



WIRKSWORTH FESTIVAL

Artist in Residence Programme

APPLICATION PACK

Thank you for your interest in our Artist in Residence Programme

Please read this pack carefully before submitting an application. It will make completing the application form easier and give you more details about the programme.

Festival Background

Wirksworth is a Derbyshire market town rich in history. Lead was mined here in Roman times and the parish church, which dates from about 653, is sited on the junction of at least five ancient trackways. In 1306 the town was granted a charter by King Edward I to hold an annual three-day fair in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary (to whom the parish church is dedicated). It is this charter that still sets the dates for today's Wirksworth Festival - a celebration of arts and creativity by and for the local community.

Wirksworth Arts Festival began in 1979, with a small grant from the Town Council, a group of people doing everything, and a programme on a folded piece of blue paper. Since its beginnings, the Festival has evolved thanks to the hard work and commitment of many people.

Come Festival time an army of over 100 volunteers help make this annual event happen. We now host over 150 artists on the Art Trail and welcome thousands of visitors, but it still remains firmly rooted in the local community.

The Artist in Residence Programme

The Artist in Residence programme was launched in 2019. Funded by the Ampersand Foundation, the programme offers an established, UK-based artist a 3-month period of dedicated studio time, based in an 18th Century cottage on the outskirts of Wirksworth.

We are looking for a visual artist who would explore the area from an outsider's point of view - the landscape, diverse architecture, industrial past and community, and develop a body of work based on their time here.

APPLICATION FORM

wirksworthfestival.co.uk/artist-in-residence

During the residency period the artist works in and with Wirksworth's community of residents and artists to create a new body of work in progress to exhibit during the Festival, 6 to 16 September 2024 - this might include sketches, small pieces, writings, audience talks or workshops.

The Artist in Residence will then use all their learning and resources to produce a final, major exhibition at Wirksworth Festival in 2025 of the work developed during and after the time spent here.

Previous Artists in Residence...

Details of our previous artists can be found on the website at wirksworthfestival.co.uk/artist-in-residence

Michael Shaw	2019 - 20
Liane Lang	2021 - 22
Jemma Gunning	2022 -23
Feral Practice	2023 - 24

What we offer...

- A residency period of July, August & September 2024.
- A fully inclusive fee of £3,000
- The sole use of a restored 18th century cottage with adjoining studio, The cottage sits in a fairly isolated position, on a steep lane



with no footpaths and is not on a bus route. It is 1.5 miles from the town and you therefore need your own transport.

- Assistance and resources to mount the final exhibition

Eligibility...

Applicants should be:

- A visual artist with at least 5 years of professional practice.
- Resident in the UK as a British Citizen or have proof of the right to work in the UK.
- A visual artist wishing to refresh and develop their practice.

NB: Artists are responsible for providing all their own equipment and materials

How to apply...

All applications must be made through the application form on the website at wirksworthfestival.co.uk/artist-in-residence and include the following:

- A proposal of approx 300 words detailing how you might approach the residency and what you would hope to achieve.
- A relevant CV , maximum 4 pages
- Six images of recent work

Image Requirements:

Applicants are required to submit SIX good quality images for the selection panel.

The images should:

- be a good representation of your work
- be less than 4 years old
- be the sole work of the artist making the application

As part of the application, you are asked for a description of each image which should include the media used to create the work, the size and title of the work (if applicable).

Image Size & Format

Please ensure each of your SIX images conforms to our requirements, detailed below. Small, low-resolution images are unlikely to aid your application so take your time.

- All your images need to be high resolution - at least 300dpi, and saved as jpegs.
- No individual image should exceed 2MB. Huge images could freeze the system
- No image should be bigger than 30 x 40cm or smaller than 15 x 20cm
- It is important you rename your images to fit into our system: You need to name the image with:

Your Surname ,Your Initial and a Number from 1 to 6.

For example: Wendy Young's six images should be named:

Young W1.jpg	Young W2.jpg
Young W3.jpg	Young W4.jpg
Young W5.jpg	Young W6.jpg

Timetable

- **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:**
17:00 on 11th FEBRUARY 2024
- A shortlist of up to six artists are selected by the selection panel and invited for interview.
- Interviews will be held by Zoom or in person during April.
Please note the Festival is unable to pay expenses
- Residency period July, August and September 2024. Ending on 30 /9/24

- Initial work in progress exhibition mounted during the Festival, 6 to 16 September 2024
- Final major exhibition to take place during the 2025 Festival

And finally.....

Please add both our email addresses to the trusted contacts list in your email programme and contact book to ensure you do not miss our emails.

wirksworthapplications@gmail.com and
admin@wirksworthfestival.co.uk

You can save the Application Form and complete it later. However we recommend you get everything together and just complete the application in one go.

Make sure:

- Your four images are formatted and named in the correct manner
- You have your image descriptions ready
- Your 300 word Artist Statement is written, checked and ready to upload
- Your up to date CV is ready to upload.

Any Questions?

If you have any questions about the Artist in Residence programme please contact John Wheeldon, Festival co-Chair on
Phone: 07788 101904
Email: ejwheeldon@gmail.com

Any technical problems submitting your form please contact:

Sue Cullen

Phone: 07913 600165

Email: wirksworthapplications@gmail.com

APPLICATION FORM

wirksworthfestival.co.uk/artist-in-residence

