

# INAC ARTISTIC RESIDENCIES



**INAC**

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ARTES DO CIRCO

SEASON  
2025

Promoter

**INAC**  
Instituto Nacional  
de Artes do Circo

Partners

**Famalição**  
O Brio Local

casa das artes  
*teatro marçoso ferreira*  
famalição

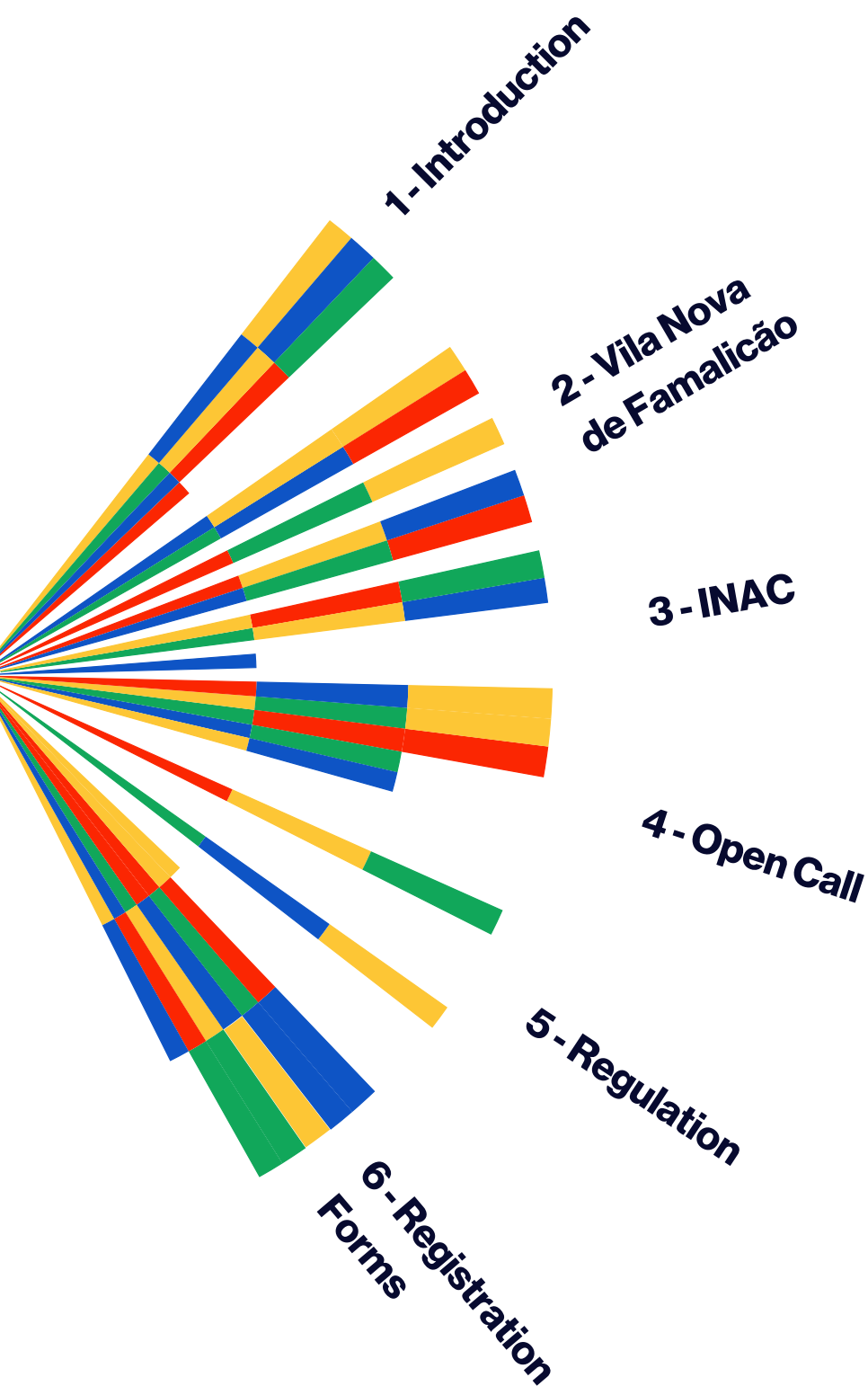
**FEDEC**

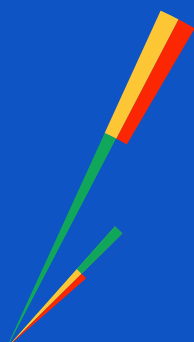
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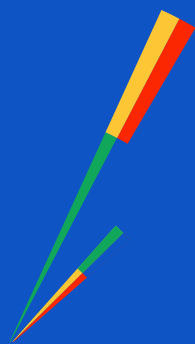
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# Introduction

