



FESTIVAL  
INTERNAZIONALE DI  
TEATRO



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM  
DE CULTURA



VICARIATO DI ROMA

VATICAN CITY

Call for Proposal  
INTERNATIONAL THEATER FESTIVAL  
“THE HUMAN BEING OF THE FUTURE”

Albert Einstein: “I fear the day when technology will surpass our humanity: the world will have a generation of idiots.”

Isaac Asimov: “Science never stops: it is like a panorama that dissolves imperceptibly and transforms under our eyes. It is not possible in any given moment to grasp it in all its details without immediately being overtaken.”

**Premise**

In collaboration with the Vicariate of Rome, the Pontifical Council for Culture invites proposals for the International Theater Festival on the theme “The Human Being of the Future” taking place in Rome, March 27, 28 and 29, 2020, open to artists and theater companies of every nation. The project aims to identify and stage performances focusing on the relationship between humans and the new scientific-technological frontiers.

In a famous chorus in *Antigone* (335-375) by Sophocles, this relationship is placed at the center of a reflection whose themes are at once ethical and philosophical: the violent and profaning irruption of the human person into the cosmic order, the arrogant invasion of various dominions of nature by its own inexhaustible genius, and, at the same time, the positive human ability to face up to a hostile world through art and thought, to build a civil society.

This relationship today has acquired new and unexpected implications in the ethical, religious, social and philosophical spheres. From the interventions on the beginning and the end of human life to climate change, from genetics to artificial intelligence, to the new scientific and technological frontiers, we are now called to reconsider our role in the world, in as much as we are able to bend the forces of nature irreversibly, to overcome our limits almost to attain immortality, the ancestral myth of humanity, becoming ourselves God, or believing we can be God’s substitute.

The Festival will take place over three days at St. John Lateran and other places yet to be chosen. It aims to put on works that engage with these themes in a poetic and artistic manner, using the most various linguistic forms, with no limits or conditions.

## **General criteria**

The Festival aims to put on theatrical works centering on the above-illustrated theme under the title “The Human Being of the Future”. These works may be new ones or developments of earlier works, as long as they conserve the originality of the artistic work:

Theatrical Text

Lyrical Opera

Dramatic Poetry

Choreography

Musical Work (Oratory, Cantata for Choir and Orchestra, Sinfonia, etc.)

The project must be accompanied by a document that makes clear the motivations, stylistic choices and the message that the elaboration intends to communicate, with the addition of an abstract.

An English copy is requested of all the works presented.

Participants must email their material (theatrical text, libretto, score, sketches etc., and the presentation of the work) using any format (pdf, audio or video files etc.). The files should be attached to an inscription form and the identity document of each participant. The material should be sent **by October 15, 2019** and will not be returned.

A commission will examine the works and announce the names of the participants of the Festival before November 15, 2019. The decision of the judges is final.

The artists and companies whose projects will be chosen must provide for all their own expenses connected to producing the performance (including performing rights, insurance, set up costs, publicity, etc.).

The fee for each project is **50 Euros**.

**The fee can be paid via Bank Transfer to Banca Prossima to the account of Pontificio Consiglio della Cultura**

**Causale/Reason: Festival Internazionale Teatro**

**IBAN: IT68N033590100000064189**

**BIC: BCITITMX**

**C/C 1000/00064189**

**The fee will not be returned.**

More than one project can be presented.

The five best works will be published.

The Festival will be followed by the press.

Support will be provided to promote the events and make connections between artists and the theater industry.

Discounted rates will be organized for board and lodging.

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