



HADRIAN'S WALL

AD122 - 2022

Hadrian's Wall 1900 **Keystone Event: Intervention in the Landscape** **Artists' Brief**

Key Details

Artist Fee: £80,000 +VAT

Dates: Spring/Summer 2022 - exact dates and duration to be confirmed

Deadline: 12noon, Friday 26 November 2021

Introduction

The Hadrian's Wall 1900 Festival is inviting expressions of interest from Artists and Artist led teams to create a large-scale temporary artwork as a keystone event as part of the year-long festival programme.

We are seeking a contemporary response to the ancient setting and landscape of the World Heritage Site and the building of Hadrian's Wall 1900 years ago. The temporary artwork should be impactful (scale, colour, movement), encouraging global social media attention that provides a "must-share" and "must see" experience for 2022.

Background - Hadrian's Wall 1900

Hadrian's Wall 1900 will celebrate the 1900th anniversary of the beginning of the construction of Hadrian's Wall. It will commemorate 1900 years of history of the UNESCO World Heritage Site (WHS), recognised locally, nationally, and internationally, as a cultural and historical asset of Outstanding Universal Value to humanity.

Throughout 2022, a programme of events and activity which celebrates 1900 years will be presented by local societies, interest groups, community and arts organisations, creatives, local authorities, visitor attractions, venues and individuals. It will take place across the length of the Hadrian's Wall Frontiers of the Roman Empire UNESCO World Heritage Site, from Wallsend to Ravenglass (73 miles/118km of Wall, and 140 miles/215km in total).

From community events to high profile arts commissions, Hadrian's Wall 1900 will provide opportunities for everyone to celebrate and find their connection to the World Heritage Site whether it be Roman history, dark skies, the natural environment, cultural diversity, food, music, the arts and more.

Hadrian's Wall 1900 will celebrate 1900 years of history, life on the Wall, a celebration of the people and communities that have lived and worked along the length of the wall and will help people discover their own connections to the Wall whatever they may be.

The Festival also aims to attract and engage new audiences by delivering activity that gives people a new reason to visit.

This commission is one of two keystone events that will be delivered by the Festival, which are aimed at increasing the profile of the World Heritage Site, and drawing new audiences.

Hadrian's Wall 1900 Festival is coordinated by the Hadrian's Wall Partnership in collaboration with local organisations, communities and individuals.

The Hadrian's Wall Partnership is a voluntary body made up of organisations responsible for the UNESCO World Heritage Site status of Hadrian's Wall. Find out more about the partnership [here](#).

The Brief

We are seeking an Artist or Artist led teams to create outline ideas and approaches for a high-quality, captivating temporary installation in a rural location in Northumberland near to Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.

The work should be engaging and accessible, but may also be challenging and thought provoking.

We are particularly interested in an installation which is site responsive and sympathetic, which uses the fabric of the landscape surrounding Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site in a new and intriguing way to delight and surprise visitors to the area.

There is an expectation for the Intervention in the Landscape to be in situ for a duration of up to three months, and therefore we are looking for outline ideas and approaches which enable the work to be installed in a way that means it requires little additional infrastructure (such as power) and little in the way of physical management whilst it is open to the public.

The work will be delivered in spring/summer of 2022, and therefore will be visited during daylight hours.

We encourage proposals which include an element of community engagement or participation in advance of installation of the commission. Please detail how you might approach this in your expression of interest if applicable. Support in making links with local schools and community groups will be available.

The Artist will be expected to collaborate with the Festival Producers and HW1900 Steering group over the finalising of the commission from selection to realisation.

The Artist must demonstrate that the work is appropriate for the format of this commission (see below practical considerations) and that it properly responds to the brief.

Theme

Whilst there is not a specific theme for the work, we are encouraging applications, which respond to the Festival criteria.

We are interested in artworks that reflect on 1900 years of history in the context of the Hadrian's Wall monument and the World Heritage Site, and also look to the future and the next 1900 years and what they might hold.

This opportunity is part of a 10-year vision for the World Heritage Site of Hadrian's Wall, which has sustainability and our collective sustainable future at its centre and therefore should be reflected in an engaging way to a wide audience as part of this commission.

It might celebrate a bright and positive future or comment on what we need as a nation and around the globe to embrace and secure a positive future. It might integrate elements of STEAM (STEAM is designed to integrate STEM subjects with arts).

The work should be original, thought provoking, visually engaging and live long in the memory.