INAC - National Institute of Circus Arts is an international center dedicated exclusively to circus arts, located in Vila Nova de Famalicão, Portugal. Established in 2026, INAC was established as a circus school, but quickly expanded, hosting numerous projects and activities that dynamize and promote the practice of contemporary circus at a national and international level. Due to high demand, INAC has provided, since 2018, a space for artistic residencies that has received around 60 artists and companies from several countries to date, thus supporting the cultural development of the new circus.



# Vila Nova de Famalicão

With a privileged location in the northwest of Portugal, between Porto and Galicia (Spain), the municipality of Vila Nova de Famalicão has, since ancient times, been the source of the passage and settlement of peoples and civilizations that have left their mark of wealth and culture on the territory to this day. Located right in the heart of Minho, Vila Nova de Famalicão benefits from the beauty of a verdant landscape, marked by hills and valleys, as well as many green spaces in the city center, such as the Parque da Devesa with 27 hectares of green areas, a unique space for contact with nature, leisure, socializing and sports. The Parque da Devesa also has an amphitheatre with capacity for 1,000 spectators.

# Culture in V. N. Famalicão

Vila Nova de Famalicão is a city with a wide range of cultural offerings, with significant investments in artistic education and cultural policies.



## Cupertino Miranda Foundation and Museum of Surrealism

The Portuguese Surrealism Centre of the Cupertino de Miranda Foundation is a cultural institution serving the community and its mission is to promote modern and contemporary art, especially surrealism. Its main objectives are the study, documentation, conservation and dissemination of its collection. With an important collection composed essentially of works by Portuguese artists, namely Mário Cesariny and Cruzeiro Seixas, it reinforces an increasingly representative heritage of Portuguese surrealism, continually enriching the collection and making the works in its collection visible through a series of exhibitions.

The Cupertino de Miranda Foundation has a reading room (library); courses, conferences, concerts, shows (auditorium); permanent exhibitions in its museum.

<https://www.cupertino.pt/fundacao-cupertino-de-miranda/>

## House of Arts of Vila Nova de Famalicão Narciso Ferreira Theater

The Casa das Artes de Vila Nova de Famalicão and the Teatro Narciso Ferreira are two municipal theatres whose mission is to present transdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and eclectic artistic and cultural projects. In this way, they seek to establish various partnerships, whether private or public, in order to continue to form audiences, promote and develop artistic languages and foster critical thinking.

