

Jerwood UNITE 2021

UNITE is a nine-week artist studio residency programme based at g39 for artistic development, experimentation, research, creative discussions, and more.

In 2021 we are pleased to present Jerwood UNITE in collaboration with Jerwood Arts, an independent funder dedicated to supporting outstanding artists, curators and producers to develop and thrive.

Please contact us if you want to receive this information in a different format, or if you have any questions regarding our work to improve access and engagement at g39.

Invitation

We are looking for five artists to take part in Jerwood UNITE 2021.

G39's UNITE season has run for seven years. It allows us to meet new people and see people's practices. We want our organisation to be open, welcoming and constantly changing.

To make the opportunity viable for more artists, this year each artist will be paid a fee and access support to participate, with the support of Jerwood Arts.

Overview:

Details:	A nine-week residency programme
Eligibility:	Early-career visual artists working in any media (see below)
Closing date:	6th January 2021 (06/01/21)
Interviews (online):	20th January 2021 (20/01/21)
Programme Dates:	Thursday 1st April - Saturday 5th June 2021 (01/04/21 - 05/06/21)

What exactly is on offer?

Each artist will receive:	A fee of £1,750.00 The programme as outlined below
Artists are also offered:	Accommodation and travel costs for artists based over 90 minutes away from Cardiff by car. Costs towards any specific access requirements

Is it for me?

Jerwood UNITE is for artists who will benefit the most from the support and dialogue on offer. This is a development opportunity for people interested in pursuing a career in the visual arts.

We have designed this programme to be most beneficial to artists who are early in their career, artists who are re-starting or changing the focus of their practice, or those moving from a related creative field into contemporary visual arts. UNITE offers artists the support they need to take the next steps.

We are looking for artists with a commitment to developing an outstanding art practice, ambitious and open to working in the studio environment, engaging and working alongside others.

We would like to hear from artists who have felt discouraged from taking part in similar opportunities in the past. **We will favour artists who have not previously worked with g39 on a creative project.**

We are aware that career paths are not simple or linear and that there are many different ways to think about success. **The age of the artist is not a consideration when we determine the eligibility of applicants.**

If you feel that your practice could substantially benefit from Jerwood UNITE 2021 then we would like to hear from you.

This opportunity is for:

An early-career visual artist working in any media in the process of establishing your career.

Artists living in Wales, England, Scotland or Northern Ireland - three places will be held for Wales-based/Welsh artists.

This opportunity is **not** open to you if you are in formal education during the programme. We are **not** looking for your exhibition proposals or finalised project ideas.

We work with people irrespective of disability, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, size, family responsibility, age, race, ethnic origin, nationality (subject to issue of work permit where required), trade union membership and activity, political or religious beliefs.

We are committed to supporting more artists whose background and/or identity is under-represented in the programme, in our resources and our staff and board of g39. This includes, but is not limited to, artists from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse backgrounds, artists from lower socio-economic backgrounds, d/Deaf artists, neurodiverse artists, artists with disabilities or long-term health difficulties and artists with LGBTQIA+ identities.

At least two of the places will be offered to an artist from a Black, Asian or ethnically diverse background. We have adopted a policy of Positive Action to ensure g39's opportunities benefit people who may have been excluded or discriminated against or who otherwise face the consequences of past or present discrimination or disadvantage.

We currently monitor what we do in an evaluation feedback form, but it is kept separate and anonymous from the submitted application. If you would like us to consider your background or identity during the selection process please tell us in your application.

What Jerwood UNITE 2021 artists can expect from us:

- to be paid an artist fee of £1,750
- To be welcomed by the g39 team of 5 part-time staff and be invited to a social event to get to know artists and staff*
- Access to a studio space* for research, development of ideas, and production of new work for 9 weeks from Thursday 1st April - Saturday 5th June 2021 (01/04/21 - 05/06/21). These studios are accessible during our gallery opening times (4 days per week)
- A development programme of activity and training.*

What we ask of you:

- That you use and are present in the studios* for a minimum of nine days across 9-week the programme.
- That you take part in a public 'Open Studio' event at the end of Jerwood UNITE.

