

Jerwood Creative Fellows

Thank you for your interest in the Jerwood Creative Fellowships at Manchester International Festival.

As a result of the generosity of Jerwood Charitable Foundation, MIF are now able to offer six Greater Manchester-based creatives the chance to win a special MIF17 Fellowship providing access and insight into how we create major new MIF works while also helping you to develop your own knowledge and understanding.

If you have an interest in working across different art forms, and feel you would benefit from the chance to go behind-the-scenes at a new MIF commission, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

The information you need to apply can be found on the following pages; if you have any additional questions please contact Marney Guy at jerwoodfellows@mif.co.uk or call 0161 817 4500.

Thanks once again for your interest in Manchester International Festival; we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Cleary
Creative Learning Director

Application Information & Guidelines

Background

At the start of 2016, MIF welcomed 100 local artists to a special open evening at our offices near Deansgate. When asked how they would like to connect with the Festival, many expressed an interest in learning more about how MIF work is made and gaining greater access to the work during its development. Thanks to the generosity of Jerwood Charitable Foundation, we're now offering six Greater Manchester-based creatives the chance to win a special MIF17 Fellowship that does exactly that.

Purpose

This newly established programme will enable 6 local artists or creative practitioners to benefit more tangibly from the festival's presence in the city in the lead up to and during MIF17.

It will offer:

- an observational training attachment to the making and delivery of an MIF17 Commission (we expect individuals to spend in the region of 4 to 6 weeks from February to July 2017 on this attachment)
- opportunities for candidates to develop their professional experience and knowledge - for example, of a different art form or a different scale of work
- financial support for time taken to undertake the attachment, via a bursary of up to £3,000 (tailored to individual needs)
- additional assistance with travel outside Manchester as per project requirements
- a cohort of other fellows to develop and share learning with
- opportunities to share learning with the wider creative community in the city
- an opportunity to interact with the wider festival team and develop understanding and insight of MIF activity.

Each fellowship will focus on three central aims:

1/. Artistic Development

The fellowships will be open to Greater Manchester-based independent artists and creative practitioners who are at a stage in their career where they would benefit from access to new and international artistic process, environment and experience. The intention is to support individuals who are at a transitional stage in their career to develop new knowledge, experience, skills and networks. Building on MIF's distinct identity and strength as a multi-disciplinary commissioning Festival there will be a focus on cross-art form development and experience, inviting candidates to reach outside their comfort zone into new artistic environments that stretch their knowledge and the application of their skills.

2/. Shared learning

Beyond their individual attachments to MIF commissions, Fellows will function as a cohort, supporting and encouraging each other and welcomed into the Festival team to share their practice, knowledge and learning as they progress. This might include, for example:

- attending MIF team meetings, social events, Q&As and briefings with Festival artists - fostering a two-way dialogue and connection with the MIF team;
- dedicated time with MIF's producer team offering more in-depth conversation and experience in cross-art form, international, complex commissioning, producing and touring;
- attendance at key MIF professional events e.g. MIF Programme Launch, Opening Night, Arts Weekend - providing opportunities for national and international networking and contact creation;

3/. Extended reach and onward development

Fellows will also be given the opportunity to collectively plan and deliver up to three events for local artists in the run up to and during MIF. This could include, for example, hosting Q&As for local creative networks to hear from the artists you are interacting with at MIF, or developing events that share your learning with other local creative networks.

How to apply

To apply for a Jerwood Creative Fellowship, please complete the application form telling us what excites you about the opportunity and what ideas, knowledge and experience you would like to develop.

Please send your application FAO Jennifer Cleary to jerwoodfellows@mif.co.uk - marking JCF 17 in the subject field.

The closing date for applications is **9am on Monday 2nd January 2017**.

Interviews are expected to take place the week commencing **9th and 16th January 2017**

We'll get in touch with all short-listed candidates by phone or email. As we receive so many applications we're unfortunately unable to reply to each one individually, but we'll keep in touch with all those who apply to let you know about other opportunities to support creative development as we lead up to the next Festival and beyond.

Eligibility

We welcome applications from artists or creative practitioners living in Greater Manchester and who consider themselves to be at a transitional stage in their career. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate:

- their approach to the opportunity and their ability and willingness to commit to it
- imagination and enthusiasm towards their own practice
- a strong commitment to producing work at the highest quality
- clear examples of previous work that is interesting and exciting
- clear aims in undertaking the Fellowship, articulating why it is important to their personal development
- a professional and proactive approach to their current working/training environment
- an existing engagement with the arts community in Manchester and a commitment to its future
- a readiness and ideas for putting their learning back into the artistic community.

