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## OPEN SEASON 2023

### OPEN CALL: COMMISSIONS FOR NEW WORK

Artists, designers & creative technologists are invited to apply for **Open Season** projects culminating between 23 September – 22 October 2023 as part of Torbay's Cultural Development Fund (CDF2) Cultural Programme.

The **deadline for submissions is 11.59pm on Tuesday 20 June 2023**. Shortlisted applications will be notified by Friday 23 June 2023 and invited to online interviews to take place between Wednesday 28 and Friday 30 June 2023. Successful applicants will be notified by Tuesday 4 July 2023. Whilst we will do our best to provide feedback on applications submitted, due to expected interest in this opportunity, we are unable to commit to providing feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

### CONTEXT: Torbay's Cultural Development Fund – Paignton Picture House (CDF2)

The Creative & Cultural Programme forms part of a substantial programme of work focused on capital improvements in Paignton. Torbay's Cultural Development - Paignton Picture House focuses on one of Europe's earliest purpose-built cinemas. It will see the successful reopening of a historic landmark site, with activity on the ground engaging local communities and visitors.

It is supported by CDF2 funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS), managed by Arts Council England. Match funding is in place from the Future High Streets Fund from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, and other grant giving bodies including Historic England and Architectural Heritage Fund.

The **Summary Framework for the Creative & Cultural Programme** provides an overview of the project that you can find **here**. You may find this useful in understanding the wider context and priorities of the programme overall. **Paignton Picture House** and **Torbay Culture** websites also provide some outline information on the CDF2 project that you may find useful.

### CONTEXT: About Open Season

Open Season is planned to run from 23 September – 22 October 2023, providing the focus for a range of cultural events in Paignton town centre. Over this period, performances, events and activities will take place, led by Paignton's cultural and community partners through a collaborative approach to programming. Specific commissions will bring Paignton's cultural life into public spaces, welcoming new audiences and raising the profile of creative activity happening here. Through this, we hope to test capacity for hosting work in different venues, with events of different scales, artforms and for different audiences.

Open Seasons in autumn 2023 and autumn 2024 will mark the key moments for the Paignton Picture House capital build. Autumn 2023 will mark a 'farewell' to the Picture House in its current form, providing opportunities to document, reflect on and celebrate its history. This also provides a key opportunity for us to grow and celebrate the wider cultural ecology and connect audiences to a network of local venues. This call out relates to Open Season 2023, and opportunities for 2024 will be published nearer the time.

## COMMISSIONS: Number, Scope & Value

The value of commissions is expected to be between £3,000 and £11,000 including VAT, depending on the scale of work proposed and the level of production required. We are seeking to commission:

- One larger scale work: total value up to £11,000 inc VAT, fees to artists & other collaborators (eg technologists), materials, travel, technical, production and presentation support, and evaluation.
- Two smaller scale works: total value between £3,000 - £6,000 inc VAT, fees to artists & other collaborators, materials, travel, technical, production and presentation support, and evaluation.

Commissions can be used as partial funding where recipients are able to use it to leverage their own additional funding, provided that the project is entirely deliverable at the commissioned scale and not dependent on unconfirmed uplift funding.

## ARTFORMS & APPROACH

We welcome proposals in any artform, including and not limited to: film, sound, projection, dance, theatre, music, digital media, installation, sculpture, visual arts. Whichever combination of artforms, all work will:

- Capture a spirit of connection and exchange – inviting audiences, community & cultural partners to be part of the work in some way.
- Bring people together, culminating in celebration or spectacle (daytime and/or evening)
- Have relevance to Paignton as a place, building on stories of its communities, culture or social heritage
- Be publicly visible and accessible, providing impactful experiences that engage both committed and passing audiences
- Work with at least 1 cultural venue and 1 community partner in the local area (you may not know who these are at application stage, but you will be able to describe the potential involvement and may have identified partners/venues you would like to work with).
- Have potential to be long-lasting. Could the project grow or continue into the future through links with local partners, or will its impact be held in people's memory as a unique experience?