*<http://www.casadasartes.org/>*



**HOUSE  
OF  
ARTS**

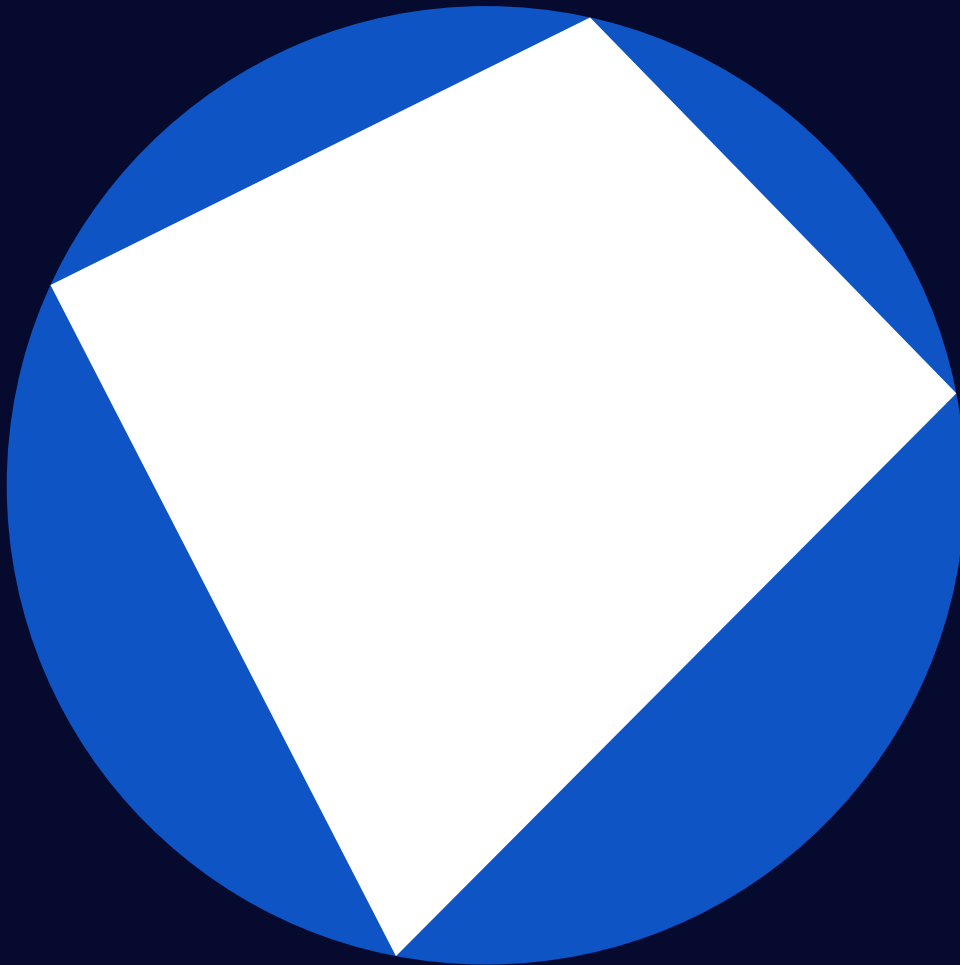


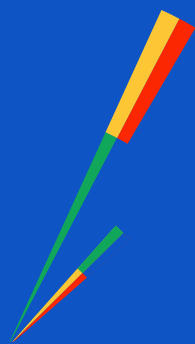
**NARCISO  
FERREIRA  
THEATER**

## Quadrilátero cultural

The Cultural Quadrilateral project aims to continue the network of partnerships formed by the municipalities of Barcelos, Braga, Famalicão and Guimarães and establish itself as a reference brand in the cultural area in the development of this territory.

*<https://quadrilatero.eu/>*





# INAC

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ARTES DO CIRCO

## Circus School

INAC - National Institute of Circus Arts is an international center dedicated to circus arts, located in Vila Nova de Famalicão, with the mission of promoting and promoting the practice of Contemporary Circus in Portugal. The institute develops projects in the area of training with the Circus School; in the area of creation with its original creations; in the area of programming with the Cúpula Circus Village Festival and the Circ·Bô festival; in the area of inclusion with the social project Circo por Todos; and in the area of research with the project Risco - Research and Investigation Center in Circus. In 2018, INAC became an official member of FEDEC, a European and international network with more than 60 members whose mission is to support the development and evolution of training, pedagogy and creation in the field of circus arts. Currently, INAC plays an essential role in the artistic dissemination and implementation of cultural practices in the territory of Vila Nova de Famalicão.

# PROJECTS

## Creation Platform

### Memória" - 2021

A contemporary circus project that aims to study what makes us human: the ability to imagine and create realities that transform and shape each person's experiences. Through a fusion of performing arts, cinematography, theater and circus techniques, the work involves the audience in a journey through the artist's emotions and various states of consciousness.

### "Ponto de Partida - Travessia" - 2023

A contemporary circus artistic research project on the theme and technique of tightrope walking, which has as its main source of inspiration the work and life of the artist Wassily Kandinsky and an artistic provocation provided by contemplation.

### "Livre" - 2023

A contemporary circus creation that, through the techniques of Chinese poles and acrobatics, refers to the ambiguous nature of human choices. A research work in the area of transformation and manipulation of objects that starts from the experience of an acrobat under the pressure of the technological contemporaneity that invades him.

### "Unter" - 2024

A Contemporary Circus creation about the "us" that lives in the "other". From the realism of a city reduced to dust to the surrealism of flights in search of meaning and stimuli to move forward, the trampoline, acrobatics and dance are the techniques that unite this duo proposal.

### "MUDA" - 2024

ACCCA and INAC are investing in a partnership that combines methodologies and languages of contemporary circus and dance based on the acrobatic body and its techniques.