*All of these aspects are subject to changes in response to government guidelines on safe practice during the current pandemic.

Get in touch.

We are working to make our opportunities accessible and easy to apply to and to make the process as user-friendly as we can. We welcome and encourage applicants facing barriers to applying and hope that we can accommodate as wide a range of applicants as possible.

Please contact post@g39.org or call +44(0)2920 473 633 and leave a message. We work part time and will acknowledge your message within three working days and aim to answer your question or set a time and date to chat further within five working days.

Access Support

Access support is available for all applicants, including alternative formats and tailored support to enable you to undertake the commission. Contact us if you want to receive this form or apply in a different format (eg paper format, via audio/ video), and we will be happy to discuss more suitable alternatives with you and how to submit them.

Likewise, if you have any access requirements that you would like to discuss before applying, please contact us. We set aside a budget to support individual access requirements.

Support with your application

If you have more questions you might find an answer in our Frequently Asked Questions section below.

We will also be running two open access group advice sessions via ZOOM on **Saturday 19th December 2020 at 10am** and **Monday 4th January 2021 at 5pm**. During these sessions you can meet with a member of the g39 team in advance of applying. We are able to talk about eligibility, how the programme will run and guide you as to how you might strengthen your application. We are unable to read draft applications or texts.

[Book here](#) or visit: www.eventbrite.co.uk and search for *g39 Jerwood UNITE FAQ Session*

How do I apply?

Applications can be made by email or post.

Deadline: 6th January 2021 (06/01/2021)

1. About you:

Send your name and contact details - an email address, a postal address and a telephone number, indicate the best way to contact you. It helps if this is on all submitted material.

2. Your Work:

A selection of up to ten images or time-based works to the duration of 5 minutes or a combination of both, excerpts of written work (up to 750 words). For multimedia / mixed media practices that don't fit the above, see FAQs.

We would prefer to view your material online where possible. Please send links to websites/ Audio/Video hosting sites and indicate the specific works you'd like us to view along with any required passwords. Include details of images/ videos/ audio submitted (title, medium, year etc)

We ask you to think carefully about the selected works. We are keen to see your most recent work or the work that's most relevant to your statement. It's useful for us if the work examples demonstrate ideas or processes that you talk about in your answers.

3. What you want to do:

You can provide this in the format that feels most appropriate to you. Written statements should use the word limits below. We also welcome audio or video recordings of 5 minutes or less. If you would like to supply your statement in a format we haven't mentioned please get in touch to help us prepare for this.

Please describe how you would like to use the studio to develop your work. This could be ideas for research, new ways of making work, or new material that you would like to develop for future works. We don't need to know what the final outcomes might be. We're interested in the materials you use, the way that you work, the kinds of things you want to make, your approach to studio time and your interests. (max 150 words)

Jerwood UNITE artists will be part of a studio community, working with and alongside others. Please describe how being part of a supportive studio community would benefit you and your practice. (max 100 words)

Please tell us about your longer-term ambitions and how you think Jerwood UNITE can help you towards them. (max 150 words)

We'd also like you to tell us, in simple terms, about the work you have sent. Tell us how you made the work and the kinds of processes (practical processes and thought processes) that led to your making this work. (max 150 words)

4. Do you have any access needs you want us to be aware of?

This is where you can tell us about specific access requirements you might have, about childcare/ care of dependents costs, accommodation in Cardiff for artists based more than ninety minutes away. We are open to discussing and finding the right support for you.

(max 100 words)

5. Further information.

We have ringfenced two of these opportunities for artists identifying as Black, Asian or ethnically diverse and three for Welsh or Wales-based artists. Tell us if you would like to be considered for either or both of these ringfenced opportunities. We will not make assumptions about your background, your identity or the categorisation of applicants (see FAQs for further information about why we ask for this information). (max 100 words)

Send it to:

Please submit your responses to questions 1-5 by email to unite@g39.org with the subject header

UNITe_2021 FirstName_SurName

You will then receive an auto confirmation and a link to a separate, optional, equality monitoring form.

