

TERMS & CONDITIONS

GIFT SHOP OPEN CALL & EXPO FOR VISUAL ARTISTS

WHAT

With 'Gift Shop', Kunstwerkt and C-mine (Genk) are organizing a group exhibition without selection for visual artists on the playful theme of welcome gifts for aliens. This open call runs until the 12th of April 2026, or until the spaces at C-mine are filled. The works will be on display from the 20th of June to the 20th of September 2026 in a group exhibition in the spaces of the C-mine Design Center.

THEME

How do you welcome an alien? What gift do you give during a first encounter with planet Earth? This edition takes an intergalactic approach with a universal message: how do you introduce someone who is new to our world? Do you go for a personal story, introduce them to an important person, serve them a traditional dish, or reach for an ingenious earthly invention? And what does that gift say about you, about us as humans, and about this planet?

EXPO WITHOUT SELECTION

Following previous editions such as 'Pet Shop' and 'Eat this', Kunstwerkt is starting a new chapter in its group exhibitions without selection. New or existing work: submit it before the 12th of April 2026 via our brand new opportunity platform at www.kunstwerkt.be.

We have made the radical decision to exhibit all submitted works. More than 300 artistic welcome gifts may find a place in this exhibition. Feel free to take your time to develop your idea, but remember: once it's full, it's full. If you are on time and your work meets the conditions (read 'What is allowed, what is not?'), your work will immediately become part of the group exhibition 'Gift Shop', which will be on display at C-mine from the 20th of June to the 27th of September 2026.

TIMING

Submit online via Kunstwerkt	Submissions are open digitally until the 12th of April, but will close earlier once the maximum number of works has been reached. Once you receive an automatic confirmation in your mailbox, your online submission has been successful. You can find your submission under 'Entries' on your profile on Kunstwerkt.
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	Only when you have received personal confirmation from the organization with practical information about delivering your work at C-mine will your work be included in the exhibition. By doing so, you commit to the dates within the project.
Handing in your work	You must physically submit your work to C-mine on Sunday, April 19, 2026. This is possible between 10h00 and 17h00. Are you submitting your work physically? Then you can participate in a 'Proefstuk' session with your submitted work. During this session, you will get to know the story and the person behind the work of your fellow exhibitors. In a positive and relaxed atmosphere, you will show, exchange, and get to know the work of others. Highly recommended! 'Proefstuk' takes place from 14h00 to 17h00 p.m. Snacks and drinks will be provided. You can register via this link. Address: C-mine 10, 3600 Genk Check the accessibility of C-mine here. Are you unable to submit your work on this day? You can find more practical information under 'Handing in your work' below.
Expo in C-mine	From the 20th of June until the 20th of September 2026 Opening hours: Each day from 10h00 to 18h00
Pick up your work in C-mine	Pick up of your work at C-mine on Saturday, September 26, 2026 (between 10h00 and 17h00). Participating artists come to collect their work and check it for any damage. We provide the same packing materials as when the work was delivered. Address: C-mine 10, 3600 Genk Check the accessibility of C-mine here. You can find more practical information under 'Pick up your work' below.

WHO CAN SUMBIT?

'Gift Shop' is open to all visual artists from the age of 18.

HOW TO APPLY?

You can register by submitting your work for free and digitally via www.kunstwerkt.be until the 12th of April 2026. We have made a radical decision to exhibit all works that meet the guidelines (see 'What is allowed, what is not?'). But please note: first come, first served. Once the walls of C-mine are full, we will close the submissions. You can submit your work via the [registration form](#), including an image of your work and the answers to the questionnaire.

WHAT IS ALLOWED, WHAT IS NOT?

- With 'Gift Shop', we want to exhibit visual art that fits within the theme of 'welcome gifts for aliens'. All kinds of works are permitted, but they must have a clear link to the theme. If the theme cannot be clearly identified from the accompanying text, the organizations are free to decide not to include the work in the exhibition.
- Each participant may submit one recent work (maximum 3 years old, 2023-2026).
- Video work and performance are not permitted.
- Works cannot be provided with electricity.
- Maximum dimensions are imposed
 - for 2D work
Maximum size (if framed, **including frame**): 100 cm x 100 cm
 - for 3D work, capable of being displayed on a wall

If the dimensions of the work at the time of handing in the work differ from the dimensions previously entered, the organizers are free to decide not to include the work in the exhibition.

