

**Call for Applications: Artists' International Delegation 2018, Budapest
17–24 March 2018**

Castlefield Gallery & a-n The Artists Information Company

Open to contemporary visual artists living and/or working in the North West of England

Application deadline: 12 noon, Monday 22 January 2018

Introduction

a-n The Artists Information Company and Castlefield Gallery have shared interests and a long history of collaboration, working together on a range of projects to support artists' professional practice.

From 2017 to 2019 a-n and Castlefield Gallery will work in partnership to develop artists' support and talent development in Greater Manchester and the North West of England. The organisations will work together to strengthen their role and presence in the North West, raising awareness about the support they provide alongside developing new initiatives driven by local artists' needs.

Building on the successful 'GóbéArt: Reappraising Folk and the Contemporary' panel discussion at Castlefield Gallery as part of 2016's Transylvanian Hungarian Festival of Art and Culture, the organisations will provide the opportunity for a group of artists to visit Budapest in March 2018.

The sharp political shift to the right in Hungary in 2012 has had a huge impact on its cultural infrastructure and opportunities for artists, with cuts and an increase in governmental and media control over what and who is funded. This has strongly impacted on the sustainability of artists' practices and their networks. In response there has been an increase in artist-led activity and activism in Budapest over the last 5 years.

The delegation will provide North West-based artists with valuable insight into working and sustaining an arts practice in the context of political, social and economic change. This will inform the theme of 'radical places, radical times' being explored in Castlefield's programme in 2018 and 2019, and is particularly relevant within the context of national politics, Brexit, and developing city policies.

The delegation will travel by train, enabling a stop-off in, and exploration, of Munich. Travelling by rail supports both Castlefield Gallery and a-n's commitment to low carbon and climate change agendas.

Aims of the delegation

- To enable cultural exchange between artists on an international, and particularly European, basis enabling experience of one another's practices, ideas and cultures.
- To share strategies for, and insights into, sustaining artistic practices in the face of political, social and economic change.
- To explore and encourage medium to long-term opportunities for in-depth collaboration and exchange between the UK and Hungary, and to forge relationships through which to achieve this.
- To encourage peer learning and networking between the North West of England and Budapest.
- To share learning with wider artist networks, and to benefit the wider arts and cultural sector in the UK.
- To develop critical/practical resources for the benefit of a-n's broader membership, CG Associate members and both organisations' wider network of artists, curators and writers.
- To test models of international travel and exchange for artists that support a commitment to low carbon and climate change agendas.

How is the delegation supported?

The Artists' International Delegation 2018 to Budapest is supported by a-n The Artists Information Company and Castlefield Gallery's Lee Artists' International Bursary Fund.

The Lee Artists' International Bursary Fund (LAIBF) was established to mark the end of Kwong Lee's eleven-year Directorship of Castlefield Gallery (2005 - 2016). LAIBF will fund four delegation places for artists living and/or working in the North West region.

a-n The Artists Information Company will fund four delegation places for current a-n Artist Members or Joint (Artist and Arts Organiser) Members living and/or working in the North West.

Interested in applying?

Who can & how to apply: please read FAQs below and carefully note the eligibility criteria

What: Artists' International Delegation 2018 to Budapest

When: 17-24 March 2018 inclusive

Deadline: 12 noon, Monday 22 January 2018

Applicants notified: Wednesday 31 January 2018

Applications accepted from now until 12 noon, Monday 22 January 2018.

For those with access needs interested in applying, please contact associates@castlefieldgallery.co.uk or call 0161 832 8034 and ask for Jane Lawson.

Please note Castlefield Gallery's offices will be closed from Saturday 23 December 2017–Tuesday 2 January 2018 inclusive.

Overview

Castlefield Gallery and a-n The Artists Information Company are offering eight artists the opportunity to be part of the Artists' International Delegation to Budapest in March 2018.

The delegation will travel by train via Munich, using the journey as a short-burst residency to learn more about contemporary and historical Europe. We will break the journey with an overnight stay in Munich, visiting galleries and artist-led projects such as [Kunstraum](#), [Lothringer 13](#) and [Freiraum 16](#).

The group will then take the night train from Munich to Budapest and spend five days visiting and connecting with galleries and artist-run projects such as the [Mucsarnok Kunsthalle Budapest](#), [Puccs Contemporary Art](#), [Budapest Art Factory](#), [Muszi](#), [AQB residency centre](#) and the artists' town of Szentendre.

The visit is being co-ordinated by Jane Lawson, the CG Associates Co-ordinator, who will lead the visit alongside a member of the a-n team.

