

# Clan, Destiny & Clandestinity

Verticale is pleased to launch its 2019—20 call for submissions and to announce this year's theme: *Clan, Destiny & Clandestinity*. Although the primary meaning of the term 'clan' is a close-knit group of families who share a common ancestry, it can also refer to a closed community made up of people who provide a support system for each other. To become a member, you must either be born or admitted into the clan. Although often seen as hermetic, a clan may always accept newcomers; while some groups might be more exclusive, others are more open. But what might the criteria be for joining the clan? Is there a selection process or an initiation ritual or might we be accepted right away? In all cases, two conditions are essential to keeping a clan together: there must be a climate of trust and the binding core must remain in place. Should either of these prerequisites come under threat, expulsion from the clan is an option.

Clandestinity, destiny and the clan are closely interlinked. Indeed, the mutual trust that resides within a clan is conducive to secrecy. The clan may adopt a clandestine attitude with regard to its activities, be they illicit or benevolent (for example, guerrilla gardening or anonymous acts of kindness). Clan members may also take this approach in order to protect their own, or simply to enjoy the privilege of possessing insider information. As for the support that these unions can offer, clans can direct our future actions and allow us to realize our projects. The strength found in numbers can be used to manifest a common vision (think of cooperatives, activist groups or political parties). On the other hand, irregular situations may be hidden from the clan to avoid ostracization and maintain our place on a predetermined path. We can also remove ourselves from the group, and sometimes have to, to change the course of our destiny (for family, immigration, or careers, for example).

Clans are social units that exist all over the world. We all belong to a clan in one shape or form (whether it sees itself that way or not) be it family, a friendship circle, a cultural group, a social class, a special interest/sports/social club, a neighbourhood, a town, or a nation. In the art world, we gather in collectives, shared studios, professional associations and artist-run centres. There are also a variety of arts and crafts clubs. In an era of individualism, how does our need to belong counteract our tendency to follow this egocentric trend? What pushes us to congregate under a common banner? While a certain rivalry may exist between different clans, what happens when two seemingly disparate clans come together? In the arts, this can happen through inclusion, collaboration or pluri/trans/interdisciplinary practices.

Regular off-site  
programming

**VCA welcomes proposals from established, mid-career or emerging artists.**

**VCA is currently in a period of transition with regards to a permanent project space and is pleased to offer arts professionals from Laval and around the province of Quebec a unique opportunity to produce critical or poetic creative projects that respond to a given area. To read more about the Centre's history, mission and mandate, click [here](#).**

**VCA is committed to diversity and inclusivity and strongly encourages submissions by under-represented artists.**

Call for submissions: 1 September to 1 November 2018

Presentation of projects: April 2019 to March 2020

**VCA WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING TO THE SELECTED ARTIST:**

- Coordination, presentation and promotional support
- Photographic documentation
- An exhibition fee
- Assistance with production and installation costs
- Assistance with technical support costs
- Assistance with transportation and travel costs
- The opportunity to carry out an artist's residency at the Centre communautaire Sainte-Dorothée (target audience: adolescent), 2 - 8 June 2019.

Presenting off-site projects is central to VCA's programming and the Centre therefore welcomes proposals for site-specific projects (whether they will actually be presented in situ or not) or proposals that suggest the types of site in which the project may be presented. Consequently, artists are expected to collaborate with the Centre to find potential spaces that are relevant to their individual practices and projects.

As a registered charity, VCA seeks project spaces as a form of partnership or collaboration as and when projects demand; when this is not possible, rental costs will be covered by a project's production budget.

Call for Submissions  
1 Novembre 2018

Programmation  
2019—20

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**SUBMISSIONS SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

- Description of the project
- Artist's statement
- Up-to-date CV
- Visual documentation and references
- Photographs: 10 maximum in JPEG format
- Audio and video: 7 minutes maximum via external link(s)
- Any other relevant documentation (publications, press reviews, websites, projected timetable, budget, technical requirements, etc.)

Please submit the above in a compressed .zip file (maximum 10 MB) and attach to the online form available at : <http://verticale.ca/appele-de-dossiers/appele-de-dossiers-2/>

Files should be submitted online.

Submissions by post will not be considered.

Verticale — centre d'artistes is supported by the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and the Ville de Laval.

