

Fall & Spring Residency Guidelines (2011-12)

Watermill is a "laboratory for performance" that supports the development of experimental and cross-disciplinary art. Watermill invites emerging artists to submit ambitious proposals for the creation of collaborative work that critically investigates, challenges, and extends the existing norms of performance practice. Watermill also welcomes research proposals from established scholars. Watermill possesses a strong international profile and continues to extend its network of associates, encouraging proposals from artists based within and outside the U.S.

For more information about the application process and Watermill residencies please view the following sections below.

Contact Information

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Residency Calendar

Residencies are scheduled by mutual agreement between accepted Artists-in-Residence and the Watermill Director. Residencies are scheduled during the following terms:

Fall (September–December 2011)
Spring (February–June 2012)

Residencies can be scheduled for a minimum of one (1) week and a maximum of four (4) weeks during the above-referenced terms. Occasionally, there are two residencies running concurrently, and/or educational and community outreach programming is scheduled during the term of a residency.

Application Portal

The Watermill Center uses **Slideroom** to gather proposals and work samples for its residency program. All proposals must be submitted via Slideroom. There are NO exceptions. Both still image and video work samples are accepted, though for time-based and performance works the inclusion of high-quality and well-edited video is strongly recommended.

Please visit **Watermill's Slideroom** page to submit your proposal: www.watermillcenter.slideroom.com

Please be sure to you specify that you are applying for the Fall/Spring Residency 2011-12 program. There are four programs live on The Watermill Center Slideroom Portal but only THREE apply to the Residency Program:

- 1) **Fall 2011 / Spring 2012 Residency Program**
- 2) **ArteEast Partnership- Fall 2011 / Spring 2012 Residency Program:** if you apply to this partnership you will automatically be eligible for a general Watermill Residency should your proposal not be accepted into the partnership. There is no need to apply to both. [See below for more information]
- 3) **New York Theatre Workshop Residency Partnership:** there is a question in the application that asks if you would like your proposal to be eligible for a Watermill Residency in general. Say 'yes' if you would like to be considered for both the partnership and for Watermill's Residency Program in general. There is no need to apply to both. [See below for more information]

You will also find on Slideroom the **2011 International Summer Program:** The Summer Program is NOT a residency program for your own projects. It is an entirely different program running July – August and has an application deadline of March 31, 2011. Please visit www.watermillcenter.org/programs/summer for more details about that application process.

There is a \$10 USD fee per proposal that can be paid on the Slideroom website. Application instructions and further guidelines are found on the Slideroom website. For all technical assistance, contact support@slideroom.com.

For questions about the program, contact residencies@watermillcenter.org.

Application Process

Proposals can be made for the further development of works-in-progress or for entirely new works. Past Artists-in-Residence have included performance and theater artists, filmmakers, sound designers, architects, composers and musicians, visual artists, dramaturgs, scholars, and authors.

Selection Committee

An International Selection Committee convenes in mid-July to review proposals. The Selection Committee includes prominent artists, scholars, and arts professionals. Proposals are evaluated on the basis of the artistic quality of the submitted work samples, the originality of the artist's ideas, and the ambition of the project's realization.

Please visit the **Selection Committee page** [watermillcenter.org/about/selection] to see the list of this year's Committee members.

The application process includes the uploading of sample materials and an online narrative application. Please ensure that your proposal narrative and work samples are accurate and complete before submitting. Applicants may upload images (JPEG), video (.mov, .wmv, or .flv), or PDF documents. For good image quality and fast upload, image files should be sized no larger than 1280 x 1280 px @ 72 dpi. Please keep video files under 20MB.

The uploaded information should be in the following order:

1. One (1) still image representative of the proposal, such as a dramaturgical or research image (this image may be used for initial publicity about your project if you are selected)
2. One (1) photo portrait of the lead applicant
3. Remaining uploads should be samples of previous work. Wherever possible, please upload moving image work that is no longer than five minutes in duration. Each selection should be a separate upload and should begin with the most important action (please do not include credits). Do not include more than three moving image uploads. The process will prompt you for description details, including date, venue, project, collaborators, etc.

Community Outreach & Documentation Requirements

Artists-in-residence are required to conduct at least one public performance or event. This is often an open rehearsal, screening, or artist talk. Workshops and other community engagement are strongly encouraged. Artists-in-Residence are also required to document their artistic production during their stay at Watermill. Documentation guidelines will be provided to accepted proposals.