## THEMES

1. Our broad theme is **connection** and **exchange**. Your project could address this in various ways. How could it help create conversations between different cultural venues or social spaces? How might people be encouraged to share ideas and points of view? How might we all share skills and knowledge? A spirit of exchange will help build on our strengths, be curious and gather momentum for the future. This exchange reflects the natural cycles of our year, the ebb and flow of our waters, of Paignton's visitor season as people come and go.
2. Our second key theme is one of **story-telling**. At the heart of our CDF2 programme, Paignton Picture House itself is all about telling stories on film; partners all have common threads about telling stories and reflecting our heritage, our identities, and dreams for the future. Stories can emerge through literature, performance, images, movement, sounds and words. How does your project help build the story of Paignton as a place, of its communities, its past, present or future?

## PLACES & SPACES

The work is intended to be presented in the public realm and/or in visually accessible sites. Filament will support commissioned artists with permissions for public realm sites, negotiations with partners, and access to venues. We understand that your proposed venue may present unforeseen challenges and we will support you to find suitable alternatives as needed. Places / sites for work could include:

- Outdoor locations in and around central Paignton (Torbay Road, Station Square, Lidl Square,

- Victoria Street, Palace Avenue Gardens, Winner Street);
- Exterior of Paignton Picture House;
- Partner venues (Paignton Library, Palace Theatre, Sound Communities);
- Other potential locations including but not limited to: Church and community halls; local heritage sites; vacant/high street spaces in central Paignton; sports/green spaces; seafront connections;
- Digital and virtual spaces online and in the public realm (eg bus stop signage, online exhibition).

## PROGRAMME VALUES

Commissions must align the programme values listed below. Your proposal may not address all of the values listed, but we will expect projects to show how they address at least some of the values directly and speak the tone of the programme overall. Think carefully about the values that really align with your project.

- **Grows a Sense of Belonging** (people feel welcome and invited; the work helps grow a connection between people and place)
- **Earns Trust & Confidence** (grown from genuine positive experiences, respect, quality & honesty)
- **Includes & Represents** (is open about how people engage & what inspires them; different people, identities & cultures can relate, seeing themselves in the work)
- **Aspires & Inspires** (widens horizons, grows hope and a sense of what's possible; ensures excellence and grows real, meaningful opportunities)
- **Builds Long-Lasting Change** (positive impacts through work that can be sustained long-term)
- **Is Courageous** (work that is bold and impactful for Paignton and its communities)

We will take a portfolio approach to commissioning to create a programme that has wide appeal, incorporates a range of artforms and approaches, and speaks to different aspects of our programme values. This means we will be looking to balance the work we commission so that overall, it delivers intended social, cultural and economic benefits for Paignton and meets the needs of our communities, including those under-served by our cultural sector.

## KEY REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMISSIONED WORK

All commissioned artists/work will:

1. Be available for presentation during 23 September – 22 October 2023 - depending on the nature of your proposal, we will specify key dates within this period to shape Open Season overall.
2. Evidence that it can be resolved and delivered within the timescales outlined. It may be a bespoke development of an existing piece or be a new piece that is clearly resolved through prior R&D. (We don't require technical designs at this point only a description of your idea and setting.)
3. Involve at least 1 community partner and 1 cultural partner locally. Please provide detail of confirmed or expected partners, collaborating artists, producers, co-funders etc. One lead applicant is required which can be an individual, collective or organisation.
4. Be delivered on time and budget. Your budget should include provision for installation, production, technical support.
5. Have public liability insurance in place with a minimum level of indemnity of £1,000,000. We can advise if you need to arrange this. And where relevant, DBS/safeguarding and First Aid certification.
6. Support promotion of work in accordance with marketing dates in advance of presentation.
7. Work with us to design evaluation approaches and capture public impact of the work against expected outcomes. Each project will be responsible for gathering quantitative & qualitative data for evaluation purposes. The team working on CDF includes specialists who can help advise on this.
8. The Artist will grant to the Client and Funding Partners a perpetual, irrevocable, non exclusive royalty free licence to copy, use and to reproduce all Intellectual Property Rights in connection with the work. Copyright and all intellectual property rights in the works remain vested in the Artist or the

person responsible for the production.

