

RE-ENCHANTING VILLA MEDICI

RULES

**Call for projects for the refurbishment of two spaces
of Villa Medici
(Studio 5bis et Studiolo 26)**

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**ACADÉMIE DE
FRANCE À ROME**

Re-enchanting Villa Medici

Call for projects for the refurbishment of two spaces of Villa Medici

ARTICLE 1: Introduction to the call for projects

1.1 Background to the call for projects

Situated on the heights of the Pincio hill, overlooking the historic heart of Rome, Villa Medici is an exceptional venue dedicated to the arts. Set within one of Rome's most beautiful villas, designed by the Medici family, and a historic garden spanning over seven hectares, it has been home since 1803 to the French Academy in Rome, founded in 1666 by Louis XIV.

In the tradition of the refurbishments carried out throughout its history by Balthus and Richard Peduzzi, the Academy has launched an ambitious project to refurbish and refurnish Villa Medici, which has been underway since 2022: the *Re-enchanting Villa Medici* project. This project has been made possible thanks to the exceptional support of the Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, Grand Patron of the project since 2022 and a patron of the arts and crafts for 25 years.

The *Re-enchanting* project, carried out since its launch in partnership with the Manufactures nationales – Sèvres et Mobilier national, comprises several strands involving the perspectives of architects, designers, contemporary artists and craft professionals, with the aim of refurbishing the spaces of Villa Medici and prompting reflection on their uses.

The French Academy in Rome thus refurbished its six reception rooms with the assistance of Silvia Venturini Fendi and Kim Jones in autumn 2022, followed by the historic bedrooms on the first floor thanks to the work of India Mahdavi in spring 2023. At the same time, it launched three successive calls for projects to select teams of architects, designers and craft professionals who refurbished seven guest rooms, six of which were inaugurated in June 2025, with the last one due to be completed in 2026. This phase of the *Re-enchanting* project was complemented by the refurbishment of two citrus gardens, thanks to the work of Bas Smets in collaboration with Pierre-Antoine Gatier, Muller Van Severen, the ceramicist Natsuko Uchino and the writer Laura Vazquez. These gardens were also included in the June 2025 inauguration.

In 2025, the Bettencourt Schueller Foundation renewed its patronage and commitment to Villa Medici. This enabled the launch of a new phase of the *Re-enchanting Villa Medici* project, which involves the refurbishment and refurnishing of the fellows' pavilions as well as seven new spaces, two of which are the subject of this call for projects.

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1.2 Purpose and procedure of the call for projects

This new phase of the *Re-enchanting* project includes the refurbishment of two spaces located on Villa Medici estate:

- Studio 5bis, located in the gardens,
- Studiolo 26, located in the main building.

These spaces will be primarily dedicated to hosting residents, former fellows, artists and other guests associated with Villa Medici's cultural programme, for short or medium-term stays.

Candidates may propose a refurbishment project for either of these spaces, or for both. They may be selected for one space or for both.

The call for projects is open to architects, interior designers and designers.

Submitted projects must necessarily involve the participation of craft professionals (see Article 2: Conditions of participation).

The call for projects will take place in two phases:

- A **pre-selection phase** based on the applications submitted. Candidates must submit a complete application file to verify that they meet the conditions of participation. Each application is assessed against the selection criteria set out in these rules (see Article 7.2: Selection Criteria). This phase aims to shortlist at least two candidate projects per space.
- A **final selection phase to choose the winning teams** for each space from among the shortlisted projects. This second phase involves an immersion stay at Villa Medici, including a visit to both spaces. Candidates will then have the opportunity to refine their proposal, which will be presented during an interview (see Article 7.5: Deliverable and interview). Shortlisted candidates will receive a fee of €1,500 including VAT (one thousand five hundred euros all charges included) following the final interview.

1.3 Provisional schedule for the call for projects

The call for projects will follow the provisional schedule below:

- **May 7, 2026, at 12:00 PM** (CET, Paris time): Opening of the application platform;
- **August 24, 2026, at 12:00 PM** (CET, Paris time): Closing of the application platform;
- **September 2026**: Examination by the jury of the applications and selection of the candidate teams for the stay in Rome;

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- **October 12 – 15, 2026:** Stay at Villa Medici of the shortlisted teams;
- **November 16, 2026:** Submission of deliverables refined following the stay in Rome by the shortlisted teams;
- **December 2026:** Examination of applications and interviews by the jury of the shortlisted teams in Paris;
- **Early 2027:** Announcement of the winning teams.

The construction works for the two selected refurbishment projects are scheduled to take place during the second half of 2027.

This timetable is indicative and may be adjusted as necessary by the Academy.

ARTICLE 2: Conditions of participation

The aim of the call for projects is to select one winning project per space, to be carried out by architects, interior architects and/or designers. Applications may be submitted by an individual, a practice or an association of professionals in the fields indicated above.

Projects must include one or more collaborations with craft professionals who must be identified in the application (see Article 3.1: Contents of the application).

2.1 Professional status of candidates

Architects, interior designers and/or designers involved in the project must demonstrate one of the following professional statuses:

- Be a self-employed professional practising in the relevant field;
- Be registered with the Ordre des Architectes ;
- Be registered in the Trades Register or the Business Register;
- Be registered with the European Business Register (EBR);
- Be a director or employee of a company or SME (within the meaning of European Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 and any amendments thereto in line with regulatory developments).

Candidates who do not hold French nationality must provide proof of one of the professional statuses corresponding to the French requirements or submit a self-certification as proof of professional activity. The Academy reserves the right to examine these supporting documents after applications have been submitted.

