

Slow Art Progress: Artists Brief and Placement Artists Brief

1 Background

Chrysalis Arts is a leading visual arts, creative industries, training and development organisation which was established in 1985. The company's activities are based on a commitment to environmentally responsible arts practice and a belief that artists can transform places and regenerate communities. Chrysalis is committed to sharing knowledge and expertise with other artists, building their capacity and expanding the economic potential of the arts in sustainable ways. The evolving green agenda is strongly influencing our artistic practice and has led to the development of an Environmental Policy for the company, which is changing the way we work and energising our artistic practice. We are increasingly committed to researching and developing ideas around making art that has a low impact on the earth's resources and which also comments on the issues surrounding the climate change agenda.

Since 2007 the company has been moving its overall practice towards a more sustainable, ethical and environmentally responsible way of working. This is particularly reflected in recent public art projects such as A Change in the Weather and our project, The Slow Art Trail, which took place in October 2008 in North Yorkshire in partnership with the Bolton Abbey Estate and Craven District Council, and received an award from the Gulbenkian Foundation. The Slow Art Trail involved a programme of temporary commissioned artworks which were sited on the Bolton Abbey Estate and researched many of the key issues involved in public art and sustainability. We have drawn extensively on the experience of The Slow Art Trail to develop the proposal for the next stage of Slow Art development.

The Commission

This commission is for an artist to work in collaboration with Chrysalis Arts to create a new piece of work: a prototype transportable public art installation which draws on the experience and ethos of the Slow Art Trail but which will reach a wider audience by being sited at a number of different events around North Yorkshire. We intend to develop a series of such artworks over the next three years, by commissioning up to six artworks from regional, national and international artists specialising in sustainable/climate change public art. The size and scope of the prototype work will be defined in partnership with the appointed artist. There is also a fee available for a less experienced artist to work on placement on the project. The key criteria is -

- It is high quality art
- Challenges perceptions about art, sustainability & climate change
- Help evolve the concept for Slow Art Progress
- Adheres to sustainability issues and environmentally responsible art practice: including sourcing and selecting low impact materials, minimising transport, decommissioning etc (see website www.pasaguidelines.org for more information)
- Reflects on the slow concept of taking more time to appreciate art and life

The work will simultaneously express and challenge perceptions about sustainability and contemporary art making.

The commission is open to cross art form collaborative practice, and applications from artists working as a group as well as individuals will be eligible We are interested in proposals from artists using a range of techniques from digital art to traditional making. Chrysalis Arts are committed to seeking applications from artists with culturally and other diverse backgrounds.

Budget:

The budget for the commissioned artists is £7500.
To include all fees, materials, equipment, insurances.

The fee for the Placement artist is £1500

Application Process and Timescale

We are looking for a creative response to the brief and an outline proposal that includes a work plan for the end of April to June 7th. The proposal should include information about how the audience will engage with the work, how it reflects the key criteria listed in the brief and how the applicant sees the process of collaboration with Chrysalis Arts, how the work will be exhibited and transported, and any requirements it may have for operation, maintenance, safety etc.

Your response to the brief should be no more than four sides of A4 with up to five images of your recent work and a recent CV.

Deadline for application.....Monday 12th April 2010
Interviews for shortlisted artists....Monday 19th April 2010
Appointment of selected artist.....Tuesday 20th April 2010
The work must be completed by.....Monday 7th June 2010

Unfortunately this is not a slow timescale which is due to only recently receiving confirmation of the funding. *The irony of fast - slow art selection isn't lost on us.*

The prototype will be developed and completed between April and early June 2010 and will be launched at Chrysalis Arts' base, The Art Depot, to coincide with the 2010 North Yorkshire Open Studios event, which takes place during June. It will thus benefit from the marketing of that event. The artwork will subsequently be available for touring and exhibition purposes.

Applicants will be shortlisted and interviewed and one or more artists will be selected to undertake the work in collaboration with and supported by members of the Chrysalis team.

Chrysalis has a strong track record in working collaboratively with a diverse range of suppliers, fabricators and crafts people, some of whom could also be involved in creating the work.

For an informal conversation about the commission please call
Rick Faulkner 01756 749222 M 07702128443

- Further information about our work available through our websites www.chrysalisarts.org.uk www.art-connections.org.uk www.creativenorthyorkshire.com www.pasaguidelines.org