



CITY CLUB

Citylab Bursaries: Call for proposals

MK Gallery is inviting proposals from early career artists (within three years of completing an undergraduate degree) living and working in Beds, Bucks, Cambs, Herts, Northants and Oxfordshire to develop site-specific works in any medium or art form which respond to and animate *City Club* - a major new commission developed by artists Gareth Jones and Nils Norman. *City Club* both surrounds the newly expanded Gallery as three external spaces - a garden, piazza and playscape - as well as informing the interior of the new gallery building. Proposals can utilise the external spaces and/or the gallery building.

Five bursaries of £3,000 will be awarded to develop and deliver the works which will form part of our public programme in 2019. The bursaries are inclusive of fees, materials and travel costs.

Selected artists will participate in a daylong workshop to help refine ideas and connect with the broader concepts that underpin *City Club*. The workshop will draw inspiration from some of the methodologies lead artist Nils Norman developed as Professor of the School and Walls and Space, Royal Academy of the Arts, Copenhagen. (Further details on Norman's practice can be found here <http://www.dismalgarden.com>).

We have a particular interest in work that is participatory or co-authored with local communities reflecting the approach taken by Milton Keynes Development Corporation in the 1970's to the city's social development which brought pioneer residents together to build communities through art.

Application process:

Please send the following information to Simon Wright swright@mkgallery.org using the title Citylab Bursary + Your full name (eg Citylab Bursary Ann Smith) in the subject box:

- Your initial idea - no more than one side of A4
- Up to 6 images or links to on-line work eg Sound Cloud, Vimeo
- Current CV - no more than one side of A4



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ENGLAND**



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- Name and contact details of one referee who is familiar with your work
- Budget
- Completed equal opportunities form

Timeline

Deadline for applications - 23 November

Interview shortlisted artists - 30 November

Workshop - Early Jan (date TBC)

Delivery - March to June 2019

About City Club

City Club is a programme of new art, performances, family activities, happenings and talks inspired by the original vision behind Milton Keynes.

City Club was the name given in the 1970s to a mind-boggling leisure complex designed to occupy a whole block of Central Milton Keynes. Among its many wonders were a wave pool, a rodeo and a souk, as well as the theatre and art gallery. Lead artists Gareth Jones and Nils Norman looked back at this un-built scheme, borrowed the name and visualised a new public space for numerous activities. *City Club* re-imagined for the 21st century is like a cover version of a classic song, updated with a new sound.

Milton Keynes is world-famous for its architecture and town planning. Less well known is the history of social development in the city, which often took the form of art projects. These activities created some much-loved landmarks including Liz Leyh's *Concrete Cows* and Bill Billings' *Triceratops*. They also brought the pioneer residents of the new city together, to build communities through art.

Over the last two years *City Club* has brought together artists and arts organisations from across Milton Keynes to celebrate the city through specially commissioned installations and events that reflected the city's unique environment and its dynamic population across six decades.

Please refer to the *City Club* website www.cityclubmk.org for further information to help inform your project proposal.

About MK Gallery

MK Gallery presents a critically acclaimed programme of contemporary and historical exhibitions by British and international artists, accompanied by innovative programmes of learning activities and cross art form events. Our exhibitions frequently provide artists



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with opportunities to develop their work through major new commissions and are often first major solo UK presentations in a public gallery.

We also play a crucial role in growing, retaining, supporting and nurturing our surrounding artistic community. Annually we work with undergraduate artists from art schools locally to present a series of selected showcase exhibitions, networking events and individual one-to-one sessions with curators and established artists. *MK Calling* is a regular and popular feature of our exhibition programme, creating opportunities for both established and emerging artists with a connection to the city to present new works in a selected open exhibition.

<https://www.mkgallery.org/>



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