

Perspective(s)

Deadline for entries: 18 June 2023

Llantarnam Grange is seeking an artist/maker to work with us and Big Pit National Coal Museum over the next 18 months.

Through engaging with the collections, displays, exhibitions, and communities across both sites, the artists will develop a new project that will look to challenge and disrupt colonial legacies and/or engage in anti-racism.

What is Perspective(s)?

Perspective(s) is a new collaboration between the Arts Council of Wales and Amgueddfa Cymru - Museum Wales, which seeks to bring about a step change on how the visual arts and heritage sector reflects the cultural and ethnic diversity of our society.

Over a two-year period, creative professionals from culturally and ethnically diverse backgrounds will work with the museums and visual arts organizations, to platform untold stories, create artistic responses and act as an agent for change. The programme seeks to challenge current ways of thinking by engaging with communities to explore the visual arts and heritage sector through an anti-racist and decolonial lens.

Who are the Partners?

Llantarnam Grange, Cwmbran

Llantarnam Grange is Cwmbran's centre for Art and Craft. We play a vital role in our community, bringing

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people together, supporting artists and makers, improving health and well-being, to encourage creativity for all.

Llantarnam Grange is a friendly space where everyone is welcome to feel inspired, included, appreciated, and respected.

We host a broad cross section of visual arts, with a strong emphasis on craft, through regular exhibitions and showcases that are free to the public. Our Billboard Gallery brings art outside the gallery walls, removing barriers, and inspiring creativity in the community. Our learning programme makes space for everyone including young people, schools, colleges, older people and community groups.

We aim to bring the transformative power of the arts to as wide an audience as possible and we have remained at the forefront of the artistic and social community in Southeast Wales, reinforcing our position as a valued resource within our local community, regionally and nationally.

Big Pit National Coal Museum, Blaenafon

Big Pit is an award-winning interactive museum that showcasing Wales' rich mining heritage. Set in the Blaenafon Industrial Landscape and designated UNESCO World Heritage Site visitors can experience the sights, sounds, smells, and atmosphere of an authentic coal mine.

The award-winning interactive exhibits and world-famous underground tours enable visitors to follow in the coal miner's footsteps. Led by a miner, the tour takes

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visitors 300ft underground to see what life was like for those who worked at the coal face. On the surface, visitors can enjoy a multi-media tour of a modern coal mine with a virtual miner and exhibitions in the Pithead Baths and Historic colliery buildings. Big Pit National Coal Museum is part of Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales.

Opportunity

You will be expected to:

- Work between Llantarnam Grange and Big Pit National Coal Museum for a total of 100 days.
- Use the collections, displays, and exhibitions as catalysts for their research and wider learning.
- Act as an agent of change and ensure equity in the heritage and arts sectors.
- Participate / lead community engagement activities, for a range of age groups and abilities.
- Help to develop processes, and new ways of working, that are democratic and intersectional.
- Share work in progress and final outcomes across both sites and online.
- Be actively involved in the project's planning and evaluation*

The project that is developed is expected to:

- Decolonise public spaces.
- Challenge organisations / institutions.
- Engage with local history and the buildings of both sites.

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- Consider and challenge how colonialism, slavery, and Empire are presented within the collections, displays, and exhibitions.

* You will be required to contribute to the planning and evaluation process throughout the course of the programme.

To assess the impact of the Perspective(s) programme the following six building blocks will be used in the evaluation process:

Space - To decolonise public spaces, such as museum and galleries.

Community - Facilitate deeper and wider community engagement.

Learning - To use collections, displays and exhibitions as catalysts for learning, especially in relation to colonialism, slavery, and Empire.

Creative Practitioner Development - To facilitate the development of Creative Professionals from culturally and ethnically diverse backgrounds.

Sector Development - To develop visual arts organisations and a heritage sector in Wales that is actively anti-racist and more intersectional.

Democratise and Decolonise - To develop processes and new ways of working that are democratic and intersectional working towards an anti-racist arts and heritage sector

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Eligibility

This opportunity is open to applicants who:

- Are based anywhere in Wales.
- Are culturally and ethnically diverse**
- Use craft within their practice, this could be textiles, ceramics, woodwork, metalwork, or more (please specify). We are open to application from makers who also incorporate written or spoken word, digital or other mediums within their work.
- Who are socially and politically engaged who can work with both National Museum Big Pit and Llantarnam Grange to; challenge and disrupt colonial legacies and/or engage in anti-racism through potential exhibitions, displays, events, or performance.
- Can work with a range of ages to develop and deliver community engagement activities***
- Supports the values of Llantarnam Grange
- (Placemaking, Legacy, Aspirational, Creativity, Equity)

**We define 'culturally and ethnically diverse' as:

Anyone from the African, Asian, Caribbean, Hispanic, Latino, Eastern European or Middle Eastern diaspora in Wales

Anyone who identifies as being from an ethnic group that is not exclusively White.

Anyone from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities

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***Community engagement activities will be supported by Llantarnam Grange, see below.

What is on offer?

You will receive:

- A fee of **£25,000** for 100 days of work, to be concluded by March 2025.
- A travel budget, if necessary.
- The opportunity to share the progress of their work publicly in our Community Art Space, Poster Gallery, and online.
- Support and training opportunities from Llantarnam Grange (details below)
- There will also be the opportunity to share any final outcomes in a larger event or exhibition, this could take place in Gallery 1, Gallery 2, or in our Billboard Gallery.

Llantarnam Grange will provide support and care for the selected artist/maker through:

- A dedicated member of staff as the main contact / pastoral lead
- Trustee Naseem Syed as a volunteer pastoral lead
- Practical support, mentoring, and training to help deliver creative engagement activities.

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- A phased introduction to Big Pit National Coal Museum with Llantarnam Grange staff.
- Wellbeing check ins with pastoral lead.
- The opportunity to attend staff and freelancer wellbeing craft sessions.
- Access to staff who are mental health first aid trained.
- Network opportunities, including the opportunity to participate in our regular Artist Meets sessions.
- Training opportunities, including access to attend People Make It Work's [Creative Transformation programme](#).

Key Dates

- Application Deadline: Sunday 18th June 5pm
- Interview will be held in the week of 26 June
- We aim to notify applicants by 7 July
- National Museum Networking event with all Perspective(s) partners on 12th July at Chapter, Cardiff
- National Museum Online Meeting for all Perspective(s) artists 19th July (half day)
- End of project: March 2025

If these dates have to change, we will inform all applicants at the earliest opportunity.

Continued...

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How do I apply?

Fill in our online application [here](#).

<https://form.jotform.com/231353792256358>

This includes:

- 200 words about your practice
- 200 words on why you want to take part in the Perspective(s) program
- 200 words on why you want to work with Big Pit National Coal Museum and Llantarnam Grange
- 400 words on your experience working on anti-racist/de-colonising projects and engaging with community groups/individuals
- 150 words on any specific support you will need in this project
- Up to 5 images or links to your work.

The maximum file size for upload is 10MB.

Please complete your application by **Sunday 18 June 2023**.

If you would like to apply in an alternative format such as a video please get in touch.

If you have any questions about Perspective(s), the process, or just simply want to talk about your application or ideas,

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then please get in touch with our Exhibitions Officer Savanna Dumelow at: savanna.dumelow@llantarnamgrange.com

Alternatively, you can call us on **01633 483321**

Savanna works part time (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am-4pm)

We are aware that deadlines can be daunting and difficult to reach for reasons beyond our control. If you feel that you like to apply, but for whatever reason you will not make the deadline, please get in touch and we will be happy to informally and confidentially discuss a plan.

Good luck!