



PS² Freelands Artist Programme 2021-2022

PS² invites emerging or re-emerging Northern Ireland-based artists to apply for the PS² Freelands Artist Programme 2021-2022, a two-year creative and professional development programme for emerging artists funded by the Freelands Foundation.

Supported by ongoing peer learning and critique, curatorial support from the project curator, and additional mentoring, the PS² Freelands Artist Programme enables emerging artists of any age to focus on, and develop, significant new work and research. The programme also includes the realisation of an exhibition/project at PS², research trips, a symposium, visits by external curators, and the possibility to show work in a curated exhibition at the Freelands Gallery (London).

Five artists will be selected to participate in the 2021-2022 programme. They will each receive:

- £5000 fee per annum for two years
- financial support for materials/production and additional mentoring support
- travel support
- individual tailored curatorial support
- access to PS² resources and workshop space
- the full commitment of PS²
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More information about the Freelands Artist Programme and our current cohort artists can be found [here](#).

Who is eligible?

Artists

- Must have a minimum of **three** years of demonstrable high-quality artistic practice at the point of selection for the programme [October 2020], either since the commencement of their artistic career or since the completion of any formal academic qualifications in the arts.
- Must be an 'emerging artist' in the process of forming/establishing their career, or a 're-emerging artist' whose career has been interrupted due to personal circumstances (child care, care for relatives, illness, etc...)

- Can be of any nationality, age and background, work in any medium, and will live and work in Northern Ireland for the two-year duration of the PS² Freelands Artist Programme.
- Must not be in formal education (this includes PhDs) at any point during the programme period and able to fully commit to the full duration of the programme (January 2021 – December 2022).
- Must be keen to take part in this creative and professional development programme and be open to the critical advice and curatorial input, dialogue, and peer networks on offer.

What will we be looking for?

We are aware that the terms ‘emerging’, ‘re-emerging’ and ‘artist’ are fairly open for interpretation.

PS² has a very broad understanding of art and therefore artists and recognises that even if you had some success as an artist at some stage, creative and professional progression is seldom linear. This programme is therefore open to emerging and re-emerging artists. There are no upper age limits and we encourage anyone to apply who feels this programme fits them, except if you already have a well-established (international) career, an extensive exhibition history, or have recently received a significant solo exhibition in a UK-based or international institution. We accept applications from artistic duos.

We are not seeking finished project or exhibition proposals, nor budget lines. Instead, we are interested in fresh and imaginative ideas and developments based on your past and current work, projected into the next two years. We are looking for participants who will benefit the most from the programme’s creative and professional development opportunities.

You are expected to be flexible and able to fully commit to the programme. This will continue to be an exciting learning process for us and for the selected artists.

How do I apply?

Please send us:

- Your name and contact details (address, email, phone number).
- Names and contact details (phone and email) of two people who can advocate for you and your artistic practice, should you be successful in your application.
- An artist statement- i.e. a description of what your work is about, the relationship between your personal experience and the wider social/political and contemporary art context....(max. 500 words).
- A project proposal broadly describing how you will use the programme to research imaginative ideas and visions and develop and produce new outcomes (max. 500 words, no budget required).
- A relevant and up-to-date artist CV (including graduation details, if applicable) of no more than two A4 pages.

- Up to **seven** images of previous/current work or links to websites, including film/video/sound work uploaded to YouTube/Vimeo/SoundCloud, or similar, and, if necessary, password protected. When including links to artist moving image work please provide an edited extract of no more than three minutes, as well as a full version of the work. Please include short descriptions to accompany all work and links.

Please send your completed application as a single PDF file no larger than 5MB to application@pssquared.org with your full name as the subject heading.

The application deadline for submissions is 19 September 2020.

On submission, you will receive a response confirming receipt of your application and a link to an anonymised Equality Opportunity Monitoring Form which we would be grateful if you could complete.

Timeline

- **The application deadline for submissions is 19 September 2020**
- **The shortlisted artists will be informed around 12 October 2020**
- **The interviews for shortlisted artists will be on 30 October 2020**
- **The five selected artists will be announced on 02 November 2020**