MUDA is a reflection on the multifaceted nature of the human condition. Humour intertwines with tragedy, fantasy with reality, and violence with love.

## Circo de Papel

Circo de Papel is a project dedicated to Contemporary Circus and New Circus, in a heated 1800m<sup>2</sup> tent with 330 seats, exclusively dedicated to artistic development and creation, bringing the magic of the show to all audiences. A space of emotions, imagination and the extraordinary that appears materialized in the form of a tent in homage to the origins of the circus.

## Cúpula Circus Village Festival

In 2018, INAC developed and designed the CUPULA Circus Village Festival, the first circus village in Portugal, a festival that takes place annually for 10 days in Arcozelo, Vila Nova de Gaia. It has a completely free program and includes two circus tents, shows by national and international companies, a showcase of work by different circus schools from around the world, performances in alternative spaces, busking in the village and on the beach, workshops for the general public, masterclasses for professionals, a training space, conferences, debates and exhibitions, concerts, a restaurant area and a camping site.

## Festival Circ·Bô

Inspired by the expression “Bô” from the Transmontano lexicon, the Circ·Bô Festival is a centre away from the centres, highlighting the village of Vilares de Vilariça on the map of Portuguese territory. By making us reflect on the surrounding nature of the region, this new contemporary circus festival aims to create a link between the local population and circus artists. Occupying the natural landscape and the typical spaces of the Transmontano villages, the Festival will nourish the region with a programme rich in art, culture and entertainment for all ages. The public and artists are invited to reconnect with the natural environments, which become spaces of representation and inspiration for the most diverse artistic provocations.

## Circo por todos

The inclusion project “Circo Por Todos” was created in 2017 and aims to develop the circus as a social and inclusive tool. Using the principles of social circus, the work of “Circo por Todos” focuses on three distinct and complementary objectives: inclusive artistic training, raising awareness of art and developing tools for people with disabilities.

## Circo à noite

Circus at Night is our late afternoon course, a recreational program of regular classes for all ages and levels, with classes in different circus disciplines.

## Partnerships

- Câmara Municipal de Vila Nova de Famalicão
- Câmara Municipal de Gaia
- Junta de Freguesia de Arcozelo
- Casa das Artes de Vila Nova de Famalicão
- Teatro Narciso Ferreira
- FEDEC (Federation Europeenne des ecoles de cirque professionnelles)

## INAC facilities

The National Institute of Circus Arts has a space of over 3000m<sup>2</sup> dedicated exclusively to circus practice, which includes:

- 3 Warehouses with 9m height
- Dance and theatre studio/Blackbox
- 3 Trampolines
- Trampwall
- Airtracks
- Foam pit
- 2 Playgrounds (140m<sup>2</sup> each)
- 20m Tumbling
- Changing rooms
- Lockers
- Creation and Presentation Space
- Meals Area
- Circus tent

The facilities are open from Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm and on weekends when there is some extra activity.

# Artistic Residencies

The residency space allows INAC to open its doors to national and international creators, fostering artistic creation and the search for shared reflections on the circus arts. The residency period ends with an audience mediation presentation and a performance for the general public, both at the Narciso Ferreira Theater, constituting a work in progress of the creative process.

## Objectives

- To provide a place for research and creation with all the necessary conditions for the practice of contemporary circus.
- To provide artists with a public presentation of their composition processes.
- To provide discussion and feedback sessions on the practice of contemporary circus.
- To create a flow of sharing between students, teachers and professionals.
- To stimulate professional artistic creation in contemporary circus.

## Exclusive Space for Residences

Space with 10m x 8m of area and 9m of height, equipped with:

- Linoleum
- Sound system
- Lighting
- Points for fixed and mobile aerials
- Heating
- Dressing room

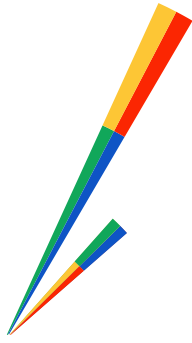
## Residence Format

### CREATION

- 1 week of creation at INAC, from Monday to Friday.
- 1 week of creation at Teatro Narciso Ferreira, from Tuesday to Saturday.
- Time: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

