

FONDATION H PROGRAMME FIRST SEMESTER 2026

Fondation H
Antananarivo, Madagascar
20 January 2026



In the first semester of 2026, Fondation H is deploying a programme, covering its diverse spaces and domains of activity.

In Antananarivo, Fondation H will present two exhibitions, presented simultaneously from April to October 2026. A curatorial reading of the Fondation H collection by Abdellah Karroum is presented alongside M'barek Bouhchichi's solo exhibition *Les mains des poètes*. Together, they explore the circulation of knowledge, the processes of transmission, and the ways in which artworks are part of living, collective histories.

The 2026 programme also includes **Prix Paritana, a support programme for contemporary Malagasy artistic creation initiated in 2017 and awarded annually to three artists of Malagasy nationality or residing in Madagascar.** Prix Paritana underscores the vitality of the Malagasy contemporary art scene, promotes intercultural exchange, and supports the production and dissemination of artistic projects both in Madagascar and internationally.

At the same time, Fondation H continues to expand its commitment to contemporary creation through **Mizaha Paris**, a residency and exhibition programme dedicated to artists from Africa and its diaspora. Based at the Parisian space of Fondation H in the Marais, Mizaha Paris serves as a hub for research, experimentation, and artistic development.

From January to July 2026, Priscilla Kennedy and Joey Aresoa are each invited to undertake a three-month research residency at the Cité internationale des arts in Paris. These residency periods will result in two solo exhibitions in the Parisian space of Fondation H.





A Reading of the Fondation H Collection

by Abdellah Karroum

24 April – 17 October 2026

Antananarivo, Madagascar

In Antananarivo, Fondation H is presenting two exhibitions designed in dialogue with one another, shown concurrently from April to October 2026.

A Reading of the Fondation H Collection by Abdellah Karroum

24 April – 17 October 2026

Fondation H invites the curator Abdellah Karroum to propose a singular curatorial reading of its international collection of artworks, conceived in dialogue with Malagasy culture. The exhibition is structured around the *kabary*, a foundational oratorical practice in Madagascar. As a highly codified form of speech, the *kabary* accompanies key moments of collective life, including alliances, mourning, negotiation, decision-making and public ceremonies. It functions as a space of mediation, where speech creates links between individuals and connects the living with their ancestors and a shared history.

The ***kabary* unfolds according to a codified progression**. It opens with a gesture of respect, marked by humility, formal greetings and an acknowledgment of the symbolic conditions of speaking. This introduction prepares the ground for attentive listening and exchange. The discourse then develops through a dense and layered composition of **proverbs** [*ohabolana*], **metaphors** [*oha-pitenenana*], narratives and references to collective memory. Rather than closing definitively, the *kabary* ends by opening outward—towards reconciliation, continuity, action or future possibilities.

This structure is transposed by Abdellah Karroum into the exhibition design across the three ground-floor galleries of Fondation H. The first gallery operates as an introduction, establishing the framework and intentions of the encounter with the collection. The second gallery forms the core of the exhibition, presenting the diversity of works, narratives and forms, and encouraging an attentive and intimate reading of a private collection that is both internationally oriented and deeply rooted in Madagascar. The final gallery opens onto new perspectives through more monumental works, conceived as extensions of the curatorial discourse and as invitations to imagine other possible futures.

Biography of Abdellah Karroum

Born in Morocco in 1970, Abdellah Karroum lives and works between Morocco and Europe. A researcher, curator and artistic director, he is the founder of several artistic initiatives, including *L'appartement 22*, an independent space for creation, exhibition and residencies established in Rabat in 2002, as well as *hors'champs* publishing and *R22 art radio*. He has led numerous curatorial projects, notably for biennials (Dakar, Gwangju, Marrakech, Cotonou, Medellín) and for institutions such as the Palais de Tokyo in Paris and the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (MNCARS) in Madrid. From 2013 to 2021, he served as Director of Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art in Doha, where he organised major exhibitions and strengthened research and collection programmes. His work explores the relationship between sites of artistic production and exhibition spaces, the translation of artistic vocabularies across contexts, and the questioning of historical narratives. He regularly publishes in art journals, including *N'Ka: Journal of Contemporary African Art* and the *Journal of Visual Culture*.



