



## **ROAM (Space) | Call out for Lead Artist**

**We are looking for an established contemporary visual artist based in Dumfries & Galloway to take artistic lead on *ROAM (Space)* - a new collaborative project which will explore the idea of establishing an artist run project space in the region, run by and for emerging artists.**

The lead artist will work collectively with a small group of emerging artists, supporting them through a process of research, development, and exhibition.

The project will take place from January - August 2023

The fee for the lead artist is £6,600

### **About ROAM (Space)**

#### **The project will:**

- Enable a small collective of five early career artists\* (who are based in the region) to collaborate with the established artist over 8 months. The lead artist will support and guide the group through a process of research and learning. (Please note, this group has already been selected, and they will input into the selection process of the lead artist).
- Gather ideas and research, with the aim of exploring how a collective of emerging artists might work together to create space to share and present ideas, exhibit work, experiment creatively and connect via contemporary art practice.
- Identify what is missing for emerging artists in the region and work to address that gap.
- Consider what type of model or space might work in Dumfries & Galloway by investigating questions such as - is a space needed? What could it be? How it might be run?

This does not have to be a fixed, physical space – as existing spaces could be used for pop-up events and exhibitions. Without a fixed physical space, the project could potentially span different areas of D&G.

It will be up to the group to investigate and produce ideas. The research and development undertaken by the group will feed into future Upland projects and development.

\*The group comprises of artists at the very beginning stages of their practice through to recent graduates and those with less than five years' experience.

#### **The lead artist will:**

- Organise and facilitate regular meetings with the group between January – August 2023 (approx. 1-2 meetings per month, plus go & see visits – timescale to be negotiated with lead artist)
- Support the group in the research and development of existing artist-run project spaces and consider what an artist-run project space might look like for D&G.
- Work with Upland to collate this research so that it can be noted and shared

- Implement creative ways to capture the groups ideas and development process
- Work closely with Upland to determine a programme of go & see activities (such as visits to other project spaces)
- Accompany the group on go & see visits and assist with the organisation of these (with support from and in agreement with Upland)
- Work with Upland to organise talks from other artists, curators and organisations as part of the groups research and development
- Attend regular meetings with Upland staff to give project updates and provide written updates when required
- Lead and support the group to stage a pop-up exhibition at the end of the project which showcases their own work or work by invited artists (to be decided with the group). This includes all aspects of the coordination of the exhibition (with Upland's support) such as curating, installation and presentation. The group will work with the lead artist enabling a collaborative approach and delegation of duties. Upland will support this process fully and work with the lead artist to find a suitable pop-up space.
- Foster a sense of cohesion and guide the group through the project. The lead artist will support the group, share knowledge and skills with them and follow Upland's safeguarding procedures and policies.

#### **Who we are looking for.**

We are looking for an experienced artist working in contemporary visual art based in D&G. We are open to artists working in any medium or with multi-disciplinary practice.

The artist should be able to demonstrate the following:

- Knowledge of the contemporary visual art scene in Scotland
- Knowledge of artist-run project spaces (knowledge of other Scottish organisations would be key)
- Experience of working collaboratively with groups on creative projects
- Experience of facilitating workshops or projects with young people and/or emerging artists
- Experience of professionally exhibiting work, including being involved in the process of coordinating exhibitions and/or events
- An understanding of how to work with groups in a democratic way, allowing everyone's voice to be heard enabling equal ownership over a projects outcome
- Dedication to the cause of keeping people safe and ensuring their wellbeing
- A commitment to integrity and professionalism

#### **Fee and expectation.**

The lead artist fee is £6,600.

This fee is in line with the Scottish Artist Union rates of pay for an established artist/maker with 5 years + experience and therefore the number of days/time spent on the project may be subject to negotiation depending on experience. We anticipate a minimum of 22 days to be spent on the project. Artists will be contracted by Upland.

There is an additional £100 for the lead artists travel expenses.

Go & See trips have an additional budget which will cover travel and lunch for all participants and the lead artist. There is a budget to cover all additional activities including £1000 for the final pop-up exhibition.

When, where and how the group meets will be discussed with the successful candidate. There is the option for group meetings to take place both in person and via Zoom.

Upland strives to be an advocate of equality and diversity for all of our partners and collaborators and will work hard to ensure all sections of the community are included. Upland is open and flexible to discussing how best the project can be adapted, within reason, to the needs of both the group and the lead artist.

The lead artist will be contracted by Upland and will report directly to the Creative Director.

### **Wider context**

This project sits within Upland's wider programme of activities that seek to investigate, explore and grow space for contemporary art and experimental projects in our rural region, considering new responsive models and routes to engagement.

Alongside ROAM (*Space*) is a complimentary strand titled, ROAM (*West*) a sister project exploring how contemporary art practice can be developed in the West of the region of Dumfries and Galloway. Artist-in-residence Jack Tan is exploring questions about how contemporary art is made in the rural context, including: what is needed to support it, whether there is an audience for it, and how a supportive network of contemporary art practitioners can be established. Jack will be working with a cohort of artists which offers opportunities for the two ROAM projects to learn from each other and overlap.

### **Further information**

If you have any queries please contact [amy@weareupland.com](mailto:amy@weareupland.com)

### **How to apply.**

Please submit the following to apply:

- A statement which outlines why you would like to lead this project, your approach and what relevant experience you have (no more than two sides of A4)
- An artist statement (no more than one side of A4)
- A CV
- 4-6 images of your work - if including time-based media please include links to online content (vimeo, you tube, soundcloud or similar)
- Links to your website if you have one or an Instagram

### **Selection will be based on**

- Relevance of practice and previous experience in relation to the brief
- Quality of previous work
- General response and approach to the brief
- Experience of working successfully with groups of young people / emerging artists

Please send all documents as either word docs or a PDF.

**Please also get in touch if you prefer to submit your interest in an alternative form, we are flexible and open to different methods of applying such as video and/or audio.**

Applications should be emailed to: Amy Marletta, Creative Director at [amy@weareupland.com](mailto:amy@weareupland.com) and should have 'ROAM Space Lead Artist' in the subject heading. If you have not received confirmation that your application has been submitted within 3 working days, please contact us to ensure we have received it.

**Deadline to apply: THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2022, 9am.**

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview on TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
The interview will include a short (5min) presentation to demonstrate your practice and approach to the project outline. Interviews will be held in Dumfries (venue tbc).  
Interviews can be done via zoom as an alternative.

**About Upland** [www.weareupland.com](http://www.weareupland.com)

**Upland CIC is the visual arts and craft development organisation for Dumfries & Galloway.**

**Upland delivers a year round creative programme** that includes events, exhibitions, residencies, workshops and professional development. We engage and collaborate with a wide audience that includes young people and emerging and established artists and makers.

**Upland provides 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.

**Upland is a membership organisation** that works to create opportunities that connect our artists and makers with audiences, communities and each other. With a strong sense of place, we aim to highlight and celebrate our unique region and its creative community, raising its profile in a national and international context.

