

Remote Archive & Library Artist Residency 2021

Deadline for Applications: 9th May 5pm (GMT)

Residency Dates: 5 July – 13 August 2021

Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art (CFCCA) and The Portico Library are collaborating on an exciting new project involving an artist residency and an exhibition. We are now accepting applications from North West-based contemporary artists and practitioners for a 6-week remote residency working with CFCCA's online archive and library collection. The intended outcome of the residency is for the artist to produce one or more new artworks in the form of a Chinese folded book, to be included in an exhibition developed in collaboration with Open Books International collective at The Portico Library in central Manchester in autumn 2021.

The residency presents an opportunity to engage directly with the material in CFCCA's collection which is accessible online at <http://archive.cfcca.org.uk/>.

CFCCA will provide:

- Administrative and curatorial support from CFCCA's curatorial team during the residency period
- A fee of £480 and materials/production costs of up to £250
- Remote access to our archive and library collection, with support from our Project Archivist and Assistant Curator
- Marketing support and social media publicity.

The Portico Library will provide:

- Administrative and curatorial support from The Portico Library's curatorial team in relation to the development of the exhibition
- Publicity and marketing for the project and subsequent exhibition
- Installation, insurance and invigilation throughout the exhibition.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Artists and creative practitioners who are based in the North West of England who have not taken part in a previous CFCCA artist residency

- This opportunity is **not** open to students currently enrolled on a BA course, and is for individual artists only – no joint/group applications please
- The residency is open to practitioners working in a range of media, but at least one outcome should broadly explore or take the form of a Chinese folded book

Proposal Criteria:

- Proposals should outline how you intend to engage with CFCCA's institutional and cultural history through the archival material
- Proposals should consider how access to CFCCA's archive could expand your research and practice or feed into an existing interest in archives, and how this opportunity will aid your development.

Application Process:

To apply please submit the following as **one pdf as well as a completed Equality Monitoring Form** to submissions@cfcca.org.uk with the email subject line '**Archive and Library Residency Application**' by **5pm (GMT) on Sunday 9th May 2021**.

- **Cover sheet**; including name, email, day time phone number, UK address, website (if you have one) and confirmation of your availability for the residency period
- **A statement (300–500 words) OR a 5 minute video proposal**: describing your practice and detailing an expression of interest, and – if you wish – an initial outlined project proposal
- **A CV**
- **Examples of previous work**: up to 3 examples. If you wish to include video or audio, please provide links within the pdf.

Applications will be shortlisted by CFCCA and The Portico's curatorial teams and the successful applicant will be notified within 2 weeks of the closing date.

About Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art, Manchester

CFCCA is a space for conversation, debate and cultural exchange. We work with established and emerging artists to explore Chinese contemporary culture through socially engaged exhibitions, events, community engagement and artist residencies. Based in Manchester's eclectic Northern Quarter, we've been part of the city's vibrant arts and culture scene for almost 35 years.

In 2018 CFCCA's Archive and Library opened to the public, following a project to catalogue and digitise material supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund. This resource is a comprehensive record of our contribution to the progression of Chinese contemporary art and artists in the UK since 1986. <https://cfcca.org.uk/>

About The Portico Library, Manchester

The Portico Library is an independent library and free public events and exhibitions space in the centre of Manchester. First opened in 1806 at the height of the Industrial Revolution, it is one of the oldest buildings in the city still in use for its original purpose and still cares for over 25,000 mostly 19th-century books, which are available to view through its research and exhibitions programmes. <https://www.theportico.org.uk/>

Chinese Folded Book exhibition and Open Books International

In 2021-2022, The Portico Library will be working with Open Books International to stage an exhibition and events programme around the medium of the Chinese folded book, and references to the Library's historic research collection. In collaboration with Manchester Museum's soon-to-open new Chinese Culture Gallery and the Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art, this project will support the creation of new artworks by North West artists, whose works will join the Open Books International archive alongside those of established artists from the UK, India, China, Canada and Australia.

Open Books International is an artist-led initiative that involves a central collaboration between a group of practising artists in Wales and artists connected with China Academy of Art, Hangzhou. Initiated by Mary Husted and six Welsh artists in 2010, all with diverse ways of working, the Open Books International collection now includes works by more than 100 artists from China, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, India, Wales and the USA. Visit the Open Books International website for more information and examples of folded books created during previous collaborations. <https://www.openbooks-international.org/>