

August 2025

Villa
Albertine



Jury Report

2026 Residencies



This report provides an account of the work done by the selection juries for the Villa Albertine 2026 residency season.

The final jury was presided over by **Glenn Lowry**, David Rockefeller Director of MoMA, and included the following members:

- **Mohamed Bouabdallah**, Director of Villa Albertine (Vice-President of the jury)
- **Katherine Fleming**, President of the J. Paul Getty Trust
- **Gina Duncan**, President of BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music)
- **Laurent Le Bon**, President of the Centre Pompidou
- **Matthew Bolish**, Deputy Director of Film at Lincoln Center
- **Siri Hustvedt**, author and essayist

Also participating in the jury's work, without voting rights:

- **Judith Roze**, Deputy Director of Villa Albertine;
- **Lina Pamart**, Director of Residencies at Villa Albertine.

In deliberating and finalizing the selection, the final jury drew upon the evaluations of around forty American experts who took part in ten local juries (full list in the appendix). Their work was based on analyses by Villa Albertine specialists.

The jury wishes to thank each person involved in this demanding selection process. The operation of Villa Albertine's residencies requires not only artistic expertise, but also a deep knowledge of each local cultural ecosystem, as the residents are based across the entire territory of the United States.

This report will be structured as follows:

1. Framework elements and operation of Villa Albertine residencies
2. Details of the selection process (call for applications, types of projects received)
3. Analysis of applications and general overview
4. List of selected laureates

The 2026 season marks the fifth anniversary of Villa Albertine. Over the past five years, Villa Albertine will have hosted more than 300 residents across some sixty locations in the United States—from New York to Alaska, via South Dakota and Los Angeles—thus developing an international network of artistic and intellectual exchange.



1. Villa Albertine Residency Framework

Villa Albertine's exploratory residencies are built on two core principles:

- Tailored support for each project, provided by a team of 80 staff members across the ten cities where Villa Albertine is based (Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, New Orleans, San Francisco, and Washington, DC);
- **Partnerships** between French and American institutions, ensuring that each resident is surrounded by a dedicated community engaged with their work.

Residencies take place in a wide variety of locations, allowing each laureate to live and work in the setting best suited to their creative vision. Each residency is shaped by a custom lineup of visits and meetings designed to serve the resident's goals. Support is provided by:

- the **Residency Department** in New York, overseeing organizational aspects
- **Disciplinary experts** in New York
- **Local teams** in the ten U.S. offices, offering on-the-ground guidance

Housing, insurance, and international travel are covered by Villa Albertine. Residents also receive a daily allowance, calculated according to their location, averaging \$3,000 per person per month.

To extend the impact of each residency and nurture promising projects beyond their time in the United States, Villa Albertine has developed a range of medium- and long-term initiatives, including:

- **Post-residency grants**¹ to support concrete outcomes and Franco-American collaborations emerging from successful residency experiences.
- Participation in the **iViva Villa!** network, which unites several French artist residencies abroad — Casa de Velázquez (Madrid), Villa Kujoyama (Kyoto), Villa Medici (Rome), and Villa Albertine (United States). The network operates through two complementary formats: a biennial support fund to encourage the co-production in France of transdisciplinary projects involving artists from multiple residencies; and an annual event at the Gaîté Lyrique in Paris, offering a shared platform to showcase projects to professionals

¹ Supported by Ardian, the Académie des Beaux-Arts, and the Institut français



and the general public.

- **Albertine Alumni**, a community for former residents, fostering continued artistic and intellectual exchange.

In addition to its residency program, Villa Albertine offers around ten professional programs, multiple research and dissemination grants, a range of public events, and a magazine for American audiences.



2. Call for Applications: Eligibility and Project Types

For the selection of the 2026 cohort, Villa Albertine launched a **multidisciplinary call for applications**, alongside three thematic calls:

- Crafts and Design
- Classical Music
- Arts in the Age of AI

These calls were open to creators, researchers, and cultural professionals seeking an **exploratory residency of one to three months in the United States**. Two residency formats were offered: single-city **residencies** and **multi-city or region residencies**.

Eligibility criteria included:

- Proposing a **research-focused project** (not primarily production-based)
- Undertaking the project **individually**, or optionally as a duo for the multidisciplinary call
- Being **at least 21 years old** at the start of the residency
- **Fluency in English** (a short video presentation was requested)
- Partnering with a **French institution** (public or private) contributing to the project, not necessarily financially

2026 Application Overview:

- **607 applications** were received, representing **683 candidates** (12.5% duos)
- Candidates represented **60 nationalities**, with 85% French or dual French nationals
- **77%** applied for single-city residencies
- **23%** for itinerant residencies (only a limited number of multi-city projects were selected)

Applicants could choose any location, either one of the ten cities with a permanent Villa Albertine office (Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, New Orleans, San Francisco, Washington, DC) or other cities and regions, including national parks and open spaces (e.g., Yellowstone, Acadia National Park, Green River, Hawaii). The most



requested locations were **New York (35%), Los Angeles (19%), New Orleans (11%), San Francisco (9%),** and **Chicago (6%).**

Applications spanned a wide range of artistic disciplines: **visual arts (24%), film and audiovisual media (19%), performing arts (11%),** and **AI-related projects (9%).**

While applicants were not required to be French-speaking or based in France, **a French partner was mandatory.** This partner ensures the resident's connection to the French artistic scene and strengthens the support network before, during, and after the residency.



3. Application Analysis

Applications were evaluated according to **four key criteria**, outlined in each call:

- Quality of the candidate's background
- Quality of the project
- Relevance of the project to the selected territory
- Feasibility of the project

The evaluation process for the multidisciplinary call proceeded in **three stages**:

- **Initial review** by Villa Albertine disciplinary experts, assessing eligibility and the overall quality of applications.
- **Local jury assessment**, conducted by 10 juries across the cities where Villa Albertine has an office, involving 40 American experts (artistic programmers, academics, artists, and institutional representatives — see appendix). Special attention was given to the relevance of projects to the chosen territories. Candidates were expected to demonstrate knowledge of the local context, its dynamics, and key actors. Projects that identified specific places to visit or local collaborators were particularly valued.
- **Final selection** by the jury, composed of prominent figures from the Franco-American cultural sphere. Drawing on the pre-selected applications from the local juries, the final jury established the list of laureates, ensuring balance across geography, disciplines, generations, backgrounds, and genders.

Projects addressing contemporary issues and societal challenges were particularly valued. Examples include topics related to ecology, technology, economic and social questions, and societal concerns, such as sustainable territorial development, wildfires, deindustrialization, diasporas and postcolonialism, minority rights, mental health, and food deserts.

The final selection reflects a diversity of disciplines and approaches, with the jury seeking overall balance. Selected projects stood out for their **clarity**, a strong **connection to the chosen territory**, and a well-developed sense of potential project outcomes. Projects that lacked clear objectives (e.g., places to visit or local contacts) or were unrealistic (e.g., proposing too many locations for the residency period) were less competitive.



Conversely, projects that did not clearly present their intended objectives (places to explore, contacts to seek) or were unrealistic (for example, by proposing too many cities to explore in the given time period) were not favored.

The **video presentations** submitted by candidates were an important complement to the written applications. In certain instances, they played a key factor in deciding between two candidates, particularly in assessing their ability to communicate clearly and effectively in English. Candidates were not expected to be bilingual, and speaking with an accent did not put them at a disadvantage. The video simulated situations residents would repeatedly face during their stay, indicating their ability to engage with partners and interlocutors in the U.S., which was valued by the jury.

Regarding French partners, the jury focused on their **relevance to the project** and the potential value of the proposed collaboration, rather than the partner's prominence. The selected candidates were supported by a diverse range of partners, including smaller organizations across various territories (52% in Île-de-France, 48% elsewhere), reflecting broader geographic representation compared to previous years. Candidates could also receive support from additional partners.

13% of selected residents involved **American partners** in their projects. While not required, such collaborations strengthened their projects by enhancing potential local integration. Overall, 56% of selected residents were supported by more than one partner, often representing interdisciplinary collaboration across sectors around a single project.



4. Final Selection

In total, **51 residencies** (representing 58 residents, including duos) were selected for 2026. This includes **45 single-city residencies** and 6 **multi-city residencies**.

Of these, **37 residencies** were selected through the general multidisciplinary call. The remaining **14 projects** were chosen through dedicated calls:

- **Crafts and Design:** 6 residents, supported by the Bettencourt Schueller Foundation
- **Classical Music:** 3 residents (instrumental and vocal), in partnership with the Philharmonie de Paris and with support from the Société Générale Corporate Foundation; open to composers, singers, instrumentalists, conductors, researchers, and cultural professionals in classical music
- **Art in the Age of AI:** 4 residents for 2026–2027, supported by entrepreneur Fidji Simo
- **Contemporary Art Prizes:** 2 laureates—Recanati-Kaplan Prize (in partnership with the Institut du Monde Arabe) and the Sarr Prize (awarded to a recent graduate of the École des Beaux-Arts)
- **Archaeology in Alaska:** 1 multi-year residency led by Claire Houmard, selected during the inaugural season due to the project's specificity
- **Clichycago Project:** 1 residency in Chicago, in partnership with Ateliers Médicis

The final selection reflects **diversity** across:

- **Gender:** 60% women, 40% men
- **Nationality:** 94% French, with 11 nationalities represented
- **Age:** 27–72, with an average age of 40
- **Disciplines:** 16 artistic fields represented

The jury ensured a balanced representation of emerging, mid-career, and established profiles.

The jury congratulates all candidates and partner organizations for the high quality of submitted projects and extends its warmest wishes to Villa Albertine's future residents for their success.



Appendix

1. Application Statistics

Distribution of applications across Villa Albertine's 10 locations

	Single-City Residencies	Multi-City Residencies	TOTAL
Atlanta	17	17	34
Boston	20	26	46
Chicago	35	33	68
Houston	21	17	38
Los Angeles	85	46	131
Miami	19	12	31
New York	152	78	229
New Orleans	40	32	72
San Francisco	62	34	96
Washington DC	17	28	45

NB. Multi-city residencies encompass several locations and are therefore counted several times.

Applications according to main discipline

Disciplines	No. of applications	% of total applications
AI	48	8%
Architecture	11	2%
Performing Arts	58	9%
Visual arts	126	20%
Comics	11	2%
Cinema	67	11%
Literature (non-fiction)	30	5%
Literature (fiction)	24	4%
Crafts & Design	58	9%
Fashion	4	1%
Multidisciplinary	65	11%
Museums & Heritage	18	3%
Music	28	5%
Classical Music	22	4%



New Media	37	6%
TOTAL	607 ²	100%

²607 applications, not including duos, and applications submitted through thematic calls received during the year (Porte-conteneurs, Recanati-Kaplan, Marfa/Grands Espaces)



2. 2026 Villa Albertine Residents

Architecture

- Delphine Lewandowski
- Côme Rolin

Arts & Artificial Intelligence

- Louis-Paul Caron
- Lou Fauroux
- Hanako Murakami
- Olivain Porry

Cinema

- Sabrina Bouarour
- Louise Cailliez & Guillaume Lorin
- Caroline Deodat
- Camille Juza
- Hind Meddeb
- Simon Moutairou

Crafts & Design

- Céline Bachelot
- Yassine Ben Abdallah
- Antonin Odin
- Laurel Parker
- Sophia Taillet
- Juliette Tellier

