

First Site Gallery 2022 Program

Expression of Interest

We are currently receiving expressions of interest (EOIs) to participate in the First Site Gallery 2022 program. This program is a part of RMIT Culture.

First Site Gallery provides students with a conduit into creative practice. It is independent from RMIT's teaching programs and is a space for students to collaborate, experiment, take risks and learn about presenting works publicly. The gallery is located on Swanston Street in RMIT Storey Hall (Building 16, 344 Swanston St, Melbourne, VIC) and is connected to RMIT Gallery.

It is expected that projects will -

- be either sited physically at the gallery, or alternately sited digitally in an online environment.
- have either a comprehensive or a complementary digital presence (i.e. online programming and resources)
- have an exhibition period of ~3 to 5 weeks.
- (for physically sited projects) require exhibitors to install and deinstall works with support.
- (for physically sited projects) require exhibitors to invigilate a portion of the exhibition period.
- be produced with the support of the Curatorial and Production Teams.
- include fees for all contributors (paid for by RMIT Culture).

If your project differs from these expectations, please contact us to discuss and include a note in your EOI.

ELIGIBILITY

- Projects must be submitted by currently enrolled RMIT students.
- Exhibitors must be emerging or mid-career creative practitioners who are enrolled in an RMIT degree both at the time of expressing interest and at the time of the proposed project.
- Projects can include works previously developed in RMIT Coursework programs, but the proposed presentation of works must not impact academic assessment.
- Group exhibitions of coursework program cohorts will not be considered.
- Projects must occur between February and November 2022.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria upon which a potential project will be assessed includes the following evenly weighted criteria:

- **Quality** - Projects should be critical, innovative and contribute to contemporary cultural and social discourse.
- **Relevance** - Projects should consider their relevance and specific contribution to the University and RMIT Culture Program. Projects which connect to RMIT values, 2022 program priority areas or 2022 festival partnerships (see below) may be preferred.
- **Feasibility** - Projects should have the capacity for timely and quality delivery. Projects with robust digital delivery options or those which are delivered collaboratively may be preferred.

EOI PROCESS

EOIs can be submitted until 11.59pm Sunday 31 October 2021. To submit an EOI for First Site

Gallery, please review the information below and complete the form. EOIs will be assessed in November 2021 and successful applicants will be advised in December 2021. If you have questions about the EOI process or want to discuss your project, please contact Andrew Tetzlaff, Senior Curator, RMIT Culture (andrew.tetzlaff@rmit.edu.au (<mailto:andrew.tetzlaff@rmit.edu.au>))

* Required

Notes regarding the 2022 Program

2022 PROGRAM PRIORITY AREAS

- Projects which promote a diversity of practice, voice and background.
- Projects which contribute to student belonging.
- Projects which generate cross-University and cross-disciplinary conversations.
- Projects which engage with First Nations creatives and practice-based researchers.
- Creative-practice research into social justice, including gender equality, cultural diversity and crime prevention.
- Creative-practice research into sustainability.

2022 FESTIVAL PARTNERSHIPS

- RMIT University is an education partner to PHOTO 2022 International Festival of Photography (www.photo.org.au (<http://www.photo.org.au>)), which will take place from 29 April to 22 May 2022. The curatorial theme is 'BEING HUMAN', and the festival aims to ask questions such as what it means to be alive; what is the human experience today; what lived experiences unite us—and what lived experiences drive us apart? Themes to consider include exploring the human condition through 'Mortality', 'Self', and 'Society'. New projects which connect to this theme, engage with contemporary photographic practice, are available at this period and are interested in being considered as an official exhibition for this festival should note this in their EOI.
- RMIT Culture is a partner to The Big Anxiety Festival 2022 (<https://www.thebiganxiety.org/> (<https://www.thebiganxiety.org/>)), which is scheduled to take place in September and October 2022. The Big Anxiety Festival brings together creative thinkers—including artists, scientists, health and community workers, and people with lived experience—to re-imagine mental health care for the 21st century. Projects which connect to this theme, are available at this period and are interested in being considered for this festival should note this in their EOI.

