

# PHOTOGRAPHY RESIDENCY - Stoke-on-Trent

## BRIEF FOR APPLICANTS:

### Introduction

We are inviting artists and photographers to apply for the residency in response to this brief. The residency is a co-commission devised and delivered by GRAIN Projects and Appetite. The applicant must have a photographic practice and be experienced in socially engaged project delivery.

The residency will take place between June – September 2017. The project will be seen as a pilot project with the ambition and potential to develop activities and build momentum for 2018/19.

### 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](http://www.grainphotographyhub.co.uk)

### About Appetite

Appetite is a large artistic programme that gets more people to experience and be inspired by the arts. Appetite is led by the New Vic Theatre in partnership with Partners in Creative Learning, 6Towns Radio and Staffordshire University. Appetite is part of the Creative People and Places programme supported by funding from National Lottery through Arts Council England.

[www.appetitestoke.co.uk](http://www.appetitestoke.co.uk)

### Aims of the Residency

The artist, photographer will;

- Devise and deliver an ambitious and contemporary project that engages with and represents the communities of Stoke-on-Trent
- Make a difference to the communities engaging in the residency
- Lead workshops to enable participation by community groups, families and individuals
- Raise the profile of their work and the work of the host organisations
- Create an artwork that is collaborative and engaging for public display during Appetite's Big Feast Festival 2017
- Contribute to the development of high-quality contemporary art activity and engagement experiences
- Create enduring partnerships
- Contribute to the monitoring, documenting and evaluation of the project.

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Delivery timescales;

- Application Deadline; 25<sup>th</sup> May 2017
- Interviews for Shortlisted Candidates; 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017
- Project delivery; June to September 2017
- Workshops with communities and gathering of photographs and stories; June – September 2017
- Presentation and exhibition for The Big Feast festival; 25-26 August 2017
- Installation of artwork; 21 August 2017
- Completion of documentation and evaluation; September 2017.

The Artist or Photographer will engage with the individuals and communities that moved to or migrated to Stoke-on-Trent from within the UK or internationally. Those that have made their home in the city and work in the city have made Stoke-on-Trent a diverse community and the city it is today.

Photography will have been part of these people's journey; from the places and people they left to their new lives in Stoke-on-Trent. These photographs will be in people's family albums, stored in shoe boxes, treasures and keepsakes for themselves, their families and friends.

The images will tell their stories of arriving in the city, their origins and descendants, the reasons why they moved to Stoke, whether that be to work in the pottery industry, the mining industry, the hospitals, universities, or other industries. They may have arrived in Stoke-on-Trent due to true love, marriage or they may have escaped from their own country. People have arrived in the city from all over the UK and from the commonwealth and subcontinent.

A positive project, this project will celebrate commonalities using images from local people's own photography collections and present by creating new images in Stoke-on-Trent.

## **Outcomes**

We are looking for artists to engage with this opportunity, to meet with people and groups and facilitate conversations to create an archive of photographs and memories. We would like the completed artwork, to be prepared for exhibition, to be collaborative and to engage with wide ranging audiences.

The material outcomes of the residency must engage with photographic practice.

## **The Artist/Photographer**

This opportunity is open to practitioners that are experienced in the arts, in photography practice and in the process of community engagement and participation. They should be able to demonstrate a strong commitment to their artistic practice and evidence a body of work and strong track record.

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Applicants must demonstrate:

- Creative originality and professionalism in their work
- The ability and desire to work collaboratively with communities and individuals
- A willingness to immerse themselves in the life and culture of the area
- An understanding of the issues of working in collaboration 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
- The practitioner must demonstrate appropriate experience, skills and insurances. (PLI minimum £5million)

Residency Fee: £3,500

This fee is inclusive of all travel and accommodation costs, subsistence, materials and exhibition costs

### 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 proposal that broadly outlines why you are interested in this residency, your approach and how it is relevant to your practice (maximum 1000 words).

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](mailto:nicola.shipley@grainphotographyhub.co.uk)

Deadline: 5pm on Thursday 25 May 2017

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

Interviews will take place in Stoke-on-Trent on Wednesday 31 May 2017 (and may be arranged via Skype). At interview, interviewees will be expected to speak in more 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](mailto:hello@grainphotographyhub.co.uk)

[www.grainphotographyhub.co.uk](http://www.grainphotographyhub.co.uk)

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