Applications will be reviewed against the following selection criteria:

- Vision - evidence of your skill and imagination towards developing new ideas and cross art form artistic practice
- Impact - a clear articulation of how this opportunity will impact on your own work and creative practice
- Clarity - a clear understanding of what you would like to achieve through this process
- Relevance - how the aims and ambition of the scheme fit with your current creative practice
- Suitability - how your own aims and expectations fit with the opportunities we can accommodate within the forthcoming festival programme
- Ambition - a strong desire to make a positive contribution to the local creative ecology
- Diversity - contribution towards a diverse and vibrant creative ecology in the city.

Selection process

- Applications will be shortlisted by MIF's Creative Learning Director with an Executive Producer;
- Shortlists will be reviewed by MIF's Artistic Director and considered for fit with current artistic programme;
- MIF's Artistic Director will also meet each selected individual before final appointment.
- Fellowships will begin in January / February 2017, dates to be decided in consultation with MIF Creative team and each successful applicant.

Partners

Jerwood Charitable Foundation

The Jerwood Creative Fellows programme is generously supported by Jerwood Charitable Foundation.

Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. The aim of its funding is to allow artists and arts organisations to thrive; to continue to develop their skills, imagination and creativity with integrity. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts.

www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

Manchester International Festival

MIF is the world's first festival of original, new work and special events and takes place biennially, in Manchester, UK. The Festival launched in 2007 as an artist-led, commissioning Festival presenting new works from across the spectrum of performing arts, visual arts and popular culture.

Some highlights of the first four Festivals include premieres of Steve McQueen's commemoration of fallen British soldiers, Queen and Country; Damon Albarn, Jamie Hewlett and Chen Shi-Zheng's Chinese opera Monkey: Journey to the West; group art event Il Tempo del Postino - featuring work by Matthew Barney, Tacita Dean and Tino Sehgal; Zaha Hadid Architects' new space for the music of Bach; Björk's three-week Biophilia residency; director Robert Wilson's The Life and Death of Marina Abramović, starring Abramović, Willem Dafoe and Antony; The xx performing in a hidden city centre space for audiences of just 60 and Kenneth Branagh's Macbeth.

In 2015 highlights included the Alice in Wonderland inspired wonder.land with music by Damon Albarn, book and lyrics by Moira Buffini, directed by Rufus Norris; and contemporary-ballet Tree of Codes a spellbinding collaboration between Wayne McGregor, Olafur Eliasson and Jamie xx that featured dancers for Company Wayne McGregor and Paris Opera Ballet; Gerhard Richter and Arvo Pärt dedicating work to each other for Richter/Pärt and FKA twigs' Soundtrack 7 residency where audiences observed the artist's creative process at close quarters.

The next edition of MIF will take place from 29th June to 16th July 2017 and will be the first edition of the Festival under the artistic leadership of John McGrath, who joined as Artistic Director in September 2015. With John at the helm, MIF will continue to be an artist-led, commissioning festival working with some of the world's leading artists and creative minds, and MIF17 will once again deliver an extraordinary range of original performances, exhibitions and events over 18 days in June and July. In addition, we will see new developments in the areas of: digital (making more of MIF's work accessible and interactive online - extending our local, national and international presence and reach); the public realm (with more of MIF's work taking place in the city's streets, parks and squares so that it is visible and accessible to all) and, importantly for this new role; community (with new programmes of activity to create deeper roots and impact across our local communities).

The Festival works with co-commissioning partners around the world to create and present new productions, partnerships which not only help make these new commissions possible but also extend the audiences and lifespan of the shows. 35 MIF shows have gone on to have a life outside the Festival, visiting Park Avenue Armory in New York, the Ruhrtriennale in Germany, the Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Festival d'Automne in Paris, Spoleto Festival dei 2Mondi in Italy and many more.

In addition to income from co-commissioners and ticket sales, MIF receives support from private sponsorship, individuals and trusts and foundations. This money is raised by building on the solid support MIF enjoys from Manchester City Council and Arts Council England, our principal public funders.

'Few cultural events have established themselves with such clarity and self-confidence as the Manchester International Festival... MIF has quickly taught audiences to expect the unexpected.'

Peter Aspden, The Financial Times, July 2015

www.mif.co.uk

Questions?

If you have any questions please contact: Marney Guy at jerwoodfellows@mif.co.uk or call 0161 817 4500.