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# Elevate

## Application Information

May 2022

## Introducing Elevate

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**Elevate** is a collaboratively produced learning and development programme that will support up to sixteen early career tenant artists with mentoring and workshops, culminating in a supported solo presentation of work in one of Wasps' galleries.

**Elevate** originated as a response to the rising needs for emerging and early career artists to access support, in a range of areas as the role of the artist expands.

Evaluations of previous Wasps Arts and Enterprise programming, as well as tenant forum feedback, indicated that one of its greatest strengths is the peer network, access to shared learnings, skills and inspiration. Elevate seeks to forge a bond with Wasps artists across the network within each cohort of participating artists, creating a forum for peer to peer learning and a platform of support.

### Benefits to Selected Applicants:

Starting in August 2022, the pilot initiative, will provide each member of the Elevate Cohort with:

- **8 group workshops or talks with the full cohort, delivered by experienced artists and industry leaders**
- **A solo exhibition per artist**
- **8 hours of 1:1 mentoring with an artistic advisor, selected in response to your direct needs and personal goals**
- **additional scope may be available for community engagement projects led by Wasps fundraising & partnerships team**

Access to the Elevate programme is free to participate in. Artists will need to fund their own production costs for work produced for solo presentation purposes, as well as their own time.

We recognise that one of the biggest barriers to participation in developmental learning is often the cost of taking part. Therefore unlike many development programmes, the selected artists will not be asked to contribute financially beyond the usual costs for making their own work. No payment to Wasps or our partners will be due. Instead, we require artists to pledge their time in-kind to the programme, committing time to the programme opportunities. We seek artists who want to proactively engage within the programme, shaping its design and delivery collectively over the duration of the programme.

The programme lasts 18 months and we ask for a minimum commitment of 25 hours on top of the time you require to produce and deliver a solo show.

All artists selected will be provided with an artist fee of £300 to contribute to their exhibition of work within their designated host building. Additionally, a travel bursary scheme is in place in support of artists installing their exhibition, and an additional bursary is available for artists outwith the central belt.

Wasps is happy to write letters of support for participants who wish to make applications to external funding bodies for professional development or similar grants that will support them to participate within the Elevate programme.

## Programme Structure

The Elevate programme is structured around a series of solo exhibitions from the 16 selected artists that make up the cohort. Each artist will be invited to produce and deliver a solo presentation of works that lasts 10 weeks in duration in their designated host gallery.

During the first few preparatory months, you will be connected to a host building and its community and will be assigned to a personal Artistic Advisor to begin the first stage of 1:1 mentoring. These initial stages will form the starting point for an evolving, responsive programme that will support the individuals and their collective artistic development whilst providing access to networks and knowledge within both their host building and the cohort as a collective group.

During periods between the talks & workshops programme & the exhibition presentations, materials will be made available through a shared online resource, and the Artistic Advisors will support and advise participating artists through a series of planning sessions and 1-2-1 conversations. Additionally Elevate will create a platform for those involved to share skills, talents and experiences through peer to peer exchanges led by the cohort itself running parallel to the core implemented elements.

## Programme Duration

- Preparatory introduction & research period: August – October 2022
- Exhibitions will commence from November 2022 and run through to December 2023
- The learning & development programme consisting of workshops, mentoring and support will commence from October 2022 and will complete in December 2023

## Application Process

All applications regardless of format must include:

- A statement telling us why you would like to participate in Elevate, what you would believe would be most beneficial to you within the programme and what you hope to learn from the experience
- A short statement as to why you identify as an early career artist.
- A clear representation of your work
- A current CV
- All applicants are invited to complete an anonymous Equality & Diversity monitoring form along with your application. This enables Wasps to measure the responses and reach of the Elevate programme.
- All applicants must complete a submission log confirming basic information, first and second choice for a host building, and confirming the format of the application.

Applications may be submitted in the following formats:

- Online application form
- Recorded video uploaded to Vimeo or YouTube
- Hard copy application form

#### Online Application Form

Please visit: <https://zfrmz.eu/C2VmL32DLBecONQLfh39>

and complete all sections within the online form ensuring that you upload all the required attachments.

#### Recorded Video

Please record a video of yourself answering the following questions:

- Please tell us about your career to date, your training and the key highlights from your CV
- Why do you consider yourself to be an emerging or early career artist?
- Why would you like to participate in Elevate and what would you like to get out of the programme? This could be details of your learning objectives, the areas you are in most need of support with or a statement of what area of the programme you think would be most beneficial to you.
- Are you able to commit time to taking part in the full programme?

Please also show us examples of your work either within the same video, a separate video or you may also email us attachments or send a link to your website.

Please upload your video(s) to either Vimeo or YouTube and submit your application by completing this form: <https://zfrmz.eu/C2VmL32DLBecONQLfh39>

On receipt of a video submission you will be emailed an Equality & Diversity Monitoring form to complete anonymously.

#### Hard Copy Application Form

Please request a printed copy of the application form by emailing [projects@waspsstudios.org.uk](mailto:projects@waspsstudios.org.uk) or by phoning 0141 553 5890 or by visiting our office at The Briggait, 141 Bridgegate, Glasgow, G1 5HZ.

Hard copy application forms can be posted or hand delivered to The Briggait, 141 Bridgegate, Glasgow, G1 5HZ

The deadline for applications is **17<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 5pm**

The application review process will take place during 20<sup>th</sup> June – 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Applicants will be notified before the end of July 2022.

