



## **ARTIST CALLOUT: OUTSIDERXCHANGES MANCHESTER / NEWCASTLE GATESHEAD**

Venture Arts are seeking expressions of interest from visual artists who would like to be considered to engage with the OutsiderXchangeS project.

OutsiderXchangeS is an exciting, experimental, collaborative visual arts project that will bring together learning disabled and non-learning disabled artists to develop shared ideas and new contemporary work.

OutsiderXchangeS came about to develop the talents and profile of learning-disabled artists and also to investigate the potential to make new, interesting, challenging work through visual artist ideas exchange and real collaboration.

Venture Arts is working in partnership with BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester and the Contemporary Visual Arts Network (CVAN) to deliver OutsiderXchanges.

Venture Arts are looking for 5 artists to work alongside 5 learning disabled artists to develop ideas, share practice and, through collaboration, develop contemporary art.

Acclaimed disability artist Tanya Raabe-Webber will work with all the artists involved focusing on assisting in the collaborative process with all artists, as well as developing her own work throughout the project. The intention of the project is that the work will be shown on a number of platforms so we are particularly interested in hearing from artists who use a range of media in their work.

All successful artists will receive £1000 artist fee and given a free studio space for five months (February – July 2016) coming together for 1-2 day(s) per week to share their studio with a learning disabled artist involved in the project.

The project and art created will be showcased by Venture Arts, Castlefield Gallery and BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, following the residencies in Autumn 2016.

### **WHAT VENTURE ARTS ARE LOOKING FOR:**

The work will be made in Manchester and in Newcastle Gateshead so we are looking for 4 Manchester based artists and 1 Newcastle Gateshead based artist. Manchester based artists will work from a central studio location in Manchester and the Newcastle Gateshead based artist will be at BALTIC 39, Newcastle.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Please e-mail your expression of interest to [amanda@venturearts.org](mailto:amanda@venturearts.org)

Deadline: **08 January 2016** Interviews: **W.C. 18 January 2016**

Please include the following in your expression of interest:

- Brief outline stating your interest in being involved in this artist exchange.
- Brief outline of initial ideas of how you would interpret and approach the project.
- Examples of recent work/links to websites containing examples of previous work
- Your CV



### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Contact Amanda Sutton for any further inquiries you have regarding the project or the application process.

E-mail [amanda@venturearts.org](mailto:amanda@venturearts.org)

Tel: 0161 232 1223

Venture Arts

43 Old Birley Street

Manchester, M15 5RF

**Venture Arts** is charitable Community Benefit society (No. 28604R) working in visual arts with learning disabled people since 1985. Our vision is for learning disabled people to be valuable contributors to our culture as artists, workers, participants and audiences. Venture Arts is a visual arts organisation that develops the creative talents and career opportunities of learning disabled people. Web address: [www.venturearts.org](http://www.venturearts.org)

**Castlefield Gallery (CG)** Founded in 1984, CG is one of Northern England's most active and successful organisations/agencies for developing emerging contemporary artists and practice. Its ambitious curated exhibitions programme responds to national and international trends, promoting artists at key stages of their careers, including subsequent Turner Prize nominees/winners and exhibitors at international festivals. Central to CG's activities is an artist development programme including the CG Associates members scheme and the recently launched New Art Spaces. CG's vision is for the North to be where artists can develop work of international standing. Its mission is to nurture talent, explore cultural trends and deepen audience's relationship to contemporary art. Web address: [www.castlefieldgallery.co.uk](http://www.castlefieldgallery.co.uk)

**BALTIC** is a major international centre for contemporary art situated on the south bank of the River Tyne in Gateshead, England and has welcomed over 6 million visitors since opening to the public in July 2002. BALTIC presents a distinctive and ambitious programme of exhibitions and events, and is a world leader in the presentation and commissioning of contemporary visual art. Housed in a landmark ex-industrial building, BALTIC consists of 2,600 square metres of art space, making it the UK's largest dedicated contemporary art institution. Web address: [www.balticmill.com](http://www.balticmill.com) | [www.baltic39.com](http://www.baltic39.com)

The **Contemporary Visual Arts Network (CVAN)** represents and supports a diverse and vibrant visual arts ecology, embracing a broad range of artistic and curatorial practice across the nine English regions. CVAN's ultimate goal is to nurture contemporary visual artists and organisations in order to produce internationally regarded, critically engaged work that is valued by our society. Web address: [www.cvan.org.uk](http://www.cvan.org.uk)