International Mobility + Cultural Exchange for Artists

1. Not-to-miss organizations & publications

1.1. General information, cultural mobility

- **TransArtists** (artist-in-residence information/resources platform for artists worldwide) - [www.transartists.org](http://www.transartists.org)
- **TransCultural Exchange** (fosters greater understanding of world cultures through conference, cultural exchange, arts exhibition) - [www.transculturalexchange.org](http://www.transculturalexchange.org)
- **Alliance of Artists Communities** – [www.artistcommunities.org](http://www.artistcommunities.org)
  See more specifically "Residencies Abroad", their international cohort for exchange of experience: [www.artistcommunities.org/sites/default/files/shared/ResAbroad_ContactList_0.pdf](http://www.artistcommunities.org/sites/default/files/shared/ResAbroad_ContactList_0.pdf)
- **On the Move**, cultural mobility information network – [www.on-the-move.org](http://www.on-the-move.org)
  See more specifically their collaboration with Martin E. Segal Theater Centre and Theater Without Borders on US cultural mobility: [http://us-culturalmobility.org](http://us-culturalmobility.org) (focus on performing arts)
- **Visiting Arts** (UK) aims to connect UK and international artists [www.visitingarts.org.uk](http://www.visitingarts.org.uk)
  See also their platform World Culture Connect, digital hub for international arts and culture professionals: [www.worldculturesconnect.com](http://www.worldculturesconnect.com)
- **Asia-Europe Foundation** (ASEF) fosters collaboration between Asia and Europe [http://asef.org](http://asef.org)
  See more specifically their cultural platform [Culture360.org](http://culture360.asef.org) with many resources, open calls, and country profiles in Asia and Europe

1.2. Information about in/outgoing mobility to USA

- **National Endowment for the Arts** Webinars Bringing Foreign Artists to Your Stage: [www.arts.gov/video/bringing-foreign-artists-your-stage-webinar-2](http://www.arts.gov/video/bringing-foreign-artists-your-stage-webinar-2)
- **Americans for the Arts’** resources on international collaboration and cultural diplomacy: [www.americansforthearts.org/by-location/international](http://www.americansforthearts.org/by-location/international)
- **Artists from Abroad**, complete guide on immigration and tax requirements (focus on performing artists) [www.artistsfromabroad.org](http://www.artistsfromabroad.org)

1.3. Publications

- Policy document about EU-USA relationships (source: EU external relations) [http://cultureinexternalrelations.eu/main-outcomes](http://cultureinexternalrelations.eu/main-outcomes)

2. Visa information related websites

- **Visas4Artists.com** is a website sponsored by Milovansky Law Office. It is not intended to substitute legal advice, but helps to get an idea of all different visa options for artists [http://visas4artists.com/other-visa-options](http://visas4artists.com/other-visa-options)
- **Tamizdat** is an organization that facilitates international cultural exchange – focus on performing arts. Tamizdat recently started the **AVAIL** (Artist visa assistance and information line) [http://www.tamizdat.org/avail](http://www.tamizdat.org/avail)
- **Fractured Atlas** helps reviewing your material for visa application and can write letter of consultation [https://www.fracturedatlases.org/site/prodev/page/artist_visas](https://www.fracturedatlases.org/site/prodev/page/artist_visas)
3. Taxes, customs, social security – key platforms
   - US immigration service official website: [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)
   - FAQ from Artists from Abroad website, with many key information about US tax system: [wwwartistsfromabroad.org/tax-requirements/frequently-asked-questions](http://wwwartistsfromabroad.org/tax-requirements/frequently-asked-questions)

2. Funding: basic information and funding guides
   - On the Move funding guides (note: OTM doesn't provide funding but guides you through regular funding opportunities in Europe, Asia, Arab Countries and US): [http://on-the-move.org/funding](http://on-the-move.org/funding)
   - On the Move funding guide for USA (incoming and outgoing mobility for performing arts) [http://us-culturalmobility.org](http://us-culturalmobility.org)
   - Green Art Lab Alliance funding guide on Arts & (environmental) Sustainability projects: [http://greenartlaballiance.eu/?page_id=1278](http://greenartlaballiance.eu/?page_id=1278) (international scope, EU focus)
   - Basic information on US funding system (good for foreign artists/organizations to understand): [https://www.arts.gov/publications/how-united-states-funds-arts](https://www.arts.gov/publications/how-united-states-funds-arts)
   - General tips on how to look for funding for residency programmes (for artists): [http://www.transartists.org/article/artist-residence-funding-tips](http://www.transartists.org/article/artist-residence-funding-tips) (note: TransArtists is not a funding organization)
   - TransCultural Exchange resources about funding: [http://transculturalexchange.org/resources/funding.htm](http://transculturalexchange.org/resources/funding.htm) (note: TCE is not a funding organization)
   - Summary of the Q&A session of World Cultures Connect on funding of international mobility (with On the Move): [http://www.worldculturesconnect.com/?id=-100245](http://www.worldculturesconnect.com/?id=-100245)

3. Funding: some organizations
   - Trust for Mutual Understanding supports international exchange. Focus on Eastern/Central Europe, mobility to the USA (US organizations need to apply): [http://www.tmuny.org/applicants/#Information](http://www.tmuny.org/applicants/#Information)
   - CEC ArtsLink offers specific funding for residencies in the US. Focus on Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Europe: [http://www.cecartslink.org/grants/artslink_residencies](http://www.cecartslink.org/grants/artslink_residencies)
   - Asian Cultural Council, for US or Asian nationals (both organization and individual grants): [http://www.asianculturalcouncil.org/our-programs/what-we-fund](http://www.asianculturalcouncil.org/our-programs/what-we-fund)
   - Ford Foundation project grants: some residencies might be eligible for the project grants: [http://www.fordfoundation.org/grants](http://www.fordfoundation.org/grants)
   - Remember to approach consulates & embassies for (partial) funding of cultural exchange. See for instance this list of foreign embassies in the USA: [http://www.state.gov/s/cpr/rls/dpl/32122.htm](http://www.state.gov/s/cpr/rls/dpl/32122.htm)
   - Ask national art/culture institutes when they exist, either for funding or for tips about funding opportunities. See for instance the European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) [http://www.eunic-online.eu](http://www.eunic-online.eu)

4. Other tips: inviting an international artist in your program
   - Plan enough time for international artists to apply: it might be more difficult to come across your open call (reach out to specialized platforms such as TransArtists)
   - Plan enough time between selection and actual residency period: artist need to secure funding (usually about 6 months in advance for international projects), and get the right visa
   - Provide artist with letter of invitation, both to secure funding but also for the border/immigration control!
   - Plan specific budget for international costs: travel, visa, shipping costs, international phone calls, loss in exchange rate (if you provide a stipend, those are very real considerations for the artist)
   - For certain countries/regions of the world, note that artists might not have credit card/bank account/acceptable driver's license, eligible (health) insurance. Discuss this in advance with the artist.
   - Note also that it might be difficult for musicians to come (import/export of rare wood) or for artists to ship back their work (export of certain materials).

Questions, remarks, additions? Please email Marie Fol at m.fol@dutchculture.nl – Thanks!

*Handout Alliance of Artists' Communities 2015 conference – Marie Fol (DutchCulture | TransArtists) & Mary Sherman (TransCultural Exchange)*