Expression of Interest Form

Please review and answer the questions below.

1. Primary Contact Name *

2. Primary Contact Email Address *

3. Primary Contact Phone Number *

4. Primary Contact Enrolment *

Please enter the name of the School and the course/degree that you are enrolled in.

5. Project Title (or Working Title)

*

6. Available Project Dates (please tick all that apply) *

- February 2022
- March 2022
- April 2022
- May 2022
- June 2022
- July 2022
- August 2022
- September 2022
- October 2022
- November 2022

7. Potential Project Festival Affiliations

Please review the 2022 Festival Partnerships and tick any which may be appropriate to this project. Please ensure that available project dates (above) match Festival dates.

- PHOTO 2022 - 29 April to 22 May 2022
- The Big Anxiety - September to October 2022

Other

8. Project Type and Size *

First Site Gallery includes 3 project rooms (sized 12.2mx5m; 6.5mx2.5m; and 14.2mx2.8m). If your project is sited at the gallery, please note if it intends to use a single room or multiple rooms. If you are proposing a digital project which will be sited in an online environment, please note it here.

- Digitally sited project - project will be online and not require any project rooms at First Site Gallery
- Physically sited project (small) - project proposed for 1 project room at First Site Gallery
- Physically sited project (medium to large) - project proposed for 2+ project rooms at First Site Gallery

9. Project Proposal *

Provide an overview of the project, including its background or context; what it might look like; what its aims are; and who is the target audience. (max. 300 words)

10. Project Rationale *

Provide a rationale for the project, including why it is relevant; and how it will contribute to University Community or the RMIT Culture program. (max. 300 words)

11. Project Digital Engagement Plan *

Projects will include digital elements and connect with online audiences to varying degrees. Some examples of digital engagements include: live or recorded digital talks, performances and workshops; streaming audio or video resources; digital publications; interactive online sessions or games; and the presentation of native digital artworks and virtual exhibitions. It is expected that digitally sited projects will have a comprehensive digital presence, and that physically sited projects will have a digital presence which complements the exhibition.

Please provide an overview of your project's digital engagement plan and any digital audiences it intends to connect with.

12. Project Contributors *

Note all persons who will contribute to the project. Please include contributor's name, their role (artist, curator, performer, writer, etc.), the program they are enrolled in (BA Fine Art, Master of Landscape Architecture, etc.), their expected program completion year (2022, 2023, etc.), and if they have confirmed that they can participate (confirmed, TBC).

13. Additional Information

If there is anything additional you would like to communicate to us in relation to your Expression of Interest, please note it here.

Support Material

Please note that Support Material must be submitted as a link to an online storage platform (such as MS SharePoint, OneDrive, Google Drive or Dropbox). Attachments can be provided as either a single PDF or as a shared folder of files. Please ensure that Support Material shared links permissions are set such that these files are accessible to anyone with the link. Please note that support material –

- **must contain examples of the contributor's work to be assessed.** Support Material can contain up to 10 images, 3 minutes of video/sound, 3 examples of interactive works, and/or 3 pages of text.
 - image files should be supplied as JPGs. Image filename should include the support material image number, the artist's initials, and the date the works were completed (i.e 01-JS-2015.jpg, 02-JS-2017, etc.)
 - sound and/or video should be supplied as URL links to streaming content (i.e. Vimeo, Soundcloud, etc.). If the link is password protected please note passwords in the list of works.
 - interactive works should be supplied as URL links. If the link is password protected please note passwords in the list of works.
 - text should be supplied as PDF manuscripts.
- **must contain a written list of works** for all images and sound/audio links provided.
 - For image files the list of works should include the image file-name, the artist's name(s), title of work, year work was completed, material or medium, and the size of the work.
 - For sound, video and/or interactive work links, the list of works should include the URL, URL password, the artist's name(s), title of work, year work was completed, and the duration.
- **must contain a short bio or CV for all contributors.** CV's should be a maximum of 1 page each.

14. URL link *

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