## KEY DATES

Call out for submissions:	Friday 2 June 2023
Deadline for submissions:	11.59pm on Tuesday 20 June 2023
Shortlisted proposals notified:	Friday 23 June 2023
Shortlist interviews:	Wed 28 - Fri 30 June 2023 (online)
Decisions (interviewees notified):	Tues 4 July 2023
Production meetings and site visits:	July 2023
Details finalised for marketing purposes:	31 July 2023
Pre-production period:	1st August - 30 September 2023
Programme:	23 September – 22 October 2023 ( <i>specific dates for final work shown to be agreed with individual recipients</i> )
Evaluation & feedback:	November 2023

## WHAT SUPPORT CAN YOU EXPECT?

As well as funding support, Filament will provide curatorial support, production oversight, and practical advice to help you to realise your vision as part of the wider Open Season programme. Filament and partners will provide support to make sure that partnerships, community engagement and long-term impact are maximised. Our local evaluators will also be keen to support creative approaches to evaluation that are appropriate for each project. If you, or collaborators or participants have additional support needs, we will discuss this with you at application stage so we can best support successful delivery of your project. All commissioned work will be promoted through marketing and PR, online and social media networks. Commissioned artists/collaborations will be expected to support this throughout the project duration.

## HOW TO APPLY

You can apply by either:

- Sending a proposal that is no more than 4 sides of A4  
Or
- Sending a video or audio version of your proposal that is no longer than 3 minutes long.

We are committed to making our application process accessible and if the above doesn't work for you, please contact us to arrange an application format that is accessible for you by 5pm on Monday 12 June 2023 (contact Clare Parker by calling / texting 07730 065150 or emailing [clare@filament.org.uk](mailto:clare@filament.org.uk)).

If you have any questions before submission, please feel free to contact us. All proposals should be **submitted by 11.59pm on Tuesday 20 June 2023** emailing Clare Parker ([clare@filament.org.uk](mailto:clare@filament.org.uk)). If you are sending in a video/audio-application, please send a weblink to the file/platform for us to access the video (with password if needed).

Please include the following information in your proposal. Try to use the order shown below. You can use whichever format is most suitable for you.

1. Full name, address, telephone number and email for lead applicant.

2. A brief biography or weblink for the lead artist/collaborators with an outline of your existing work.
3. Outline your project idea, how it has been tested and how it will be developed through this commission. Describe how it responds to the Open Season invitation. What would the audience/participant experience be? What makes it interesting & of high artistic quality?
4. Which of our programme values does your proposal respond to?
5. How does it respond to our themes for Open Season 2023?
6. Provide details of cultural partners & communities of interest you would seek to engage with & how.
7. Provide details about the context/location that you have in mind for presenting your work, and why this is important to your idea.
8. Outline the practicalities of how you will deliver your proposal: How will it be presented and over what period of time? Will it be experienced at different times? Tell us about the technical or production requirements of the work and how you will approach these including details of any materials, equipment, specialist expertise etc you will be using.
9. Provide a budget breakdown including all costs (fees, planning, delivery, evaluation, travel, materials, equipment, transportation etc). Include any additional income (funding or in kind support) for your project and whether this is confirmed or expected.
10. Confirm that you have public liability insurance (or intend to arrange it) and where relevant, DBS/safeguarding and First Aid certification.
11. Provide details of 2 relevant past works to demonstrate your experience producing high quality artistic work that responds to people and place.
12. Provide 2 referees for lead artist (and collaborators if relevant)
13. Images or weblinks to support your proposal (optional)



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