

## **Open Call: We Contain Multitudes Studio Visits**

Collective, Dundee Contemporary Arts (DCA), and LUX Scotland are inviting disabled artists to apply for studio visits as part of We Contain Multitudes.

### **Project Background**

We Contain Multitudes is a new, three-year collaborative project between Collective, DCA and LUX Scotland and is funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation. This partnership has enabled our organisations to begin working together with the aim of creating systemic change in the visual arts sector in Scotland. We are committed to questioning the institutional ableism in the sector and to imagining a future in which disabled artists and arts professionals have increased access to opportunities, are visible, and their expertise and experiences are truly valued. This includes disabled artists and arts professionals being represented as staff in organisations and on boards, their work shown in exhibitions, and their voices heard in decision making processes.

We Contain Multitudes contains three main strands: commissioning three new artworks in a supportive and anti-ableist way; generating research to disseminate the findings of the project and to help influence lasting change in the sector; and creating meaningful organisational development within each of our separate organisations, to ensure our institutions and programmes better represent the diversity of the Scottish population.

## Studio Visits

We are inviting applications from disabled artists who would like to present and discuss their work with us at one of this series of online studio visits. These will each last one hour and take place online between 10am–5pm on various dates in September 2024.

We are planning to make around 24 individual online studio visits in total (between 16–27 September 2024) and would like these to be a useful experience for artist participants who would like the opportunity to discuss existing work and research with us and build their professional connections. We are looking forward to these studio visits as a way to broaden our knowledge of artistic practices, deepen our professional networks and also form part of the wider curatorial research phase of this project that will eventually involve commissioning three artists later this year (see timeline below for more detail).

- Selected artists will each be paid a fee of £175 for taking part in one of these studio visits (the fee is calculated on 4 hours work at current Scottish Artist Union rates and includes up to 2 hours of preparation time, 1 hour of meeting time and 1 hour paid rest time)
- BSL interpretation and live captioning is available
- Funds for mobile data and /or support for internet connection is available
- Studio visits will be hosted by project manager Lauren La Rose

- Each studio visit will be with different groupings of the project team present (with a minimum of 2 people per studio visit, including staff from at least two of the partner organisations at each meeting). These will include Collective (Sorcha Carey, Director and Katie Brennan, Producer, Learning); DCA (Beth Bate, Director and Tiffany Boyle, Head of Exhibitions); LUX Scotland (Kitty Anderson, Director and Eve Smith, Learning Programme Manager).

## Who can apply?

- Artists with lived, professional and/or caring experience of disability including neuro-divergence can apply. We follow the social model of disability, which says that people are disabled by barriers in society, not by their impairment or difference, and the definition of disabled used in this context are people who identify as 'Disabled, D/deaf, chronically ill, neurodiverse, with mental ill health, mad, crip, sick, spoonie or otherwise', regardless of whether you have received a medical diagnosis.
- People from the global majority, who are LGBTQIA+, disabled and/or from working class or low socio-economic backgrounds are particularly encouraged to apply. This includes, but is not limited to, people of Black Caribbean, Black African, South Asian, East Asian, South East Asian, West Asian, Arab, Latine, Jewish, Romany and Irish Traveller heritage.
- Artists who are based in Scotland.
- Artists do not have to have been in formal education, attended art school or university to apply.
- Artists at any career stage.
- Visual artists working in any medium.
- Collectives, groups and collaborations are eligible to apply.

## How to apply

Please send the following information to Lauren La Rose (Project Manager, We Contain Multitudes) at [Lauren.larose@dca.org.uk](mailto:Lauren.larose@dca.org.uk)

- A statement about your practice (up to 5 mins of voice or video recording, or up to 500 words if you are sending this in written form)
- Up to 5 online links for us to view your work
- Confirming that you are based in Scotland
- A completed EDI form, using the form here.

Please note, we do not expect or encourage you to spend time making a dedicated portfolio specifically for this application.

If you have any questions, or require any support please contact Lauren La Rose at [lauren.larose@dca.org.uk](mailto:lauren.larose@dca.org.uk).

**Deadline for applications: 10am on Friday 16 August 2024**

After this date, all applications will be reviewed by a selection panel (made up of representatives from Collective, DCA and LUX Scotland, with project manager Lauren La Rose).

Artists will be selected to participate in studio visits based on the subjective curatorial interests of the panel.

If you would like to talk over your application, have any questions or want to ask us about anything that isn't clear, then

please email project manager Lauren La Rose at  
lauren.larose@dca.org.uk.

## **Future commissions**

As part of the 'We Contain Multitudes' project, Collective, DCA and LUX Scotland will each commission one artist to make a new work in dialogue with them, with all three commissioning processes beginning in November 2024. The details and context of each of the individual commissions will be different, as each organisation has specific exhibition possibilities, programme focuses and priorities: Collective are planning to commission an artist to develop a new project for exhibition in their City Dome space; DCA are planning to show work as part of a group exhibition in one of their main gallery spaces; LUX Scotland are looking to commission an artist from a global majority background who works with moving image (film, video or audio) and to present their commission online for one month alongside a screening event with a Scotland-based cinema space.

## Timeline

- Studio visits application deadline: 10am on Friday 16 August 2024
- All artists applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by Friday 6 September 2024 and receive feedback within a month
- Selected artists will have studio visits scheduled for mid-late September 2024
- All artists who participate in studio visits will receive feedback within 6 weeks
- Any artists invited for commissions that result from the studio visits programme will be directly invited by October 2024
- Public announcement of artist commissions in November 2024 (work to start with plans to present the new work in late 2025 at the earliest).