

Call for proposals from performing arts practitioners: Performing Arts Public Art Commission

dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum, Co. Dublin and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council invite proposals for a commission focusing on the creation of new work through collaboration (either on a conceptual level or directly through participation) with local groups who meet in the Dundrum area.*

The commissioners are particularly interested in the work of writers and playwrights. The commission is also open to theatre practitioners.

The commission is open to either individuals or companies/collaborators to apply. While the commissioners are open to a wide range of outcomes, compatible with the budget, some output from the commission is essential and the work must be presented first in the locality.

The Brief

Commission objectives

To create opportunities for the successful applicant to:

- Create new work
- Engage with the wider community in the Dundrum area

Applicants are asked to include in their application an outline of what they would like to concentrate on over the course of the commission. This should include ideas about the public engagement aspect of the commission and the outcomes.

There must be a physical manifestation of the creation of new work from the commission. Some examples of this may include (but are not limited to):

- a radio play
- a performance of new work
- a playography

The dlr Mill Theatre Studio space will be made available for specified periods to the selected applicant(s) over the course of the commission; days/times will be agreed with the Theatre Manager. The Manager and staff of dlr Mill Theatre will provide some administrative support to the selected applicant(s).

* for example this could mean community, sporting or cultural groups

Budget

The budget for the commission is €15,000 inclusive. This amount is to be fully inclusive of fee, expenses, all costs associated with the creation and showcasing of the work, insurance and VAT. There will be no rental cost associated with a performance or event taking place in dlr Mill Theatre as part of the outcome of the commission.

Timeframe for the commission

Contracts with the selected applicant(s) will be signed by the end of November 2017. The commission should be fully complete by August 2018.

dlr Mill Theatre

The dlr Mill Theatre is situated at Dundrum Town Centre and was first opened in 2006. In 2016 it held 167 performances and welcomed over 45,000 patrons. As a community arts venue its practices and activities aim to bring artists together with specific groups of people in a mutually beneficial two-way engagement that nurtures and values the different ideas, experiences and skills of all involved, providing the highest quality experience, artistically and personally. The Theatre attracts a broad audience base; a significant number of regular visitors are older persons from the area. One of the aims of the Theatre is to facilitate opportunities to engage with the audience, in addition to extending access and participation in arts and cultural activities within the catchment area.

Selection Process

Deadline for submissions: Monday 2 October @ 5pm

Applicants are required to submit 4 copies of the following:

- **A typed curriculum vitae**, including the names of 2 referees who are familiar with the work of the applicant(s) (*maximum 3 typed pages*). If the application proposes working directly in a collaborative manner, at least one of the referees should be familiar with the applicants experience in the area.
- **A project proposal** for the commission, which should include:
 - an outline of the project - how the applicant proposes to approach it artistically
 - the format they envisage the public engagement taking and suggestions of a group(s) that they would be interested in engaging with;
 - details of a possible realisation or outcome of the project;
 - budget (including fees to the artist, all costs relating to the creation of the work, public engagement, insurance and VAT, if applicable, contingency).
- **Supplementary information** that will support the application, for example a short description of relevant previous projects examples/samples of previous work in published or visual form (e.g. books, video excerpts, scripts)*

* Please note that supplementary information will not be returned to applicant (applicants should ensure that they do not send any unique or irreplaceable material).

Please ensure that all submitted materials are clearly marked with the applicant's name and contact details.

Criteria for selection:

- Quality and originality of the project proposal (40/100)
- Quality of previous work (20/100)
- Demonstrated ability to develop, manage and deliver the project. (20/100)
- Demonstrated experience of working collaboratively (20/100)

Please note applicants will be short-listed on the basis of their submissions and short-listed applicants may be called for interview. The selection panel will comprise of representation from dlr Arts Office, dlr Public Art Steering Group, the dlr Mill Theatre and an external with relevant artistic expertise.

Timeline for the commission

- Deadline for submissions: Monday 2 October @ 5pm
- Interviews for shortlisted applicants: Tuesday 21 November
- Artist(s) appointed by: end-November 2017
- Commission to be completed by: August 2018

Submissions

- Applicants are responsible for the cost of delivering applications.
- Emailed or faxed submissions will not be accepted.
- Late submissions will not be accepted.
- All materials submitted should be clearly labeled with the applicant's name and contact details.
- All reasonable care will be taken with each submission, however neither dlr Mill Theatre nor Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council will take responsibility for any loss or damage which may occur in transit, storage or packing.

Project management of the commission

The selected applicant will be expected to comprehensively project manage the commission and to liaise with dlr Mill Theatre and dlr Arts Office.

Insurance

Please note that the successful applicant will be required to have Public Liability Insurance with cover of €6.5 million. Non-Vat registered service providers may be liable for Professional Services Withholding Tax. The successful applicant may be required to have a tax clearance certificate prior to signing of contracts.

Garda Vetting

The successful candidate will be required to undergo Garda Vetting if engaging with persons that are deemed vulnerable under the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2013.

Freedom of Information

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed in response to a request for information under the aforementioned Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

Submission of entries

Please send all submissions to:

Ciara King, Assistant Arts Officer
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
County Hall, Marine Road
Dún Laoghaire
Co. Dublin

Marked: 'Ref.: Public Art Commission (dlr Mill Theatre)'

****Please take note of the following:***

- Submissions by email or fax will **not** be accepted.
- All materials submitted should be clearly labelled with the applicants name and contact details.
- Late submissions will not be accepted

dlr Mill Theatre and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserve the right not to commission work, if none of the proposals received are deemed to be suitable. In this instance, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserves the right to pursue a different procurement process.

Deadline for submissions: Monday 2 October @ 5pm

The commission will be funded through per cent for art funding generated by capital construction projects under the Department of the Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government Per Cent for Art scheme.