The Arts Practice programme seeks to implement projects where artists expand their present range of practices in new directions. These could question accepted conventions, push new frontiers in content, form and medium, explore new modes of engagement with space, audience and communities, foregrounding a spirit of experimentation. Under the programme, we also seek to foster exchange, dialogue and spaces that can help build knowledge, and expand arts practice/s.

Seminars:

- What is the promise of a seminar by artists, where arts practice—artistic, cultural processes—is the point of discussion?
- What is the existing landscape of art or cultural practices in the present socio-cultural and political context of Assam?
- Are there any kinds of practices which are widely followed and practiced?
- Are there arts practices, or cultural practices which are going through transitions? Are there conversations, discussions, discourses happening about these practices?
- How can we foreground the artist's voice in the discourse on art, away from the clamour of art critics, theorists, and scholars?
- Do you want a space to raise your concerns, questions about 'practice' and bring artists, scholars and practitioners together?

The **Seminars** category under the Arts Practice programme can provide you with that space.

Different languages bring in different sensibilities to discussions on cultural practices. When artists and practitioners from a wide range of experiences collaborate to discuss artistic techniques and ideas in languages other than English, 'practice' is enriched as a discourse, with deeper layers of colloquial inflections. Seminars that reflect on arts practice become significant

spaces for artistic peer networks that bring together unforeseen confluence of energies to explore how practices are evolving and where they are headed. These events could also become enabling spaces for listening to hitherto unheard voices.

We invite proposals for **Seminars in the Assamese language** that seek to create situations which foster exchange and dialogue, and debate artistic questions in the language. We hope to see proposals which bring together artists and practitioners from various disciplines to open up their creative processes and engage in dialogues where they can explore and learn from each other's experiences, and help in building knowledge, generate insights, and expand arts practices.

Scope of a Seminar:
The proposed Seminar could explore a range of enquiries and concerns. For instance:

- How can engaging with novelists offer fresh perspectives to a film screenwriter? What might be learned from the distinct storytelling methods and writing processes in the novel form? Is it possible to create a space for interactive presentations or live demonstrations to foster a deeper exchange of ideas between these two creative practices?

- Can one explore the evolution and transformation of practices? The traditional customs and rituals of Assam and North-East India, including the songs, dances, and folk dramas, etc. are integral to the region's cultural heritage. However, over time, many of these practices have been influenced by contemporary changes, leading to a shift in their forms and expressions. A Seminar can be proposed on the evolution and transformation of these traditions in the context of modern times.

Please note that your ideas and questions do not have to be limited to examples shared above.

Deadline: December 14, 2026

Duration of the project: Upto six months

Budget: Up to a maximum of Rs 3,00,000/- (You can request for an honorarium not exceeding 30% of the proposed budget)

Who can send project proposals?
The programme invites proposals from mid-career practitioners, academics, artists working within as well as across disciplines. These could include:

- Poets, novelists, playwrights, creative nonfiction writers working with literary arts

- Performing artists working in music, sound, text, dance, movement, theatre, puppetry, storytelling, magic, circus and other performance arts
- Visual artists working across all forms including film (documentary and fiction), animation, photography, installation, new media, Artificial Intelligence, robotics, interactive arts, gaming, painting, sculpture, printmaking, comic book, graphic narrative, artist book and other visual arts
- Curators, especially those working outside of the gallery context
- Practitioners engaged in interdisciplinary work

Submission Guidelines:
Send us your CV (with address, phone number and email ID) and a proposal describing:

- Your existing practice, concerns and interests as a practitioner.
- Details of the seminar, with the following guidelines:
    - Topic of the seminar
    - Conceptual elaboration of the theme
    - Keynote speakers, if any
    - Tentative list of speakers with rationale for invitation
    - Panels/subtopics with brief description
    - Call for papers, with plan to outreach, if applicable
    - Target audience
    - Experience envisioned for the speakers and the audience
    - Brief overview of the existing discourse on the topic in the respective language context (including examples of previous seminars, recent or in the distant past, if any)
    - Bibliography in Assamese
- Detailed timeline and budget
- Examples of earlier work relevant to this application

You can write your proposal in English or Assamese.

You can send us your questions and draft ideas, written proposals, in audio or video format for a response from IFA staff before **December 04, 2026.**

Send your draft/final proposal to Mridupankhi Rajkumari, Programme Officer: Arts Practice, at mridupankhi@indiaifa.org. Please write to the same email ID for any queries and clarifications as well.

Eligibility:

- Only Indian nationals can apply. This does not include PIO (Persons of Indian Origin) and OCI (Overseas Citizen of India) Card Holders.
- Applicants must have a PAN card and one of the following for proof of identity and citizenship – Indian Passport or Aadhar Card or Voter's ID in India.
- Only individuals can apply. Organisations of any kind cannot apply.
- If there are collaborators in the projects, they must also be Indian nationals.
- Persons who have a past history of financial delinquency with IFA are not eligible.
- Persons who have failed to deposit at IFA agreed deliverables from an earlier IFA grant are not eligible.
- Persons who have previously received a letter from IFA disallowing them from applying in the future for any reason are not eligible.
- Persons currently working on a project implemented by IFA are not eligible to apply.
- More than one individual can apply if they have a joint account. If they do not, then only one among them should apply with the others as collaborators.

Please note that incomplete proposals and those where applicants do not fall within the eligibility criteria will be disregarded.

Selection Process:

The shortlisted proposals will be evaluated by an external panel and applicants will be required to present their project ideas to the panel.

Key Dates:

- Deadline for Discussion of Project Ideas/Queries: **December 04, 2026**
- Deadline for Final Proposal: **December 14, 2026, 11:59 pm**
- Announcement of Selected Projects: **February 2027**

All selected projects will be implemented by IFA.

Please note that IFA is committed to creating a safe environment that supports, respects, and protects everyone, including children. The applicant must be aligned with this and must uphold it at all times.