**Gala Gallery Open**

Gala Open is returning in 2020 after an exciting launch in 2018. We are again seeking a visual arts commission to create a **new**, temporary, site responsive work in any media for exhibition in the Gala Gallery space from **Friday 31 January 2020 to Friday 28 March 2020.**

There is a commission fee of up to £2000 to include all materials, installation costs and artist fees. There is also an additional fee available for workshops and public engagement of up to £1000 this is not essential but we are interested in proposals that seek to engage the community.

**Context**

Gala Gallery is an exhibition space within the Gala Theatre, in the heart of Durham city. It shows art exhibitions of modern and contemporary art with a focus on responding to the context of contemporary County Durham as well as making work with and for communities. Across the past two years we have shown work by both local and international artists as well as new works produced by the local community led by professional artists such as; Matisse, Claude Cahun, Nicola Singh, Phyllis Christopher, Humankind, Steffen Sixt and Betty Barnett Brown who received the last Gala Open commission.

**Proposals**

Proposals for artworks and installations should be site responsive, temporary and aim to engage a wide range of audiences. Proposals should include an element of new work but can also include existing work or themes. In 2020 Durham will be celebrating Year of the Pilgrimage which you may wish to respond to creatively however this is not essential. <https://www.thisisdurham.com/discover-durham/2020/the-year-of-pilgrimage-and-northern-saints>

Applications are invited from professional artists **living, working or studying in County Durham.** Proposals can be for exhibitions within a range of media including but not exclusive to painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, digital, sound, film or installation. The gallery space is 6.8m x 16.3m at its widest points and we suggest you visit the space before submitting.

We are particularly interested in proposals that seek to engage members of the community or involve local organisations or groups you already have links with in the creation of the artwork. There is an additional budget of up to £1000 (total £3000) to allow for workshops and additional materials to allow for this engagement element of the commission.

Proposals should be submitted on the attached application form with a maximum of 1000 words and include up to six images (jpeg or pdf) or web links.

Proposals should include:

* A brief summary of your idea (50 words)
* A more detailed description of your proposed idea (500 words)
* A description of your practice and how this exhibition will support that (300 words)
* An outline budget (including engagement work if this is part of your proposal)
* An outline of any resources or technical support you will need
* A description and time line of activity for the engagement element if applicable

Proposals should be submitted via email to GalaGallery@durham.gov.uk by 15/11/2019. Successful candidates will be informed by 15/12/2019. The exhibition must be installed between 28 - 31 Jan 2020.

**Application Form for Gala Open**

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| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Address | Postcode: |
| email |  |
| Telephone |  |

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| --- |
| **Summary of your idea (50 words)** |
| **Detailed description of proposal (500 words)**  |
| **A description of your practice and how this exhibition will support that (300 words)** |
| **Outline Budget**Commission £2000 plus additional £1000 available for engagement workshops |
| **Resources or technical support needed** |

**Please attach to your application up to 6 images or weblinks and or social media accounts of your work.**

**Please email your application to** **galagallery@durham.gov.uk** **by 5pm on 15/11/2019 Please put Gala Open Application in the email subject line.**