We are particularly interested in works that provide a contrast to the landscape surrounding Hadrian's Wall, which are eye catching and contemporary.

The Site

We are currently considering a small number of sites in Northumberland, which are accessible and have access to public car parks and toilets. This will mean that as many people should be able to experience the work as possible, contributing to the Festival's aims of making Hadrian's Wall as open and inclusive to as many people as possible.

Please note, nothing can be attached to Hadrian's Wall itself and therefore the sites we are looking at are near to the Wall, but not on the Wall itself. We are currently in consultation with landowners and those responsible for the protection of the World Heritage Site regarding what is possible.

Final possible site/s will be confirmed for those artists that are taken through to proposal stage.

For the purposes of the expression of interest, the sites we are looking at are:

- Walltown Crag
- Cawfield Quarry
- Steel Rig

All of these sites feature whin sills, vast natural landscape and access to and visibility of Hadrian's Wall.

Key Practical Considerations

The most important consideration is how any piece will work within the very specific format of this commission. We are not expecting artists to go into this level of detail in their expression of interest, but below are some specifics you should consider before submitting an expression of interest:

- The audience will likely visit and interact with the installation at their own pace, with very little, if any, audience management in place. The work should be able to be installed in a way that means audiences can safely experience it in this way.
- Weather conditions may be challenging - rain and high winds are very likely. The installation must be able to withstand these conditions, reliably and safely, for the duration of the event.
- The installation must attract a very broad audience across all age ranges. The work should appeal to family groups, including very young children, as well as local cultural professionals and artists.
- Please take into account how the landscape will look in spring/summer, when the landscape has high vegetation and leaves on the trees.
- If your concept includes anything requiring power, please consider how you might enable this in a sustainable way and detail how you might deliver this in your expression of interest.
- It is a desire that the work can be installed and left in situ without the need for security or barriers - please take this into consideration in your expression of interest.
- The development/making process for the commissions will take place in the artists' own facilities or spaces and costs for this should be included in your budget.
- The artist is responsible for delivering and installing the artwork at the site. This should be considered as part of the budget for the work. Planning applications may be applicable depending on the work - time dedicated to this will need to be factored into plans and budget.
- The exact dates and duration of the work will be decided with the artist. The artist should include in their expression of interest the approximate duration that the work could be in situ and any restrictions on their availability at the time of submitting.
- The budget for the commission may be increased if we are successful with an application to Arts Council England. Your proposal should detail how the work could be scaled up with this increase in budget.
- Insurance for the artwork and public liability insurance should be included in the budget.

Support includes:

- Creative Producer and Production Manager support and advice through the development and making process.
- Expertise from the Steering Group (for example permissions, planning applications, local contacts and information, etc.).

Budget

The budget available for the development of the work, fabrication and installation is £80,000 +VAT.

Timeline

EOI Opportunity advertised:	W/C 1 November
EOI submission deadline:	Friday 26 November
Artists informed of outcome of EOI:	by Friday 3 December

Application Process

Artists are asked to submit an initial **expression of interest**, which outlines initial ideas and approach for this commission.

The expressions of interest will be shortlisted by the Hadrian's Wall 1900 steering group to a small number of artists that will then be invited to develop their proposal more fully. A fee will be available for the full proposal stage.

One artist/artist led team will be selected to realise the proposed commission.

Expression of Interest

To submit an expression of interest, please complete the form via the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScKeaVs3vx2-O3eWl-NflxCD0y6JRwd4y0s1YfyANmJeQkqsQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

You will be asked to submit a biography and examples of previous work. These can be submitted in writing through the form and also attached as portfolios, images and links to more information.

You will be asked for maximum of 500 words describing your initial outline ideas or approach, how your work fits with the brief and demonstrates that the logistics of the delivery of the work has been thought about in terms of budget, installation, and practicalities.

You can also upload a limited number of images, which can be visuals in support of your ideas (including illustrations or sketches) and/or examples of previous work.

Artists are welcome to submit more than one expression of interest should they have multiple ideas. Please note individual responses will be required for each idea.

All outline ideas and approaches remain the Intellectual Property of the submitting Artist and will not be used or owned by Hadrian's Wall Partnership.

Expressions of interest must be submitted by 12noon **on Friday 26 November 2021.**

Contact

If you wish to discuss the opportunity, please email info@hadrianswall1900.co.uk with the subject "Intervention in the Landscape commission enquiry".