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The following are excluded from participation:

- Any director, employee, staff member, board member or member of a governing body of the French Academy in Rome – Villa Medici, the Manufactures nationales – Sèvres et Mobilier national, or the Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, as well as any spouse, ascendant or descendant of such a person;
- Any member of the competition jury, as well as any spouse, ascendant, descendant or employee of such a person;
- More generally, any person involved directly or indirectly, in any way whatsoever, in the organisation of this competition.

2.2 Use of craft professionals

Projects must necessarily include one or more collaborations with craft professionals who must be identified in the application (see Article 3.1: Contents of the application) and practise one of the craft trades listed in the annex to the decree of 24 December 2015 (NOR: EINI1509227A), as it may be amended or supplemented at a later date in line with changes to the regulations.

The following are excluded from participation:

- Any director, employee, staff member, administrator or member of a governing body of the French Academy in Rome – Villa Medici, the Manufactures nationales – Sèvres et Mobilier national or the Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, as well as any spouse, ascendant or descendant of such a person;
- Any member of the competition jury, as well as any spouse, ascendant, descendant or employee of such a person;
- More generally, any person participating directly or indirectly, in any way whatsoever, in the organisation of this competition.

These professionals must be involved in all or part of the layout and furniture elements proposed in the refurbishment project for the selected space (see Articles 5.2.2 and 6.2.2: Involvement of craft professionals).

2.3 Project leaders

An application submitted by a firm or an association of professionals must include a project leader. In the case of an application submitted by a single person, the candidate will automatically be identified as the project leader.

The designated project leader will act as the sole point of contact for the Academy during the selection phase and, if the project is selected, throughout all phases following the closure of this call for projects.

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Following the final interview, the shortlisted teams, including the winning teams, will receive a fee corresponding to the delivery of a deliverable (see Article 7.5: Deliverable and interview). This remuneration as well as that provided for in Article 8.1: Remuneration of winning teams of these rules shall be paid by the Academy to the project leader, with the team being responsible for deciding on its internal distribution.

This submission will be assessed by the jury in order to select the winning team for each space. If selected, the winning project teams will be tasked with the following for each space:

- Preparation of the Detailed Design;
- Preparing the Tender Documents;
- Artistic supervision of the works, in conjunction with the Academy;
- Coordinating the involvement of craft professionals and any partners involved in the project.

ARTICLE 3: Submission of applications and receipt of files

Applications must be submitted online by 24 August 2026 at 12 PM (CET, Paris time) via the Academy's application platform, accessible via the following link: <https://reenchanter.villamedici.it>.

Each application must present a project for only one of the two spaces (Studio 5bis and Studiolo 26).

In the event of an application for two spaces, candidates must submit two separate applications via the dedicated platform.

The Academy reserves the right to accept applications submitted via the platform after this time, provided they are received before the platform closes.

Submission of an application implies acceptance of these rules.

All applications submitted are confidential. Access to them is restricted to the Academy and the jury.

3.1 Contents of the application

Each application, written in French or English, must include:

- A portfolio;
- A presentation of the proposed refurbishment of the chosen space (Studio 5bis or Studiolo 26);

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- A **scanned copy of the proof of identity** of the project leader, the members of the candidate team and the craft professionals;
- A **scanned copy of proof of professional status** for the project leader and the members of the candidate team (see Article 2.1: Professional status of candidates).

These documents must be uploaded in PDF format to the dedicated application platform, after completing the online application form.

It is essential that the filenames of each document begin with the name of the candidate, the office or the association (e.g. for Mr Dupont's application: "dupont_portfolio.pdf", "dupont_project.pdf", etc.) and must not contain any accents or special characters (e.g. £, *, #, (), ^, etc.).

The total file size of the digital application pack must not exceed 20 MB.

The purpose of the **portfolio** is to present the candidate team and the craft professionals involved in the project.

It must contain:

- The **composition of the candidate team** and the **craft professionals** involved in the project;
- A **detailed curriculum vitae** of the project leader, the members of the candidate team and the craft professionals involved in the project;
- A **description, accompanied by visuals, of projects of a similar scale previously carried out** by the project leader, the members of the candidate team and the craft professionals involved in the project (specifying for each project the roles held and the work carried out, the completion date, the name of the client and, where applicable, the cost of the works).

The purpose of the **presentation of the refurbishment project** is to describe the project for the chosen space (Studio 5bis or Studiolo 26).

It must contain:

- A **cover page summarising the application**, including: the chosen space (Studio 5bis or Studiolo 26), the identity of the project leader, the full names of the members of the candidate team and the craft professionals involved in the project;
- A **second page detailing the project team**, including: short biographies of the project leader, the members of the candidate team and the craft professionals involved in the project;

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- A third page with images illustrating the past achievements of the project leader, the members of the candidate team and the craft professionals involved in the project;
- A fourth page summarising the main points of the refurbishment project, including: a description (maximum 30 lines) and one or two images representative of the project.

This presentation will be followed by a **descriptive document of the proposed refurbishment project**, including:

- Sketches or diagrams;
- A plan (scale 1:50), two significant sections (scale 1:50) and at least two 3D visuals of the project for the chosen space (Studio 5bis or Studiolo 26);
- Details of the layout, furniture and materials used;
- A detailed budget with the appropriate VAT applied (20% for purchases and work carried out in France, 22% for those carried out in Italy).

Candidates may include other visual elements such as photomontages, axonometric projections and/or details of references used.

The entire presentation must not exceed 1,500 words (excluding titles and captions).