Les mains des poètes

by M'barek Bouhchichi

24 April – 17 October 2026

Antananarivo, Madagascar



Les mains des poètes — M'barek Bouhchichi

24 April – 17 October 2026

Following Fondation H's exploration of orality, Fondation H presents **Les mains des poètes, a solo exhibition by Moroccan artist M'barek Bouhchichi, curated by Hobisoa Raininoro**. The exhibition focuses on writing as a medium of expression and cultural dialogue.

In 2025, Bouhchichi began the project with a six-week immersive residency in Madagascar's capital. He explored the city, wandered through markets, and observed the vitality of local craftsmanship. His creative process unfolded through encounters with blacksmiths, ceramists, weavers, designers, and musicians. Visiting workshops and engaging with local communities, he absorbed the earth, materials, history, and stories that animate them. These interactions formed the foundation of the project and shaped the collaborations that brought the exhibited works to life. All pieces, entirely new, were produced between Morocco and Antananarivo from August 2025 to March 2026.

From the curatorial text by Hobisoa Raininoro:

Les mains des poètes celebrates Madagascar, a land of oral traditions where words and gestures are inseparable. Bouhchichi evokes the **sorabe** [great writing], an Arabico-Malagasy script developed in the 15th century by the Antemoro people. Born from the need to preserve memory and transmit knowledge—religious, historical, political, and spiritual—the **sorabe** became a tool of identity and agency, enabling Malagasy scholars (**Katibo**) to transform Arabic-inspired script into their own expression, long before the Latin alphabet was introduced by British missionaries in the 19th century. [...]

« *We are the alphabet that composes the words, we are writings.*
(M'barek Bouhchichi)

Biography of M'barek Bouhchichi

Born in 1975 in Akka (Morocco), Bouhchichi lives and works in Tahanaout. He has been teaching art since the mid-1990s. Across installation, painting, drawing, sculpture, and video, he explores forms of expression that bridge individual narratives and broader social, poetic, and historical contexts. His work lies at the intersection of aesthetics and society, where music, poetry, and art serve as catalysts to transcend social and racial boundaries.





Call for Applications: 10th Prix Paritana

Since its creation in 2017, Prix Paritana has been supporting the Malagasy art scene (artists of Malagasy nationality and artists living in Madagascar) by organising a contemporary art prize awarded to three artists each year.

Its goal is to highlight and nurture the creative energy of the Malagasy contemporary scene. Prix Paritana is open to all artists of the Malagasy art scene and to all mediums (painting, sculpture, video, photography, installation, etc.), fostering dialogue between cultures and facilitating the creation and dissemination of artistic projects both in Madagascar and internationally.

Launched in 2017 by Fondation H with the support of Eric Dereumaux, Founder and Director of Galerie RX, Prix Paritana is supported by Air France, the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris, and the Institut Français of Madagascar.

Applications are open **from 12 January to 24 March 2026.**





An Exhibition by Chloé Soafaniry Ramanankasina, Prix Paritana 2025 winner, at the Institut Français de Madagascar, April 2026

Following her exhibition at the Parisian space of Fondation H from 11 December 2025 to 24 January 2026, Chloé Soafaniry Ramanankasina, Prix Paritana 2025 winner, will present a solo exhibition at the Institut Français de Madagascar in April 2026 as part of her project **Renouer les tresses de son identité** [Reweaving the Braids of Her Identity].

Her artistic approach explores transmission, identity, and representation through the lens of Malagasy culture. She works across multiple media—including drawing, collage, photography, and video—to investigate these questions. She is particularly interested in how narratives, images, and objects shape our perception of ourselves and influence collective memory. Her entry point into these themes is the practice of hairstyling and everything it entails: hair, braids, objects, meanings, and know-how. Her approach combines research, experimentation, and service design. Interaction with audiences is central to her work, as she seeks to create experiences that foster a collective reaffirmation of stories and identities.

Biography of Chloé Soafaniry Ramanankasina

Born in 2000 in Tamatave, Madagascar, Chloé Soafaniry Ramanankasina lives and works in Lyon, France. After completing highschool, she moved to France to study design and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Prospective Design at Université des Mines and Université de Saint-Étienne. She is the initiator of two community projects for people of African descent — Palabres and KBR — both conceived as creative spaces of expression. She took part in Transmission(s), a group exhibition on the theme Design & Cultural Identities at Tati Barbès, Paris, presenting a series of drawings and digital collages highlighting Malagasy hair-braiding practices.



