

## Artist in Residence brief

### Introduction

The Gallery of Modern Art is recruiting a freelance artist to work with the gallery to explore climate change, sustainability and environmental issues while we host *Early Warning Signs* a work by Ellie Harrison.

The successful artist will use their practice to help us to learn new things about ourselves as a community of gallery staff, and challenge us to explore the ways we work together as a staff team on environmental issues and sustainability in our programming. The ambition is to build a stronger internal capacity for collaborative, participatory working practice, which make a difference to our carbon footprint.

### Context and Background

Following on from the pilot [Associate Artist role with Rachel Mimiec](#) (May 2011 – May 2013) GoMA is proposing to work with a similar model on a shorter timescale with an artist in 2014, while we are hosting the work *Early Warning Signs* by Ellie Harrison <http://www.ellieharrison.com/earlywarningsigns/>.

The role of the *Associate Artist* is to provide a challenge to the building and to use the opportunity to research areas of 'mutual curiosity' on environmental issues and sustainability. ie: this role should benefit the learning of the gallery and the artist alike.

Through this role the gallery hopes to develop a shared idea of the critical questions the artist will ask during the time they are able to spend with the staff.

Documentation and communication of the process is very important and we plan to expand the use of blogs, programme archives and the talks/seminar programme at GoMA

This brief relates to two of Glasgow Life's Strategic Objectives.

- to enhance the health and wellbeing of people who live, work and visit the City
- to demonstrate the ongoing improvement in the quality, performance and impact of the services and opportunities we provide.

Through the relationship with the artist we intend to increase the knowledge and articulation of Museums around environmental issues, social justice and human rights and improve the work we do in this area.

### The Gallery of Modern Art

The Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA) is part of Glasgow Museums and Arts Teams within Glasgow Life, an independent charitable company. The gallery is housed in an iconic building located in the heart of Glasgow, which it shares with the city centre library. It plays an important part in the city's rich heritage which continues today. For over 100 years the building was a centre for business and commercial exchange where information and goods were traded. GoMA continues that philosophy of

exchange by being a centre for people to gather, discuss and learn, inspired by the art it collects and shows. GoMA believes in working with every community of the city and has gained international recognition for its social engagement programming.

### **Glasgow Museums**

Glasgow Museums is the largest museum service in the UK outside London, with a staff of 420. The city's collection, one of the finest civic collections in northern Europe, consists of 1.4 million objects. It is displayed and stored in 10 venues across the city. Together they attract over 3 million visits a year.

Glasgow Museums' vision is that it combines the excellence in content, collections care, presentation and customer service of the best national institutions with the commitment to learning, access, social justice and public engagement of the best local institutions.

### **The Artist's Role**

GoMA we would like the appointed artist to contribute to and help facilitate the dialogues around climate change, sustainability and environmental issues which the Early Warning Signs work will be the catalyst for.

The artists will be based at GoMA and the key audience will be the gallery's staff. The focus of this residency is primarily on **experimentation** and **research**. However, there is also the potential for the appointed artists to create a piece of work (e.g.: performance, event, seminar or publication) that illustrates the process undertaken and that captures the shifts in organizational practice that the residency may facilitate.

We expect the artist to:

- challenge us to explore the ways we work together;
- help us learn new things about our shared interest in environmental issues
- encourage us to practice new ways of working to reduce our carbon footprint;
- create spaces for dialogue that aid ongoing internal reflection and organizational development; and
- fully record and document the processes undertaken.

### **Skills**

The associate artist will act as a catalyst for conversations and events around environmental issues, climate change and sustainability. This requires an individual with a particular set of skills. We are looking for someone who:

- is a do-it-yourself thinker and can encourage this in others;
- is accustomed to working with diverse groups and teams;

- understands that working across boundaries serves to make practices stronger and can apply this understanding to our organisation;
- uses creative research as a central part of their process and has the ability to positively challenge conventional thinking; and
- creates spaces for dialogue and navigates difficult discussions with diplomacy.

## **Terms of Residency**

### **Administration and support**

The Producer and main point of contact for the Associate Artist will be Katie Bruce

The artist will be supported by members of the GoMA team including the Learning and Access Curator and Assistant Museum Manager

### **Facilities**

A dedicated work space will be made available within the staff areas at GoMA when the artist is in the building. Katie Bruce will provide access to further facilities as required.

### **Budget**

A **fully inclusive budget of £4,750** is available for this work. This will cover fees, expenses and any production/legacy/material costs.

### **Timescales**

We expect the appointed artist to work with us for no less than 24 days in total and that these days would be regularly spread out over an agreed period between January and December 2014.

### **Evaluation and reflection**

We strongly encourage a creative and reflective approach to evaluation and it should form an ongoing part of the process. The artist will be required to report regularly to the Producer and contribute to the documentation of their work for use in reports and presentations on *Early Warning Signs*. We will work with the artist to agree on the most effective and appropriate forms of feedback and evaluation as the project develops.

## Experience

The residency is open to practicing artists from any discipline with experience of working within a socially-engaged context on environmental issues and sustainability.

## Selection process

### Submission requirements

Submissions should be sent in electronic format to John Irwin ([john.irwin@glasgowlife.org.uk](mailto:john.irwin@glasgowlife.org.uk) )

**Closing date for submissions: 12 pm on Friday 24 January 2014**

### Submissions should include:

- A written statement (not exceeding 2 pages A4) that includes:
  - An introduction to your working practice
  - What you hope to achieve through the Associate Artist role
  - How the Associate Artist role will increase your knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of your artistic work around environmental issues
  - An indication of how you would plan your days across the timeframe of the work
- An up to date CV that includes
  - Clear evidence of work and research on environmental issues and sustainability
- Up to 12 images (or links to images) of your own work and/or collaborative work with community groups
- A budget proposal indicating:
  - Artist fee and total number of days
  - A breakdown of potential production/materials costs
  - Any additional expenses

Your submission will be evaluated on the strength of your written statement, the relevance and quality of previous work and performance at interview. Submissions will be reviewed by a panel drawn from the GoMA staff team.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the gallery and attend the open day at GoMA to meet staff and explore the building

### Timetable

Advertisement of position	late December 2013
Open day at GoMA – please email <a href="mailto:katie.bruce@glasgowlife.org.uk">katie.bruce@glasgowlife.org.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:martin.craig@glasgowlife.org.uk">martin.craig@glasgowlife.org.uk</a> to book a time.	Monday 20 January 2014
Deadline for applications	12 pm on Friday 24 January 2014
Interviews	Monday 3 February 2014
Start of Associate Artist role	February 2014
Completion of Associate Artist role	December 2014

## Further Information

If you have any questions regarding the position or your application, please contact Katie Bruce [katie.bruce@glasgowlife.org.uk](mailto:katie.bruce@glasgowlife.org.uk) or [martin.craig@glasgowlife.org.uk](mailto:martin.craig@glasgowlife.org.uk) although please note they will both be out of the office until 6 January 2014

For further details on all GoMA's activities, please go to [www.glasgowlife.org.uk/museums/goma](http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/museums/goma)