



Orkney Island Games Cultural Programme 2025: *Shared Stories-Island Voices*

Artist Brief: Sound Artist

Introduction

An experienced artist or artists are sought to create a piece of Sound Art for the Island Games 2025.

The project is locally managed by Orkney Islands Council (OIC), Arts Officer, and the Museums Service.

Project Objectives and Scope

Shared Stories-Island Voices (working title) is a commission for a piece of Sound Art of up to one hour in duration for presentation in St Magnus Cathedral, Northlight Gallery and potentially to tour to Heritage Centres in Orkney (primarily the Outer Isles) in the lead up to and for the duration of the Island Games in July 2025.

In St Magnus Cathedral the Sound Work would be presented alongside the St Magnus Sails, which will be the first time in eight years the Sails have been hung in public. At Northlight Gallery the Sound Work will play alongside the activity that Stromness Creatives determine for that space.

The commission also includes the licence to house the Sound Work permanently on the Museums Service new website as an archive that is readily available to the public.

The Sound Artist will be responsible for the production of the Sound Work and its installation within the two spaces, in partnership with both Cathedral staff and appropriate support at Northlight Gallery. The Sound Work will need to be produced in a format that is readily able to be toured with minimal technical requirements to the Heritage Centres and also be housed on the website.

The Sound Artist will work in collaboration with a Scrivener/Storygatherer who will be responsible for eliciting and collating stories from the participating Islands and producing a story booklet. It is anticipated that the short stories will be in a range of languages and/or dialects and that these will be recorded in some way by the Sound Artist and fragments/elements of these included in some way into the final Art piece.

Sound Artist Requirements

- To work with the Scrivener/Story Gatherer and others to realise a Sound Work that is installed in St Magnus Cathedral, Northlight Gallery, on the Museum Website and has the capacity to tour to Heritage Centres as outlined above
- To create a piece of Sound Work suitable for the Island Games 2025 that reflects the culture of Orkney and weaves into it fragments of the submitted stories.
- To provide a method statement outlining how the Sound Work will be made, how it will be installed and requirements for maintenance and upkeep both during its installation and for inclusion on the Museum Service website.
- To install the Sound Work or oversee installation of the Sound Work.
- To support Orkney Islands Council marketing and communications team to promote the project
- To feed into project evaluation.

Outputs and Milestones

Stage	Element	Deadline
Stage 1	Project plan	April 2024
Stage 2	Meeting with Scrivener/Story Gatherer in planning & early making	April – July 2024
Stage 3	Engagement in production of Sound Work Continued liaison with Scrivener/Story Gatherer During this time Scrivener/Story Gatherer is putting out the call for stories and framing the	August 2024 – April 2025

	publication as stories come in	
Stage 4	Completion of the Sound Work	May 2025
Stage 5	Installation in St Magnus Cathedral & press opportunity	June 2025
Stage 6	Installation in Northlight Gallery & press opportunity	July 2025
Stage 7	Evaluation	July 2025

Fees and Costs

The project will be developed and delivered within the constraints of the overall project budget of £6,000, not including marketing.

Project Budget

- Artist(s) Fee: £3,000.** For the composition of the Sound Work. This includes travel and subsistence. It is expected that the artist/s will work around 11 days at 8 hours per day based on Scottish Artist Union sessional rates.
- Production and Fabrication Fee: £3,000.** This includes installation and ongoing maintenance during the installation in St Magnus Cathedral and Northlight Gallery and consultation regarding touring to Heritage Centres and uploading to the Museum Services website.

Rates and prices shall be deemed inclusive of all additional expenses howsoever incurred and are exclusive of VAT.

Proposals

We invite creative and innovative proposals that give a clear indication of the proposed approach to the project.

Proposals should include;

- A brief summary of your creative practice.

- A description of your approach to the project and the thinking behind it. This should consider all aspects of the above brief including your approach to working with the Scrivener/Story Gatherer.
- Evidence and examples of similar projects and work undertaken previously.
- Artist focussed CV to include previous exhibitions.
- Budget – your budget should give a breakdown of the number and costs of days attributed for the different elements of work (exclusive of VAT).
- Details of your public liability insurance and your approach to Health and Safety.

Selection

Proposals will be reviewed by the project panel which will include representation from OIC. The panel reserve the right not to appoint.

- Applications can be made by consortia or collaborative partnerships.
- Applicants must reside in Orkney or have connections to Orkney.

Shortlisted artists or consortia will be invited to discuss their proposals further through an interview process which will take place the week beginning 5 February 2024.

Professional conduct, liability insurance and equal opportunities

Applicants must provide details of their public liability insurance up to £5M and will maintain these for the period of the commission.

Intellectual property rights

Lead artists will be required to adhere to the intellectual property rights clauses and will be retained by the Artist. The licence for use for the purposes outlined above will be contained within the Artist contract.

Submission of proposals

Proposals must be received no later than **Noon on Thursday 8 February 2024**. Proposals received after this time will not be accepted.

How to find out more

If you would like further information about the project or have any questions then please contact:

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