



SIGNAL
FILM & MEDIA



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ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

THE POOL

Connecting Digital and New Media Artists in Cumbria

Signal Film and Media are delighted to announce that responses are invited for **THE POOL - connecting digital and new media artists in Cumbria**. Part of their Cumbrian Artists' Digital Development Opportunities during Lockdown, the initiative aims to provide a platform for artists who want to reach out, discuss, network and engage - with each other and the subject of COVID-19, but also to look at the ways artists and creatives living in Cumbria can expand their own practice.

The programme includes **virtual micro-commissions**, **live online talks** and **workshops** led by artists and organisations. Signal are working in partnership with organisations across Cumbria, including with the Cumbria Museum Consortium, and together the partnership hopes to create greater impact and networking across Cumbria's emerging artists and existing cultural venues.

ARTIST BRIEF

THE NEW ETIQUETTE - MICRO COMMISSION

There have been many moments in history where the face of art has changed due to social, economic and pandemic situations and we believe this is one of those times, the Covid-19 outbreak has seen sweeping changes across the art world, as galleries have been forced to close their doors to visitors and the cultural calendar of exhibitions and talks has dissipated. However, artists have been swift to adapt to the situation, finding new ways to share work with their audiences online. Being online and having a virtual presence as an artist has never been more necessary.

There has been a surge of new schemes launched by artists urging people to make art at home and share their lockdown creations online. Now – as the world reels from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic – many musicians, poets, screenwriters, novelists and artists are creating wonderful work. Whether they are pure escapism or sharp satire, a way of understanding the crisis or simply passing the hours, their creations have brought joy to many during lockdown.

New Etiquette Theme: During this time what has been revealed is how we, as humans, interact with one another and with our environment on a daily basis. Has this now changed, possibly forever? The two metre distancing and only essential shopping has led to feelings

of isolation and lack of connection with our communities. The essential masks are confusing and reduce our ability to interact through human expression. How are we dealing with this 'new etiquette'? We are inviting artists to create work that can be presented online in response to this theme.

This commission presents an opportunity for two emerging artists who live and/or work in Cumbria, who may or may not be currently working digitally. All artforms are welcome but the finished artwork must be suited to an online presentation. Artists who are working in all disciplines are encouraged to apply, even if they have never worked with technology or digital media before but have an interest in creative digital media or presenting work online in innovative ways. Work will be presented via the newly developed virtual exhibition portal, however, budget permitting we are open to a complimentary physical output too. Please state any ideas within your application.

Each commission has an allocated fee of £400, technical support and mentoring if needed. The online exhibition will also be supported by wide publicity and benefit from a newly designed online exhibition portal.

Applications and interest is always actively encouraged from all artists working within Cumbria, from all backgrounds and ethnicity. However, in this instance, at least one of the commissions will be awarded to a person of POC/BAME.

The project is kindly supported by **Arts Council England**.

DEADLINE: Deadline for application Friday 21st August 2020

ONLINE EXHIBITION: End October/Start November 2020

Application is via an online form, if this presents any issues please contact the Project Manager Rachel Capovila, email below.

TO APPLY: www.signalfilmandmedia.co.uk/thepool

For further details email: rachel@signalfilmandmedia.co.uk

SIGNAL FILM AND MEDIA is an award-winning film and digital media company based in Barrow-in-Furness with a reputation for both high-quality, professional short film production and a wide range of community engagement media projects. Our artist-led company has delivered innovative film and digital media projects since 2001, providing access to opportunities and inspiration through film and digital media, creating award-winning works for exhibition and supporting the development of a vibrant film and arts culture in the area.

www.signalfilmandmedia.com