3.2 Review of the eligibility of applications

After the closing date for applications, applications will be reviewed to verify their eligibility and compliance with the requirements set out in these rules.

Only complete applications that meet the requirements set out in these rules will be considered. Any false declaration will automatically disqualify the application.

Complete and admissible applications will then be submitted to the jury for shortlisting.

ARTICLE 4: Presentation of the two spaces

4.1 History

a) Studio 5bis

Studio 5bis is located in the buildings backing onto the northern boundary wall of Villa Medici, which forms a shared boundary with the Villa Borghese park. Whilst the construction of this wall and the first buildings dates back to the 16th century, the use of this space has undergone significant functional changes over time.

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Originally used for growing fruit trees, this area of the estate, protected by two walls, was probably repurposed in the 18th century for domestic use, with the small courtyard and the single-storey building serving as a place to hang out the washing. It was not until the second half of the 19th century that the building is thought to have gained in height through the addition of storeys. The first floor, with its large north-east-facing window, then served as a workshop.

With its understated aesthetic and utilitarian character, this architectural ensemble stands in stark contrast to the Renaissance splendour of Villa's main building. This everyday architecture, with its modest proportions, reflects a geometry dictated by the site's constraints, nestled between the centuries-old boundary wall and the layout of the historic gardens.

Today, these buildings mainly house studios and accommodation for fellows and other artists in residence at Villa Medici.

b) Studiolo 26

Studiolo 26 is divided into two independent studios: Studio 26a and Studio 26b.

Studios 26a and 26b are part of the building's original layout, which dates back to the 16th century.

Studio 26a is situated within the attic storey. This mansard-roofed room would likely have served, over the centuries, as additional accommodation or storage space. Indeed, although historical sources remain silent regarding its original purpose, the spatial layout suggests a domestic and utilitarian function, set apart from the reception areas.

More recently, Studio 26a served as a storage area for some of Villa Medici's digital equipment, before this function was recently transferred to new premises, thereby freeing up the space for its current reinvention.

Studio 26b adjoins the historic apartments, and more specifically the Room of Loves. Historical sources do not document its use. It is now fitted out as a bathroom and cloakroom and serves as a storage area for equipment used in the upkeep of Villa Medici.

4.2 Uses

Studio 5bis accommodates artists, residents, former fellows and other guests of Villa Medici's cultural programme for short to medium-term stays. Its capacity is limited to two people.

Studiolo 26 will host artists, residents, former fellows and other guests of Villa Medici's cultural programme for short-term stays. It will consist of two independent studios connected by a shared corridor and which will be occupied separately or together. It will serve as a study and an occasional guest room. The

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maximum capacity of Studiolo 26 will be two people in Studio 26a and up to two people in Studio 26b.

Maintenance and refurbishment of these two spaces are required between each guest's arrival and departure and are carried out by the maintenance staff at Villa Medici. Consequently, the items within these two spaces must be suitable for a high turnover of guests. In the event of damage or a malfunction of equipment, the Academy must be able to carry out any repairs or maintenance work within a short timeframe.

ARTICLE 5: Specifications for the refurbishment of Studio 5bis

These specifications relate to the refurbishment of Studio 5bis, the description, photographs and plans of which are set out in Appendix 1 and 2.

5.1 Description of Studio 5bis

Studio 5bis is situated on the second floor of a three-levels building comprising two studios on the ground floor and another apartment on the first floor. It has a terrace with a view to the north over the Pincio and the Villa Borghese, to the south over the historic gardens and the main building of Villa Medici, and to the west over a courtyard situated between two studios. Access is via a spiral staircase reached through a door accessible from the historic gardens.

Studio 5bis has a floor area of approximately 31m². It comprises an approximately 19-square-meter-main room, an approximately 2-square-meter-bathroom and an approximately 10-square-meter-terrace.

A detailed description of Studio 5bis, including a list of the furniture provided, is attached to these rules (see Appendix 1: Description of the spaces).

5.2 Layout and renovation of the spaces in Studio 5bis

5.2.1 Prerequisites and expectations for the refurbishment project

Studio 5bis is intended to accommodate guests (artists in residence, former fellows visiting, and guests of Villa Medici's cultural programme) for short and medium-term stays. It has a maximum capacity of two people.

Candidates are therefore expected to formulate proposals for Studio 5bis regarding the layout of the following spaces:

- The main room;
- The bathroom;
- The terrace.

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The design proposal must ensure that it includes:

- Storage spaces;
- A lighting plan for all aforementioned spaces.

a) Requirements for the layout of the main room

Studio 5bis features a main room with a floor area of approximately 19m², currently serving as a bedroom with a kitchenette. This room is intended to accommodate one to two people simultaneously and to serve the following purposes: cooking, eating, working, sleeping and storing.

Proposals for the layout of this space must include at least the following elements:

- A double bed (double bed or two single beds, storage bed, etc.; standard total dimensions 160x200cm);
- Two bedside solutions;
- A table that can seat at least two people and serve as both a workspace and a dining table;
- Kitchen units, either freestanding or built-in, including at a minimum: a two-ring induction hob, a worktop, a fridge (90 litres), a sink with a drainer, space for a coffee machine and a kettle, space for storing crockery and other kitchen utensils, space for food storage, space for three small bins for waste sorting (plastic, cardboard, general waste);
- Seating for at least two people;
- Interior blinds;
- A proposal for the positioning and integration of a fan;
- A proposal for the integration of the existing electrical panel and radiator.

b) Requirements for the bathroom layout

Studio 5bis has a bathroom with a toilet measuring approximately 2m².

