

INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY RESIDENCY

BRIEF FOR APPLICANTS: GRAIN AND IED Madrid RESIDENCY OPPORTUNITY

Introduction

We are inviting artists, photographers and curators from the West Midlands, UK, to apply for the residency in response to this brief. The residency will take place in Madrid, Spain. The applicant must have a photographic practice.

The residency is a special opportunity for an emerging artist or curator to research and devise new work that contributes to their professional development, portfolio and the cultural significance of the spaces/hosts/communities.

This opportunity is part of a broader series of continued professional development opportunities conceived and developed by GRAIN in partnership with IED Madrid, supported by Arts Council England and Birmingham City University.

GRAIN and IED Madrid will be the host and will provide introductions, contacts, networks, information about accommodation and the local area etc.

The residency must take place between September – November 2016 and be a minimum of 7 days. At the same time a residency will be undertaken by an artist, photographer or curator from Madrid in the Midlands, UK.

About GRAIN Projects

GRAIN works in collaboration with local, national and international partners to support and grow photography opportunities. GRAIN delivers research and development projects, exhibitions, events and a range of ambitious high quality opportunities all aimed at strengthening and sustaining photography in the Midlands region and promoting the sector nationally and internationally. GRAIN is supported by Arts Council England and Birmingham City University.

www.grainphotographyhub.co.uk

About IED Madrid

The IED Madrid Photography Department prides itself on innovation and a quality faculty, as well as focusing on projects as the fundamental core of learning and understanding the creative experience. IED Madrid develops its academic offerings and photography courses based on this demanding, ambitious concept, thinking not of amateurs, but rather students' inspiration to become photographers, professionals and artists. The IED's Department of Photography has recently signed an exchange program with Seoul's prestigious Chung-Ang University and collaborates with institutions such as Photolreland (Dublin), Photographic Social Vision (Barcelona) and European Photography Magazine (Berlin).
www.iedphotography.com

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Aims of the Residency

The artist, photographer or curator will create new work that will;

- Make a difference to the communities engaging in the residency
- Raise the profile of their work and the work of the host organisations
- Make a strong contribution to their own identified professional development
- Contribute to the development of high-quality contemporary art activity and engagement experiences
- Create enduring partnerships.

The residency opportunity exists to invite photographers, artists and curators to take time and work in a space away from their usual environment and obligations. We aim to allow recipients to reflect, research and explore his/her practice within another community; meeting new people, using new materials, experiencing life in a new location. The residency promotes the importance of meaningful and layered cultural exchange and immersion into another culture.

The opportunity will provide the individual with a unique chance to engage with the diverse range of research and cultural collections in Spain. The individual may work alongside curators, practitioners, academics, communities, researchers with the opportunity to forge new relationships to inspire new work.

The recipient will be asked to deliver a workshop, lecture and short presentation at the end of the residency.

We encourage debate and exchange and throughout the residency can offer;

- Weekly mentoring sessions and/or advice
- Professional networking
- Insights into our work, history, practice, research and development activities, working methods, business structure and artistic structure
- Access to equipment and resources
- Public engagement.

All support can be tailored and focussed on the individual needs of the recipient.

Our Artist-in-Residence Exchange opportunity builds on the exhibition exchange 5plus5 developed in 2013/14 to support practitioners to exhibit in galleries in Birmingham and Madrid.

Outcomes

We are looking for artists to engage with this opportunity, to gather information and inspiration from experts in other fields, to develop their practise in new ways and to create work that engages wide ranging audiences.

The material outcomes of the residency must engage with photographic practice. The outcomes may take the form of new work for a portfolio, research outcomes, new writing, temporary artworks created with input from a community. It is expected that the artist will present work in progress and give at least two public talks about the experience.

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The Artist/Curator

The applicant will be someone interested in responding to this unique residency in Spain.

This opportunity is open to emerging practitioners based in the Midlands. The applicant must have been out of college (BA graduate) for at least 2 years and be able to demonstrate a strong commitment to their artistic practice and evidence a body of work and strong track record, through new work, projects, exhibitions, publishing, and/or commissions.

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Creative originality and professionalism in their work
- The ability and desire to work collaboratively with the public and other partners as part of their creative practice
- A willingness to immerse themselves in the life and culture of the area
- An understanding of the issues of working in partnership and the concerns and opportunities presented
- The practitioner must be aware of and abide by the laws for working with children and vulnerable adults, should they undertake such work as part of the residency
- In the event of manufacture/installation of artworks by the practitioner, the practitioner must demonstrate appropriate experience, skills and insurances.

Residency Fee: £1,500

The selected artist will be paid the bursary in instalments to be agreed on appointment. This fee is inclusive of all travel costs, subsistence, materials and accommodation.

How to Apply:

Please provide the following:

- Up to 10 digital images in a PDF document or a Powerpoint presentation. All work should be numbered and include, title, date, dimension and media.
- An up-to-date CV.
- A brief letter of application that broadly outlines why you are interested in this opportunity, the themes or communities you would like to explore and how it is relevant to your practice
- A letter of support.

When sending large files (over 2MB), please provide hyperlinks to online files or a DropBox containing the files. Information submitted in other formats will not be accepted.

Please send to: nicola.shipley@grainphotographyhub.co.uk

Deadline: 5pm on Friday 17th June 2016

Please note that we do not require a project proposal at this stage as we anticipate that details of the activity will be part of the residency and will follow interaction with the area, community and key stakeholders.

Selection Process: A panel of key stakeholders will shortlist candidates for interview from the applications received.

Interviews will take place in Birmingham during late June/early July 2016. Interviews via Skype may be arranged. At interview, interviewees will be expected to speak in more

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detail about their work and working processes and the approach that they envisage taking towards the residency.

Contact Details:

For queries and further information about this opportunity, please contact:

Nicola Shipley or Annie Laughrin hello@grainphotographyhub.co.uk

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