If you are submitting your application as an audio or video recording, please email a link rather than an attachment. If this is difficult, get in touch. No assessment of the production quality of audio or video recordings will be made but your responses must be clear so that the panel can understand them.

Or by post to:

UNITe_2021, g39 Oxford St, CARDIFF CF24 3DT

NB Material submitted by post cannot be returned. Your material must arrive by the deadline and we cannot take responsibility for things lost in the post or that arrive late.

Deadline: 6th January 2021 (06/01/21)

Interviews: 20th January 2021 (20/01/21)

Frequently Asked Questions

If you have more questions you might find an answer in our Frequently Asked Questions section below. If you can't find the answer here we will also be running two open access group advice sessions via ZOOM on **Saturday 19th December 2020 at 10am** and **Monday 4th January 2021 at 5pm**.

During these sessions you can meet with a member of the g39 team in advance of applying. While we are unable to read draft applications or texts, we are able to talk about eligibility, how the programme will run and guide you as to how you might strengthen your application.

[Book here](#) or visit: www.eventbrite.co.uk and search for *g39 Jerwood UNITE FAQ Session*

What is g39?

g39 is an artist-led contemporary art space in Cardiff. Part gallery, part community and part resource, **g39** is a welcoming space for people to experience Wales's most exciting and relevant contemporary art. We commission innovative and challenging contemporary works by artists and share this activity with wide-ranging audiences.

At the heart of **g39**'s activities is its relationship with artists. Whether it's volunteering, work placements, studio visits, advice sessions, informal gatherings, talks by visiting artists and curators, film screenings, a shared lunch or ambitious solo exhibitions – across this spectrum of relationships our aim is to encourage and facilitate every person whose ambition it is to pursue a visual art practice.

Who are Jerwood Arts?

Jerwood Arts is an independent funder dedicated to supporting artists, curators and producers to develop and thrive. Jerwood collaborates with organisations to provide transformative opportunities for early-career individuals through awards, fellowships, commissions, and programmes like this one.

Can you tell me a bit more about the programme?

The programme of activities includes artist/ curator talks, one-to-one sessions with guest artist/ curators, workshops and the opportunity to take part in research trips*

You will also have access to a research library*, a bookable computer for design and editing, access to **g39**'s AV equipment and tools (previous experience may be required to use power tools) in an encouraging, friendly and supportive environment.

To ensure that everyone can make the most of their time on the programme we can offer access support contributing towards costs that will allow you to take part, to be able focus more on your studio time and participate more in the Jerwood UNITE programme (eg specific access requirements, support costs, childcare, travel).

We can also contribute towards accommodation costs for artists who live more than 90 minutes away from Cardiff by car.

If you are selected, we may be able to support additional individual funding applications if you need more financial support to take part more fully.

What do you mean by early career artist?

Am I an early career artist?

We are not interested in making distinctions in order to exclude people. We have developed this opportunity work with artists who have ambitions that they have not yet met. We don't have a fixed idea about what those ambitions are or what they should be. We are aware that there are many different

ways to think about success and we know that career paths are not simple or linear. The age of the artist is not a consideration when we determine the eligibility of applicants.

If you feel that your practice could substantially benefit from the things that this opportunity at g39 offers then we welcome your application to this fellowship programme.

I have been involved with g39 in the past. Am I eligible?

We encourage you to get in touch with us if you are not sure or would like to discuss your eligibility. Here is some guidance: If you have volunteered at g39, presented work at exhibitions supported by g39 (eg Made in Roath Open, Empower Me), or taken part in activities at g39 such as workshops, events or talks, **we encourage you to apply.**

If you have previously received a fee from g39 to make artwork, or to deliver a workshop, artist talk or similar, this wouldn't necessarily exclude you but **we will favour applications from artists who have not previously worked with g39 on a creative project.**

You may want to help us understand the circumstances in your statement, or by contacting us to discuss your eligibility.

