



Creative50

This year's [Manchester International Festival](#) (MIF) will see artists across the breadth of the Festival using digital technology to create, share and amplify new artistic experiences at home and internationally.

To complement this, **we're inviting 50 aspiring and emerging creatives** from across Greater Manchester to join us in a three-month programme of **digital experimentation, creative thinking and play** leading to MIF this July.

We're looking for individuals from across the spectrum of creativity – writing, filmmaking, visual art, design, performance, poetry and music amongst others – to take part.

You'll join leading digital practitioners, technologists and creative producers for two weekend labs, where you will learn new skills and join a community of makers from across the city. You'll be given priority access to MIF17 events and a £400 bursary to spend on developing your own creative responses to the programme, which will be profiled via MIF's channels and other online platforms.

If you're a locally-based creative interested in digital experimentation, creative thinking and play, and you'd like a chance to get closer to the action at MIF17 then read on for more info about how you can get involved...**and apply by 5pm on Wednesday 3 May.**

Key dates

- **Open evening** 6-8pm, Tue 18 April 2017
- **Application deadline** 5pm, Wed 3 May 2017
- **Open selection workshop** Wed 10 May 2017
- **MIF17 Super Lab** Sat 20 – Sun 21 May 2017
- **MIF17 Production Lab** Sat 10 – Sun 11 June 2017
- **MIF17 Pre-Festival planning meeting** Wed 21 June 2017
- **Manchester International Festival 2017** Thur 29 June – Sun 16 July 2017

Background

29 June to 16 July 2017 will see the sixth edition of [Manchester International Festival](#) bringing the city to life with new work by some of the world's leading international artists and organisations. From large-scale, free artworks in the public realm to intimate performances and installations in venues across the city, MIF covers everything from classical music to digital technology by artists from cities as diverse as Manchester, Berlin, Cairo, Karachi and New York.

New for 2017, the Festival will have a fresh emphasis on the interplay between the physical and digital realms and in response to this we're inviting 50 of the city's creative individuals to join us in playing with new digital technologies and ideas to connect and creatively respond to MIF17.

As a participant on this programme you'll join leading digital practitioners, technologists and creative producers to:

- explore and learn new skills across creative technology, public space intervention and data & the internet;
- stretch creative practice and experiment with new ways of making, presenting and sharing work digitally; and
- strengthen existing networks and collaborations.

You'll be given priority access to MIF17 events and a £400 bursary to develop your own creative responses to the Festival programme – anything from an animation to a photo series to a short film- which will be profiled via MIF and other digital platforms.

The Creative50 programme

There are three main elements:

MIF17 SUPER LAB

Central Manchester, 20-21 May 2017

A two-day creative lab to learn new digital art and technology skills, experiment with new practice, network with other artists, take part in talks and discussions, and hear from innovative practitioners and organisations from across the UK who are making work rooted in the interplay between live and digital arts.

During the latter part of the SUPER LAB, participants will form small project collectives focusing specifically on:

- **CAPTURE AND SHARE**
Using experimental film and experience design in new ways to engage audiences with MIF17 commissions; experimenting and using digital devices in public spaces; developing unique responses to MIF17 projects
- **MIGRATION, MOVEMENT AND DEBATE**
Exploring themes of migration, movement and debate through MIF17 via writing, journalism, discussion and data visualisations; sharing this content internationally
- **HACK AND PLAY**
Using off-the-shelf technologies, creative thinking and play in both physical and digital worlds to respond creatively to MIF17 projects

- **DATA VISUALISATION**

Exploring the narratives and data of MIF17 through graphics and animations.

MIF17 PRODUCTION LAB and PRE-FESTIVAL PLANNING MEETING

Central Manchester, 10–11 June & 21 June 2017

Over a weekend in June you'll work with your collective and a lead Facilitator to develop and pitch (individually or as a group) interesting and exciting ways to digitally respond to the MIF17 programme. A further production evening on June 21 will equip you with all you need to be able to capture, share and respond to the Festival.

MIF17

Across Manchester, 29 June – 16 July 2017

During MIF17 you'll be supported to put your creative plans into action with a **dedicated digital team** at MIF, **priority access to MIF events** and a **£400 individual bursary** to cover your time and expenses responding to the Festival. As an output, each individual is expected to produce a minimum of two pieces that respond to or capture this year's Festival.

Eligibility

Applicants must be aged 18+ and based in Greater Manchester. You do not need a creative qualification, but should be eager to learn and experiment with new ways of making and creating art, and interested in the intersections between art and technology, public space, digital and online practice.

We're interested in supporting creative practitioners from a range of disciplines, including but not limited to writers, filmmakers, visual artists, designers, performers, poets and musicians.

Apply now

To apply please complete the following form <https://mifestival.typeform.com/to/jUbwnn>.

The deadline for applications is 5pm on Wednesday 3 May 2017.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an open selection workshop **Wednesday 10 May 2017**.

More info

To find out more before you apply, come along to an open evening at MIF main office (Blackfriars House, Manchester, M3 2JA) on **Tue 18 April**. Please book your place [here](#).

If you have any other access needs or require any other additional support with completing your application please contact talentdevelopment@mif.co.uk