

JOB ASSIGNMENT

9th Festival of Light “Staro Rīga”

Dates: November 17 – 20, 2016

Hours of operation for Festival each day of the Festival from 17:00 to 23:00

Venue: Riga, Latvia

Festival of Light “Staro Rīga” theme and programmes

The 9th Festival of Light “Staro Rīga” continues its preparations for the centennial anniversary of Latvia – the Festival’s celebration will coincide with the 98th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Republic of Latvia. The Festival yearly upholds the tradition of congratulating Latvia on its birthday, enhancing the spread of light and life’s joy cohesion by lighting up the streets, squares, buildings, and parks of Rīga. While approaching Latvia’s Centennial, each subsequent Festival marks a step closer to the Light Festival dedicated to our Centennial during which not only the country’s capital, but also the country as a whole will join in a light inspired jubilee.

In 2016 Festival of Light “Staro Rīga” continues the 2015 Festival’s theme of “Gaismu Sauca” (Light was called) whose inspiration comes from Jāzeps Vītols 1899 composed choir song “Gaismas Pils” (Castle of Light) with words from a First Latvian National Awakening’s author, Auseklis. This song is an integral part of Latvian Song and Dance Festival and is sung at every significant moment in Latvia.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJ_RA3YLt9I

[https://lv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auseklis_\(dzejnieks\)](https://lv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auseklis_(dzejnieks))

Auseklis, in his text, employs a folklore borrowed theme about a sunken castle, which will rise only when someone will call its name. This tale has reborn into a Latvian historical allegory: in the past the peoples were free, however “bloodstained days came” and “our heroes fell to death.” The Castle of Light sunk alongside all our ancestral gods and it will appear during the daylight hours only when our nation will be free. The text concludes with the words “the light was called, the light was called! The Castle of Light is rising.”

Submitting Projects and Ideas the Festival theme can be expanded in general form. It is not necessary to create objects which reflect the musical piece or its text.

Festival of Light “Staro Rīga 2016” theme is “Gaisma ausa” (The Light is Coming)

This year's Festival programme will be divided into the following categories:

1. The main programme
2. The international programme
3. The neighbourhoods programme
4. Co-partnership and partnership programme “Riga Carnival.”

1. The main programme

The objects are displayed in different places in the urban environment – buildings, parks, bridges, squares, courtyards, and monuments. The objects must be urban environment scale and can be viewed from both afar and near within the context of urban landscape. The objects may be accompanied or embellished by performances, musical, and theatrical events. An interactive participation of the audience is desirable.

Participants must provide objects for the following venues:

Rātslaukums, Doma Square, Līvu Square, Pils Square, Skārņu Street 10 (Museum of Decorative Art and Design), St. Peters Church Frontyard, Latvia's National Opera and Ballet Square, Vērmanes Garden, Esplanāde, Latvian National Museum of Art façade and square on the park side. The applicant may suggest other sites.

2. The International programme

Festival of Light “Staro Rīga” within the programme of European Capital of Culture in 2014 gained wide international acclaim. Therefore, in 2016 Festival programme is planned to demonstrate the installations of light and light objects that have already been shown in other European and world festivals of light. You may submit also creative works and internationally collaborated projects.

The amount of funding per project is up to EUR 15 000.00. In this must be included all the project's international and local costs, including all taxes, technical equipment and support costs, artists' fees, travel expenses and so on.

The organizer of the Festival guarantee to cover the following costs:

- No more than 3 of the project participants (artists, technical personnel included) stay in Riga, no more than 5 days;
- The connection to the local network of electricity (if possible);

- Switching off the existing permanent public light (if possible);
- Event permits;
- Festival's communication and project's supervision.

3. The neighbourhoods programme

This programme is intended for venues in the urban environment and for the interactive development of city neighbourhoods.

The applicant must submit a 5-10 object grouping which are planned to place in specific locations: park, square, promenade, or street section. The object's group can form a thematically unified message, but objects can also be thematically unrelated. However, it is recommended that the applicant adds an idea about objects' long-term demonstration in offered place.

4. * Co-partnership and partnership programme "Riga Carnival"

The Festival programme will include the light objects of the Festival's partners – light installations and objects, whose ideas are created, realized and financed by the Festival's partners or sponsors. The Co-partnership and partnership programme allows their participants to integrate themselves within the urban event by illuminating their own buildings, an urban environmental object or telling the story of their company. Partners also participate in the Festival's financing by investing resources which will be used for Festival's expenditures, advertising and marketing costs.

In 2016 Festival programme both former collaboration partners as well as new partners are invited to participate.

Partners will be granted with a special communications package. Co-payments, which are directed to the realization of Festival communication campaign is EUR 1400, 00 (excluding VAT).

* The announcement about submission of Applications for the festival program "Riga Carnival" will be advertised in addition (Additional information: info@staroriga.lv).

Director

G. Helmanis