Can I submit more than one application?

Only one proposal per artist may be submitted.

I'm not sure what to write in my statement

We aren't looking for exhibition proposals or resolved projects. We are looking for experimental ideas, research plans, new directions in your practice, or innovative use of the studio.

We'd also like to know about the way you normally work, and (in a practical sense) how you might like to make use of the studio space. It's useful for us to understand the rough areas of research or development that you would like to explore.

If you intend to move the focus of your work from a related creative field into a contemporary visual arts practice please explain this in your application so that we understand this when we consider your work examples.

I have other commitments during the UNITE season

We encourage selected artists to participate in the whole duration of the programme (April-June 2021) and be available for as many organised activities as possible, but the UNITE offer is not a full-time commitment. Some previous UNITE artists have proposed to commit one day a week, for example.

What do you mean by formal education?

We define 'formal' education as any course or study that will result in a formal qualification. This includes but is not limited to university/ college courses including PhD led research. We would exclude 'training' from this category.

Can I send a mix of video, audio, text, and images as work examples?

Yes, it is fine for you to send us a mix of different media. Send us whatever represents your work in the way that you think is most appropriate to the application.

Be aware that we can only spend a limited time reviewing the work attached to each application.

So, for example, instead of 10 images **or** five minutes of video, you could send 5 images, **and** 2.5 mins of video or audio. Please ensure that any links work and that you include any passwords necessary to access the piece. If you have agreed that you can send your application in the post please do not send original artworks. Material sent in your application will not be returned.

What can the access support cover?

Eligible costs may include specific access requirements, childcare/ care of dependents costs, accommodation in Cardiff for artists based more than ninety minutes away. We are open to discussing and finding the right support for you.

I consider myself an artist but I didn't study art. Is that okay?

Yes. We will not be looking at qualifications for this opportunity but we will be looking for evidence of a contemporary visual arts practice and a commitment to pursuing your practice in this field. We are also very aware that contemporary practice moves across genres and approaches and are excited to hear about disciplines that interconnect.

Why do I have to tell you about my background and Identity?

g39 is adopting a policy of Positive Action, as defined in the Equality Act 2010 Code of Practice Statutory Code. This allows proportionate action to achieve fuller and more effective equality outcomes for members of groups that are socially or economically disadvantaged or excluded, or who otherwise face the consequences of past or present discrimination or disadvantage.

After sending an application to us, you will be sent a link to a separate, optional equality monitoring form, but this is anonymous and these answers are not connected to your application.

We will not make assumptions about your background, your identity or the categorisation of applicants, and ask that if you want to be considered in this context you tell us in your application text.

How will the selection be made?

The selection panel decides who is interviewed. The selection panel includes all staff at g39, Cinzia Mutigli, Sam Hasler, Anthony Shapland, Ellie Young and Chris Mooney-Brown, with an independent selector. The independent selector for this callout is Michelle Williams Gamaker. All submitted material is looked at independently of other panel members and assessed. Following this the panel comes together to shortlist eight people for interview.

What does the interview entail?

The interview will be a 30-minute conversation with three people - two staff from g39 and Michelle. It is likely to happen virtually via Zoom. If you require access support for an interview, such as BSL interpretation, this can be provided.

We will send the questions to you in advance, and we see the interview as a way of finding out a little more about your application.

How competitive is this opportunity?

We expect to receive a large number of high-quality applications, and we will not be able to support all of the good applications we receive. In 2019, we received 70 applications for eight places on UNITE.

When will I get a response?

We hope to contact all artists by the end of the day on Thursday 14th January 2021 at the latest. We will respond to all applications, and unsuccessful applicants will be offered a feedback email from the panel.

However, that is not the only chance to talk to us. If you feel like you need to talk through your practice further or find out more about g39, take advantage of the one-to-ones that are on offer from us throughout the year, or any of the [Warp schemes](#). In these we can discuss your practice and development in more detail.