



K SPAZZU
KREATTIV



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:
THE THIRD EDITION**



Teatru Malta, Teatru Manoel, and Spazju Kreattiv, in collaboration with Arts Council Malta, have united once again to unveil the third edition of the Studio Francis Ebejer playwriting project. With this open call, we invite scriptwriters to submit proposals for the research and development of theatre and radio plays, primarily written in the Maltese language.

Riding on the rich legacy of the Premju Francis Ebejer and the Atelier Francis Ebejer, this project serves as a vital platform for writing development and creative mentorship. Studio Francis Ebejer is designed to equip both emerging and seasoned playwrights with the essential resources for thorough research and development (R&D). Our goal is to cultivate high-caliber scripts, providing a structural launchpad for new, contemporary work in Maltese.



WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Open to works written primarily in the Maltese language, this final cycle of our current three-year block is seeking proposals for:

- 1 Radio Play
- 3 Theatre Scripts

Note on Project Focus: Studio Francis Ebejer is strictly an R&D and mentorship initiative. Each entity is allocating a €10,000 budget dedicated to supporting the writer, mentorship, and the research process. While the ultimate intention is for these pieces to culminate in a public presentation or production by the partnering national institutions, full production is an intended goal of the development process rather than an automatic right upon selection.



Research and development of Ġimgha l-Habs production



CATEGORY A: RADIO SCRIPTS

Submissions may comprise of a single play with minimum duration of 20-minutes or a series with a minimum of 3 episodes of around 10 minutes each.

Writers are invited to submit:

- Logline: Maximum of 2 sentences.
- Story Synopsis: Maximum of 150 words.
- Detailed Treatment: Between 1,500 and 2,000 words outlining the thematic journey.
- Sample Scene: At least one proposed scene from the script, serving as a clear "proof of concept" (not just generic dialogue), with a minimum length of 6 pages and a maximum of 15 A4 pages.
- Statement of Motivation: A brief statement clarifying your creative goals for seeking R&D support and your envisioned development outcomes. If AI was used in the creation of this proposal we appreciate it if you can describe its extent of use.
- Curriculum Vitae (CV): The playwright's professional background.

Production & Remuneration

The selected radio script will be podcasted on Spotify (and/or similar platforms) within an exclusive radio play album hosted by the co-producers, and may additionally be broadcast on a radio station. All R&D and recording expenses will be covered by the co-producers. A creative team will be assembled by the producing organizations; the writer's role will remain strictly that of the playwright.

The appointed Scriptwriter will receive a fee of €1,500 (excluding VAT) for:

- A completed script (standalone or episodic).
- Up to 3 drafts preceding the final rehearsal draft (timeframes to be agreed upon with the co-producers).
- Ongoing consultative availability during the production phase.

The scriptwriter retains the creative rights of the script, granting exclusive production licensing rights to the producers, with royalties based on streaming/broadcast outcomes. The co-producers retain the right of first publication.



CATEGORY B: THEATRE SCRIPTS

Three scripts will be selected for development, one by each collaborating cultural institution. The distribution of selected scripts will be decided collectively by the evaluation committee, though writers may express a venue preference.

Writers are invited to submit:

- Logline: Maximum of 2 sentences.
- Story Synopsis: Maximum of 150 words.
- Detailed Treatment: Between 1,500 and 2,000 words outlining the thematic journey.
- Sample Scene: At least one proposed scene from the script, serving as a clear "proof of concept" (demonstrating the thematic direction rather than basic dialogue), with a minimum length of 6 A4 pages and a maximum of 15 A4 pages.
- A brief statement clarifying your creative goals for seeking R&D support and your envisioned development outcomes. If AI was used in the creation of this proposal we appreciate it if you can describe its extent of use.
- Curriculum Vitae (CV): The playwright's professional background.

Development & Remuneration

The timeline for script development and R&D will be crafted in collaboration with the producing partner. The writer's role remains strictly that of the playwright, while the selection of the director and creative team rests with the producing institution.

Selected playwrights will be remunerated with €3,500 (excluding VAT) for:

- Up to 3 drafts preceding the final rehearsal draft (process and timeline to be agreed upon with the producer).
- A final, polished script.
- Ongoing consultative availability during the production/rehearsal cycle.

The scriptwriter retains full copyright of the script while granting the producer exclusive production licensing rights. To keep these rights, the producer must premiere the project within two years of the results announcement. The exclusive license then remains valid for up to one year following the premiere. Additionally, producers retain the right of first publication.



EVALUATION CRITERIA

Submissions will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Originality
- The potential of the idea for development
- Quality of writing in Maltese
- Feasibility of the proposal
- Value of the R&D as proposed

Full Script Submission Disclaimer: Applicants possessing a completed script are welcome to submit it in its entirety. Please note, however, that full and partial script submissions are subject to identical evaluation criteria. Submitting a completed script does not guarantee a different evaluation standard, as the selection board's assessment focuses strictly on the core compulsory requirements listed above.



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Age: Open to anyone above the age of 16.
- Residency and Citizenship: Open to anyone.
- Language: Submissions must be written primarily in the Maltese language. Contemporary bilingual elements reflecting modern Maltese culture are permissible, provided the local linguistic foundation remains central.
- Tax Registration: Applicants must hold a valid local VAT registration number or a valid International Tax ID.
- Submissions: Multiple separate submissions per applicant are permitted.
- Applicants must not be under any conflicting obligations that restrict their ability to write or licence the project, due to other sources of funding.

JOURNEY THROUGH THE TIMELINE

- Monday 3rd August 2026 - Official Launch Date.
- Monday 31st August 2026 - Deadline for submissions.
- September 2026 - The evaluation and selection process. Existing committee members/representatives from the respective entities will review all applications collectively.
- October 2026 - The chosen works are officially announced.
- October 2026 onwards - Script development, mentorship, assembling of creative teams, and the formal R&D process. For Spazju Kreattiv and Teatru Malta, this window may dynamically extend based on programming schedules.
- October 2027 – July 2028 Earmarked windows for potential project debuts:
 - *October 2027: Teatru Manoel*
 - *March/April 2028: Spazju Kreattiv*
 - *June/July 2028: Teatru Malta*



HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK

Ready to submit your proposal? Send your comprehensive application package via email to contact@teatrumalta.mt no later than the deadline in Monday 31st August, 12:00pm.

- **The email subject line should be:** Application Studio Francis Ebejer 2027 – Category A / B
- Please make sure that your submission email includes all requested materials clearly attached in PDF format. The attached files should be labeled as:
 - Loglin
 - Synopsis
 - Treatment
 - Scene
 - Statement of Motivation and R&D Plan
 - Author's Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.



Ġimgha l-Habs: Photo – Albert Camilleri