



## **Cultural leadership and the place of the artist**

An AHRC Impact and Engagement project co-ordinated by the On The Edge research team, Gray's School of Art, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen.

Organised in partnership with The Clore Leadership Programme, Creative Scotland and ENCATC.

### **Seminar series artist in residence: call for applications**

**We think we know what leadership looks like when we see it, but how do we imagine it? Through this project we invite an artist to join us in a series of international conversations about cultural leadership, to help us capture and interpret perspectives from research, creative practice and cultural policy. Proposals making use of any art form will be considered.**

#### **Artist's role**

This research project is concerned not only with general questions of leadership in the cultural sector but also with the roles played by artists in cultural development and society. It is therefore integral to the project that an artist should be part of the event team and artistic interpretation will be a key form of knowledge through which our discussions will be documented. This is an exploration and we want an artist to join us on the journey and use their practice to inform the process.

We are therefore seeking an artist with the ability to participate fully in the project events and respond creatively to our partners' discussions. We want someone to bring their skills and perspective to the process to stimulate further thinking among those attending the events or encountering our publications. This is not a commission for a polished work of art, but for the involvement of an artistic process in the creation of knowledge.

We have no specific preconceptions as to the form or medium of the artistic response but we ask that the artist is able to attend four events outlined below and indicate how they will share something of their work with seminar attendees.

#### **Research project**

This call is part of a project developing awareness, use and impact of two related pieces of research: *The artist as leader* (AHRC funded 2006-8, PI Douglas, RA Fremantle) and *The discourse of cultural leadership* (IDEAS/RGU funded doctoral research, 2012-16, Price). It aims to develop understanding of cultural leadership as a concept and to inform development programmes in the sector.

In particular, the project will open up professional engagement with the research, developing exchange between different national contexts and building cross-cultural expertise. The organising partners look to generate active and continuing debate in response to recent research and analysis.

The project is led by Professor Anne Douglas (Principal Investigator) and Chris Fremantle (Co-investigator) and co-ordinated by Jonathan Price (Senior Research Fellow) for Gray's School of Art.

### **Project format**

The project centres on a series of four knowledge exchange events, taking place in place in:

- Banchory, Aberdeenshire (with associate partners Woodend Arts) -14 March 2016.
- Edinburgh (with Creative Scotland) – May 2016 (indicative)
- Brussels (with ENCATC, European network on cultural management and policy) – July 2016 (indicative).
- London (with the Clore Leadership Programme) – September 2016 (indicative).

The Banchory event will be a half day session, trialling ideas for the subsequent full day seminars (it is highly desirable but not essential for applicants to be available on 14<sup>th</sup> March). At this first (Banchory) event the artist will be able to attend in an exploratory capacity to meet the team, encounter the research and develop ideas. Exact dates and locations for the other events are to be confirmed.

All organising partners (Gray's, Clore, Creative Scotland and ENCATC) will be represented at each of the full day events, which are being scheduled for the summer of 2016. Ideas from the research will be presented and discussed with a small group of professionals from each city. The three locations will generate different angles on the meaning of cultural leadership from contemporary Scottish, European and English perspectives. The knowledge exchange events will each be attended by around 20-25 people.

The discussions will be recorded and outcomes will be made available online. They will also inform the development of research publications tailored to the needs of the partners and their networks, sharing ideas and setting agendas for future research and collaboration.

### **Rights and ownership**

Copyright of the work created shall remain with the Artist. The Artist will grant the the Robert Gordon University a non-exclusive license to reproduce the work (including preparatory notes/designs) in any format including print, audio, video and/or online (depending on the art form) for this project and for any other purposes the Robert Gordon University deems appropriate at any time..

### **Requirements**

Attend the three Knowledge Exchange events noted above (attending the 14<sup>th</sup> March event is desirable).

Feedback to the project team through the artists' practice.

### **Payment and conditions**

A fee of £1300 is available for this residency. This is based on an expectation of roughly five full working days over the project period overall (to September 2016). This includes attendance at the half day Banchory event and the three full day seminars. The remaining time is allocated to preparation and any final presentation of results. Essential travel and accommodation will be paid for separately from the project budget by arrangement with the co-ordinator. There is no additional fee for travel days but a subsistence allowance will be available. There is also a small allowance available for necessary materials.

Project fee: £1300

Materials budget: up to £350 as required (not part of the fee)

Essential travel, accommodation and subsistence: provided by arrangement.

The artist must be available for all project event dates. These are in development and will be discussed/negotiated during the appointment process.

### To apply

Applications should be sent by email to [j.price1@rgu.ac.uk](mailto:j.price1@rgu.ac.uk) by **midday Friday 26th February 2016** and should include:

- a CV
- examples of previous work
- a statement of interest/description of approach (roughly one side of A4). This must include an outline of how you will feedback to the research team. This is intentionally open to proposals which are commensurate with your practice and therefore might be at the end of each event, through subsequent submission or in other format.

### Criteria for Selection

Demonstrated understanding of research context 25%

Previous Work 25%

Proposal 50%

If you would like any further information about this opportunity, please contact either Dr Jonathan Price [j.price1@rgu.ac.uk](mailto:j.price1@rgu.ac.uk) or Professor Anne Douglas [a.douglas@rgu.ac.uk](mailto:a.douglas@rgu.ac.uk)

The successful applicant will be informed on or around 4th March 2016.

● The Clore Leadership Programme



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