

Courtyard Commission 2024

Open Call for Visual Artists to Respond to the Theme of TRANSFORMATION

SUMMERHALL

Summerhall is a ground-breaking arts village for diverse programmes of visual and performing arts. Now thirteen years old and a much-loved fixture in the Edinburgh arts scene, Summerhall is open year-round and presents a diverse programme of theatre, dance, live music, performance and visual art.

COURTYARD COMMISSION, OPEN CALL FOR VISUAL ARTISTS: TRANSFORMATION

Art is powerful. Art has the capacity to be transformative and to illuminate transformation. It is a language that transcends boundaries and unites individuals, communities and populations. Art can be a catalyst for change, change in perception, change in understanding, change in belief.

For the third year running we are delighted to announce the annual Summerhall Courtyard Commission Project. Through a process of open-call proposal submissions and a panel selection, the project offers one local artist the opportunity to create site-specific work that will be exhibited on a permanent basis. This year we invite artists to submit proposals for commissioned pieces that respond to the theme of ‘transformation’.

Samantha Chapman,

Head of Visual Arts

FURTHER INFORMATION

* The successful artist or collective of artists will receive a commission of £2000 which should include materials and artist fee.
* The dimensions of the installation site are roughly 6m width x 2.7m height.
* Studio space for the creation of the work is available on site, in the Lower Café Gallery of Summerhall, between the 16th of June and the 15th of July.
* The resultant artwork will be installed by the Summerhall team, on the outside of B Block in the Summerhall Courtyard.
* Proposals should consider materials which are suitable for the allocated space, reasonably durable and weather resistant to ensure longevity. Summerhall offers consultation on this.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

From street art to print making, graphic design to sculpture, we are open to proposals from artists working in all media that would translate into a site-specific installation.

Your proposal should outline the approach you would take and examples of the materials to be used.

The work should be your own intellectual property.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send a copy of a proposal of no more than 3 sides of A4 with some examples of relevant work by the 31st of May 2024 to [visualarts@summerhall.co.uk](mailto:visualarts@summerhall.co.uk)

If you would like this information in larger print or need assistance with your proposal, please let us know by emailing [visualarts@summerhall.co.uk](mailto:visualarts@summerhal.co.uk)

PROJECT TIMELINE

* Closing date for proposals – Friday 31st of May
* Panel selection – Monday 3rd of June
* Commission awarded – Tuesday 4th of June
* Work starts – Wednesday 5th of June
* Workspace available 16th of June – 15th of July
* Work completed - Monday 15th of July
* Installation – Sunday 21st and Monday 22nd of July
* Launch event - Thursday 25th of July

SELECTION CRITERIA

* **Artistic Merit:** The artwork or exhibition content should demonstrate high artistic quality and innovation, regardless of style or medium. We welcome a diverse range of artistic practices, from traditional to contemporary, and value originality, creativity, and craftsmanship.
* **Relevance to concept / curatorial theme:** The artwork or exhibition content should be in line with the given theme or concept of the open call.
* **Representation and Diversity**: Priority will be given to artworks that reflect and celebrate diverse perspectives, experiences, and identities. We seek artwork that promotes representation and visibility for underrepresented groups, including marginalized communities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, people with disabilities, and artists from diverse cultural backgrounds.
* **Cultural Sensitivity**: Artists should demonstrate cultural sensitivity and awareness in their artwork, avoiding appropriation, stereotypes, or misrepresentation of any culture, tradition, or identity. We encourage artists to engage respectfully with cultural themes and practices, fostering cross-cultural understanding and appreciation.
* **Accessibility**: Consideration will be given to artworks that are accessible to a wide range of audiences, including those with disabilities or limited resources.
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