

Artist Brief - A Jarrow Hall Artist Museum Commission



Groundwork North and South Tyneside Jarrow Hall, in partnership with South Tyneside Council Cultural Development, would like to invite community engaged artist commission applications from visual, sound or film artists.

This commission will:

- **Celebrate Place**

You will create new work that will be displayed at Jarrow Hall. The work will respond to hidden heritage narratives in the Jarrow Hall collection that help audiences to see things from a new perspective, explore ideas and better understand our sense of place, past, present and future.

- **Increase arts and cultural engagement**

You will be a creative that enjoys working with the community and will plan creative activity that will engage audiences at Jarrow Hall and communities within/across South Tyneside to actively explore areas of contemporary enquiry inspired by Jarrow Hall collection. These creative conversations will inform and shape your final work.

- **Increase collaboration between the arts and museum service**

You will work with Jarrow Hall museum professionals to understand some of the priorities this work could support. Additional support will be available through advice and mentoring from the Cultural Programme Officer at South Tyneside Council.

You will be given support from museum professionals to understand aspects of the collection. You will be given support to site the work. Please note there may be restrictions for display of the artwork due to the size of the museum buildings at Jarrow Hall and the nature of the site.

We would like you to creatively respond to the museum and its collection.

The Anglo Saxon's were extremely resourceful, they reused, recycled, and repurposed materials in their buildings, some of which were left behind by the Romans who left Britain in 5th Century, with other materials being imported. The Jarrow monastery collection reflects the unique architecture of the 7th and 8th Century Jarrow monastic site, a site quite unlike similar of the time. Jarrow Monastery was built in a Roman manner, with carved stone, painted plaster, coloured window glass. Benedict Biscop, Abbot of the twin monastery of Wearmouth-Jarrow, brought skilled stone masons and glaziers from France to teach traditional skills which were not common in Britain at the time. The international links to the collection are present both the material and its style. Whilst crucibles found on site containing melted metal and glass give evidence for the reuse of these materials during this period.

We would like you to take an enquiry-based approach to respond to and illuminate this aspect of the museum/collection to create new work that can act as a prompt/stimulus for us to think about what this may mean for us today, in relation to diversity and sustainability.

Budget

The fee for this commission is £5000 (inclusive of materials, community engagement, production and install of work). Payment can be made in instalment - 50% in advance £50% on completion

Additional support will be available through advice and mentoring from Cultural Programme Officer at South Tyneside Council

Those shortlisted will be given £100 to support the preparation of a short presentation/interview.

How to apply

An initial proposal outlining your approach and ideas – no more than 2 sides of A4 or a 2 min video (sent via We transfer)

An outline for the community engagement aspect as part of the commission. This could involve talks, interviews, creative conversations, workshops etc...

Please send your proposal to Katy.milne@southtyneside.gov.uk

Access

If you require application information in another format please get in touch.

Artists selected will be required to organise their own tax and national insurance, provide public liability insurance and dbs check.

Schedule

- Commission Advertised 11 March – Wednesday 30 March 2022
- Deadline for application Friday 1 April 2022
- Shortlisting Monday 4 April 2022
- Interview/presentation Tuesday 12 April 2022
- Meeting the team/planning Wednesday 27 April 2022
- Research and development/community engagement activity July - September
- Initial ideas shared by October 2022
- Work developed October – December 2022
- Work agreed/produced January 2023
- Work installed February 2023
- Work displayed celebrated March 2023 – September 2023

The process of this artist commission will be documented and this project alongside the Arbeia artist commission will be shared as part of an exhibition at The Word from November 2022- March 2023 in the lead up to the final outcome being shared. Images and ideas may be required to support this.

About

Jarrow Hall is a place you can travel back in time to Anglo-Saxon Britain. Jarrow Hall comprises of an Anglo-Saxon Farm, Village and Bede Museum, a historic and environmental oasis in the heart of South Tyneside. It is a space you can explore the extraordinary life of the Venerable Bede, the father of English history, discover what everyday life was like over one thousand years ago, meet friendly farm animals, and get up close to incredible Anglo-Saxon treasures.

Jarrow Hall has been managed and operated by **Groundwork South and North Tyneside** since 2016, in partnership with South Tyneside Council.

Groundwork is a charity that is passionate about creating a brighter, and more prosperous future for the communities we work with. Helping to build safer and stronger communities, improve people's health, well-being, and prospects, and promote environmental sustainability.

We hope to explore the themes of time, place and sustainability incorporating how communities have changed over time, from what the Romans left behind to the Anglo-Saxons, and into the present. Places of settlement and cultural traditions continue to be adopted by communities as well as materials such as glass and stone being commonly reused in new ways, much like we recycle materials today.

The roman influence on the place and culture of Northern England is brought into focus in 2022 with the celebration of Hadrian's Wall's 1900 anniversary.

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.

This commission supports this programme, creates stronger links between Arbeia Roman Fort and Jarrow Hall and encourages the community and visitors to appreciate more about the rich and diverse culture and heritage of our area, locally and regionally.

Terms

- Community engaged artist – we are defining this as artists/creatives who are exploring ideas alongside and with the community and work is informed by ideas and enquiry questions that emerge from some shared creative conversation/activity/enquiry.
- Hidden Heritage Narratives -we are defining this as stories and voices that are not always heard/reflected and work that can help us to understand ourselves past, present and future.
- Enquiry based approach – we are defining this as a process of curiosity, exploration, new knowledge, new questions, further curiosity, expressing new ideas.