take approximately three (3) weeks.

Letters of acknowledgement are sent to all applicants. By this time, five (5) weeks have gone by.

Next, eight to nine (8 to 9) copies of all applications are made – five (5) for the committee and the rest for the secretariat. These are promptly sent to the committee members who need a minimum of two (2) weeks to read the applications before meeting to process them. Processing can take up to three (3) days for each individual application deadline. At this point, seven to eight (7 – 8) weeks have gone by.

Following the committee's processing of applications, decisions are typed into the system and are verified by at least two (2) persons before the responses are sent to all applicants. This takes up to fourteen (14) days. All in all, it can easily take around nine to ten (9 – 10) weeks for the decision to arrive in the applicant's mailbox.

# **RULES FOR THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE COMMITTEE**

## **- NEW DEADLINE**

From time to time, the members of the committee can become disqualified in connection with a specific application.

A case is referred to the Danish Arts Council if at least one committee member is disqualified. Therefore, it will take a longer time to reach a final decision for an application if any of the committee members have been disqualified.

The disqualified member does not participate in the processing of the cases. The same principle is in force for the processing of cases in the Danish Arts Council. However, it must be noted that committee chairmen are not considered disqualified just because one of their committee members has been disqualified. If the committee chairmen are not personally disqualified, they must participate in the processing of the case in the Danish Arts Council.

Applicants will be informed about any disqualification in the committee in connection with their application and will be notified about when to expect the final decision.