



Winter Digital Commission for Arts&Heritage

Introduction

Arts&Heritage is an agency based in Northumberland, working nationally to forge creative collaborations between artists and museums/heritage organisations to present history in different and imaginative ways.

Arts&Heritage knows the value of artists working within the heritage sector. We have been privileged to support many creative collaborations between artists and museums. It is our experience that artists create new ways for audiences to understand the past through their unflinching ability to reveal hidden histories which resonates with meaning today.

Following on from our very successful [Blue Sky Museums](#) project we want to invest again in the professionalism of artists to create a very short digital work that we can use as our 2020 'Winter card'.

The brief for this commission is very open: we are seeking artists who, referring to the ethos and identity of Arts&Heritage as their starting point, can produce a startling, beautiful, visually arresting work that we can use from December onwards as our Winter celebratory 'card'.

The work needs to somehow respond to what Arts&Heritage does:

- Commissioning **Artists** to explore historical narratives
- Getting inspiration from the extraordinary and eclectic collections of **museums**
- Be drawn to **heritage locations**, sites and buildings that are unusual, atmospheric and show traces of past inhabitants
- Focussing our work on forgotten, deliberately 'unremembered' or buried **narratives**
- Valuing artistic practice that makes a strong connection between past experience and **our lives now**, either as individuals or as a society

We are looking for digital works that reflect what we do and convey a sense of seasonality. We prefer the work to have a sense of wit and beauty, but not exclusively so. We are very open to **Ideas**. This opportunity is open to all artists, and this includes writers, musicians, designers and filmmakers but of course needs to be in a digital format (more details below).

This digital commission will become our leading visual identity through the winter months, will appear on our website and will be sent to our artist and partner friends.

The artist/s will be credited fully and we will promote the artist throughout January as part of our new 'spotlight on artists' promotional strand. This will include leading on the work of the artist in our January newsletter, profiling the work that they have completed previously and signposting to their website and other work. The artist will remain the copyright holder.

Fee

We have £1,000 to offer for this Winter commission. This will be paid in full on acceptance of the final work.

What to do next

If you are interested in this creative challenge please email

info@artsandheritage.org.uk by **midnight, Sunday 25 October** with:

- A brief outline of what your idea for our Winter commission would be, including format and length (if applicable) – no more than 300 words.
- Examples of your previous work, either via links or attachments
- Your website, if you have one.

Please note that, if you are selected, the final work can be an image, animation, video or sound piece (no longer than 15 seconds) and must be sent in one of the following formats: .pdf, .jpg, .png, .gif, .mp3, .wav, .mp4, .mov (if it is essential that your work be presented in another format, please specify this in your initial email).

How we will select and present your work online

Following artists sending in examples of their work and ideas, the A&H team will select one artist to develop their idea further into the commission, touching base with them regularly to see how the work is progressing.

Timescale

7 October – Applications open

25 October – Deadline for submissions

30 October – Selected artist notified

30 November – Final artwork submitted

7 December – Artwork published

PLEASE LOOK AT OUR WEBSITE FOR CASE STUDIES, INCLUDING IMAGES OF PAST PROJECTS AND WE DRAW YOUR ATTENTION SPECIFICALLY TO OUR BLUE SKY MUSEUMS PROJECT, WHICH GIVES AN IDEA OF THE SORT OF APPROACH WE ARE LOOKING FOR.

We look forward to hearing from you

with best wishes from the Arts&Heritage team.