Proposals for the layout of this space must include at least the following elements:

- A partially or fully enclosed shower;
- A toilet;
- A washbasin;
- A mirror;

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- A cabinet or other storage solution;
- Accessories (towel rails, soap dishes, shelves, coat hooks, etc.);
- A proposal for integrating the towel warmer and water heater.

c) Requirements for the terrace layout

Studio 5bis features an outdoor terrace with an area of approximately 10m². This space is designed to accommodate one to four people at a time and to serve the following purposes: relaxing, socialising, dining and working.

Proposals for the layout of this space must include at least the following elements:

- Outdoor furniture capable of accommodating at least two people (table, coffee table, with or without built-in seating, etc.);
- A reversible shading solution.

d) Requirements for the design of storage spaces

Proposals for the layout of the entire Studio 5bis must include, as a minimum, the following storage solutions:

- One or more storage units for clothes (also allowing coats and other long garments to be hung up);
- A storage unit for suitcases;
- A storage unit for extra bed linen;
- A storage unit for cleaning products.

e) Requirements for the lighting design

Candidates must submit a proposal that rethinks the lighting and the positioning of sockets and switches throughout all the aforementioned spaces. The list of lighting fixtures used (pendant lights, wall lights, floor lamps, etc.), along with their technical specifications, must be specified. Lighting proposals for the bathroom must comply with current Italian and/or European regulations.

5.2.2 Involvement of craft professionals

Craft professionals must be involved in all or part of the interior fittings and furniture required for the refurbishment of Studio 5bis (see Article 5.2 Layout and renovation of the spaces in Studio 5bis).

By way of example and without limitation, this work may concern lighting fixtures (pendant lights, wall lights, floor lamps, etc.), the listed items of furniture and

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fittings, details of certain proposals (door handles, coat hooks, etc.), and surface finishes (tiles, ceramics, etc.).

5.3 Restrictions and recommendations for the refurbishment project

The Academy draws candidates' attention to the fact that any planned work (purchases, supplies, etc.) must be costed in the budget provided by the candidates. Costs associated with the restoration of original features to be retained must also be included in this budget.

5.3.1 Restrictions and recommendations regarding refurbishment

a) Original features

Certain elements currently present in Studio 5bis date back to the building's original construction. As such, they cannot be the subject of a proposal. These elements are:

- The cladding of the façade, windows and external shutters;
- The flooring in the main room and on the terrace. The Academy reserves the right, in exceptional circumstances, to accept a modification to the terrace flooring if the quality of the proposal justifies it;
- The existing beams. However, a proposal to repaint them may be submitted.

b) Technical elements

Certain elements currently present in Studio 5bis fulfil essential technical functions. As such, they must be retained or redesigned in accordance with the following conditions:

- The position of the water supply and drainage points in the bathroom may be moved provided they remain close to their current location;
- The position of the water supply and drainage points in the kitchen may be moved provided they remain close to their current location;
- The Wi-Fi access point and landline telephone must be integrated;
- The gutter and downpipe on the terrace must be retained.

c) Reversibility requirement

The interior elements added by the refurbishment proposal (movable partition, raised platform, etc.) as well as any proposed shading solution for the terrace must be reversible.

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5.3.2 Restrictions and recommendations regarding materials and supplies

a) Finishes

All paint must be associated with a RAL or NCS code or clearly identified supplies.

Proposals for floor coverings using carpet will be excluded. Regarding fabric coverings, it is recommended to use outdoor fabrics or, at the very least, fabrics that are highly durable and easy to clean.

Wall coverings must be suitable for regular domestic use.

Finally, vertical walls must be fitted with skirting boards, the finish of which is left to the discretion of the candidates.

b) Bathroom fittings

The bathroom fittings proposed must be readily available for purchase on the Italian market. Furthermore, the Academy may propose specific tap models to facilitate the maintenance of the fittings.

c) Electrical and lighting fittings

Sockets and switches must comply with Italian standards. Furthermore, the lighting fixtures proposed must be easily repairable and must not be excessively complex (for example, when changing a bulb).

d) Furniture

The furniture items proposed must comply with the standards applicable in France or Italy for indoor and outdoor domestic furniture. They must also meet requirements for durability and ease of maintenance and be suitable for frequent domestic use.

Proposals for furniture designed for outdoor use must incorporate materials and finishes suitable for outdoor conditions (outdoor textiles, non-flammable and openwork materials, furniture that dries quickly, materials and finishes resistant to high temperatures and exposure to the sun) as well as to pine resin, which is particularly common in gardens.

ARTICLE 6: Specifications for the refurbishment of Studiolo 26

These specifications relate to the refurbishment of Studiolo 26, a description, photographs and plans of which are set out in Appendix 1 and 2.

6.1 Description of Studiolo 26

Studiolo 26 is situated on the sixth floor of the main building of Villa Medici, in the

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south tower. Access is via a spiral staircase.

Studiolo 26 is divided into two separate studios: Studio 26a and Studio 26b.

Studio 26a is situated within the attic storey. Studio 26b adjoins the historic apartments, specifically the Room of Loves. At present, Studios 26a and 26b are not connected. Studio 26a is accessed via a corridor reached by the spiral staircase in the South Tower. Studio 26b is accessible only via the Room of Loves, which is also reached by the spiral staircase in the South Tower.

A current access plan for Studios 26a and 26b is attached to these rules (see Appendix 2: Graphic documents and plans).

a) Studio 26a

Studio 26a has a floor area of approximately 38m². It comprises an approximately 5-meter-square-entrance hall, an approximately 29-meter-square-main room (including a landing) and an approximately 4-meter-square-bathroom.