- The work may weigh a maximum of 5 kg.
- The hand of the creator is clearly visible in the work you submit.
- The work is delivered ready to hang, framed or unframed, with a sturdy hanging system. Do you have specific requirements for how your work should be hung? Please indicate this on the registration form and bring the necessary materials with you on the day of submission. The technical staff at C-mine will do what is necessary to hang your work as requested.
- A series or multiple works (a work consisting of several parts) are not permitted. Would you like to participate with one work from a series that you have already added to your artist profile on our website? Please indicate this clearly in the description.
- Your work is well packaged for storage.
- The organization reserves the right to refuse submissions that it deems to contain offensive, discriminatory, or exclusionary content, including (but not limited to) racist, sexist, or otherwise offensive statements toward individuals or target groups.

HANDING IN YOUR WORK

Have you successfully submitted your work digitally for this exhibition? And does your work meet the criteria listed above? If so, you will receive a message from the organization by the 14th of April at the latest, informing you that your work will be part of the exhibition.

Please ensure that the title of your work and your name are clearly stated on the back of the work, and that the packaging is also labeled with the title and name.¹⁴

Preferably, bring your work to the reception desk at C-mine on Sunday, April 19.

If this is not possible, make sure your work arrives at C-mine by mail before the weekend of April 18-19. Works arriving after this submission weekend will not be admitted to the exhibition.

Send your work by mail:

C-mine Genk
Expo Gift Shop
tav Natalie Martens
C-Mine 10
3600 Genk

When sending your work by mail, please note that it must arrive no later than the 19th of April 2026. Neither Kunstwerkt nor C-mine will be responsible for the costs and risks associated with shipping by mail.

If you are unable to send your work by post or bring it in on Sunday, April 19, you will unfortunately not be able to participate in this exhibition.

PICK-UP WORK

After the exhibition, you can collect your work on Saturday, September 26 (between 10h00 and 17h00). If the artist does not collect his or her work on the above date, the work will automatically become the property of the organizers of 'Gift Shop'.

Those who sent their work by mail for participation must also pick it up in person. After the exhibition, no works will be sent to participants by mail.

SCENOGRAPHY

- The organizers determine how the works are presented and placed in the Design Center at C-mine.
- We make continuous efforts to find a good place for all works in this exhibition.
- The layout of the exhibition is inspired by the 19th-century Salon: the walls of C-mine are filled from top to bottom with a mosaic of works.
- When registering, the artist provides brief technical instructions for hanging the work. The organizer takes these into account where possible.

INSURANCE

- The artworks are insured by C-mine. The “All Risks for Exhibition” insurance covers the artwork from the moment it is in C-mine's possession until the moment it is picked up at C-mine.
- The delivery and collection of the artworks is at the artist's expense and risk.
- The insurance value per work is €300, from nail to nail. In the event of damage, the restoration or repair costs will be reimbursed.
- If the participating artist estimates the value of their work to be higher, they are free to take out additional insurance at their own expense.
- All works will be unpacked upon receipt and subsequently photographed for insurance purposes.

COPYRIGHT

The organisers have the right to publish images of the submitted works in all communication channels and in press releases about the project. The copyright is correctly stated or correctly communicated to the press in each case.

DISPUTE

All matters not provided for in the regulations will be submitted to the organising parties (Kunstwerkt and C-mine). They will make a final decision in this regard. By participating, you, as a participant, declare that you agree to the regulations.

PERSONAL DATA

The personal data shared by participants in the open call will only be used to contact the participants. This data will not be kept longer than necessary. Personal data will not be passed on to third parties.

PRACTICAL INFO EXPO ‘GIFT SHOP’

The selected works will be exhibited at C-mine from the 20th of June to the 20th of September 2026. Selected artists will receive a personal invitation to the opening on Saturday, the 20th of June 2026.

Opening hours expo:

Each day from 10h00-18h00

Free entrance

QUESTIONS? Get in touch with Kunstwerkt

Zoë Hoornaert – project officer / zoe@kunstwerkt.be / 09 235 23 21

KUNSTWERKT

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