### PRESENTATION

- 1 open rehearsal at the end of the first week.
- 2 presentations at the Narciso Ferreira Theater, one mediation session and one session for the general public.
- Duration: 45 minutes (30' presentation + 15' open conversation)



# Open Call

## Requirements

Applications must be submitted by January 31st using the form available at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/7MyKc4Y6qz9cRSfdA>

Documents to be attached to the form:

- Completed registration form
- Project dossier
- Updated CV, with details about your artistic training (if applicable), research, professional experience and other information you consider important.
- Motivation letter
- Authorization to disclose the work developed within the scope of the artistic residency
- Identification document (Citizen Card; Passport)

## Selection Process

The documents submitted by the candidate artists will be analyzed by INAC's artistic directorate according to the following criteria: originality, viability and relevance of the artist's artistic projects in relation to the artistic thinking and practices promoted and valued by the institution. The candidate's experience and trajectory, as well as their defined intentions and objectives, will also be considered.

To be part of the residency program, the candidate must present a pre-defined project to be developed during the residency and during the period in question. The artistic product to be presented at the Narciso Ferreira Theater, developed during the residency, must be between 25 and 30 minutes long.



# Regulation of the Artistic Residency Program

## Introduction

This regulation aims to ensure the proper functioning and service of the INAC Artistic Residency Program.

## 1. Application period

1.1. The application period is open until January 31st. Any application received after this period will not be analyzed, unless the organization of the INAC artistic residency program announces an extension of the application period.

1.2. Mandatory documents for application validation:

- Completed registration form, to be submitted on the registration form ( <https://forms.gle/ZEkh7NtvAaSiEYWA> )
- Project dossier
- Updated CV, with details about your artistic training (if applicable), research, professional experience and other information you consider important.
- Motivation letter
- Authorization to disclose the work developed within the scope of the artistic residency
- Identification document (Citizen Card; Passport)

## 2. Selection of candidates

2.1. The selection of candidates will be based on the artistic quality, originality, viability and relevance of the artist's artistic projects in relation to the artistic thinking and practices promoted and valued by the institution. The candidate's experience and trajectory, as well as their defined intentions and objectives, will also be taken into account.

2.2. 5 projects will be selected to join the Residency Program, whose Artistic Residencies will take place throughout 2025.

2.3. The selection jury is made up of the artistic director of INAC.

2.4. The result will be announced by February 5th.

2.5. Contact for clarification of doubts or requests for information:  
[producao@inac.com.pt](mailto:producao@inac.com.pt)

## 3. Copyright

3.1. Resident artists are the sole holders of moral and patrimonial rights over the works created during the residency.

## 4. Facilities and services integrated into the program of artistic residencies at INAC.

### 4.1. Use of INAC facilities:

- a) Residents must respect and comply with INAC's internal regulations, which suggest attention and care in the use of INAC materials, as well as the appropriate use of spaces.
- b) The use of the space is limited to INAC hours, from Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.
- c) Damage to any INAC space or equipment is the responsibility of the resident artist, who must pay for the loss.
- d) Resident artists may use INAC's workshops and tools, with prior authorization from the workshop manager and leaving them tidy and clean after use.
- e) At the end of the residency, resident artists must leave the workspace tidy.

### 4.2. Multimedia services:

- a) INAC's multimedia team will make available a teaser video about the residency and the presentation.
- b) The teaser video will later be published on INAC's social media.
- c) Residents will be able to access the footage and photographs captured by the multimedia team.

## 5. Services Not Provided by the Artist Residency Program

### 5.1. Accommodation:

- a) Each resident will be responsible for their own accommodation.

### 5.2. Working materials:

- a) Circus equipment will be brought by the resident artist.
- b) If the artist needs any equipment from INAC, he/she must make the request in advance, for review and approval.

### 5.3. Personal accident insurance:

- a) Each resident will be responsible for their own personal accident insurance.
- b) It is mandatory to complete and sign the liability waiver, which releases INAC from any liability for any accident that occurs on its premises.

### 5.4 No monetary support is planned for residents.

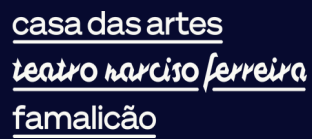
## 6. Certificates of participation

All resident artists receive a certificate of participation in the INAC Residency program at the end of their stay.

## Promoter



## Partners



## A structure financed by:

