



**DELFINA  
FOUNDATION**



**OPEN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FROM VISUAL ARTISTS  
FOR THE SAMDANI ART AWARD 2020**

The Samdani Art Award has created an internationally recognised platform to showcase the work of young Bangladeshi Artists to an audience of international arts professionals. Through the Samdani Art Award exhibition, which forms part of the programme at the Dhaka Art Summit, many of the previously short-listed artists have become recognised and many selected to participate in various international exhibitions and residencies.

The success stories of short-listed artists from 2018 are given below:

- **Delfina Foundation Residency**

London, United Kingdom  
25th June- 12th August, 2018

As the winner of the Samdani Art Award, Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury was awarded a six weeks residency supported by the Samdani Art Foundation

16th July- 12th August, 2018

Marzia Farhana was selected for the residency

- **10th edition of Liverpool Biennial, 2018**

Liverpool, United Kingdom  
14th July- 28th October, 2018

Curated by Kitty Scott and Sally Tallant, the biennial featured film of Reetu Sattar's performance 'Lost Tune'

- **Invisible Photographer Asia Awards 2018 Exhibition**

Objectifs - Centre for Photography and Film, Singapore  
26th July- 12th August, 2018

Featured the work of Ashfika Rahman

- **Trust**

Les Brasseurs- Art Contemporain, Belgium  
20th September- 17th November 2018

Featured the work of Shikh Sabbir Alam

- **25th Edition of Joop Swart Masterclass**

World Press Photo Foundation headquarters, Amsterdam  
23th -29th September 2018

Asfika Rahman was first Bangladeshi female photographer to be selected in the masterclass

- **Bangkok Art Biennale 2018**

Marina Abramovic Institute, Bangkok  
19th October 2018- 3rd February, 2019

Reetu Sattar participated in the performance programme

- **In the Open or in Stealth**

Barcelona, Spain  
31st October, 2018 - 17th March 2019

Curated by Raqs Media Collective, the work of Marzia Farhana was featured in the exhibition

- **4th edition of Kochi-Muziris Biennale, 2018**

Kochi, India  
12th December, 2018- 29th March, 2019.

Curated by Anita Dube who was paired with Marzia Farhana as a mentor from Dhaka Art Summit 2018

- **48th International Film Festival Rotterdam**

Rotterdam, Netherlands  
23th January - 3rd February, 2019

Reetu Sattar's performance film will be shown in the festival

- **Fabric(ated) Fractures**

Concrete, Alserkal Avenue, Dubai  
9th March- 24th March, 2019

Curated by Diana Campbell Betancourt, works of Debasish Shom, Ashfika Rahman and Reetu Sattar will be featured in the exhibition

In partnership with the **Delfina Foundation**, the **Samdani Art Foundation** launches a call for applications for its bi-annual art award, the **Samdani Art Award**. Through the open call, 20 semi-finalists will be identified by the Delfina Foundation and the Samdani Art Award 2020 guest curator, **Philippe Pirotte**, Rector and Professor of Art History at the Städelschule Academy of Fine Arts in Frankfurt, Germany. Supported by Goethe- Institut, **Philippe Pirotte** will then further narrow this to 10 finalists following one-to-one sessions with each of the semi-finalists.

Each of the 10 participants will be given a production budget to create new work which will be exhibited at the fifth edition of the Dhaka Art Summit at the Shilpakala Academy from the 7 to 15 February 2020. Each of the finalists will be prominently featured in the Dhaka Art Summit catalogue, and will have their exhibited work(s) and portfolio evaluated by international jury board members, which will be announced in March 2019.

For the Samdani Art Award 2018 the jury board comprised of Sheela Gowda (artist, based in Bangalore, India), Runa Islam (artist, based in London), Subodh Gupta (artist, based in New Delhi, India), and Mona Hatoum (artist, based in London) chaired by Aaron Cezar (Director of Delfina Foundation, UK). The winner was Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury.

The winner of the Samdani Art Award will receive an all-expenses paid, six-week residency during summer 2020 at the Delfina Foundation in London. The Delfina Foundation will develop a loosely structured series of events and activities enabling the selected artist to:

- Research and develop areas of interest
- Further their skills through training and mentoring
- Access information and resources through independent study, field trips and workshops
- Participate in both internal and external/public events

#### **THE SELECTED ARTIST WILL RECEIVE:**

- A six-week residency in London, including one return, economy-class flight, and a living allowance for food/per diems and materials;
- A single bedroom at Delfina Foundation with shared facilities, such as the laundry room, kitchen, and dining room;
- Opportunities to engage in the art scene in UK through structured and independent time and activities; and
- Access to a programme of planned group activities and visits to cultural organisations in the UK.

Delfina Foundation hosts a mix of artists with a range of backgrounds, from sculptural to curatorial practices; therefore, their facilities are not equipped for specific practitioners. London does, however, offer an immense amount of resources that can be accessed for specific needs, from darkrooms to kilns.

The home of Delfina Foundation includes an event and exhibition space of 1,650 square feet, where talks, exhibitions, screenings and other activities are held. The property also features a communal kitchen area, an outdoor terrace and courtyard, the foundation's offices, and a library/resource room, which includes reference books, magazines, and other archives that can be accessed by residents and the general public upon appointment.

While only one artist will receive the Samdani Art Award to attend the residency, **the short-listed artists will be eligible for the other international opportunities with Dhaka Art Summit partner organizations. After the summit, the 10 participants will receive a residency at the Srihatta: Samdani Art Centre and Sculpture Park in Sylhet.**

### **Eligibility:**

#### **Artists who apply must be:**

- Currently living and working in Bangladesh. Exceptions are: students studying abroad.
- In-between the ages of 22 and 40 at the time of applying.
- Have a basic level of spoken English language skills.
- Seeking an opportunity to develop his/her practice and the concepts of his/her artistic work.
- Able to explain how the experience of an international residency may benefit his/her career development.

### **Application Process:**

Applicants are expected to submit their application via email. Each application should include:

- A completed application form
- A CV detailing recent solo and group exhibitions, workshops and residencies
- A portfolio with at least 15 high-quality images of your artworks and/or links of films/videos

Please ensure that the size of your email does not exceed 10 MB and must be sent to [apply@samdani.com.bd](mailto:apply@samdani.com.bd) with subject as 'Samdani Art Award 2020'.

Please note: No printed copy and/or CD/DVD will be accepted.

### **Deadline for applications: 15 February 2019**

Applications will be forwarded to Delfina Foundation and short-listed applicants will be notified of their decision by 15 March 2019. **The winner will be announced at the Dhaka Art Summit Opening Dinner on the 7 February 2020.**

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1.The winning commissioned artwork from the Samdani Art Award exhibition will remain in the Samdani Art Foundation Collection.

2.The winner cannot accept any other international residencies from February to September 1, 2020 in order to accommodate the time needed to attend the Delfina Foundation residency in the summer of 2020.

3.The winner must attend the entire six weeks residency. The winner will have to be available for media enquiries (with advance notice) regarding the Samdani Art Award throughout 2020.

4.New work commissioned by the Samdani Art Foundation under the mentorship of the Samdani Art Award Curator, Philippe Pirotte, will be displayed in the show. The produced work should debut at the Dhaka Art Summit 2020. If the work is shown in another exhibition before the Summit, it will be considered illegible.

5.A grant of BDT 30,000/- will be given to each short-listed artist for the production of new work. If the work is shown in future exhibitions, it should hold the credit line; 'Production Support by Samdani Art Foundation'.

6.The Samdani Art Foundation cannot guarantee that the winner will be granted a visa and cannot be held responsible for immigration issues. In the rare case that a visa is not granted, the Samdani Art Foundation and the Jury will ideate alternative options of an equal financial value for the winner.

7.The winner will be responsible for their own insurance, for medical treatment and personal belongings and arrange both a personal effects and health insurance policy to cover the period of their stay in the UK.

### **About the Delfina Foundation**

Delfina Foundation (DF) is more than London's largest international residency programme, it is a home where the next generation of contemporary artists, curators and thinkers are supported and nurtured. Based in central London near Buckingham Palace, DF is an independent, non-profit organisation dedicated to fostering artistic talent and facilitating exchange through residencies and public programmes ranging from workshops to exhibitions. Since 2007, DF has hosted over 350 practitioners, from artists to collectors, through ground-break partnerships. This is the fourth collaboration with the Samdani Art Award. DF is the successor to Delfina Studio Trust, hosted pioneering residencies and exhibitions for more than a dozen Turner Prize nominees such as Mark Wallinger, Shirazeh Houshiary, Tacita Dean, Martin Creed, Goshka Macuga and Glenn Brown, as well as other renowned artists such as Michael Joo, Hangué Yang, Michael Raedecker, Wim Delvoye and Liu Ye. DF is proud to build on this history.

### **About Goethe Institut**

The Goethe-Institut is the cultural institute of the Federal Republic of Germany with a global reach. It promotes knowledge of the German language abroad and foster international cultural cooperation. The cultural and educational programmes encourage intercultural dialogue and enable cultural involvement. They strengthen the development of structures in civil society and foster worldwide mobility. With the network of Goethe-Instituts, Goethe Centres, cultural societies, reading rooms and exam and language learning centres, they have been the first point of contact for many with Germany for over sixty years. The long-lasting partnerships with leading institutions and individuals in over ninety countries create enduring trust in Germany.

### **About the Samdani Art Foundation**

The Samdani Art Foundation is registered private trust in Dhaka that aims to increase artistic engagement between Bangladesh and the rest of the world. Founded in 2011 by collector couple Nadia and Rajeeb Samdani, the foundation has enabled Bangladeshi artists to expand their creative horizons and for international artists and art professionals to engage with Bangladesh. It collaborates with the Bangladeshi government through official partnership with the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, the country's main state-sponsored national cultural center and also runs educational lectures and workshops. In an effort to encourage international arts professionals to travel to Bangladesh for research and to develop exhibitions which include the work of South Asian artists, SAF has supported travel for curators from institutions including Tate Modern, London; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; to name a few. SAF's newest programme, the Samdani Artist-Led Initiatives Forum, recognises the importance of Bangladesh's independently established and self-funded art initiatives. Supporting these initiatives' ongoing efforts, the Forum will help each to continue their work locally while building their profile internationally through SAF's network. The Foundation is best known for the Dhaka Art Summit, which is the world's largest non-profit South Asian focused art festival and research platform that happens every two years. The foundation also runs Samdani Seminars and will open a public art center in Sylhet, Bangladesh, in 2020.

## APPLICATION FORM

### Guidance notes:

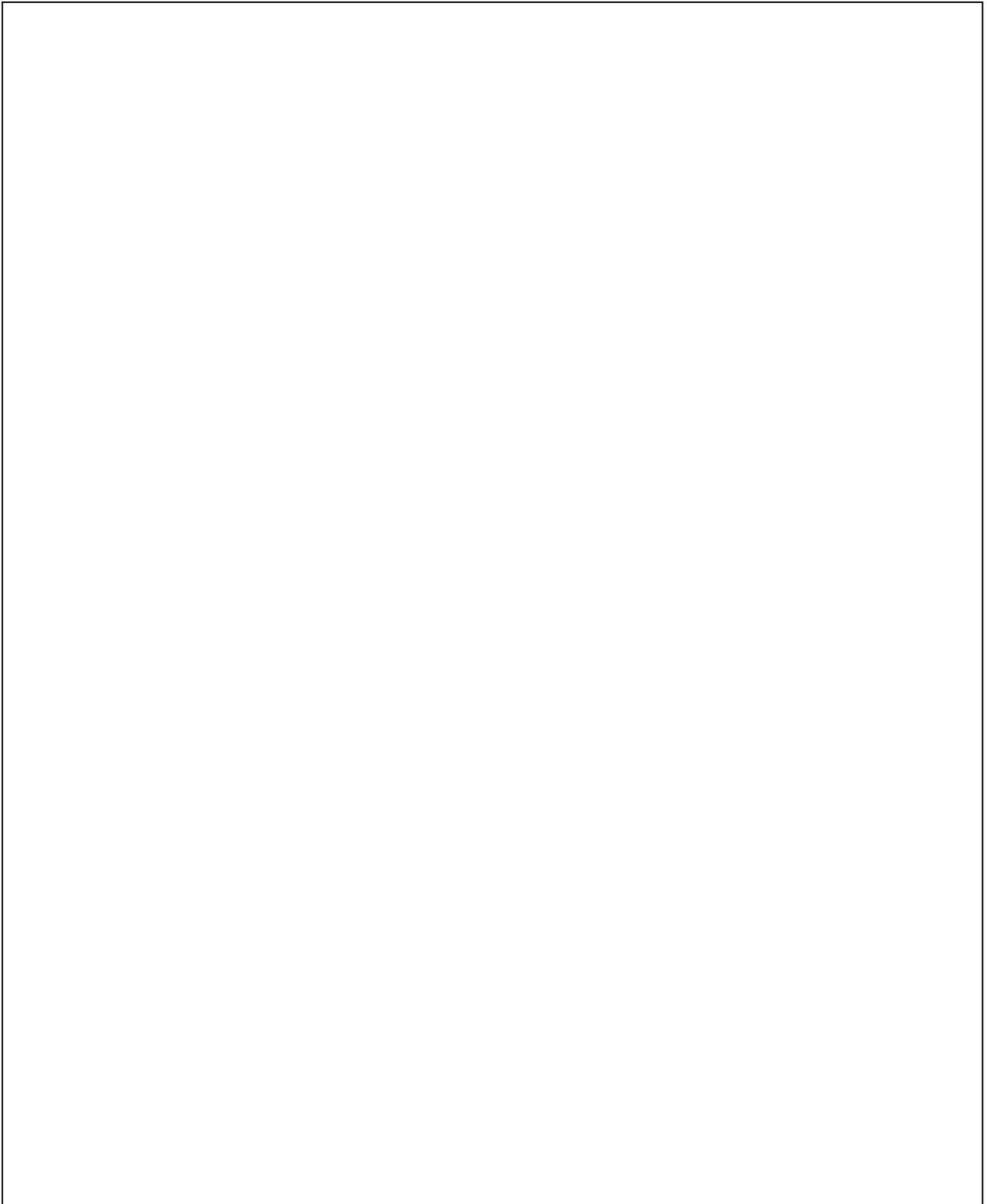
1. Please send the application via email. We will not accept the application in printed or in other ways.
2. Please send all image files in one portfolio, no more than **10 MB** in size.
3. Please include captions or descriptions of the submitted examples of your work in the portfolio.
4. Ideally, images and captions should be in one document / portfolio, rather than separate files.
5. Please do not change the formatting of the application and do not exceed the word count.
6. Send everything in **One Email**.

### 1. ABOUT YOU

First name:	
Last name:	
Any other names you are known by:	
Date of birth:	
Place of birth:	
Sex (Male or Female):	
Nationality (as indicated in passport):	
Address:	
Telephone no:	
Mobile no:	
Email address:	
Website address (if any):	
Current employer (if relevant):	

**2. ABOUT YOUR WORK**

**What is your artistic practice?** Please write an artist statement and include what interests and inspires you, as well as your significant past, present or on-going art projects. *(maximum: 300 words)*

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the artist to write their statement. The box occupies most of the lower half of the page.

### **3. MOTIVATION**

**How will this residency benefit you?** Please include in your answer: (a) how this experience may benefit you and your practice at this stage of your career, (b) how you would use your time in London and (c) how you plan to share your experience with your fellow artists when you return.

If you have visited the UK before, please also explain how this opportunity will be different from your previous experience(s), whether this was visiting, living, studying, exhibiting, etc.... (maximum: 500 words)

#### 4. Reference

Please list the contact details of one professional contact who can be a reference for you. The Samdani Art Foundation does not require a letter but they may ask to speak to this person during the assessment of your application.

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Telephone no:	
Mobile no:	
Email address:	
Relationship to referee:	

**5. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL**

With this application form, please submit the following additional materials via email.

- **A CV** detailing recent solo and group exhibitions, workshops and residencies
- **Images** -Please submit at least 15 good quality images of your recent works and some examples of older works. Although there is no maximum number of images, we advise applicants to only submit relevant materials to reduce the size of the submissions. The images should include captions or short descriptions (this can be in a separate file but we highly encourage you to submit all visual material in one document for digital submission).
- **Videos/films** - We recommend providing links to your own website, Vimeo page, youtube page, etc. Relevant links to video work:

Caption/Description	Web address

Please send the materials reducing the size of image files as necessary. Maximum size of the file should be **10MB**. Please attach everything in **ONE EMAIL**.

**Deadline for applications: 15 February 2019**