



OPEN CALL: GLASSMAKING TRADITION MEETS INNOVATION

Looking for 12 glass designers, artists, or creatives to participate in the Creative Glass Labs across three countries.

If you work with glass as a creative medium, we invite you to apply for an international series of **Creative Glass Labs**, taking place between **August and November 2026*** in three locations:

- **18.-20.8.2026:** Museum Sydøstdanmark, Holmegaard Works, Fensmark (Denmark)
- **10.-12.2026:** Center Rog, Ljubljana (Slovenia)
- **15.-18.10.2026:** Belgrade and Paraćin (Serbia)

**The organizers reserve the right to adjust dates as required. Applicants will be informed accordingly and will receive the detailed lab programme after the selection process.*

Selected participants will take part in **all three labs**, forming an international cohort that will collaboratively explore innovative approaches to glassmaking across different contexts and production environments.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW & LOCATIONS

Creative Glass Labs are part of the project [*Glassmaking Tradition Meets Innovation*](#), developed within the Creative Europe Programme. They focus on exploring sustainable and environmentally responsible approaches to heritage and contemporary glassmaking, combining traditional techniques with new tools that support the green, digital transition and heritage interpretation. The Creative Glass Lab programme will take place in:

[Holmegaard Works](#) (Fensmark, Denmark)

A three-day seminar with in-situ visits where participants will explore how Danish cultural heritage can be used in future designs, both in the form of the museum's collection of 40.000 pieces of glassware, which to this day inspires designers in their work, and through the intangible heritage that is sustained in the glassworks workshop. The lab will be led by Joachim Allouche, head curator at Holmegaard Works, and Bjørn Friborg, head of Holmegaard Works glass workshop.

The lab will take place at [Holmegaard Works](#) in Denmark.



[Center Rog](#) (Ljubljana, Slovenia)

The creative glass lab in Slovenia is a three-day design sprint for creatives, where participants will explore the creation of functional glass objects. Participants will respond to two design challenges, focused on sustainability and the reduction of environmental impact in functional glass production, using techniques such as glass fusing, cold working, and flame working.

The lab will take place in the glass lab of [Center Rog](#), the largest public creative hub in Europe. The center brings together nine fully equipped production labs and offers an open, supportive environment for practitioners working across design, architecture, crafts, applied arts, and related fields.



Creative Glass Serbia (Belgrade and Paraćin, Serbia)

Creative Glass Serbia is an initiative that connects glass heritage, creative industries, artists, designers, and handmade glass production in Serbia working on transformation of industrial glass heritage into an asset for sustainable and fair local development of periphery places such as Paraćin. Inspired by glass tradition, activities are focused to inspire and support artists, designers, and creatives to develop their own cultural expressions in glass through democratization of creative process, openness, and regenerative ecosystem in glass production.

In the Lab participants will work with old glass techniques and their interpretation focused on circularity of local memory. Lab work is conceived through participatory artistic practices and the involvement of the local community.



WHAT WE OFFER:

- Travel expenses for public transportation up to € 600 from place of residence (on the basis of the travel documents presented and actual costs incurred, eligible are costs for economy flights and second class coach, train travel) or based on the travel expenses necessary to participate in the Labs,
- free shared/individual accommodation (depending on the location),
- daily meals or daily allowance (depending on the location),
- study visits of three glass workshops and ecosystems in Denmark, Slovenia, and Serbia,
- opportunity to create a finished glass work in one of the labs,
- lectures, mentorship, and technical guidance in the field of glass making,
- cover of material costs for experimentation and the development of the final glass works.
- networking opportunities with an international community of glass artists,

- final exhibition of glassworks at **Center Rog's Materials Week 2027**.

WHAT IS NOT COVERED:

- Visa costs (if applicable),
- international health insurance or a valid EU health-card,
- all other costs (local transportation, parking costs, etc.) depending on location.

WHO CAN APPLY:

- Glass craft artists and creatives familiar or experienced with glass working (We welcome applicants who have already worked with glass or would like to expand their knowledge of glassmaking techniques).
- applicants with good command of English,
- residents of Creative Europe countries (including overseas countries, territories, and outermost regions of the EU).

HOW TO APPLY:

View the full open call documentation:

- Open Call
- Online Application Form

Fill out the online application form and upload the following documents before submitting:

- CV (PDF format, maximum one page)
- **Portfolio** (PDF format, maximum three pages, include visual materials of relevant past projects)
- **Link to a short video** (up to two min, introducing yourself and your motivation)

The application deadline is 1 June 2026, 23:59 CET.

For further questions please contact: lab@kreativnaekonomija.com

SELECTION CRITERIA

- **Quality of past work (0-10)** – Demonstrated experience in glassmaking or related creative practices, and the ability to produce a finished glass piece.

- **Motivation & Clarity of Intent (0–10)** – the application demonstrates commitment to sustainable creative practice and to technical and professional development in the field of glass.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

With the submission applicants agree to the following conditions:

- That their personal data is processed by Museum Sydøstdanmark, Center Rog, IKPI, and FREN for application evaluation, project administration, and Creative Europe reporting purposes in accordance with applicable data protection law. Data will be stored securely and retained only as required by EU regulations.
- To participate in all three Creative Glass Labs (Fensmark, Ljubljana, Paraćin) within the programme period (August–November 2026), to engage actively in all activities, and to deliver a final glass work by the end of 2026.
- To grant the organizers a non-exclusive, royalty-free right to exhibit the final glass work at any time, including during Materials Week at Center Rog in April 2027, without any additional fees or compensation.
- To be photographed for communication and promotion purposes.

OPEN CALL LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS

This Open Call is open to all eligible applicants regardless of gender, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic background. Selection is based solely on artistic merit and the criteria set out in the call. The project promotes gender equality, diversity, and inclusion in line with European cultural policy objectives, and encourages applications from underrepresented groups.

Personal data will be processed by Museum Sydøstdanmark, Center Rog, IKPI, and FREN for the purposes of application evaluation, project administration, and reporting obligations under the Creative Europe Programme. Data will be managed securely and retained only for as long as required under applicable EU data protection law. Applicants have rights of access, rectification, and erasure in accordance with GDPR.

Applications will be assessed by an expert panel based on predefined criteria in a fair and transparent process, with appropriate management of any conflicts of interest.



This project is co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Developed in collaboration between the Foundation for the Advancement of Economic Science – FREN (Serbia), Center Rog (Slovenia), Institute for Creative Entrepreneurship and Innovation – Creative Glass Serbia Initiative (Serbia), and Museum Sydøstdanmark (Denmark), the project [*Glassmaking Tradition meets Innovation \(GTMI\)*](#) will establish an original methodology for the green and digital transition of creative glassmaking practices.

The first phase of the project included the development of innovative tools, such as a carbon footprint calculator and a catalogue of thirty ideas for introducing circular economy principles in the design and production of glass products. Glass as a material faces many challenges; the work process not only impacts the natural environment but also carries high production costs, limiting artistic and creative expression.

In response to these challenges, the project will develop state-of-the-art tools for smart glass production. The results will be tested in three glass workshops, where glass designers will produce twelve new functional glass objects or artworks.

At the end of the project in 2027, a final exhibition will be held at Center Rog, which will showcase the results of the glass workshops and other sustainable practices in glass design and production.