

Upland | Call for Modern Makers 2022

A programme for young people (30 years and under) to learn craft skills.

Lead maker for the 2022 programme: Mark Zygadło.

What is the Modern Makers project?

A chance for a small group of young people to be tutored intensively for 20 days by a professional maker to learn new skills and to develop their own practice. This year participants will be working collaboratively on a group project, experiencing hands-on learning with skilled woodworker, Mark Zygadło.

The participants will work closely with Mark in the design and fabrication of a bespoke treehouse, to be sited within a local woodland. The project entails around 20 group sessions which will be spread between January – July 2022 with an additional 'go&see' visit and showcasing opportunity.

Who is it for?

16 – 30 year olds from Dumfries and Galloway (you must be 30 years or under for the duration of the project).

These are some photos from previous Modern Makers projects:



(Photographs by Colin Tennant)

Who is the professional maker for 2022?

Lead Maker for the 2022 programme is: **Mark Zygadlo**.

Mark Zygadlo is a well-established professional artist and maker based in D&G whose work over the past ten years has focused on creating large scale, kinetic, public artworks using rivers, waterways and water as a platform or an integral part of the work. Alongside this artistic and environmental focus he previously ran a cabinet making business and also worked as a boat builder/restorer and a timber building framer. Mark has successfully delivered a public art work with Upland as part of Spring Fling 2019 and been a mentor on the 2020 Emerge bursary programme.

Mark on his background as a maker: *"After completing a Fine Art degree, I fairly quickly migrated into cabinetmaking, developing a business which employed and trained many young people locally. I have also worked as a boatbuilder/restorer, timber building framer and I am constantly learning new skills demanded by each project. This background is invaluable to me as an artist and it is the basis of what I can offer to the Modern Makers programme. I am excited by the challenges of what I make, by working with other people and by the prospect of communicating this excitement to others, especially younger artists and makers, and giving them the chance to work on a large-scale project."*

Where will the project be based?

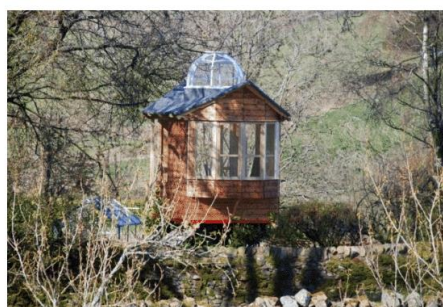
The work will be based at Mark's workshop near Auldgirth, Dumfries & Galloway. Participants will receive a small bursary to help with travel costs and subsistence. If you would like to take part but are not sure how you would get to the workshop then please let us know in your application. We will help participants as much as we can with travel arrangements.



WaterOrgan. Upland Public Art Commission for Spring Fling 2019.



WhiteMill, 2016. Kinetic Art. Mobile, windmill powered machine. Sanctuary Festival, Galloway, Sept 2017



Recent treehouse project (personal project, ongoing).

Some images of Mark's previous projects

What the programme will include?

This project is the design and construction of a treehouse for a local woodland site, and will include these major elements:

- * Site visit and discussion with site owners to understand what they would like.

- * Design concept including: structural design, use of appropriate materials, choosing and sourcing materials.
- * Design concept agreement with owners and Upland
- * Detailed plan.
- * Planning the work: cutting lists, work schedule, budget.
- * Gathering materials
- * Workshop time, Making components, assembly.
- * Installation on site.

During this project participants will experience a whole commission process from conception to completion. They will participate in dealing with clients, contributing to a group design concept, translating that into its component parts, learn about basic structures, jointing design, and gain hands-on workshop experience, including teamwork, safety at work and good workshop practice. It will be an introduction to the way that craftspeople and artists work to commission.

We also hope the group will be able to exhibit some of their work towards the end of the programme in spring 2022 as a part of our Modern Makers Exhibition at Gracefield Arts Centre.

In addition to the time spent with Mark there will be supplementary studio visits to other makers in the region as well as Go & See trips to visit places of interest related to the project.

What experience is needed to take part?

No previous specific woodworking experience is necessary but we are looking for participants who wish to extend their creative skills, who are enthusiastic, energetic and prepared to fully engage with a hands-on making process. This project is partly outdoor, physically demanding, and will be highly rewarding to suitable applicants.

