



#### BACKGROUND

In the planned group exhibition “Trembling & Anger – Don’t Be Afraid of Fear,” the GEH8 Art and Culture Center in Dresden will focus on a central emotion of our present day in 2026 and 2027: fear. Fear is not only an individual experience, but also a collective phenomenon with a significant impact on society. In a world increasingly dominated by crises, uncertainties, and accelerated processes of change, fear is becoming a defining condition – and at the same time a tool of political, media, and economic influence.

The theme of the year invites us to understand fear as an ambivalent force – as a feeling that can paralyze, but also liberate. “Trembling & Rage” names this space of tension between inner trembling and outer rebellion – a field that is reflected in politics, everyday life, and art.

In order to do justice to this ambivalence, GEH8 is dedicating two years to the theme: **in 2026, the focus will be on the external aspect – protest, resistance, public unrest.** In 2027, the internal aspect will follow – the individual experience and the psychological and existential effects of fear.

#### EVENT

From **May 22 to June 28, 2026**, the GEH8 Art and Culture Center in Dresden will host an exhibition project entitled “Trembling & Anger – Don’t Be Afraid of Fear,” based on its annual theme:

Under this title, an extensive group exhibition is planned, bringing together local and international positions in contemporary art. The individual works will be selected from the applications submitted in response to the call for entries.

Artists and groups who work in a research-based or practical-interventionist manner and across genres with other disciplines are particularly encouraged to participate.

## APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

A maximum of 3 works (unique pieces/series/concepts) may be submitted. The following documents are required:

- 1) Tabular resume with personal details, address [place of residence], telephone number, email address, website [if applicable], and Instagram account (max. 1 DIN A4 page)
- 2) Images of the works or meaningful concepts with sketches for artistic works, including details of title, year, material, technique, size, and weight, if applicable. For further sketches, explanations, images, and videos, please provide links to Vimeo or YouTube or a valid Swisstransfer download link.
- 3) Artist statement (max. 400 characters)

The documents must be compiled in a PDF file (max. 15 MB!) and sent by email to [kunstraum@geh8.de](mailto:kunstraum@geh8.de) with the subject line "OPEN CALL 2026 - Zittern & Zorn - Last name, first name."

## DATES

The deadline for submissions is March 26, 2026. Selected artists will be notified by email in mid-April 2026 and invited to participate in the exhibition.

## CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The open call is open to all artists and groups residing in Europe. All artistic disciplines are permitted.

Participation in the exhibition includes an expense allowance of €450 per artist or group, which can be used to cover travel/accommodation costs as well as transport and production costs, among other things. Transportation to and from the venue must be discussed in special cases and individual solutions found. It is possible to inquire about accommodation options within the GEH8 circle.

Please note that the GEH8 hall has special climatic conditions and that the artworks should be able to withstand humidity and temperature fluctuations.

### 2. RIGHTS

The submitter is responsible for clarifying the necessary rights for the use of the works within the scope of the exhibition. He/she declares that he/she is authorized to grant GEH8 permission to use the works and that this does not infringe on the rights of third parties (e.g., copyrights, personal rights, trademark rights) and, in particular, that the rights to any third-party material used (music, film, photos, texts, etc.) have been clarified for use. The submitter indemnifies GEH8 against all third-party claims arising from use within the exhibition and documentation. This also includes the necessary and reasonable costs of legal defense. There is no insurance coverage for the exhibited works. The exhibition is supervised during opening hours.

### 3. DATA PROTECTION

The protection and security of personal data is a high priority for us. We therefore strictly adhere to the rules of the current EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). We use the data collected exclusively for the purposes of the exhibition and its documentation.

The sender agrees to the processing and storage of their personal data (only for the purpose) of the application and possible participation in the exhibition.