Currently, Studio 26a serves as a passageway for a number of visible, unencased utility networks and technical elements. A utility room housing the connections for these networks is accessible via a fire door located on the landing. A door in the bathroom also provides access to the roof void.

A detailed description of Studio 26a, including a list of the furniture present and details of its technical specifications, is provided in the appendix to these rules (see Appendix 1: Description of spaces).

b) Studio 26b

Studio 26b has a floor area of approximately 13m². It comprises an 8-meter-square-bathroom and an approximately 5-meter-square-cloakroom.

Studio 26b is currently accessible via a door connecting to the historic apartments of Villa Medici, and more specifically via a small staircase located in the Room of Loves. Studio 26b is currently fitted out as a bathroom and a cloakroom and serves as a storage space.

The distinctive feature of Studio 26b is the presence of a vaulted ceiling, which also covers the ceiling of the adjoining corridor. At present, a wall divides the space beneath the vault into two. Another partition separates the overall space of Studio 26b into two areas: a bathroom and a cloakroom.

A detailed description of Studio 26b, including a list of the furniture present and details of its technical specifications, is provided in the appendix to these rules (see Appendix 1: Description of spaces).

6.2 Layout and renovation of the Studiolo 26 spaces

6.2.1 Prerequisites and expectations for the refurbishment project

Studiolo 26 is intended to accommodate guests (artists in residence, former fellows visiting, and guests of Villa Medici's cultural programme) for short stays. With this in mind, the refurbishment of this space must include a proposal for a redesign that incorporates existing technical elements that cannot be moved.

The Academy wishes to be able to make Studio 26a and Studio 26b available independently. Their maximum capacity will be two people in Studio 26a and up to two people in Studio 26b.

To achieve this, candidates are expected to redesign the existing corridor to ensure access to both Studio 26a and Studio 26b. The current access to Studio 26b via the Room of Loves will be removed. The partition wall between the corridor and Studio 26b may, if necessary, be partially removed to create an opening (see Article 6.3.3.1). Finally, the refurbishment project for Studiolo 26 must include the creation of a dedicated storage space for housekeeping, shared by both studios and accessible from the shared corridor.

6.2.1.1 Studio 26a

Candidates are therefore expected to formulate proposals for Studio 26a regarding the layout of the following spaces:

- The main room;
- The bathroom.

The design proposal must ensure that it includes:

- Storage spaces;
- A lighting plan for all the aforementioned spaces;
- The integration of existing utilities and technical elements.

a) Requirements for the main room layout

Studio 26a features a main room with a floor area of approximately 29m² (including the landing). The current floor area of this room may be modified (see Article 6.3.1.1). This room is intended to accommodate one or two people at a time and to serve the following purposes: relaxing, working, sleeping and storing.

Proposals for the layout of this space must include at least the following elements:

- A double bed (double bed or two single beds, storage bed, etc., standard total dimensions 160x200cm);

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- Two bedside solutions;
- Furniture to create a small lounge area (a coffee table, an armchair or a movable or built-in bench, etc.);
- A sideboard (to accommodate a small fridge, glasses and cups, a coffee machine and a kettle);
- A desk or other work surface;
- A desk chair.

b) Requirements for the bathroom layout

Studio 26a has a bathroom with a floor area of approximately 4m². The current floor area of this room may be modified (see Article 6.3.1.1).

Proposals for the layout of this space must include at least the following elements:

- A partially or fully enclosed shower;
- A toilet;
- A washbasin;
- A mirror;
- A cabinet or other storage solution;
- Accessories (towel rails, soap dishes, shelves, coat hooks, etc.);
- A proposal for the positioning and integration of a radiator;
- A proposal for the positioning and integration of a mechanical ventilation system.

c) Requirements for the design of storage spaces

Proposals for the layout of the entire Studio 26a must include, as a minimum, the following storage spaces:

- One or more storage solutions for clothes (also allowing coats and other long garments to be hung up);
- A storage unit for suitcases;
- A storage unit for extra bed linen;
- A storage unit for cleaning products.

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d) Requirements for the lighting design

Candidates must propose a design that rethinks the lighting and positioning of sockets and switches throughout all the aforementioned spaces. The list of lighting fixtures used (pendant lights, wall lights, floor lamps, etc.), as well as their technical specifications, must be specified. Lighting proposals for the bathroom must comply with current Italian and/or European regulations.

e) Integration of existing networks and technical elements

Studio 26a remains the access point to a network of systems and technical elements essential to the proper functioning of Villa Medici. As such, it currently comprises electrical and plumbing systems (cables, pipes, electrical panels) that are visible and not concealed. The design proposal must incorporate a solution for integrating and/or concealing these systems.

6.2.1.2 Studio 26b

Candidates are therefore expected to formulate proposals for Studio 26b regarding the layout of the following spaces:

- The main room;
- The bathroom.

The design project should ensure that it includes:

- Storage space;
- A lighting plan for all the above areas;
- The integration of existing utilities and technical elements.

a) Requirements for the layout of the main room

The refurbishment project for Studio 26b must include the creation of a main room that can be used as either a study or an occasional guest room. It must be able to accommodate up to two people. The current floor areas of the spaces comprising Studio 26b must be modified to allow for the creation of this new room (see Article 6.3.1.2). This main room must serve the following purposes: working, relaxing, changing, sleeping and storing.

Proposals for the layout of this space must include at least the following elements:

- A double bed (double bed or two single beds, storage bed, extra bed, etc.);
- A bedside solution.

