

# g39 Fellowship Programme

A five-year initiative by g39, supported by the Freelands Artist Programme.

The g39 Fellowship Programme supports a new group of artists every two years to develop their practice. It is part of the Freelands Artist Programme alongside equivalent initiatives organised by PS2 (Paragon Studios/Project Space) in Belfast, Site Gallery in Sheffield and Talbot Rice Gallery at the University of Edinburgh.

## Overview:

Details:	An Artist development programme.
Eligibility:	Wales based visual artists working in any media (see below)
Deadline for application:	01/09/20 (1st September 2020)
Programme Dates:	Between Jan 2021- Dec 2022

## What exactly is on offer?

Each artist will receive:	A fee of £10,000 over two years The programme as outlined below
Artists are also offered:	Accommodation and travel costs for artists based over two hours away from Cardiff Costs towards any specific access requirements

## Opportunity:

This is an invitation to apply to take part in a programme of artistic development aimed at early career artists. Five places are offered on a structured programme of twelve months of support that will take place within a period of two years (six months in each year).

As part of the programme you are invited to base your self-directed studio practice at g39 and will be a keyholder. This gives 24-hour access to a shared studio, a cinema, the library, editing and design software as well as tools and AV equipment. You will be supported by workshops and training, contact time with mentors, visiting artists, curators as well as g39 staff. These are organised by g39 and the Freelands Artist Programme.

You will also have access to the expanded g39 programme of guest speakers and lectures, group peer critique sessions, away days, research visits, remote networking and social activity.

In addition, the Freelands Artist Programme will organise a symposium annually and an exhibition opportunity at the end of each two-year period for all participants.

By the end of the five-year programme we will have supported twenty places on the programme.

## Who is this for?

We welcome applications from people irrespective of disability, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, 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 applications and commissions from 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.

This information is gathered so that we can monitor what we do, but it is separate and anonymous. If you would like us to consider your background or identity during the selection process please tell us in your application.

## Is it for me?

We are looking for those who will benefit the most from the developmental support and dialogue on offer. You should be:

A visual artist - any media

Living in Wales

An artist with at least three years practice.

In the process of establishing your career

You should have a commitment to developing an outstanding art practice, be ambitious and open to working in the studio environment, to engaging and working alongside others. You should be available to attend the full itinerary of structured activity on offer as part of the programme.

This opportunity is **not** open to artists in formal education during the programme.

We are **not** looking for exhibition proposals or finalised project ideas.

## 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.

Access support is available for all applicants, including alternative formats and tailored support. Contact us if you want to receive this form or apply in a different format (eg paper format, via audio/ video, large print version), 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. g39 is a single level building and is accessible to wheelchair users.

Please contact [post@g39.org](mailto: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.

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 8th August (08/08/20) and Wednesday 12th August (12/08/20).

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 a place here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/g39-fellowship-faq-open-session-via-zoom-registration-113762227886>

## How to apply

Applications can be made by email. The deadline for applications is 01/09/20. Written applications should be sent as a single PDF file (below 10mb in size). You should email your application to [fellowship@g39.org](mailto:fellowship@g39.org) with the subject header 'g39Fellowship[YOUR\_NAME]'. When we receive your application, you will receive an auto confirmation and a link to an equality monitoring form. Only one proposal per artist may be submitted.

### Remember to let us know:

#### 1. Who you are:

Include your name and contact details (an email address, a postal address and a telephone number, or the best way to contact you)

#### 2. What you do (700 words max):

**About your practice:** Start by telling us something about your practice that has brought you to the point where you need or want this opportunity. You might think about one specific work, a recent exhibition, a particular moment in your career, and / or specific conditions that you have found yourself in.

**Things you have done:** Tell us about the most recent work you've made or are making. Be as simple and clear as possible.

**What you want to do:** Propose how, through this opportunity, you might achieve what has previously been out of reach, how the programme will enable you to crystallise your current research, focus your practice and / or develop your work and career. Proposals should identify what would make the difference for you at this point and how the opportunity might enable a breakthrough in your practice. Try to be clear about what it is you are proposing in as much detail as you can. Help us to see clearly what you are proposing within the programme.

Section 2 should be 700 words maximum across all three questions.

### **3. Your Work:**

**Send us:** A selection of up to ten images or time based works to the duration of 5 minutes or a combination of both.

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

**A current CV:** Again, if this exists online, please include a link.

**Advocates:** Names and contact details (phone and email) of two people who you'd like to vouch for you and your artistic practice. We will only contact them if you are invited for an interview.

**Deadline: 01/09/20**

## **What Happens Next:**

All proposals will then be reviewed by a panel, which will include four g39 staff and an external selector. Applications are reviewed by each member of the panel and notes are taken. Following this the panel meets and reviews all applications to shortlist up to twelve artists who will be invited to an interview at g39 in Cardiff (in person or virtually).

