**ARTIST FILM COMMISSIONS x 2**

**Deadline for expressions of interest: Friday 18 September, 12 noon.**

For PUSH Festival 2021 we are looking for two artist filmmakers or collectives based in the North West of England to submit a proposal to create a new short moving image work (under 10 minutes in duration).

This commission is specifically designed for artists and filmmakers making work that sits outside mainstream cinema and explores experimental approaches to moving image. We are looking for work that redefines the relationship between visual art and filmmaking practices.

There is no restriction in terms of themes, genre or technique: we encourage films from artists working with documentary, abstract animation, moving image and narrative cinema.

The two film commissions will be premiere as part of Spit That Out, Push Festival’s showcase of North West Artist Film. The final film will need to be delivered by **[DATE TBC]** and the screening will take place in our cinemas (subject to COVID restrictions) and on our digital channels in January 2021 alongside other shorts that will be selected through an open call process.

We are keen to hear from a wide range of people from across the region. We particularly welcome applications from those currently under-represented in the industry as a result of barriers arising from social, gender, financial, ethnic, cultural, geographic or educational disadvantage or disability.

**What we’re looking for:**

* We are looking for ideas that are bold, innovative, experimental and curious; work that challenges conventional thinking and forms, is thought-provoking and reflects the diversity of the North West
* The artist must be currently based in the North West (in the case of a creative team either the lead artist, director or producer). The North West comprises Greater Manchester, Cheshire, Cumbria, Lancashire and Manchester
* The film should be no longer than 10 minutes in duration; including credits
* The film can be of any genre or format as long as it falls under the category of artist film / moving image.
* The artist should be able to demonstrate the ability to be able to complete this work by DATE TBC
* The artist must accept sole liability for the work and hold the copyright for any audio / visual material used in the film.
* The final film must be devised for a cinema setting to be screened as part of a programme of other shorts. We are also looking at the screening taking place on HOME’s digital channels.
* The final film should be supplied as a ProRes file.

**What we’re offering:**

* A commission of £1,500 funding per artist /collective
* Paid development time to work on your commissions (bespoke and on top of each commission)
* The film will premiere as part of Spit That Out showcase during PUSH festival.
* Bespoke mentoring support from HOMEs Programme and Talent Development team
* Marketing support from HOME

**How to apply and further details:**

We have been working with the National Freelance Taskforce to look at our application process. In response to their feedback, we are changing the way artists will apply for commissions at HOME. There will now be a two-step process;

**Step One**

We are asking initially for brief expressions of interest via a short **written form** or audio/video (see details below). HOME will then employ a panel of independent freelance artists to review and shortlist these to take a selection to Step Two.

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**Shortlisted Applications notified: Friday 25 September.**

**Step Two**

The shortlisted expressions of interest will then be invited to submit a more detailed application - these artists will each receive £50 to cover their time as well as a one to one producer support surgery with a member of HOME programme and talent development departments to aid the application process. This session will be arranged at a convenient time and on a suitable platform for the applicant (i.e. zoom, phone, email etc)

These applications will then be discussed by the independent artist panel. All applications at this stage will receive detailed feedback collated from the Artist Panel discussions.

**Shortlisted Applications notified: Friday 25 September.**

**Application Surgeries with HOME Producers: Week commencing 28 September**

**Deadline for Applications: Friday 9 October**

**Selection Panel: Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14 October**

**How to apply for Step One:**

We accept responses in a variety of formats;

* a written application via this **google form**
* voice recording via email
* a short video via email
* download one of our accessible forms (dyslexia friendly, large print, word.doc) and email it to us

Please also take two minutes to fill in this Equal Opportunities and Monitoring form

Please send email applications to  **Push festival email** with subject line 'Your name, Push 2021 – HOME Artist Film Commission'.

If you complete the form online via the **link**, the following questions will be asked. If you are recording your submission please do make sure you cover the following questions.

1.What is your name?

2.What is your email address?

3.Please tell us about yourself and the work you make? (250 words max)

4.What is your Idea? (up to 500 words)

5. Why you feel your film project sits within Artist Film? (up to 500 words)

**Making a link to a video / audio file.**

You could upload your file to Vimeo or YouTube (both are free to join). You can  make your film password protected on Vimeo or  unlisted on YouTube (please don’t make them private as the video will need to be watched by several people whose email addresses you won’t have).

You can also use services like WeTransfer where you can upload several files. Choose the option “send as a link” and send it to yourself – this is the link to add to the form.

These are only suggestions, there are plenty of alternatives, the only things you need to remember are

* Several people will be listening / watching it so access to your file must not be linked to a specific email address
* The people watching / listening need to be able to access to it without signing in to a service.
* If you are sending a video/audio application, each answer must not be longer than 5 minutes.

**Expression of Interest – your expression should cover the following**

**About You *(250 words max)***

*Remember the main applicant must be currently living in the North West (Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside)*

*Please tell us a bit about yourself and the work you make, it would be great if you could include a brief overview of relevant film experience and links to recent works. If your project is a group / collective project please tell us a bit more about the other people involved*

**About Your Project**

**What is your idea? (500 words max)**

*Remember people who will be reading this don’t know anything about your project, its story and background. How will you give them a sense of what you want to achieve? How will people picture your film. On top of a summary, you might want to add some visual aids you feel would help us understand your concept, give a sense of the film style and its final shape. This could be a mood board, a short film extract, some imagery that inspires you, a full treatment or anything that will give someone external a sense of what you are trying to achieve.*

**Why you feel your film project sits within Artist Film? (500 words max)**

*Don't worry if you don't consider yourself an artist, we consider all makers in the creative field as artists. We want to know why you think your film sits outside of mainstream cinema and what is particularly innovative and experimental about your proposal. If you have an idea for a film that is not artist film we recommend you check out the BFI Network funding streams.*