

Jerwood Jazz Encounters Fellowships Brief

About Cheltenham Jazz Festival

Since 2015 CJF has been at the forefront of presenting jazz in new formats and unusual spaces. Harnessing the skills of creative producers and the recent explosion in 'experiential events', CJF has been playing with the concert hall paradigm which has existed in contemporary jazz for decades. This is achieved by commissioning jazz musicians and sound artists to create new and existing work for outdoors, unusual spaces and the digital realm, such as Mike Blow & Alison Ballard's Colony installation and Empirical's Pop-Up Jazz Lounge. These works engage new and different audiences with the music, allowing the artists to offer a different perspective on what they do, and offer the artists a much greater audience reach.

CJF has seen an appetite from early career jazz artists to create this work, but with little opportunity for them to gain experience or access expertise in making it.

Details of Fellowship

The programme will provide a new professional development opportunity for early-career jazz artists to develop creatively risky projects for presentation outdoors, in unusual spaces and the digital realm.

During the 18-month programme, artists will conceive and deliver an **outdoor site-specific or digital work** to be hosted by at least one of the co-producing partners, as well as benefitting from a range of additional support and training on working in these spaces. Artists will also be introduced to the wider 'outdoor and digital arts' sectors as part of the programme, ensuring they are able to continue developing and touring the work after the programme ends.

The bespoke scheme for up to 4 artists will include:

- An 18-month programme beginning in February 2020 and ending with the delivery of a commission in Summer/Autumn 2021
- A £1,500 bursary for mentoring, research and ideas development time
- A fee of £3,500 per commission for the new work to be presented in 2021 at either Cheltenham Jazz Festival or one of our co-producing partners: Manchester Jazz Festival, Oxford Contemporary Music and Sage Gateshead
- A fixed amount of £2,000 to cover the costs of creating the commission eg materials, equipment, rehearsals etc
- Travel expenses for training/action learning sessions
- Group Training Sessions with guest speakers discussing specific topics
- Action Learning Sessions for peer support and development (in person or by video call – further information on how this works [here](#))
- Participation in a Creative Lab: a 2 day event as part of the 2020 Cheltenham Jazz Festival bringing together the fellows plus a range of other artists, technologists and cross discipline producers to generate ideas, develop new collaborations and network
- Producing support from CJF and partners for the commission, including digital skills support and training from digital partner The Space
- Delivery costs for performance/exhibiting of the commission will be paid by the host
- Package of documentation on your final piece plus contacts for potential touring or future funding

Skills and Experience

We are looking to work with artists who meet the following criteria:

- Have been working professionally as a musician/composer/artist for at least 3 and not more than 10 years
- Making music or sound rooted in, or connected to, jazz.
- Living and working in the UK
- Not currently in formal education
- Willing to take risks and looking to develop an exciting new side to your work
- Experience of self-managing and leading projects or tours.
- Interest in - or experience of - presenting your music in unusual spaces, new formats, outdoors, the digital realm, or collaborating with other artistic disciplines. Examples of this work might include installations, site-specific performances, immersive performances or use of new technology. This does not include performances which take place on a stage.
- Available for project dates listed below, including 3 face-to-face Group Training Sessions (locations tbc), plus 5 action learning sessions (in person / by video call) and Creative Lab

Proposed Timeline / Commitments

24 Jan 2020	Applications Deadline
End of Jan 2020	Artist selection
Mid Feb 2020	Initial artist 1 to 1s, R&D and mentoring period starts
16 March 2020	Group Training Session 1 / Action Learning Session 1
6-7 May 2020	Attend CJF: Participation in Creative Lab
June 2020	Group Training 2 / Action Learning Session 2
July – Oct 2020	Continue development of project ideas, start to identify host organisations
September 2020	Action Learning Session 3 Artists present project summary to CJF/host venues
November 2020	Group Training 3 / Action Learning Session 4
December 2020 – October 2021	Creation/construction of work for delivery in March – October period
February 2021	Action Learning Session 5

Potential presentation dates are as follows: (artists do not need to be available for all dates)

Cheltenham Jazz Festival, 28 April - 3 May 2021

Manchester Jazz Festival, 20-24 May 2021

Sage Gateshead, dates flexible

Oxford Contemporary Music, dates flexible

How to apply

If you feel your skills and experience fit the brief for the fellowship, please complete an application form on the Cheltenham Festivals website [here](#).

For the application you will be required to submit the following:

- CV / biography referring to the skills and experience in the Brief (up to 1 page of A4)
- Up to 3 links to your work
- Either a document (up to 1 side of A4) or a video (up to 3mins) answering the following questions:

1. What interests you about the opportunity to present your work outdoors, in unusual spaces or digitally?
2. What ideas would you like to explore or build upon during the year? (We are not looking for a final idea at this stage)
3. What areas of advice and training would be useful?

Artists will be shortlisted and selected by the festival programming team with input from the co-producing project partners based on the required skills and experience outlined above.

Cheltenham Festivals is committed to inclusion and strives to achieve equal opportunities in our recruitment procedure, actively encouraging applications from those who are currently under represented in the arts sector to apply and artists who identify as female, non-binary, BAME, or disabled. Applications are also actively encouraged from artists living/working in the north of England, with a view to the potential of mjf co-commissioning one of the finished works as part of the *mjf originals* programme.

If you have any questions about your suitability for the fellowship, the application, or the selection process, please contact Becky Woodcock: becky.woodcock@cheltenhamfestivals.com

Jerwood Jazz Encounters is supported by Jerwood Arts.