Mizaha Paris Programme Residencies

Mizaha Paris is a residency and exhibition programme dedicated to artists from the African continent and its diaspora, operated in the Parisian space of Fondation H, in the heart of the Marais. In 2026, artists **Priscilla Kennedy** and **Joey Aresoa** will each undertake a three-month research residency at the Cité internationale des arts in Paris, followed by a solo exhibition at the Parisian space of Fondation H.

Priscilla Kennedy

25 March – 23 May 2026



Born in 1994, Priscilla Kennedy lives and works in Kumasi, Ghana. Adopting a multidisciplinary practice, Kennedy subtly weaves connections between the body, race, sexuality and fictional histories of objects endowed with hybrid forms of life. Her artistic approach engages a variety of media, including painting, tapestry and light, resulting in a sprawling deconstruction of the female body — including her own — conceived as a multiple space for dialogue and exploration.

Kennedy was awarded the Yaa Asantewaa Art Prize in 2022. Her research residency begins in January 2026 at the Cité internationale des arts. Her project will be presented in the form of an exhibition at the Parisian space of Fondation H from 11 March to 23 May 2026.

Joey Aresoa

11 June – 18 July 2026



Born in 1986, Joey Aresoa lives and works in Antananarivo, Madagascar. A multidisciplinary artist, poet and visual artist, Aresoa explores notions of memory, archives and the transmission of narratives through a practice combining writing and installation. Following a research residency at the G.A.S. Foundation (Lagos), supported by Fondation H as part of the Re:assemblages symposium dedicated to African art libraries and archives, Joey Aresoa will continue her research at the Cité internationale des arts from April to June 2026.

Her project will be presented in the form of an exhibition at the Parisian space of Fondation H from 11 June to 18 July 2026.





ABOUT FONDATION H

Fondation H is a Malagasy contemporary art foundation. It was founded in Antananarivo in 2017 on the initiative of entrepreneur and patron Hassanein Hiridjee, who believed that art and culture have a strong social impact and enable a critical opening to the world. It has been recognised as a public utility since 2018. Fondation H operates programmes dedicated to supporting artists from Africa and its diasporas in their careers, facilitates public access to art, and actively participates in the development and structuring of the art scene in the Indian Ocean.

Fondation H, in its 2200 m² space in downtown Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar, invites local or international curators to conceive exhibitions anchored in the Malagasy context. The emphasis is on local productions, through residences and creative grants. Depending on the choice of the curators, the art works presented in the space may be loaned works, or belong to Fondation H 's collection, which is largely focused on artists from Africa and its diasporas.

CREDITS

- (1) Front view of Fondation H, photographer : Fabio Thierry Andriamiarintsoa © Fondation H
- (2) View of the exhibition 'Safiotra [Hybridités/Hybridities]' by Yinka Shonibare, photographer : Fabio Thierry Andriamiarintsoa © Fondation H
- (3) Detail of work by Otobong Nkanga - Cadence Collaboration
- (4) View of the installation Our voices are wounded, Sharjah Biennial 2025 © Sharjah Art Foundation. Photo: Ivan Erofeev
- (5) View of exhibition 'Fihavanana, mitam-pihavanana' by Andri Marcel, photographer : Fabio Thierry Andriamiarintsoa © Fondation H
- (6) Photo of Priscilla Kennedy, © gallery1957
- (7) Portrait of Joey Aresoa, photographer : Fabio Thierry Andriamiarintsoa © Fondation H
- (8) View of the exhibition 'Renouer les tresses de son identité' by Chloé Soafaniry Ramanankasina : © Studio Vanssay
- (9) Front view of Fondation H, photographer : Fabio Thierry Andriamiarintsoa © Fondation H





ANTANANARIVO

Rue Refotana
Ambatomena
Antananarivo 101, Madagascar
Tuesday to Saturday, 9:00 to 17:00
Sunday 10:00 to 16:00
Free entry

PARIS

24, rue Geoffroy l'Asnier
75004 Paris, France
Tuesday to Saturday, 10:00 to 18:00
Free entry

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