



**NAT  
JOU  
KANN**


**2024**

\\ \\ \\ FESTIVAL DES ARCHITECTURES









**On the occasion of the second Matjoukann Architecture Festival, the Regional Council of the Order of Architects of Martinique (CROAM), the Maison de l'Architecture de Martinique (MAM), and the Council of Architecture, Urbanism, and the Environment (CAUE) are launching a call for applications to create six installations. The Festival takes place in the heart of the city of Saint-Pierre, Martinique. It offers a journey through the folds filled with the city's potential: ruins, vacant lots, and also iconic heritage.**

## \\\ PRESENTATION

Matjoukann is the term for pa(ma)trimoine in Martinican Creole.

The Matjoukann Festival seeks to highlight the pa(ma)trimoine of the island. It evokes the past, the present, but above all, it projects towards the common future.

The Matjoukann Architecture Festival aspires to be reborn every two years through its in-situ temporary installations, serving as witnesses of a specific moment, marked by the evolution of architecture, art, and by extension, culture—a reflection etched by a society in motion, a legacy to be passed on.

The installations are designed for specific locations that they aim to reveal or transform, whether it be a neglected space, a hidden spot, or a place that has been seen too often and is no longer noticed, having become ordinary or even insignificant. They aim to revalorize the locations in which they are placed and for which they are intended.

In addition to raising awareness about architecture, art, and existing heritage, Matjoukann aims to stimulate the imagination of its audience by inviting

them to adopt a new perspective, encouraging questions about their past, present, and future environment.

The installations are designed to inspire and engage the various senses of the public, making each step of the journey a moment of connection (liannaj).

For this second edition, the selected locations align with the festival's theme ("remission") and the desire to contribute to the reconstruction of the city of Saint-Pierre.

The various spaces chosen for this year, whether unused, uninhabited, neglected, or protected, are sometimes rendered invisible by their location or their static preservation, gradually falling into the oblivion caused by routine. The installations should focus on revitalizing and recycling these sites into active spaces for the city's revitalization during the Festival, to show paths and open avenues to help Saint-Pierre emerge from the lethargy that plagues it.

The interruption of the usual functions of these spaces is naturally done with respect for the selected sites.

<sup>1</sup> "Matjoukann [macuka]n] 2 (neol.) heritage. Tou sa ka fè pawti di an matjoukann kiltirel. (H. Atine, A.S.D) All this is part of a cultural heritage." In DICTIONNAIRE DU CREOLE MARTINICAIS, Raphaël Confiant (1951-). Éditions Orphie, Fort-de-France, 2022.







Martinique, in its current form, is made up of several small volcanic islands that formed in a line as the volcanic chimney shifted. It is the only island in the Lesser Antilles to exhibit three juxtaposed volcanic arcs, with a regular shift of volcanic activity from the southeast to the northwest over the past 25 million years.

It is the young Mount Pelée, newly classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the latest addition and still active, that on May 8, 1902, wiped out the city of Saint-Pierre by spewing a glowing cloud that swept across the ground, killing more than thirty thousand people.

Founded in 1635 by unemployed buccaneers behind the back of the central state and developed in its often rebellious manner by a caste of free people of color, distanced from the metropolitan administrative capital, Saint-Pierre—the Paris of the Antilles—disappeared as a physical space but, more significantly, lost a significant portion of the mulatto spirit that was passionate about the Republic and secularism, which had positioned Martinique towards Modernity in the 19th century.

After other minor eruptions, the cultural and economic capital function of the island was relocated to its rival, Fort-de-France, and the devastated and wounded structures remained more or less abandoned for over a century...

The site wavered between rebirth and resignation without ever clearly establishing itself, either as a tropical Pompeii under a bell jar or as a new city reborn through reconstruction...

Even today, its classification as a City of Art and History, along with the regulations on preventive archaeology that hinder any reconstruction efforts, maintain ambiguity by highlighting what remains of the society's skin that must be explored, inventoried, and preserved—yet with almost no means allocated for such an inventory...

Time thus passes, endangering what remains under the ash layer and postponing to an increasingly uncertain

future the understanding of the past while entangling reconstruction efforts in a tangled web of finances that don't add up.

Two years after our first Festival ERUPTION, we want, for this edition, to highlight what comes after, the positive aftermath, the emergence from mourning... and finally call for the **REMISSION** of the City so that colors and music return, and life can resume at last.

“Asé pléré an nou lité” (Enough crying, let's fight), said the militant in the past.

Indeed, Saint-Pierre will forever be remembered as the martyr city, a witness to a central human adventure in the history of our small country. Even though the urban society that built the city was deeply mourned, its ideas and struggles were not destroyed.

Certainly, Saint-Pierre will not become the cultural and economic capital of Martinique again because life does not stop—a new society has formed since departmentalization, and a new urban fabric has been constructed to help it thrive.

But life does not favor emptiness either, and a new configuration of living together can recycle the old skin into a new adventure if we find the energy.

Our Festival calls for producing these urban vitamins.

The proposed installations must serve as dietary supplements, capsules of well-being to help the city emerge from its convalescence and set it on the path to recovery.

Additionally, the trick to bypassing the obstacle of preventive excavation is to build without anchoring into the ground.

Therefore, the present Festival calls for the production of installations that will serve as a recipe for overcoming the impasse—architectures simply placed... like comforting caresses on the wounds of the convalescent.

To invest in the sites by creating places just gently placed there, with care.







## \\ PARTICIPATION CONDITIONS

The consultation is open to enthusiasts of architecture and urban planning.

It is possible to form a multidisciplinary team of up to 4 people, with the team leader being a graduate architect or a master's level architecture student.

## \\ APPLICATION DOSSIER

The application dossier consists of an online registration form to be completed and signed at <https://matjoukann.com/inscription/>.

This form requires the following information:

\ Team Presentation in both French and English: including members' names, contact details, motivations, and a high-resolution photograph of the team members.

\ Presentation of the Installation, in both French and English, according to the site chosen by the team and the theme of the Matjoukann Architecture Festival for the year, "**REMISSION**": detailing how the team envisions their installation, its contribution to the city and the public, its integration into the site, its assembly and disassembly, and its overall cost. The presentation must be illustrated with a high-resolution image (mandatory) and sketches deemed useful for understanding the project.

\ Signed Rights Transfer Authorization.

**All sources for the projects must be cited and referenced. Only original creations should be presented as part of Matjoukann.**

## \\ PLANNING

Call for Applications: **Thursday, September 12, 2024.**

Site Visit: **Friday, September 20, 2024**, at 2:00 PM. To participate, please contact [contact@matjoukann.com](mailto:contact@matjoukann.com).

Application Dossiers must be submitted by **Friday, October 4, 2024**, at 11:59 PM Martinique time (GMT-4).

Selection Results will be announced on **Friday, October 11, 2024.**

Final Submission by **Monday, November 8, 2024**, at midnight.

Matjoukann Festival Launch: **November 22-24, 2024.**









## \\ \\ SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection of teams will be based on the following criteria:

### **Team Composition (10%)**

- \ The multidisciplinary nature of the team.
- \ The references and background of the team members.
- \ Motivation and interest in the Matjoukann Festival.

### **Context (20%)**

- \ Consideration of the general context at the Caribbean, Martinique, and Saint-Pierre levels.
- \ Integration of the project into its urban context and spatial environment.

### **Project (50%)**

- \ Addressing the theme “Remission” in the developed project.
- \ Research – Process – Innovation aspects of the project (overall concept, innovative ideas, creativity, construction strategies, materiality, volumetrics, etc.).
- \ Use of local, bio-sourced, biodegradable, and recyclable materials in an environmentally respectful approach.
- \ Technical methods for anchoring the project to its environment.

### **Feasibility (20%)**

- \ Project completion and execution timelines.
- \ Project cost.
- \ Reversibility of the installation.

## \\ \\ JURY COMPOSITION

The jury will consist of 7 members:

- \ A member of the CROAM council.
- \ A member of the MAM council.
- \ A member of the CAUE.
- \ An architect practicing in Martinique (excluding CROAM and MAM elected officials, and CAUE members).
- \ A Caribbean architect (not Martinican).
- \ An elected official from the city of Saint-Pierre.
- \ A representative from the Martinique Directorate of Cultural Affairs.









## \\ FOR SELECTED TEAMS

A final submission is mandatory and must be delivered in A0 landscape format by **Monday, November 8, 2024**, at midnight. The final project must include:

Site plan, plans, sections, elevations, sketches, final HD image of the project, detailed budget, and final text.

The festival will take place from **November 22 to 24, 2024**, to present the projects of the selected teams.

The setup and dismantling of the installations will be carried out by the team itself on-site at a later date in **May 2025**.

Each team may receive compensation of **up to 500.00 €** for travel expenses upon presentation of receipts and an expense report.

Each team will be provided accommodation for the duration of the **installation setup, estimated at 2 weeks**.

Each team will be allocated a **work envelope of 10,000.00 €**, which must be justified by invoices strictly for the purchase of materials and tools required for the installation.

The winning team will receive the “Prix Lauréat 1” Two other teams will be awarded as follows:

Prix Lauréats 1: 2,000.00 €

Prix Lauréats 2: 1,000.00 €

Prix Lauréats d'honneur: 750.00 €

**Specific Constraints:** The installations will be placed in public spaces and must not harm residents or the built environment. Public and population safety must be ensured at all times.



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## /// CONTACT

All questions should be addressed via email to [contact@matjoukann.com](mailto:contact@matjoukann.com).

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

