

Cultivating (more) Flight in Blue Skies

OPEN CALL DOCUMENT

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Cultivating (more) Flight in Blue Skies is the second residency and commission opportunity produced by Coventry Biennial, DASH and Talking Birds that is designed to support a Midlands based d/Deaf, disabled or neurodivergent visual artist to produce a new artwork or project that will be presented as a part of *Coventry Biennial 2021*.

The residency is offered by Talking Birds as a continuation of their *Nest Residency* programme that provides time, space and conversation with other artists, and is designed to allow you to think, experiment and take a punt on one of those 'What if...?' ideas.

The commission is offered by DASH and Coventry Biennial as a continuation of both organisations' creative professional development work and their public programmes.

ABOUT COVENTRY BIENNIAL 2021

Applicants should note that *Coventry Biennial 2021: HYPER-POSSIBLE* will be exploring the legacies, working practices and intersections of a trio of art historical moments in the city, these are:

- Art & Language / Conceptual Art (1960's/70's)
- The BLK Art Group (1980's)
- Cybernetic Culture Research Unit (1990's/2000's)

This will involve artworks exploring ideas related to housing, climate change and the anthropocene, radical pedagogy and alternative education, protest, activism and dissent and identities in relation to the future - particularly Cyber-Feminism and Afro-Futurism.

While we do not want to be too prescriptive around the output of the residency or commission at this point, it is important that proposals address one (or some) of the above ideas and moments.

PROJECT BENEFITS AND FEES

The successful visual artist will be provided with an accessible work space with Talking Birds where they will benefit from mentoring, constructive critical input and production support from the three partner organisations.

The successful visual artist will also receive:

Residency fee: £1,500 (plus additional access support to make the residency suit you)

Commission fee: £1,000

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this opportunity you can [complete this short form](#)

If you would rather send a short video or sound recording to ryan@coventrybiennial.com, then please ensure that you answer the following questions:

- Who you are?
- What artwork/project would you like to develop during this residency?
- What relevant experience do you already have and what input you might need?
- Why are you particularly interested in working with the three partner organisations?
- How does your proposed project relate to the themes of Coventry Biennial 2021?
- Why is this opportunity beneficial to you at this moment?
- Specify any specific access support you would need to make the residency work for you.

DEADLINES, SHORTLISTING AND INTERVIEWS

The deadline for applications is: **6th April 2021**

We'll contact shortlisted applicants on: **8th April 2021**

Interviews will take place via Zoom on: **12th April 2021**

Please do let us know if the interview date doesn't work for you as we may be able to arrange an alternative.

The interview panel will consist of:

- Mike Layward. Director, DASH
- Janet Vaughan. Co-Artistic Director, Talking Birds
- Ryan Hughes. Artistic Director, Coventry Biennial
- Cara Pickering. Visual Arts Programme Producer, Coventry City of Culture Trust

The actual residency dates are flexible to suit the successful applicant but we would recommend this take place in Summer 2021, during the UK City of Culture year, to ensure that the artwork or project is ready for installation at the Biennial in September ahead of the early October opening.

NOTES

Undergraduates are not eligible for this opportunity.

If the commissioning aspect of this opportunity isn't useful to your practice then please consider applying for one of Talking Bird's [other Nest residencies](#).

If you have any questions about this opportunity or the application process please email: ryan@coventrybiennial.com