

CFCCA

CENTRE FOR CHINESE CONTEMPORARY ART

Call for Expressions of Interest **CFCCA Revisioning project: Artist co-design working group**

Overview

CFCCA is embarking on a process of revisioning where open consultation and conversation will help inform and shape our future. We want to embed artists at the centre of this process, employing them with agency to co-design key elements of it and support us to readdress the status quo.

To do this we are looking for artists to actively engage in a co-design working group, bringing a multiplicity of voices to inform CFCCAs approach to the revisioning process and methodology. Due to the specialist nature of CFCCAs work, we are particularly interested in working with artists of Chinese heritage.

Background

CFCCA has been part of Manchester's flourishing cultural network for almost 35 years. We are a gallery operating nationally with an international perspective, who brings together the global and the local. On multiple occasions during our history, the organisation has shifted its mission, approach and home. We now find ourselves at another juncture, a moment to take action, to reflect on our model of cultural production and consider how we can best speak to societal need to ensure our work is both effective and relevant now.

We hear the recent criticisms raised by artists and feel the urgency of the Black Lives Matter debate: there are issues of under representation within the staff team we need to solve and steps to being actively anti-racist we need to take. CFCCA is no stranger to progression, and the next phase in our evolution is upon us.

CFCCA is embarking on a process of revisioning which started in February 2020 but was quickly halted due to COVID-19. As lockdown eases we are revisiting the process, currently in a stage of research and planning where we are busily consulting, preparing and setting up the foundations for its effective delivery.

Artist Co-design working group

The co-design working group is an important facet of the revisioning process. It will provide recommendations and advice on CFCCA's approach, bringing a multiplicity of voices to support development of the methodology.

It is our intention to select 5 artists to take part, giving enough breadth of voice and opinion to have agency while still being practically workable. The group will collectively agree terms of reference which will be their guiding principles and will be supported by the guidance and direction of a Host who will be a member of the CFCCA Board.

The role of the group is to:

- Draw on their collective experience to effectively co-design key elements of the CFCCA revisioning process in collaboration with the working group host, CFCCA team and change management facilitator, providing constructive advice, support and recommendations.
- Inform the approach and methodology of the revisioning process, offering new ideas in an open and constructive way.
- Work together to agree effective methods to engage a multiplicity of voices in the revisioning process such as debates, events and workshops to consult with a diverse range of artists, audiences and stakeholders.
- Convene as a group to engage in discussion and collectively agree ideas and approaches, committing to a minimum of 7 half day sessions.
- Respect opinions, values and confidentiality of the group, promoting constructive dialogue to support positive action and change.

Timings and Fees

Artists are asked to contractually engage in a minimum of 7 half day discussion sessions between September – December 2020, to be delivered virtually due to the constraints of COVID-19. The content, format and timings of these are to be discussed and agreed with the group.

Each artist will be paid a fee of £150 per half day.

How to apply

Expressions of Interest

We are inviting expressions of interest from artists who would like to be a part of the artist co-design working group. Candidates are invited to submit no more than 2 sides of A4 to tell us:

- Why you want to be a part of the co-design working group
- The change you would like to see through the work of the group
- What knowledge and experience you can bring to the role
- How you would engage with the co-design approach and working with others

Expressions of Interest should be sent to: **james@cfcca.org.uk** by **Friday 28 August 2020**.

Selection process

Expressions of interest will be considered by a panel including representatives from the CFCCA Board and team alongside external partners selected for the diverse and relevant expertise they can bring to the process.

Successful applicants will be informed by **Friday 4 September 2020**. The first working group meeting is suggested to be held on **Tuesday 15 September 2020** depending on availability.