Expenses

Applicants are responsible for their own production and living expenses during the term of the residency, including food, travel to and from Watermill, art materials and supplies, and equipment rentals. The Watermill Center will offer signed letters of support for outside funding, as initiated by the artist, and can offer advice for any potential funders for assistance. Watermill will act as a fiscal sponsor for any fundraising efforts you might have within reason. If your proposal is accepted information will be provided to you about how this can be done.

Visit

We encourage advance visits to the Center, if possible. All visits must be arranged in advance with the Program Coordinator. We also encourage prospective residents to attend any of the Spring 2011 Open Rehearsals to observe the activities of current Artists-in-Residence.

Residency Partnerships

ArteEast: residency supporting the development of a new work by artists based in the Middle East and North Africa. Artists, art practitioners and institutions based or active in the Middle East and North Africa are invited to apply for the opportunity to participate in a residency program at Watermill Center. Eligible participants are citizens and/or residents of the following countries: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

CPR – Center for Performance Research: The Watermill Center and CPR - Center for Performance Research have created a partnership to allow Watermill Fall and Spring Residency artists the chance to showcase their work in New York City. Each year 2 - 4 artists who are accepted to The Watermill Center Fall and Spring Residency Program will be invited to present their work at CPR - Center for Performance Research in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn.

New York Theatre Workshop: The Watermill Center and New York Theatre Workshop (NYTW) have created a special program supporting the development of new operatic work for the theater. The partnership will apply to a new theatrical work where music plays an integral role or defines the essential theatrical language of the work.

The Facility

The Watermill Center was founded in 1992 by its Artistic Director **Robert Wilson** as an international, multidisciplinary center for studies in the arts and humanities. For the past 17 years, the Watermill Center has been home to an **International Summer Program** led by Robert Wilson, focusing on new projects that he is developing in all areas of the arts. With the opening of its new building in 2006, the Center became a year-round performing arts laboratory for emerging artists. Expanded programs in the Spring and Fall include workshops and classes, artist residencies, conferences and lectures, and a variety of local and international educational partnership programs. Watermill has partnerships with other arts organizations such as ArteEast, CPR - Center for Performance Research, New York Theatre Workshop, and Lincoln Center's Directors Lab and collaborates with institutions such as Park Avenue Armory, Kampnagel Hamburg, CUNY's Martin E. Segal Theatre Center, Taipei Cultural Center, Chez Bushwick, and RADIALSYSTEM V in Berlin.

The Center seamlessly combines performance and rehearsal sites with working and communal living spaces. Its flexible and multi-purpose interiors house formal and informal performance spaces, the Watermill Art Collection, a selection of Robert Wilson's own furniture designs, an extensive reference library, kitchen facilities, and a dormitory. The Center is situated on six acres of wooded and landscaped grounds in a rural environment.

The Center does not provide a traditional theater studio environment. Rather than a black box, the main studio spaces have black-stained hardwood floors, white walls, and many unshaded windows. There is no separation between Gallery or Studio; the Watermill Collection is placed and hung throughout all living, working, and viewing spaces. Artists have the unique opportunity to work amongst these museum pieces and to work with the Center staff to re-curate their environments, at the discretion of the Director. Watermill encourages artists to experiment with the Center's locations (inside/outside, domestic/professional, theatrical/gallery), to engage with the Collection and architecture, and not to concentrate on the final execution. Therefore, we do not presently have a lighting grid or many technical resources. It is truly a 'laboratory' for performance.

The Center is located in Water Mill, New York (Southampton, Long Island), approximately two hours by car from New York City and JFK airport.

The Watermill Center is about living and working as a community, so it is necessary that everyone shares responsibilities. Respecting the building, the site, fellow artists, and the rest of the Watermill community is integral to a successful experience.

Basement Level

Epoxy over cement floors, unless otherwise noted.

Garage gallery (8' h x 72' l x 28' w [2.5m h x 22m l x 8.5m w])

Rolling garage doors (heated)

Can be used for workspace, office space, and receptions.

Research library with print and audio-visual materials

Fully-equipped kitchen

Dining room (capacity: 50)

Outdoor dining courtyard (capacity: 100)

Public bathrooms with showers

3-in-1 handicap accessible

Laundry room with four washers and dryers

Collection archive containing artifacts, objects, and audio-visual materials

First Floor

Rehearsal Room (18' h x 54' l x 28' w [5.5m h x 16.5m l x 8.5m w])

Marley dance floor is available to layover hardwood floors.

Two small studios/galleries

Office

Dormitory (sleeping capacity: 8; additional 4-6 beds available offsite)

Two public shower rooms attached to dormitory

Second Floor

Master residence for staff use

Two smaller studios/galleries