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b) Requirements for the bathroom layout

The layout plan for Studio 26b must include the creation of a new bathroom with a toilet. The current floor areas of the spaces comprising Studio 26b must necessarily be modified to allow for the creation of this new room (see Article 6.3.1.2).

Proposals for the layout of this space must include at least the following elements:

- A partially or fully enclosed shower;
- A toilet;
- A washbasin;
- A mirror;
- A cabinet or other storage solution;
- Accessories (towel rail, soap dishes, shelves, coat hooks, etc.);
- A proposal to replace the existing radiator;
- A proposal for the positioning and integration of a mechanical ventilation system.

c) Requirements for the design of storage spaces

Proposals for the layout of the entire Studio 26b must include, as a minimum, the following storage spaces:

- One or more storage units for clothes (also allowing coats and other long garments to be hung up).

d) Requirements for the lighting design

Candidates must propose a plan that rethinks the lighting and the positioning of sockets and switches throughout all the aforementioned spaces. The list of lighting fixtures used (pendant lights, wall lights, floor lamps, etc.), as well as their technical specifications, must be specified. Lighting proposals for the bathroom must comply with current Italian and/or European regulations.

e) Integration of existing networks and technical elements

Studio 26b currently comprises electrical and plumbing networks (cables, pipes, electrical panels) that are visible and not concealed. The design proposal must incorporate a solution for integrating and/or concealing these networks.

6.2.2 Involvement of craft professionals

Craft professionals will be required to work on all or part of the interior fittings and furniture required for the refurbishment of Studiolo 26 (see Article 6.2 Layout and renovation of the spaces in Studiolo 26).

By way of example and without limitation, this work may concern lighting elements (pendant lights, wall lights, floor lamps, etc.), the listed items of furniture and fittings, details of certain proposals (door handles, coat hooks, etc.), and surface finishes (tiles, ceramics, etc.).

6.3 Restrictions and recommendations for the refurbishment project

The Academy draws candidates' attention to the fact that all planned expenditure (purchases, supplies, etc.) must be itemised in the budget submitted by the candidates. The costs associated with restoring the original features to be retained must also be included in this budget.

6.3.1 Restrictions and recommendations regarding refurbishment

6.3.1.1 Studio 26a

a) Original features

Certain elements currently present in Studio 26a date back to the building's original construction. As such, they cannot be included in a proposal. These elements are:

- The terracotta floor tiles and stone steps in the corridor;
- The existing vaults and beams. However, a proposal may be made to repaint the beams.

b) Technical elements

Certain elements currently present in Studio 26a fulfil essential technical functions. As such, they must be retained or redesigned in accordance with the following conditions:

- The service door on the landing must be retained. However, a proposal may be made to integrate it into the landing's design, which must ensure its accessibility. The door leading to the roof void from the bathroom must also remain accessible. However, a proposal may be made to conceal it from future guests (as access is restricted to Villa Medici staff on an ad hoc basis);
- The wall separating the corridor from the current Studio 26b may be modified to create an opening;
- The position of the bathroom entrance door may be modified. However,

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the door must continue to open outwards from the bathroom;

- The existing radiators must be retained. However, a proposal may be made to reposition them;
- A proposal must be made for the concealment and/or integration of all existing cables and pipes;
- The Wi-Fi access point and landline telephone must be integrated.

c) Requirement for reversibility

Any interior elements added as part of the refurbishment proposal and any work carried out on the original floors must be reversible.

6.3.1.2 Studio 26b

The current floor areas of the spaces comprising Studio 26b (currently the cloakroom and bathroom) must be modified to allow for the creation of the new rooms required in the studio refurbishment project (see Article 6.2.1.2).

To this end, the current spaces must be redesigned as follows:

- Access to Studio 26b from the Room of Loves will be removed;
- The wall separating the corridor from the current Studio 26b may be modified to create an opening;
- The position of the wall separating the current cloakroom and bathroom must be altered.

6.3.2 Restrictions and recommendations regarding materials and supplies

a) Finishes

All paint must be associated with a RAL or NCS code or clearly identified supplies.

Proposals for floor coverings using carpet will be excluded. For fabric coverings, it is recommended to use outdoor fabrics or, at the very least, fabrics that are highly durable and easy to clean.

Wall coverings must be suitable for regular domestic use.

Finally, vertical walls must be fitted with skirting boards, the finish of which is left to the discretion of the candidates.

b) Bathroom fittings

The bathroom fittings proposed must be readily available for purchase on the Italian market. Furthermore, the Academy may propose specific tap models to

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facilitate the maintenance of the fittings.

c) Electrical and lighting fittings

Sockets and switches must comply with Italian standards. Furthermore, the lighting fixtures proposed must be easily repairable and must not be excessively complex (for example, when changing a bulb).

d) Furniture

The furniture items submitted must comply with the standards applicable in France or Italy for domestic indoor furniture. They must also meet requirements regarding durability and ease of maintenance, and be suitable for frequent domestic use. Finally, all materials used in the furniture items must be fire-retardant and/or non-combustible.

ARTICLE 7: Project selection procedure

7.1 Composition of the jury

Chaired by Sam Stourdzé, Director of the French Academy in Rome – Villa Medici, the selection jury is composed of partners from the *Re-enchanting* project as well as qualified and independent figures from the French and European cultural scene, specialising in particular in the fields of architecture, interior design and design.

The jury's decision is final. Its deliberations are confidential.

The jury may seek the advice of external experts as required. Such experts must undertake to avoid any conflict of interest with any of the shortlisted candidates.

