



Open Call

Photo Fringe OPEN Digital

Photo Fringe invites artists using digital technology to propose an innovative, participation-led, lens-based project that will engage audiences with our theme this year of *Real Utopias*.

The project will be the keynote exhibition on the Photo Fringe website and exhibited in Brighton CCA (Dorset Place gallery) throughout October.

The Photo Fringe OPEN Digital is funded by Art Fund.

The selected artist or collective will receive:

- a fee of £3,000 plus production costs up to £500
- support from a facilitator to work with their chosen target community
- digital project development mentoring with Black Shuck Coop (up to 5 days with James Wreford)
- additional mentoring from Kay Watson, Head of Arts Technology, Serpentine and Monica Alcazar-Duarte, artist

The jury is looking for a photographic or lens-based, digital project that is relevant and exciting for participants and breaks new ground for the artist/s. We are especially interested in supporting projects that seek to engage lower socio-economic and/or under-represented communities.

We anticipate that this project will be a development of an existing lens-based work. All entrants' proposals will be reviewed by a panel of influential professionals (see below). Entry is free of charge.

Real Utopias

“The function of art is to do more than tell it like it is – it is to imagine what is possible.” bell hooks

Our tenth, biennial, open-platform festival is scheduled to take place online and in venues across and beyond Brighton & Hove from 6 – 30 October.

Our theme is ***Real Utopias***, a call to action for Photo Fringers and audiences to explore how photography can help us imagine a brighter, greener, fairer world.

Real utopias exist on the periphery of the mainstream, demonstrating what could be possible. They take the here and now as a starting point for dreaming and visualising a better future. As we emerge from the depths of the pandemic, learning to cope with new challenges and global emergencies, the future feels increasingly unsettled. Photo Fringe co-opts the expansive medium of photography to co-create alternative visions of the future.

What the panel will be looking for

The panel will be looking for photographic or lens-based responses to the theme of *Real Utopias* and proposals that demonstrate a clear understanding of social engagement and working with participants.

Your project proposal should include:

- how the work will be co-created with participants and how the project is built around mutually beneficial relationships between communities, contributors and/or participants. We value the process as much as the outcome
- how the work will actively use a digital interface to facilitate participation
- initial ideas for how the work could be presented in a digital exhibition on the Photo Fringe website
- initial ideas on how the project process, participation and/or outcomes might be presented in the exhibition space at Brighton CCA (Dorset Place), within the constraints of a tight production budget. Gallery presentation could be entirely digital.
- your methodology for recruiting participants.

Photo Fringe OPEN Digital selection panel

- Monica Alcazar-Duarte, artist
- Natalie Mitchell, Assistant Curator, Studio Voltaire
- Sam Mercer, Producer, Digital Programme, The Photographers' Gallery
- Kay Watson, Head of Arts Technology, Serpentine (maternity leave)
- Claire Wearn, Festival Director, Photo Fringe
- James Wreford, Black Shuck Cooperative
- Polly Wright, Programme Producer, Brighton CCA

Eligibility

- Artists whose work is considered photographic or lens-based
- Artists should be based within the UK

- If proposals are based on an existing body of work, the work must not have been previously exhibited as a solo show (this can be graduate work if it has not been shown outside a University or art college).
- Entrants should be over 18 years of age (those between the ages of 14 to 18 should apply for our OPEN Young Photographers award).

About the exhibition spaces

Photo Fringe will dedicate a bespoke space on its website.

Brighton CCA Dorset Place is a small gallery housed within the University of Brighton (BN2 1ST). brightoncca.art

Mentoring

The awardee will have mentoring with digital expert James Wreford at Black Shuck Cooperative and two further mentors to help produce their show online. You will need to be available for a minimum of three sessions via video call or as relevant. Please ensure you are available between 22 August and 23 September.

