

**Soundlab: A platform for experiment in art, science and technology**  
**Armenia Art Foundation, Gyumri Technology Center**  
**April-August 2019, Gyumri, Armenia**

**RESIDENCY CONCEPT and THEME**

Armenia Art Foundation and Gyumri Technology Center are launching Soundlab: A platform for experiment in art, science and technology. The program will be held in April-August 2019 in a format of artistic research residency curated by composer, pianist and sound artist Vardan Harutyunyan and it will take place in Gyumri, Armenia.

Soundlab aims at creating productive environment for research, experimentation, production and presentation in sound art. Based at Gyumri Technology Center, the residency will not only take its roots from the city of Gyumri, but it will also actively interact with the city and its daily life through different types of public events and artistic interventions.

The theme of the first collaborative artistic research conducted in residency is Wave >>Language. Wave is the basic form in the construction of existence and energy. The constant fluctuations of waves build a unique “language” and organize information in the reality as we know it.



**S O U N D L A B**

One of the points of departure for this research is a concept of the spectrogram, a visual representation of frequencies of sound, light, math functions or historical processes as they vary with time. By presenting processes by their wave functions, the spectrogram will offer wide range of possibilities to think through the phenomena of sound, wave and language.

The activities of seismic waves that turned the vibrant city of Gyumri into a broken one in 1988, as well as social and cultural landscape- holding the waves of local and world history- will give the second focus for artistic researches. Today, as the city is going through slow revitalization and the issue of building new narratives is crucial, the careful artistic research of the urban fabric could offer new voices to the city, and a potential of new visions and possibilities.

The sub-grant is implemented in the frames of Bridge4CSOs project led by AGBU in partnership with EPF and funded by the European Union.

## RESIDENCY WORK PROCESS

**Soundlab creates a collaborative research platform with experimental composers and artists who live in Armenia, with the support of local and international experts from the fields of art, culture, science and technology.**

**Vardan Harutyunyan**, acting as a curator of the platform, will support the creation of horizontal and dynamic engagement, encourage networking and ensure that everyone is involved in the project. Idea circulation and experience exchange will be encouraged in order to create an open collaborative environment among the residents and invited experts.

**Artists from Armenia** will be chosen on a basis of an Open Call (February-March, 2019). Soundlab strengthens the new generation of Armenian artists, providing a platform for enhancing their artistic practices.

Individual art projects will be developed during the residency. We also expect from the resident artists to make a presentation of their work, or prepare a public workshop in Gyumri, and thus support the idea circulation and experience exchange at a broader level.



## SOUNDLAB

**Armenian and international experts** will be invited to give lectures, lead workshops, introduce their ideas and projects, initiate discussions, perform and act as supporters to individual artistic researches. Experts will help artists to develop their knowledge on current tendencies and share recent scientific and technological discoveries. Experts are invited to present their own research projects and hold a call for collaboration.

## APPLICATION

**Open Call for Artists:** 12 February - 15 March 2019

**Announcement of selected projects:** 23th of March 2019

**Residence:** 2,5 months| 1 April 2019 - 14 June, 17 June - 31 August

### Who can apply

Soundlab invites emerging\* experimental composers and artists who work with sound and reside in Armenia, to investigate the theme of Wave>>Language and run a multidisciplinary artistic research within a residency program in Gyumri, April - August 2019.

\*An emerging artist is considered someone who's in its first 10 year of career as an artist.

### What is required

Basic knowledge of PC/Mac

Experience in ableton, sound forge and similar sound programs is welcomed

## S O U N D L A B

**Soundlab provides** a collaborative platform for discussion, experimentation and development of artistic ideas and practises, aimed at creation and presentation of new artistic works.

### Selected artists will receive:

- curatorial support and expertise,
- technical support & basic equipment
- shared studio space at GTC,
- accommodation in Gyumri,
- stipend,
- support in artwork showcase,
- visibility in communication channels of AAF and GTC.

### The program does not cover:

- Work material costs
- Mobility costs
- Insurance

## How to apply

Submit the application and portfolio to [info@foundationaa.com](mailto:info@foundationaa.com)

The applications can be submitted in Armenian, English or Russian.  
We can only consider fully completed applications.

The applications will be considered by the independent Jury, consisted of:

Aram Hovhannisyan  
Eva Khachatryan  
Lvis Mejia

The Jury advises the management of the Foundation on successful candidates; the management of the Foundation does not chose residents without positive recommendations from the Jury.

Successful applicants will be contacted. Please perform no phone calls or emails on this matter.

For more information and questions please write to [info@foundationaa.com](mailto:info@foundationaa.com).



**S O U N D L A B**

## ORGANIZERS

**Armenia Art Foundation** is an independent non-profit organization aiming to support the development of contemporary art in Armenia. Based in Yerevan, it was established in 2016 by art historian and museum specialist Anush Zeynalyan and businessmen of Armenian origin David Nazaryan and Rafael Nazaryan. The Foundation supports artists by providing financial support for art projects while initiating new artistic and educational projects in Armenia which involve local and international artists, curators and theorists.

[www.foundationaa.com](http://www.foundationaa.com)

**Gyumri Technology Center** was established in 2014 and has served as the primary driver of the IT and engineering ecosystem in Shirak region. The technology center serves as a hub for 20+ IT companies, 200+ professionals and over 100 international clients. Along with the business component, GTC also provides an educational platform, training professionals who will later become employees of the IT companies located in the technology center. It is part of the Technology Center's mission to create clusters specializing in digitalization of the main industries in Armenia.

[www.gtc.am](http://www.gtc.am)



## SOUND LAB

**Vardan Harutyunyan** (b.1987) - is a composer, pianist, DJ and sound artist. Having graduated from Sayat-Nova Music School (2003) and Yerevan Komitas Conservatory (2009), Vardan has composed electronic music, done field recordings and practiced sound art since 2010. Harutyunyan had numerous collaborations with international artists and musicians: Marcus Beuter (Germany); Agathe Lepoutre and Antoine Janot (France); Laureline Koenig (France) and others. Along with experimental music, Vardan has a list of academic composition scores made mainly during the years of study, including chamber, choral and orchestral works. Selected solo and group exhibitions and performances include notably About 880991 Times Slower (AJZ Space, Yerevan); Ruins Sounds (Yerevan); Piano meets Laptop (The Club, Yerevan); Another City or the "Other" in the City (Yerevan Modern Art Museum).

<https://soundcloud.com/varдан-harutyunyan>