From these interviews five artists will be selected and interviewed by two staff from g39 and an external selector, who holds the casting vote.

Please note that we will not be able to offer feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What do you mean by early career artist?

#### Am I in the process of establishing my career?

We have developed this opportunity to 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 career paths are not simple or linear, and there are many different ways to think about success.

We hope that in some sense everyone can optimistically consider themselves to be an early career artist. The age of the artist is not a consideration when we determine the eligibility of applicants. We are not interested in making distinctions in order to exclude people.

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.

#### 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.

#### I have a disability; how and when is the best time to disclose this during the application process?

If your artistic practice is informed by your disability (ie it forms part of their subject matter) it would make sense to put the information in your written application.

If you would rather your submission was judged without knowledge of your disability, you may wish to provide the information when asked if you have any specific access requirements to attend an interview.

Or, if you prefer, you may wish to talk through the support that g39 will need to put in place during your interview.

#### 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 two hours away. We are open to discussing finding the right support for you.

#### What can the travel and accommodation cover?

These costs should be for your research and development, including travel for approved one-to-one sessions and meetings away from Cardiff. We are also aware that this may need to also cover the costs of accommodating dependents, family members or carers. You can talk this through with us at any stage in the process.

This support is in addition to the travel budget that is set aside for every artist and is to ensure that the programme can be accessed from across Wales.

#### Why can't I ask for feedback?

We are a small team of artists at g39 and we know that feedback is often useful after investing time in an application. For this programme your application is reviewed and discussed by a panel, both individually and collectively. Unfortunately, there is a very high volume of applications to this particular -

### **Why can't I ask for feedback? (continued)**

- scheme and we are unable to collate feedback from all of the panel for all applicants.

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.

### **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, opt-in, 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.

### **Why does it say twelve months of support when the programme is two years long?**

For each year of the Fellowship the participating artists will have a dedicated studio space in g39 for six months. The fellowship programme usually takes place in the form of two separate six-month blocks. Nearly all the activity that we programme will take place in this six-months. We use the other six months of the year to focus on our other programmes and for planning.

The Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown has affected our programme structure for the next few years and we are not certain yet of exact dates for this programme. The first six months will be in 2021, and the second six months will be in 2022.

### **I don't want to relocate my studio, but I still want to be part of the programme. Can I do that?**

We are aware that some people will find it easier to work in spaces other than g39. This is fine, we are running the Fellowship to support your practice and you can continue to work offsite. We are keen that you get the most from the shared resources at g39 and ask that you 'check in' occasionally and attend training/ events/ social activities here.

### **I can't find an answer to my question here:**

Then email us. We are unable to read draft applications or texts, but we are able to talk about your ideas and guide you as to how you might strengthen these in the application.

Please send your question to [post@g39.org](mailto: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.

## **Further information**

### **About g39 and Warp**

*g39 is an artist-led organisation based in Cardiff and is committed to the commissioning, development and presentation of contemporary art. Part gallery, part community and part resource, it has become an integral component of the UK artist-led scene, a hub for the country's creative community and a place for audiences to access contemporary art. Following relocation in 2011 g39 is one of the largest spaces for contemporary visual art in Wales. Its support and presentation of new work by contemporary artists is recognised as being a critical component of the cultural networks of Wales and the UK.*

*Warp (Wales Artist Resource Programme) is g39's support programme for artistic practice offering peer critique, artist-curator talks, workshops, seminars, mentoring, professional development and visits. Warp provides a critical and social network for a creative community within and beyond Wales.*

*Warp and g39 offer a range of activities featuring artists from a variety of career stages and nationalities. Many artists who have been supported by g39 in the early stages of their career have gained significant reputations including James Richards, Heather Phillipson, Megan Broadmeadow, Sean Edwards and Bedwyr Williams. G39 often works in collaboration with other galleries across the world to show Welsh artists abroad, as well as hosting co-curated exhibitions from other nations.*

### **About Freelands Artist Programme**

*The Freelands Artist Programme is a new UK-wide initiative designed to support and grow regional arts ecosystems by fostering long-term-relationships and collaborations between emerging artists and arts organisations across the country.*

*Its aim is to support a group of ambitious arts organisations from across the UK to transform the prospects of eighty emerging artists over a five-year period. In addition, it intends to create a broader legacy of promise and possibility within these arts ecosystems, as well as creating new opportunities for public engagement.*

*The new programme offers funding totalling £1.5 million across five years to four arts organisations. This covers a comprehensive programming budget for each organisation, including the recruitment of additional staff where required. The funding also includes individual grants for each artist selected by the organisations, as well as organisational travel costs for an annual UK-wide symposium, to share learnings and best practice among the participants. <http://freelandsfoundation.co.uk>*