

artSOUTH : collaborations

Call for Proposals

artSOUTH : collaborations is an ambitious new contemporary visual art open submission. The project will provide an exciting opportunity for national and international artists to develop new works in collaboration with professionals/specialists of their choice in any other field or discipline. These will be presented at indoor and outdoor non-gallery locations across central southern England in Autumn 2013.

The project will consist of three stages:

- Stage One: Initial call for artist-led collaborative proposals
- Stage Two: Development of 12 to 16 shortlisted proposals
- Stage Three: Final selection, realisation and exhibition of 8 to 12 new collaborative commissions

Selectors

Artist **A K Dolven** and **artSOUTH** Curator **Judy Adam** with:
Jo Bushnell, Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth
Phil Smith, Mottisfont, Romsey (National Trust)
Stephen Foster, John Hansard Gallery, University of Southampton
Jo Montague, Arts and Museums Service, Hampshire County Council

Deadline for submissions: **Friday 7 September 2012**

Exhibition dates: **Saturday 7 September – Sunday 1 December 2013**

1. Background

Led by Hampshire County Council, **artSOUTH** is a partnership developed with 14 partners including independent arts organisations, local authorities and universities across central Southern England. The **artSOUTH** area includes the cities of Winchester, Southampton, Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, as well as the wider county of Hampshire.

The **artSOUTH** partnership aims to:

- raise the profile of contemporary visual art in the Hampshire area
- expand opportunities to experience contemporary art
- work in partnership to achieve greater impact
- support and develop the existing visual arts infrastructure in the Hampshire area

artSOUTH : collaborations offers an exciting opportunity for national and international artists and their chosen collaborators to push the boundaries of collaborative art practice and to realise engaging and innovative new collaborative commissions of the highest quality.

artSOUTH : collaborations will be presented across South Hampshire and the Southern coast, at non-gallery sites from Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight in the South East, to the New Forest in the South West and the Test Valley in the North.

The final selection of new collaborative commissions to be realised and exhibited in 2013, and the sites agreed for their presentation will be easily accessible. Routes will be choreographed in order to maximise the opportunities for visitors to experience both the new commissions and the diverse range of contexts in which they may be located.

The project has been divided into four geographical areas, each with a lead organisation and several partners. These are:

- Portsmouth & Isle of Wight - Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth
- Romsey & New Forest - Mottisfont, National Trust
- Southampton - John Hansard Gallery, University of Southampton
- Winchester - Arts and Museums Service, Hampshire County Council

Each lead organisation will oversee, support and facilitate the selected collaborative commissions in their area. They will also co-ordinate the involvement of other partners, including four universities in the region and several galleries, art schools and artist-run spaces, each of whom will contribute to the production and presentation of the exhibition. (www.artSOUTH.org.uk for further details of all partner organisations).

In addition to the new collaborative commissions that will form the main exhibition, **artSOUTH : collaborations** will include a number of directly and indirectly related satellite exhibitions, curated and presented by different partner galleries across the region.

artSOUTH curator, Judy Adam, will work closely with the lead organisations and all partners, to support the selected artists and collaborators in realising their proposals and to ensure that the overall curatorial vision for the project is retained.

2. Artists' Brief

Collaboration lies at the heart of this project.

Artist-led proposals are invited for new works which will be the result of genuine collaborations between visual artists and professionals or specialists of their choice in any other field or discipline: from science to sea-faring; literature to education; traditional craft skills to new technologies; dance and performance to ecology and environmental developments. All proposals are welcome in any medium.

The selected proposals will respond to context and 'place' and will celebrate and reveal some aspect of the diverse and distinctive character of a location or series of locations in central Southern England.

Artists and their collaborator(s) may either nominate a specific location, or make a general proposal for which a suitable site will be found (www.artSOUTH.org.uk for information on possible sites in each of the four areas outlined above).

artSOUTH : collaborations aims to inspire artists and their collaborators to explore and discover contemporary associations and narratives reflected in different locations within this region, as well as the rich history and heritage.

3. Budget

The total commissioning budget for **artSOUTH : collaborations** is £80,000.

This budget will be evenly divided between the four areas mentioned above and may be allocated to one or more large £20,000 commissions, or divided between several smaller commissions.

There will be a minimum of one collaborative commission in each area, though it is anticipated that in most areas there will be at least two and some areas may host several smaller commissions.

4. Engagement

A key aim of **artSOUTH : collaborations** is to reach the widest possible audience, and to develop new audiences for contemporary visual arts by increasing participation and engagement.

An Engagement Programme is being developed to create different ways for audiences to engage with the commissions and the collaborative process. Artists and their collaborators will have the opportunity to feed into the shaping of this activity in relation to each of the selected commissions.

5. Submission Guidelines

artSOUTH : collaborations is open to artists resident in the UK and overseas, at all stages in their careers. There are no age restrictions.

Proposals must be submitted online.

Proposals should be artist led and include an explanation of the nature and purpose of the intended collaboration and the intended outcome.

The final selection will demonstrate a variety of genuine and innovative approaches to collaboration that will engage different audiences and expand their perception of the possibilities of art and collaboration.

Submission Procedure

To make a submission for **artSOUTH : collaborations** please submit the following information to info@artsouth.org.uk by **Friday 7 September 2012**.

Written Proposal:

- Artist details: Name, Address, Contact Details, CV, website (if applicable)
- Collaborator(s): Name, Address, Contact Details and CV, website (if applicable)
- Proposal title and outline (600 words max) including a nominated site, or for general consideration and a rationale for the collaboration (how it will engage or respond to a specific location or series of locations and how the collaboration will impact on your creative practice)
- An outline budget (including time, production costs and travel expenses. This should be indicative only. Successful proposers should not anticipate that any budget is approved; further discussion, development and if required, fundraising will follow).

Images:

- j-peg images of artists work (10 maximum, maximum total size 10mb). If you wish to include moving images as part of your submission (3 maximum) please include a web link (or send as .wmv or .flv file, maximum total size 10mb).

6. Selection Process and Timeline (provisional)

Stage 1

Deadline for on-line proposals

Fri 7 September 2012

Notification of long-listed collaborations

Mon 24 September 2012

Initial interviews (in person or via skype)

Mon 1 & Tues 2 October 2012

Notification of shortlisted collaborations

Wed 3 October 2012

Stage 2

A fee of £1,000 will be allocated to each of the shortlisted proposals to enable the selected artists and their collaborator(s) to research and develop ideas. This fee will include making an initial site visit to confirm or identify suitable sites and meeting with relevant project partners and the **artSOUTH** curator to ensure proposals are deliverable. This will be followed by time to develop detailed proposals and budgets before the final selection of the exhibition. Funding may be available in certain circumstances to assist with travel expenses.

Deadline for detailed proposals

Mon 26 November 2012

Presentations by artists & collaborators

Mon 3 & Tues 4 December 2012

Confirmation of selected collaborations

Fri 7 December 2012

Stage 3

Development and production of final commissions

January – August 2013

Installation of final commissions

by Fri 30 August 2013

Press view & Special preview

Thurs 5 & Fri 6 September 2013

artSOUTH : Collaborations opens

Sat 7 September 2013

artSOUTH : Collaborations closes

Sun 1 December 2013

For further information or enquiries please visit www.artSOUTH.org.uk

Or contact:

artSOUTH Project Coordinator

Arts Team

Hampshire County Council

Castle Avenue

Winchester

SO23 8UL

Tel: 01962 846966