

Blast! Curatorial Commissions

Opportunity for six early / mid career curators from the West Midlands

Multistory are inviting applications from curators to reimagine work from the Multistory photographic collection for Blast! Festival in 2019.

Blast! Is an ambitious two-year project that will develop, showcase and celebrate exceptional art produced in the borough of Sandwell.

Blast! will see six flagship weekenders of international and breakthrough artist commissions produced in collaboration with communities and businesses in Sandwell's six distinctive towns. We will build an audience from one weekend to the next, culminating in a festival finale on the streets of West Bromwich in June 2019.

The Blast! Festival will focus on photography, moving image, digital media and sound – accessible, immediate forms suitable for temporary, improvised and outdoor events. Public space, community venues, pop-up sites, print, broadcasting and online platforms will all play a role in connecting inspirational art and artists to the people and the streets of Sandwell.

Opportunity

Multistory is offering six commissions to early to mid-career curators to reimagine the Multistory photographic collection to create new exhibitions / presentations about Sandwell and its people as part of the Blast! festival in 2019 and as a pop-up (work in progress) exhibition in 2018.

We are Interested in receiving applications that present creative approaches to animating our collection; not simply re-hanging an exhibition but engaging with communities to produce an exhibition / event / performance that sits within the Blast Festival in 2019.

You will be required to work within one of the six towns of Sandwell (Oldbury, Rowley Regis, Smethwick, Tipton, Wednesbury, West Bromwich) focusing on communities and re-presenting work from the Multistory collection (which can be viewed on the Multistory website under Stories & Galleries multistory.org.uk)

As part of the commission, each curator will be supported by mentoring and professional development and will have access to Multistory's resources and networks of arts professionals, galleries and festivals, to support the development of their curatorial ideas. Six master classes / artists talks by professional artists will form part of the programme of support for the successful applicants.

Fee, Materials and Installation

The budget available per commission is £5K (inc of VAT) for the fee, delivery of curatorial ideas and to cover the materials and production of the commission. Additional budget is available to support the installation of the work.

To Apply

Applications are to be made by email to: info@multistory.org.uk marked 'Blast! Festival / Curatorial Commission Application'.

This opportunity is available to artists who live, or are based in, the West Midlands. We are open to applications from independent artists or collaborations.

Please send:

- Up to 5 examples of previous curated work (can include samples of written work or photographs of past curated work) – JPEGs, PDFs or Word documents.
- A written statement outlining your approach to engaging with communities and working within non-traditional arts spaces: 1 side of A4.
- Up to two relevant links to work online.
- Up-to-date bio and CV.

The deadline for receipt of applications is **6pm on Friday 22 September, 2017**. We cannot accept applications after this date. We may contact you for further information before shortlisting on 2 October, 2017.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview on 10 / 12 or 17 October, 2017.

All proposed projects must:

- be public facing;
- develop your practice;
- develop audiences' experience.

Evaluation and Publicity

Successful curators must agree to Multistory using content produced for the commission to be used for promotional and marketing purposes (with credits), and to provide feedback for evaluation purposes.

multistory.org.uk
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