

Artist's Attachment 2017

Applicant information

What is the Artist's Attachment?

The Magnetic North Artist's Attachment is a major new paid development opportunity for Scottish-based artists with a significant track record from any art form. It is funded by Creative Scotland and the Jerwood Charitable Foundation.

The selected artist will be attached to Magnetic North for up to 18 months with the purpose of focusing on a significant new development in their practice. The artist can be from any art form – theatre, dance, visual art, music or film, for example - but the attachment will be particularly suitable for those with either a performative element to their work, or an interest in developing one.

During the time of the attachment, the artist will be paid a bursary of £15,000, calculated to give them up to 6 months dedicated time whilst allowing them time to undertake other commissions or work. There is the flexibility to complete the attachment in a shorter time, if necessary, though we would not want it to be less than 12 months.

The artist will also have a budget of £5,000 to be used in connection with the attachment - for example, to pay other artists or collaborators, to travel or undertake training. The company will support and advise the artist on planning this expenditure and will manage all payments, reducing administrative pressure on the artist and allowing the most efficient use of the money available.

The artist will receive regular mentoring from Artistic Director Nicholas Bone (equivalent to 1 session a month). Nicholas is a trained mentor and a member of the Federation of Scottish Theatre's Step Up mentoring team.

They will have use of desk space in the Magnetic North office, if required, and will take part in the Space/Time and Rough Mix residencies (see below for further information). This participation will bookend the attachment: the Space/Time retreat will be an opportunity to reflect on where they are at the start of the attachment and focus on where they want to be by the end; Rough Mix will be an opportunity to explore ideas practically in a fertile and creative atmosphere.

The artist will be supported throughout by Magnetic North's core team of Artistic Director and Producer, who will help her/him shape and plan the attachment, and give administrative support where appropriate, for example contracting other artists, booking workshop or studio space etc.

When will it take place?

The attachment will begin in October 2017 and must be completed by the end of March 2019. The artist will have flexibility to plan the use of their time within this 18 month period. The only two fixed points are the Space/Time retreat at Cove Park in November 2017 and the Rough Mix residency at Perth Theatre in January 2019.

Who is eligible?

Any professional artist based in Scotland with a significant track-record of making work and who has had their work regularly produced, performed or exhibited for at least 7 years is eligible to apply. The 7 years need not necessarily be consecutive - they could have been broken up by a break for caring responsibilities, for example.

Magnetic North

Magnetic North is an award-winning theatre company based in Edinburgh. Founded in 1999 by Artistic Director Nicholas Bone, the company has a significant record of developing and producing performance work, with a particular emphasis on cross-artform collaborations. Its work includes *Pass the Spoon*, an opera created with Turner Prize nominee David Shrigley and composer David Fennessy and co-produced with the Southbank Centre; *Walden* - an adaptation of Henry David Thoreau's memoir of self-reliance created with environmental arts practice Sans façon; *A Requiem for Edward Snowden* - a music and live video work by Matthew Collings and Jules Rawlinson that was part of the Made In Scotland programme in 2015; and plays such as *Sex & God* by Linda McLean, *My Old Man* by Tom McGrath and *Some Other Stars* by Clare Duffy. Since 2006, the company has run an evolving programme of artist-centred multi-art form creative development that aims to support experienced and early career artists at different stages of the creative cycle. The programme has a number of elements:

Space/Time: a one week creative retreat for six experienced artists. The retreat combines facilitated group conversations around the broad question "How does an artist keep developing?" with free time for individual work and reflection. The retreat is residential in order to take the artists away from their day-to-day life and give them space and time to focus on themselves. We have run six retreats since 2012 at Cove Park, The Old Brewery in Cromarty and Lyth Arts Centre.

Rough Mix: a practical two week multi-artform residency for experienced and early career artists. The 6 experienced artists each bring either a new idea or a new way of working they want to explore. During the residency, they each have time to explore their idea - with the support of the early career artists and a group of performers - as well as time to observe each other at work. The residency aims to encourage boldness in artists' work and the exposure to approaches from other art forms broadens their frame of reference, often leading to interesting new collaborations. We have run 7 Rough Mix residencies since 2006 in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen.

Re-Mix: a second, more focused stage of development for projects that have begun at Rough Mix and which Magnetic North wants to move forward towards the point of commissioning.

Individual Artist Residencies: an opportunity for an artist who has taken part in Space/Time or Rough Mix to spend a week at Cove Park focusing on a specific piece of work - research or writing, for example.

We have supported over 80 artists from a wide range of artforms - including playwrights, composers, choreographers, visual artists and film-makers - as the programme has evolved over the last 10 years. For the company, doing this work has been transformative: creating opportunities for artists has fed into our own work, initiating fruitful relationships with many new artists and stretching the company in new ways. As a result, we are more productive and the work we make is stronger, evidenced by the feedback we get from audiences and critics. We aspire to make work that is stylish, articulate and individual and believe that good art isn't made in isolation, it grows from dialogue between artists, art forms and audiences.

How do I apply?

Please apply with the following information:

- Your name and contact details (including email address),
- An outline of your experience (no more than 500 words) and a CV,
- Some examples of your work or links to access them online,
- A completed equalities and diversity monitoring form
- An outline plan for the attachment, which should include the following:
 - What the change/development is that you wish to work on
 - Why now is the right time to do this
 - What your key goals are for the attachment
 - An outline of how you would use the time and budget.

A shortlist will be drawn up by a panel including Magnetic North's Artistic Director and Producer and 3 other external advisors with relevant knowledge. Shortlisted artists will be invited to discuss their application at interviews in mid-August.

The deadline for applications is Monday 24th July. Late applications will not be accepted.

If you have any access or support needs, we will discuss these with you if you are successful in your application.

If you are unsure about anything, please email the address below for help.

Please email your application to artistdevelopment@magneticnorth.org.uk by 5.00pm on Monday 24th July.

You will hear back from us by email on Friday 4th August. Shortlisted artists will be invited for interview during the week beginning 14th August.

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