Timeline

Application Deadline: **10 August 2022 at 9am (GMT)**

Announce awardee: **15 August**

Mentoring and development of work: **22 August to 23 September**

Exhibition preparation: **26 September - 6 October**

Launch online and CCA exhibition: **6 October**

Artist talk: **8 October**

Brighton CCA exhibition: **6-29 October**

De-install exhibition at Brighton CCA: **30 October**

Preview

The exhibition preview will take place online and in Dorset Place, Brighton on Thursday 6 October 2022. All details to be confirmed nearer the date. The awardee will also need to be available for press interviews.

Artist Talk

The selected solo artist will be invited to participate in an online artist talk about their exhibition and practice on Saturday 8 October. This is included in the artist fee.

Instructions

[Click here](#) and follow the instructions using Curator Space to make your submission.

You will be asked to tell us (in no more than 150 words p/section):

- about your practice
- your project and the impact your project plans to make
- who you would like to work with as a community of participants and how the work could be co-created with them
- how the work you are proposing responds to the theme of Real Utopias
- how the work will actively use a digital interface to facilitate participation
- your methodology for recruiting and working with participants

- how your work will be presented online
- your initial thoughts on how the project process, participation and/or outcomes might be presented in the exhibition space at Brighton CCA
- who you are in a short biography

We also request:

- your CV (optional)
- a link to your website (optional)
- a link to your instagram (optional)
- a completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form (required) - [LINK](#)
- Upload up to eight images of the work you are proposing (each image at 72dpi, no larger than 3MB)
- Upload up to two images depicting visualisations for digital presentation (each image at 72dpi, no larger than 3MB)

*There is no submission fee.

ENTRY DEADLINE

10 August, 2020 09:00 GMT

We look forward to receiving your entry.

Accessibility

If you require support with your application, please contact Curator Space directly via their [HELP](#) page. If you still require help, please contact Festival Director, Claire Wearn (clairewearn@photofringe.org).

About Photo Fringe

Photo Fringe is a registered charity that supports early-career photographers and lens-based artists, showcases new talent and enables all kinds of people to enjoy and experiment with photography. Every two years Photo Fringe designs and delivers one of the largest photographic festivals of its kind in the UK. **Photo Fringe develops new ways of seeing together. It is open to everyone and everybody's invited.**

photofringe.org

Photo Fringe festival runs in parallel to the internationally acclaimed Photoworks Festival (formerly [Brighton Photo Biennial](#)).

Terms & Conditions

1. The personal data you give us will be used to process your application for Photo Fringe and will be shared with external members of the selection panel. We will only contact you in connection to this application or to offer you alternative artistic opportunities in future. Your application will be kept by Photo Fringe for up to ten years and will only be used for artist research, and for evaluation, reporting and marketing analysis for artist opportunities.

It will not be passed on to anyone else without consent. If you want to be removed from the Photo Fringe database you can email helenwade@photofringe.org

You can read our full privacy statement here [\[link\]](#)

You will be asked to upload your application information through a third-party website, who may also use your data according to their own privacy policies.

2. All information detailing how to submit to this open call forms part of these terms and conditions. It is a condition of entry that all rules are accepted as final and that the artist agrees to abide by these rules. The decision of the selectors is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Submission of an entry will be taken to mean acceptance of these terms and conditions.

3. All entries must be received by the advertised closing time and date.

4. Copyright in all images submitted for this competition remains with the respective entrants. In consideration of their entering the open call, the winning entrant grants a worldwide, irrevocable, perpetual licence to Photo Fringe to feature any or all of the submitted images in any of their publications, their websites and/or in any promotional material connected to this award. We will at all times credit the artist.

5. Only one entry per person. Late, illegible, incomplete, defaced or corrupt entries will not be accepted. No responsibility can be accepted for lost entries and proof of transmission will not be accepted as proof of receipt.

6. The OPEN Digital awardee is responsible for working to the agreed timeline with Photo Fringe 2022, developers and website designer. See timeline.