7.2 Selection criteria

The selection of each winning project will be based on the following criteria:

- Artistic quality of the project;
- Technical feasibility of the project;
- Quality of collaboration with craft professional(s) identified in the application;
- Compliance with the specifications, in particular: consideration of usage, ergonomics of the proposed elements, and respect for the structural elements of the chosen space. Furthermore, consideration of logistical and maintenance issues, the proposal's durability over time, and the choice of eco-friendly materials will be valued;

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- Originality of the project and innovation;
- Adherence to the allocated budget, in particular: realistic and comprehensive costing.

Please note that the criteria mentioned above will be assessed equally by the jury without any scoring or weighting system.

7.3 Shortlisting of applications

The jury will examine the applications in September 2026.

It will shortlist at least two candidate teams per space, who will be invited to set out their refurbishment project in a deliverable, the specifications of which are set out below.

7.4 Stay in Rome

The shortlisted teams will be invited to travel to Rome together, on a date chosen by the Academy, to refine their project following an on-site visit. The project leaders of the shortlisted teams must be present during this stay.

Travel expenses for the members of the shortlisted teams attending will be covered by the Academy up to a limit of €500 including VAT (five hundred euros all charges included) per team, subject to the presentation of valid supporting documents.

Accommodation for shortlisted project leaders will be provided by the Academy at Villa Medici, or, where appropriate, in a hotel that meets the criteria for hosting Academy staff as defined by its board of directors, for a maximum of three nights.

7.5 Deliverable and interview

At the end of their stay in Rome, shortlisted teams must submit, by 16 November 2026 at the latest, a deliverable detailing their final, in-depth proposal and including the following elements:

- A presentation of the project;
- The project (overviews, detailed views, layouts, etc.) with a complete list of materials used and a clear description of the layout of all elements;
- A list of the planned furniture;
- A refined estimated budget including travel expenses for all team members for the entire duration of the project, purchases, etc. (with the appropriate VAT applied, namely 20% for purchases and work carried out in France, 22% for those carried out in Italy);
- A complete list of any sponsors and partners involved in the project;

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- A production and work schedule for craft professionals and/or any partners involved in the project.

The deliverable must also include the following communication elements:

- A biography (maximum 500 characters including spaces) of the project leader and the members of the candidate team, concisely presenting the craft professionals associated with the project;
- A photograph of the project leader and the members of the candidate team (head-and-shoulders portrait, portrait orientation, in colour, with faces clearly visible, with a minimum image resolution of 72 dpi and photographer credits);
- An official website (if available);
- Social media accounts (Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn; if available);
- A text summarising the project concept and the involvement of craft professionals (maximum 350 characters including spaces).

The shortlisted teams will then be invited to present their final proposal at an interview to be held in December 2026 in Paris.

Travel expenses to Paris for shortlisted teams will be covered by the Academy up to a limit of €500 including VAT (five hundred euros all charges included) per team, subject to the submission of valid supporting documents.

Following the final interviews, the deliverables proposed by the shortlisted teams, including the winning teams, will be remunerated up to €1,500 including VAT (one thousand five hundred euros all charges included). This remuneration will be paid to the winning project leaders, with their teams responsible for deciding on its internal distribution.

7.6 Selection of the winning teams

The jury will deliberate and collectively select the winning team for each of the two spaces following the final interviews.

The Academy reserves the right, however, to amend the schedule for selecting the winning teams and will ensure that candidates are kept properly informed.

The jury is under no obligation to select winning teams, nor to award the refurbishment of one or both spaces, if the quality of the projects submitted is not deemed to meet the requirements of the call for projects.

Following the call for projects, a contract setting out the terms and conditions specified in these rules will be signed between the Academy and the winning project leaders.

ARTICLE 8: Funding

8.1 Remuneration of winning teams

Remuneration for the winning project leaders for the tasks referred to in Article 2.3 of these rules is set at €15,000 including VAT (fifteen thousand euros all charges included) per space.

It will be paid in accordance with the following schedule:

- A 10% deposit upon signing the contract;
- 30% upon submission of the tender documents;
- 30% on commencement of works;
- 30% upon completion of the works.

This remuneration will be paid under a contract to be concluded between the winning project leaders and the Academy; their teams will be held responsible for deciding on its internal distribution.

Remuneration for work other than that referred to in Article 2.3 of these rules (services provided by craft professionals, any services provided by designers, etc.) must be included in the production costs.

8.2 Indicative production budget

The budget made available for the refurbishment may amount to €100,000 including VAT (one hundred thousand euros all charges included) for Studio 5bis and €130,000 including VAT (one hundred and thirty thousand euros all charges included) for Studiolo 26.

This budget must include a 15% contingency margin.

8.3 Additional funding

The winning teams may supplement this budget with an external contribution in cash, in kind or in the form of expertise from a partner clearly identified in the project and who has confirmed their participation.

This contribution may be made under a sponsorship agreement for cash, expertise or in-kind contributions to be concluded with the Academy, and will enable the sponsoring company to benefit from the tax advantages associated with sponsorship in France for companies subject to French taxation (tax relief as set out in Articles 200 and 238bis of the French General Tax Code).

This contribution may also be made under a partnership agreement without tax relief, in the case of companies not subject to French law.

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The Academy reserves the right to reject the partner selected for the additional funding, if necessary.

8.4 Expenditure related to works

For works relating to the building elements of the spaces, such as plumbing, plastering, etc., the Academy may enter into contracts directly with service providers based in Rome and selected through public procurement procedures.

ARTICLE 9: Stays at Villa Medici for the winning teams

The winning teams will be invited to Villa Medici to finalise their projects in collaboration with the Academy's teams.