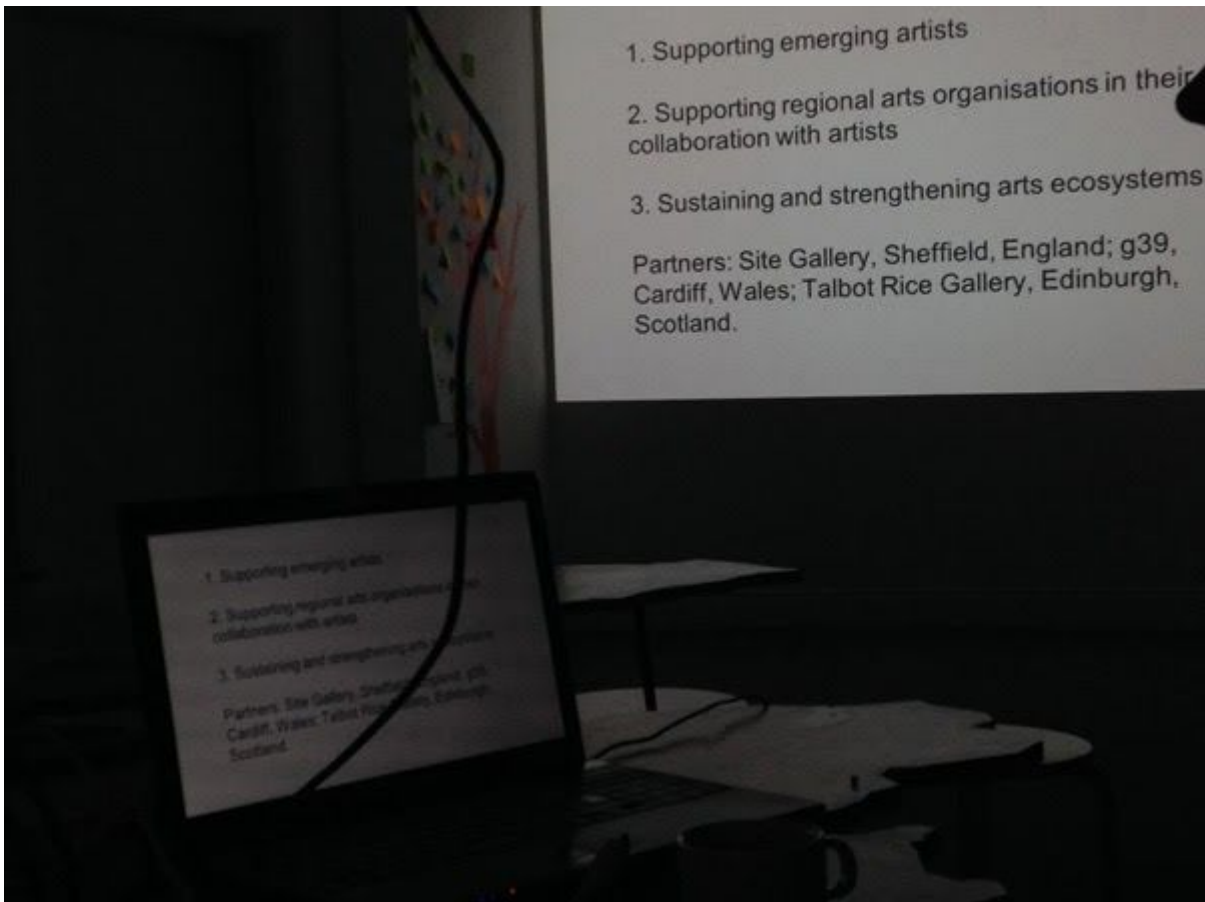
Please contact us if you would like to receive this information in a different format e.g. paper format, large print version. Email: info@pssquared.org; phone: 07733457772.

Artists with specific access needs can submit an application in an alternative format and are offered in-person support.

We welcome applications from people irrespective of disability, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, family responsibility, race, ethnic origin, nationality (subject to issue of work permit, where required), trade union membership and activity, political or religious beliefs.

Online advice sessions are planned for Wednesday 26 August, 6pm, and Wednesday 2 September, 6pm. If you are interested, book a place via [Eventbrite](#)

If online isn't your thing, contact us and we can arrange a one-to-one session.



Q&A

We have collected some frequently asked questions and our answers from our previous open calls below.

If I only graduated 2 years ago can I still apply?

Unfortunately not. The guidelines set by the Freelands Foundation state clearly that applicants must have a minimum of three years' of demonstrable high-quality artistic practice at the point of selection for the programme, either since the commencement of their artistic career or since the completion of any formal academic qualifications in the arts. However, this funding and our open call is around for another year in 2021.

If I am shortlisted but can't come to the interview, especially under the current COVID-19 conditions, can there be an online session instead?

Yes, this is possible, although ideally we would like to interview shortlisted artists in person.

My PhD finished less than a year ago. Can I apply?

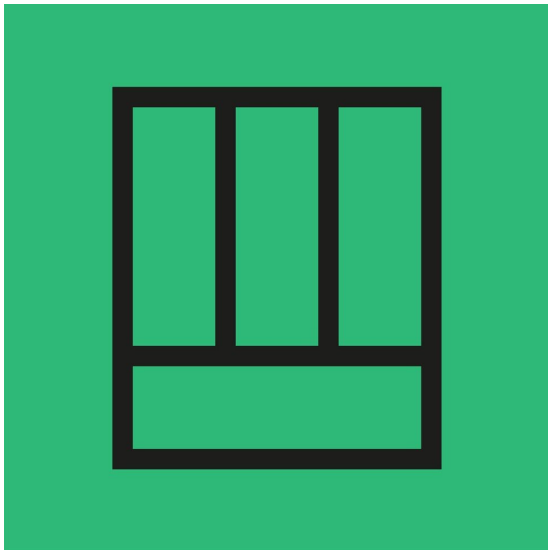
If you have graduated from a postgraduate course (MA/MFA or PhD) within three years, but have taken a gap after a BA that totals three years or more when combined, and provided you meet all our other criteria, you are eligible. That is: as long as you can demonstrate a

minimum of three years' of demonstrable high-quality artistic practice at the point of selection for the programme, either since the commencement of their artistic career or since the completion of any formal academic qualifications in the arts. However, this funding and our open call will be around for another year, in 2021.

For example, you are eligible to apply if: You completed your MFA in summer 2014. In autumn 2016 you started your PhD, which you completed in summer 2019. You apply to the Freelands Artist Programme in September 2020 and can evidence of high-quality artistic practice produced between 2014-2016 (2 years) and 2019-2020 (1 year), totalling 3 years.

Can we apply as a group, producing work collectively?

Yes, you can if you are an 'artist duo' with a proven track record and outcomes in your collaborative practice, or a group with a clearly defined practice and vision, that meets all our other criteria.



This programme is funded by the Freelands Foundation.

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