

Artist's Call Out

Deadline 4pm Friday 1st September 2017

From September to November 2017, arts and health organisation Arc will be presenting an exhibition of hand-crafted embroideries from women in Bengal, an exhibition titled "Indian Summer".

To coincide with this we are looking for an artist working in *any art form* to lead a socially engaged arts project, around the theme of Identity, enabling women from different communities and locations to connect and collaborate, to share experiences and stories of who they are. The artist will lead participatory sessions with 3 women's groups and then incorporate their artwork in to an exhibition at Arc's Gallery in Reddish, Stockport. **Any art form** can be used – it does not have to be textiles – but the artist needs to ensure that each participant is represented in some way and also to respond to the work and ideas generated in the creation of the final work – by using their own practice. The artist will also have the opportunity to liaise with a Kolkata-based women's group, Roshni, who will be generating artwork on the same theme. They will send work over and this needs to be included in the exhibition.

The artist will be responsible for proposing, planning & developing a creative and accessible project which responds to the broad theme alongside Arc's Artistic Director, workshops with groups, making final work, providing photos & text/statement, and working with Arc to ensure work is presented appropriately & professionally.

This is an opportunity to: Engage with a range of women's groups in a participatory arts process Present your work in the Arc Gallery Collaborate with an artist in India Create an artists' blog Contribute to artists' talks as part of our regional artists networking events Have the support of Arc to promote & market your work

Fee: £1,750, with an additional materials budget of up to £500

The fee includes:

- 1 x training/skills session with Arc volunteers who will support the project
- 3 x 2 hour workshops each with 3 groups of women – Arc (women with experience of mental ill-health), Stockport Women's Centre & Annana (Manchester Bangladeshi Women's Organisation)
- 1 x session at Arc to bring the groups & their work together – an informal sharing of the 'raw' work generated, plus discussion of how it may be presented

(11 sessions in total)

- Liaising with artist in India
- photodocumenting & blogging/posting to Arc's social media about the project
- making/finishing time, including ensuring the work can be exhibited in the Arc Gallery in Stockport and shared internationally/online. The artist will have some use of studio facilities & resources at Arc Centre.

Timescale:

Artist Call out – 25th July 2017 onwards. Submission deadline – Friday 1st Sept 2017.
 Selection meeting/interview – Fri 8th/Mon 11th September 2017. Groups visit Arc Gallery
 Indian Summer exhibition – week beginning 25th September. Workshops with each group
 early Oct - Dec 2017. Artist's finishing time Dec 2017 – Feb 2018. Exhibition open Sat 24th
 Feb - March 2018. The Arc Gallery & studio is open weekdays and the last Saturday of
 every month if you wish to visit prior to applying. Arc is a leading arts and health
 organisation based in Stockport which explores the relationship between creativity,
 culture and wellbeing. We commission emerging and established artists to produce
 artistically ambitious, socially engaged arts projects. www.arc-centre.org

Submission details: Artists wishing to be considered for this opportunity should send in proposals that include the following documents:

- A written proposal (max 1 side A4) to the brief above, including how the women will engage with a theme which explores *identity*, details of proposed medium to be used, and how participants' work (including that from India) will be incorporated in to final exhibition.
- Pictures of recent artworks and/or participatory projects
- A detailed CV of the artist
- A proof of public liability insurance
- Contact details for 2 referees
- Enhanced DBS status (preferred). Please send applications to: jacqui@arc-centre.org

Selection Criteria: Each application will be scored against the following criteria:

- Concept and project idea
- Relevant experience of artist, both in facilitation and exhibition/display