



Mentored Research & Development Programme for Artists

This programme is offered by Addo and is funded by the Arts Council of Wales' Wales Cultural Recovery Fund - COVID-19 Support for Organisations.

Brief for Applicants

Fee per artist: £6,250 (for 25 days work at £250 per day, inclusive of travel costs & reasonable disbursements) + £500 for materials & expenses

Deadline for applications: 06 December 2020, midnight (GMT)

Interviews: 16 December 2020, via Zoom.

We are inviting applications from Wales-based artists with an interest in developing an idea for the co-creation of a situated contemporary art project towards social change in Wales with mentoring support from Addo.

This mentored research & development programme will run from 04 January - 31 March 2021.

There are four places available, which are open to professional artists who either produce work in the public realm as part of their existing practice or are interested in developing their practice in this area. The opportunity is open to artists at any stage in their career.

Context

These opportunities are intended to allow artists to develop an idea for a situated art project that acknowledges the complexity and specificity of communities and responds to contemporary concern/s, such as sustainability, co-creation, our relationship to the public realm during and post-Covid-19, the impact of recent important socio-political shifts (e.g. Black Lives Matter, We Shall Not Be Removed (UK Disability Arts Alliance demand for safeguards to protect the future of disability arts in the UK), Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Brexit). This is not an exhaustive list of current issues and we would be interested in your concerns, both local and global.

It is important that the idea to be developed is situated, in the sense that it is connected to specific communities of interest, places and sites (be those geographical, thematic, topical or societal) and considers the particular context of Wales.

However, this opportunity is not just about producing ameliorative work that does not recognise the contested nature of places, sites and communities. Through these conversations we are also interested in exploring notions of social change, including for whom and by whom societal change may occur and what are the wider implications.

At this stage this is a process of dialogue, research and development around an idea. It is a chance to build

partnerships, test approaches, connect with communities and places, look at funding options and ways to move forward, rather than realising or materialising completed artworks.

In terms of outcomes, these will be negotiated and agreed with the mentee artist at the start of the programme, which recognises the challenge of developing project ideas in a rapidly changing world.

About Us

Addo work with artists, communities, private, public & voluntary sector partners to curate critically situated art projects in the public realm that enhance the wider cultural ecology of places, communities and sites. One of our core aims is to create opportunities for others to make and experience contemporary art in the public realm. This programme has been developed towards achieving this aim and in response to a need for support and advice requested by artists.

It forms part of a wider development programme for Addo's staff, with us taking more of a leadership role in curating, supporting and developing practice in the public realm. It is a pilot in which we will test an approach towards the development of an on-going programme we hope to deliver in the future.

For more information about us, visit our website (<http://www.addocreative.com>) and follow @addo_creative

Mentoring Provision & Expectations of the Research & Development Work

The mentoring programme will take the form of:

- An initial mentoring session that will identify mentees' developmental needs and ambitions for the programme. These will form the basis of a mentee-led mentoring agreement and an agreement of the outcomes of the programme.
- Group meetings between Addo and the selected artists will take place to share ideas and concerns, or discuss common issues arising as we develop and work through the programme activity.
- Up to 6 one-to-one mentoring sessions. Each of Addo's Co-Directors will mentor two artists. Sessions will take place periodically over a number of months and look at developing the artist's practice within and beyond this programme.
- Mentees are expected to work with us to creatively evaluate and document the programme, including contributing to evaluation activities for Addo and our funders, as well as sharing and documenting progress and learning via a blog and photography/film/other media to be identified. Please note we have a separate budget for documentation of the programme.

Expectation of the Artist

We are interested in working collaboratively with artists seeking to expand and question their current practice and approach towards working in the public realm. Proposals should be ambitious and take your work beyond current boundaries set by scope, scale or material. We wish to co-curate ambitious works that seek to achieve something different. Artists must be willing

to immerse themselves in the process, share initial ideas and commit time to the mentoring process.

The artist must be aware of, and abide by, the laws for working with children and vulnerable adults, should they undertake such work as part of the programme. The artist must have appropriate indemnity insurance relevant to the artist in person and to any object/s to be manufactured or any public activities/events/performances to be held.

How to Apply

To apply for a place on the programme please send the following information to commissions@addocreative.com with the subject heading '**Mentored Research & Development Programme for Artists**' by midnight on 06 December 2020 GMT:

- Up to 1,000 word statement about:
 - How the programme would benefit you and your creative practice
 - How this opportunity links to your previous work
 - An indication of initial ideas you would like to explore through the programme
- Up to 10 digital images (or a 10-minute max) showreel. All work should be numbered and include title, date, media, and brief description (up to 150 words each image/work)
- An up-to-date CV

- A completed Equality & Diversity Form, available here: http://www.addocreative.com/addo/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Equality_and_Diversity_Monitoring_Form.pdf

When sending large files (over 4MB), please provide hyperlinks to online files or a Dropbox containing the files.

Selection Process

Artists will be selected based on the quality and scope of their proposal and a demonstration of their aptitude and the relevance of their existing professional practice to the programme.

Addo aims to provide fair and equal access to all its opportunities in line with our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy and the Equality Act 2010. We especially welcome applications from artists from ethnic minority backgrounds, artists with protected characteristics, disabled and D/deaf artists, artists on low incomes, and people on the margins of society. We ask potential applicants to let us know of any access requirements that they may have in order to apply for this opportunity.

A panel made up of Addo's Co-Directors and up to three invited critical friends will shortlist candidates for interview from the applications received. Interviews will take place on **16 December 2020** via Zoom. Candidates must be available for an interview on this date. Invitations to interview will be sent out by **09 December 2020**. At the interview, artists will be expected to share more detail about their work and working

processes and the approach they envisage taking towards the programme.

A 'How to Apply' workshop will be held via Zoom on **25 November 2020**. This is an opportunity to ask questions about the programme and application process. Book your place here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/how-to-apply-online-workshop-gweithdy-ar-lein-sut-i-wneud-cais-tickets-128609433277>.

If you have any queries, please contact commissions@addocreative.com, with the subject heading '**Mentored Research & Development Programme for Artists**'.