Literature

- Helene Coutard
- Sandra Jackson-Opoku
- Ana Mendoza Aldana
- Jean-Baptiste Phou
- Enrico Pinto
- Rose Vidal

Museums & Heritage

- Vincent Bouat-Ferlier
- Claire Houmard
- Clement Thibault



Music

- Eric Blaze
- Blanche Lafuente

Including Classical Music

- Benjamin Alunni
- Bar Avni
- Katarina Livljanic

New Media

- Holly Herndon & Mat Dryhurst
- Beatrice Lartigue

Performing Arts

- Adama Diop
- Léo Lerus
- Léonard Matton
- Khoudia Toure

Visual Arts

- Violaine Barrois
- Abdelkader Benchamma
- Delphine & Elodie Chevalme
- Lalita Clozel & Ariane Mohseni–Sadjadi
- Clémence Gbonon
- Ismaël Joffroy Chandoutis
- Samir Laghouati-Rashwan
- Lek & Sowat
- Esther & Johanna Mirabel
- Alexis Peskine
- Emilie Pitoiset
- Cédrine Scheidig
- Armelle Tulunda

The laureate of the Recanati-Kaplan Prize will be selected in 2026.



3. Jury Experts

Atlanta

US Experts

- **Ellen Basset**, Dean of the Georgia Tech College of Design
- **Clint Flucker**, Senior Director of Culture, Community & Partner Engagement for Emory University Libraries and the Michael C. Carlos Museum
- **Floyd Hall**, Executive Director of Atlanta Contemporary
- **Cheryl Finley**, Art Historian, Curator & Contemporary Art Critic at Spelman College

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Mohamed Bouabdallah**, Director of Villa Albertine
- **Anne-Laure Desjonquères**, Consul General of France in Atlanta
- **David Ruffel**, Director of Villa Albertine in Atlanta

Boston

US Experts

- **Tod Machover**, Professor of Music & Media, Director of MIT Media Lab's Opera
- **Pieranna Cavalchini**, Tom and Lisa Blumenthal Curator of Contemporary Art, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
- **Séverine Imbert de Smirnoff**, Chief of Staff and Chief of Strategic Initiatives, Museum of Science

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Judith Roze**, Deputy Director of Villa Albertine
- **Mustafa Soykurt**, Consul General of France in Boston
- **Frédérique Horn**, Director of Villa Albertine in Boston

Chicago

US Experts

- **Mariela Acuna**, Director of Exhibitions and Residency at Hyde Park Art Center
- **Faheem Majeed**, Artist, Educator, Curator, Co-Founder & Co-Director of the Floating Museum
- **Ryan T. Nelson**, Associate Professor of Instruction in Musical Theatre and Music Supervisor for the Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts at Northwestern University
- **Eliana Văgălău**, Associate Professor of French and Undergraduate Program Director at Loyola University

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Lina Pamart**, General Coordinator of Residencies



- **Yannick Tagand**, Consul General of France in Chicago
- **Axelle Moleur**, Director of Villa Albertine in Chicago
- **Caroline Hourdy**, Deputy Director of Villa Albertine in Chicago

Houston

US Experts

- **Holly Herrick**, Head of Film & Creative Media, Austin Film Society
- **Frauke V. Josenhans**, Curator, Moody Center for the Arts / Rice University
- **Will Evans**, Founder & CEO, Deep Vellum Books
- **Sabrina Lejeanvre-Matheis**, Co-Founder of MAINTENANT Marfa

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Mohamed Bouabdallah**, Director of Villa Albertine
- **Valérie Baraban**, Consul General of France in Houston
- **Bettina Gardelles**, Director of Villa Albertine in Houston

Los Angeles

US Experts

- **Bernardo Rondeau**, Curator & Programmer, Lucas Museum of Narrative Art
- **Hamza Walker**, Artistic Director, The Brick
- **Katy Dammers**, Steven D. Lavine Deputy Director & Chief Curator, REDCAT
- **Julia Ward**, Director of Humanities & Senior Communications Advisor, LA Phil