*We are unfortunately not able to provide feedback to unsuccessful applications at this time.*

## Selection Criteria

Wasps aims to establish a cohort that represents a diversity of cultural perspectives and artistic practices and welcome applications from a wide geographic spread across the Wasps network.

All applications will be scored by a panel of judges made up of professionals from the artistic and arts education industry.

Applications must meet the following criteria:

- **Confirmation that you are a current tenant of Wasps**
- **Confirmation that you are a practicing artist and can be identified as being an early career or emergent artist**

The judging panel will score applications against the following criteria:

- **Applicants who want to both develop their own work and actively contribute to the collaborative development of the cohort**
- **Applicants who can clearly explain their learning objectives and show a willingness to learn and develop**
- **Applicants who are committed to delivering a solo exhibition**
- **Applicants who are committed to attending all mentoring sessions and workshops**

## Host Sites

The Briggait, 141 Briggait, Glasgow, G1 5HZ

Granton Station (*in development*), Waterfront Broadway, Edinburgh, EH5 1SA

Perth Creative Exchange, Stormont Street, Perth,

Inverness Creative Academy, Stephens Street, Inverness, IV2 3JP

*Please note that our galleries differ in character, design and accessibility and therefore may only be suitable to some types of work. Details of our gallery spaces can be found on our website at [www.waspsstudios.org.uk/spaces](http://www.waspsstudios.org.uk/spaces).*

## About Wasps

Wasps is a thriving cultural network of twenty buildings across Scotland which hosts permanent artist studios and temporary residencies. Wasps Arts and Enterprise Programme delivers a public programme of Wasps Artist presentations in the form of gallery exhibitions and events including workshops, talks, screenings, art fairs and markets.

Elevate is a dedicated programme centred on developing artistic support for early career and emerging artists.

## Elevate - Frequently Asked Questions

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### **How do you define 'artist'?**

By 'artists' we mean visual artists and makers or those working in other disciplines that have a strong connection to the visual arts.

### **I am an early career artist, but I'm not age 18–30, can I still apply?**

Yes, we define 'early career' by up to 7 continuous years of practising and not by age.

### **Do I need to have a studio at Wasps to apply?**

This opportunity is exclusively for current Wasps tenants only.

### **Do I need previous experience to apply?**

We are keen to support early career artists who may not have had extensive prior experience in exhibiting, or those that may presented work publically but not had access to critical engagement and mentoring support.

### **Can I apply as part of a group/collective?**

We are only able to support 16 artists as part of the programme, duo or collective applications will be considered as a whole, with each person counting as a member of the cohort of 16 if selected. Please note are unlikely to accept any collectives that exceed 3 artists as we aim to have a fair geographical spread within the selected cohort.

### **I want to apply but don't have any technical gallery installation experience.**

Within the programme you will be required to deliver a solo exhibition, the only technical experience you would require, is how to install your own work in the gallery. The artist cohort is there to act as a peer support system where artists will help other artists share skills & knowledge, Wasps are also on hand to advice.

### **I want to apply but have a limited personal budget to travel.**

We welcome artists from across our network to apply. Wasps has created a travel bursary to assist that will be given based on distance & need. Wasps will also support any funding applications to funding bodies that artist may wish to apply to in further aid of this programme. The majority of the Elevate support programme can be delivered online.

**I have previously participated within the Wasps Arts & Enterprise Exhibition Programme, can I take part?**

Whilst we are only able to support a select number of applicants, and are keen to work with artists who haven't previously had access to many opportunities, those who have previously exhibited with us are eligible to apply, however must evidence within their application the perceived benefit of being a part of the cohort.

**What is the time frame for the programme?**

The programme spans 18 months and begins with a 3 month introduction period July-September. Each exhibition spans 10 weeks publicly in the host space.

**Will I need to complete work outside the sessions?**

The workshops, talks and mentoring are structured with the intention that you experiment with new ideas between sessions, although how much time you commit to this is up to you. We actively encourage engagement amongst the cohort.

**I don't have a clear idea for the exhibition, does that matter?**

You don't need to have a clear idea for what you'd like to make yet, exhibitions are spread out and we will work with selected artists to programme their exhibition at a time that suits them and sufficiently allows development. The aim of the programme is to introduce new approaches and support you to create new work through a diverse and responsive programme. We do not seek exhibition proposals as part of the application to this programme.

**What are you looking for in applications?**

We are keen to support artists who are enthusiastic in developing their practice and have a desire to develop new work that will be showcased with Wasps as part of our focused exhibitions programme.

**How will the applications be judged?**

Applications that meet the basic requirements will be reviewed by a 6 member selection panel composed of Wasps staff & Trustees, as well as external arts professionals.

**Wasps are offering telephone consultations for artists interested in applying for this opportunity should additional questions be outstanding. Please contact [projects@waspsstudios.org.uk](mailto:projects@waspsstudios.org.uk) to arrange a suitable time.**

To request this document in an alternative format, email [projects@waspsstudios.org.uk](mailto:projects@waspsstudios.org.uk) or phone 0141 553 5890

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The Wasps Trust is a charity registered in Scotland (SC022115). Workshop & Artists Studio Provision (Scotland) Limited is a charity registered in Scotland (SC001351). It is also a company limited by guarantee registered in Scotland (SC062117). Wasps Creative Industries C.I.C. is a community interest company registered in Scotland (SC383609). The registered office for the above 3 entities is: The Briggait, 141 Bridgegate, Glasgow, G1 5HZ.

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