How many places are there?

4 places are available on the programme.

Health & Safety Considerations:

In light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic we will follow Government Guidance with regards to working in Mark's studio.

All necessary precautions with regards to hygiene will be taken and we have opted to keep the group number small to ensure social distancing can be maintained. Whilst it is our intention for the group to work together 1:1 working may also take place if restrictions require this. Risk assessments will be undertaken to ensure the safety of everyone in the studio.

When will the workshops happen and what is the commitment?

The final dates will be decided between the Makers and participants. Some flexibility will be required.

The workshops will begin in January 2022 and run until July 2022.

The project requires each participant to undertake 20 days working with the lead maker which can be spread over 6-7 months.

Upland will help negotiate these dates with school, college or your workplace if necessary.

What will happen when?

- Mid October – 13th December 2021: Call out for participants, applications open.
Deadline for applications: 5pm on 13th December 2021
- Interviews: May be held in person or via Zoom: December 2021
- Notify successful applicants: December 2021
- Programme begins: mid January 2022
- Workshops to take place January – July 2022
- Exhibition of work in progress at Gracefield Arts Centre: May 2022
- Installing finished work at the woodland site: June/July 2022

Comments from past Modern Maker participants:

“By learning from craftsmen and spending time with people that make their living independently it has made me a lot more confident about making my own career from art. Before the programme I hadn’t ever really chatted with anyone about what it’s like to be an artist or craftsmen. Through this opportunity I’ve been able to see how it’s done and what it’s like, in a really friendly and encouraging environment.”

“I don’t feel as intimidated by the art world as I did before. I feel like I have people that I can go to for advice and support about making an artistic career in the future.”

How can you be involved?

If you have any queries or questions please just ask! Email Amy at amy@weareupland.com or give her a call on **07871201473** for chat about the programme.

To apply prepare the information as outlined below and when you are ready to submit your application please send this to hello@weareupland.com. You should receive an email within 5 working days to say that it has been received, if you don’t then just contact us to ensure your email/application has been received.

1. Personal Statement: outlining why you want to take part, what your aspirations are, what school or college you attend (if relevant), and where you live – no more than one A4 page in a word document or PDF.

2. Examples of past creative projects (this could be artwork, music, writing) and may be scanned drawings, photographs of 2D or 3D work etc*

*(if you are unsure of what to include or you don’t have any images available but would like to apply please just email or call Amy, contact above, to chat about it)

If you’re application is shortlisted we will invite you to attend a short interview on either the 14th or 15th December (this may be in person or done remotely by Skype or Zoom). This will allow us to find out more about why you want to take part and also give you a chance to meet the maker and ask any questions you might have.

What will you need to organise?

1. Each participant will need to organise to be out of school/college/work for 20 days between January – July 2022 – the timetable will be worked out with the makers once participants are selected. This could involve a regular commitment of 1 day a week or blocks of time throughout the project period. If you have other commitments which might limit your involvement but would like to take part, please just state this in your application. We can also help with the negotiation of this with school teachers/college tutors/employees.
2. Each young person will need to organise travel – we have a budget to contribute to travel costs and can help with the organisation of travel.

Deadline:

5pm on 13th December 2021

Further information

What is Upland?

Upland is a bold, ambitious, rurally-based visual art, design and craft development organisation that evolved from Spring Fling CIC and was established in 2015.

Spring Fling Open Studios continues as Upland's flagship event but we now offer a year round programme delivering a range of projects, events and exhibitions working with young people, emerging and established artists and makers. As the visual arts and craft development organisation for Dumfries & Galloway, Upland aims to provide a network for learning and sharing, offering advice and support to creative practitioners whilst aiming to inspire and educate a wide range of audiences to participate in and be supportive of visual arts and crafts.

Find out More

Resources:

Upland Website: www.weareupland.com

Modern Makers 2021: <https://www.weareupland.com/projects/modern-makers-2021>

Modern Makers 2020: <https://www.weareupland.com/projects/modern-makers-2020>

Modern Makers 2016: <http://www.weareupland.com/projects/modern-makers-2016>

Modern Makers 2019 blog: <http://www.weareupland.com/projects/modern-makers-2019/blog/>

Modern Heritage Craft film: <https://vimeo.com/128026467>