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Mohamed Bouabdallah**, Director of Villa Albertine
- **Adrien Frier**, Consul General of France in Los Angeles
- **Olivier Tournaud**, Director of Villa Albertine in Los Angeles

Miami

US Experts

- **Tom Healy**, Writer, Trustee, Chair, Advisory Council Member
- **Arden Sherman**, Senior Curator of Contemporary Art
- **Melody Santiago**, Executive Director, O, Miami
- **Lindsay Grace**, Professor at the University of Miami School of Communication

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Judith Roze**, Deputy Director of Villa Albertine
- **Raphaël Trapp**, Consul General of France in Miami



- **Nicolas Doyard**, Director of Villa Albertine in Miami

New Orleans

US Experts

- **Greg Lambousy**, Director, New Orleans Jazz Museum
- **George Marks**, Artist & Founder of the NUNU Collective
- **Alana Harris**, Deputy Director of Culture, City of New Orleans
- **Heather Hodges**, Director of Institutional Advancement, Historic New Orleans Collection

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Lina Pamart**, General Coordinator of Residencies
- **Rodolphe Sambou**, Consul General of France in New Orleans
- **Jacques Baran**, Director of Villa Albertine in New Orleans

New York

US Experts

- **Mariët Westermann**, Director and CEO Guggenheim
- **Jed Rapfogel**, Anthology Film Archives
- **Adam Gopnik**, Journalist and Writer
- **Janet Wong**, Associate Artistic Director, New York Live Arts

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Mohamed Bouabdallah**, Director of Villa Albertine
- **Judith Roze**, Deputy Director of Villa Albertine
- **Myriam Gil**, Deputy Consul General of France in New York

San Francisco

US Experts

- **Gamynne Guillotte**, Chief Education and Public Engagement Officer, SFMoMA
- **Hakki Serhat**, Senior Director, Jessica Silverman Gallery
- **Mari Robles**, Director, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
- **Michelle Witt**, Director, Meany Center for the Performing Arts

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Lina Pamart**, General Coordinator of Residencies
- **Florian Cardinaux**, Consul General of France in San Francisco
- **Sabine de Maussion**, Director of Villa Albertine in San Francisco

Washington DC



US Experts

- **Aviva Rosenthal**, Director of the Smithsonian
- **Susan R. Stein**, Monticello | Thomas Jefferson Foundation
- **Ryan Williams**, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, D.C. Public Library
- **Tristyn Francis**, Duke Ellington School of the Arts
- **Tony Gittens**, Founder and Director, DC International Film Festival

Villa Albertine and French Government Representatives

- **Mohamed Bouabdallah**, Director of Villa Albertine
- **Caroline Monvoisin**, Consul General of France in Washington, D.C.
- **Lynda Frenois**, Director of Villa Albertine in Washington, D.C.

Appel Musique Classique

- **Jean-Philippe Billmann**, former Villa Albertine resident, choral conductor
- **Edouard Fouré Caul-Futy**, Co-director of the Concerts and Performances Department, Philharmonie de Paris
- **Cristina Rocca**, Vice President, Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Appel Métiers d'art et design

- **Odile Hainaut**, Co-founder of WantedDesign
- **Claire Pijoulat**, Co-founder of WantedDesign
- **Zoé Appy**, Crafts & Design Officer, Villa Albertine
- **Olivier le Fahler**, Officer for Visual Arts, Architecture, and Design, Villa Albertine

Appel Arts in the Age of AI

- **Refik Anadol**, new media artist, filmmaker, and pioneer of artificial intelligence aesthetics
- **Marcella Lista**, art historian and Chief Curator at the National Museum of Modern Art – Centre Pompidou, Head of the New Media collection
- **Chad Nelson**, Creative Specialist at OpenAI
- **Mathieu Lorrain**, Head of Creative Development at Google DeepMind