The dates of their stays will be proposed by the Academy.

For members of the winning teams travelling to Rome to carry out the tasks referred to in Article 2.3 of these rules, the Academy will cover transport and accommodation in a hotel meeting the criteria for hosting Academy staff as defined by its Board of Directors, up to a maximum of 10 (ten) nights and subject to the following attendance requirements:

- Site visits;
- Construction start;
- Site monitoring (one to two visits);
- Practical completion.

ARTICLE 10: Relations between the Academy and the winning teams

Where necessary, it is reiterated that no relationship of subordination of any kind may be established between the winning teams and the Academy.

Winning teams are nevertheless expected to work in a spirit of cooperation with the Academy's teams and to take into account the constraints inherent in the management of a public institution.

ARTICLE 11: Communication activities concerning the winning teams

The Academy and the Academy's partners for the project are authorised to use the name, biography, photographs, personal data and views of the results of the winning teams' projects in any medium whatsoever, for communication purposes following the launch of the official communication by the Academy.

ARTICLE 12: Intellectual property rights

The winning teams undertake not to reuse the essential features of their project outcomes in new projects. They also undertake to ensure that the outcomes of these projects constitute original works that do not infringe any pre-existing intellectual property rights and declare that they freely hold all the rights assigned by them below.

The Academy is the owner of all elements produced as a result of this call for projects, without prejudice to the moral rights of the members of the winning teams. Given the historical and heritage status of Villa Medici, the results of the projects to redevelop the spaces concerned are temporary and subject to change according to the Academy's needs and uses. The Academy may, therefore, decide to dispose of them or reuse them as part of a future installation, as well as make modifications to the refurbishment of the spaces resulting from the two projects. The winning teams therefore acknowledge and accept that the Academy may, at its discretion and whenever it wishes, decide on new arrangements, which may alter all or part of the arrangements carried out following this call for projects, without such new arrangements being considered a violation of the moral rights held by them. In this regard, the winning teams indemnify the Academy against any claims in this respect.

The reproduction for publication purposes of any material created by the winning teams is not permitted without their prior written consent. Should the Academy wish to publish any material created by the winning teams, it undertakes to contact them to discuss the contractual terms (including financial terms) under which it may do so.

The winning teams shall assign to the Academy, as and when the deliverables are handed over, all rights of reproduction, representation and adaptation in respect of the elements created and/or delivered in the course of the projects, including in particular the rights to reuse, reproduce, represent and adapt the results of their projects, exclusively and free of charge, worldwide, on all physical and/or digital media, for all purposes (advertising, archives, exhibitions, publications, corporate communications, etc.), and for the duration of the intellectual property rights as provided for by international laws and treaties. They undertake to obtain from their various members the assignment of their rights on equivalent terms, enabling them to fulfil the commitments set out in this article. They undertake to reiterate this commitment as necessary within the framework of the contract to be concluded between them and the Academy.

The Academy is thus authorised, in particular, to take photographs of all the work produced. The Academy is therefore free to reproduce, represent and adapt all or part of the deliverables selected during the call for projects for the purposes of its internal and external communications, for both commercial and non-commercial use. The Academy and the partners of this call for projects are authorised to use the names, photographs and biographies of the members of the winning teams, as well as images of the project outcomes, for communication purposes.

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The Academy may authorise its partners to use, amongst other things, photographs of the project results, for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

The Academy undertakes to explicitly credit all members of the winning teams in any publication, regardless of the medium. In return, the winning teams undertake to explicitly credit the Academy in any publication, regardless of the medium.

Projects may not be disseminated for external communication purposes, in any media, until the Academy's official announcement has been made. After this date, any dissemination by members of the winning teams must be subject to the Academy's approval.

ARTICLE 13: Automated processing, image rights and protection of candidates' personal data

Candidates authorise the monitoring of their application and the use of their image and name under the conditions specified below.

13.1 Use of data provided by candidates

Candidates consent to the monitoring of their application and acknowledge that they have been informed that the mandatory personal data provided is necessary for their application to this call for projects, may be subject to automated processing, and will be used by the Academy for the purposes of the call for projects. Personal data collected concerning each candidate, both at the time of application and during the implementation of the project, is subject to the provisions of the amended French Data Protection Act of 6 January 1978 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

13.2 Candidates' rights regarding data

Candidates have the right to access, rectify, modify, restrict, erase and transfer their personal data. Candidates also have the right to object to the processing of their personal data, including the right to object to such data being processed for marketing purposes.

Candidates may also exercise their right to lodge a complaint with the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL).

13.3 Right to one's image

By responding to this call for projects, candidates agree that their image may be used by the Academy in any communications relating to the refurbishment projects for the spaces concerned, whether such communications take place at the same time as or after the call for projects.

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ARTICLE 14: Suspension, cancellation or postponement of the call for projects

The Academy reserves the right to amend these rules or to suspend, cancel or postpone the call for projects at any time and without notice, without being held liable for this and without this resulting in any prejudice or loss of opportunity for the candidates.

In such cases, no legal, extrajudicial or other action may be brought by candidates against the Academy.

ARTICLE 15: Final provisions

These rules are drawn up in three languages (French, English, Italian).

In the event of any discrepancy in interpretation between the original French version of these rules and their English and Italian translations, the French version shall prevail.

In the event of a dispute regarding the terms and conditions and the conduct of this call for projects, and after all amicable avenues have been exhausted, the Paris Administrative Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction.

APPENDIX

Appendix 1: Description of the spaces (Studio 5bis and Studiolo 26);

Appendix 2: Graphic documents and plans.

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