Logistics

Each artist will receive a per diem of £40 per day for the eight-day trip, as well as accommodation and return travel from Manchester to Budapest. For artists who don't live in the city, we will provide Friday night accommodation in Manchester in order to catch the 7:15am train to London on Saturday 17 March 2018 or, where possible, direct train travel to and from London in order to connect with the Eurostar. We arrive back in London at 16:05 on Saturday 24 March 2018.

Accommodation in Budapest will be a centrally-located large apartment in the Oktogon district, with shared rooms (with between 2-4 beds per room) and shared bathrooms. The apartment is on the second floor and has no lift. Where possible, we will provide single sex rooms. Accommodation in Munich will be dorm rooms in a hostel.

NB. All artists must provide **and evidence** their own travel insurance and up-to-date EHIC card before their place on the trip can be confirmed; we strongly recommend that you [apply for your EHIC card](#) as soon as possible in order not to delay confirmation. After notification of your successful application, the deadline to provide evidence is: **12 noon Wednesday 7 February 2018**. This should be sent to Jane Lawson, CG Associates Co-ordinator, associates@castlefieldgallery.co.uk

If this information is not supplied by the deadline the offer of a place on the delegation will be withdrawn.

FAQs

1. **Who can apply? - eligibility criteria**
2. **How to apply**
3. **Key dates**
4. **What is the selection process?**
5. **What can't be supported?**
6. **Conditions and notes**
7. **Further information**

1. Who can apply? – eligibility criteria

The Lee Artists' International Bursary Fund (LAIBF) was established to mark the end of Kwong Lee's eleven-year Directorship of Castlefield Gallery (2005 - 2016). LAIBF will fund four delegation places for artists living and/or working in the North West region. Applicants for these four places do not need to be a member of a-n or CG Associates.

a-n The Artists Information Company will fund four delegation places for current a-n Artist Members or Joint (Artist and Arts Organiser) Members living and/or working in the North West region.

The North West region is defined as the counties of Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside. Artists whose primary place of residence or studio address is within the above counties are eligible to apply for this opportunity. In your application you will be asked to provide a full postal address for your place of residence and/or studio.

Exclusions and requirements

- Successful applicants will be required to contribute to an output/blog response for the a-n website to share their experience with the wider membership. a-n will also be programming coverage of the delegation on a-n News for which your writing/responses may be re-presented.
- You will be required to be available for pre-delegation communications.

- Applicants must be available to attend for the full period of the delegation; partial attendance will not be considered or accepted.
- You will be required, and must confirm agreement in your application, to engage and take part in post-delegation evaluation.
- We will not consider applications from those currently engaged in full-time education.
- Any incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline of 12 noon on Monday 22 January 2018 will be ineligible.

2. How to apply

Send the following 3 pdf files to associates@castlefieldgallery.co.uk with 'Budapest Delegation' in the email header, or by post (postal address below):

1. Your application form saved as a pdf (with your name first in title, e.g. Freda_Bloggs_Budapest_Delegation_Application)
2. Your up-to-date CV including links to relevant websites (in 1 pdf file, with your name first in the title e.g. Freda_Bloggs_CV)
3. A completed **diversity monitoring form** (in 1 pdf file, with your name first in the title e.g. Freda_Bloggs_DMform)

Postal address: Castlefield Gallery, 2 Hewitt Street, Manchester M15 4GB

Applications must be submitted by 12 noon, Monday 22 January 2018.

3. Key Dates

Deadline for Applications: 12 noon, Monday 22 January 2018

Applicants notified: Wednesday 31 January 2018

Deadline for successful applicants to provide evidence of their own travel insurance and up-to-date EHIC card: 12 noon, Wednesday 7 February 2018

Delegation: 17-24 March 2018 inclusive

4. What is the selection process?

Bursary applicants will be reviewed against the following criteria:

- Demonstrating how participating in the delegation will be valuable to their artistic and professional development, taking into account the aims of the delegation.
- Demonstrating how their network of peers might benefit from their participation in the delegation, taking into account the aims of the delegation.

The selection panel will be made up of Castlefield Gallery and a-n staff as follows:

- Helen Wewiora, Director, Castlefield Gallery
- Jane Lawson, CG Associates Co-ordinator, Castlefield Gallery
- Jeanie Scott, CEO, a-n The Artists Information Company
- Hannah Pierce, External Programmes and Partnerships Manager, a-n The Artists Information Company

The decision to award or not is at the discretion of Castlefield Gallery and a-n The Artists Information Company. Outcomes of the decision-making process will be final and will be based on a scoring and balancing process.

5. Conditions

- In submitting an application, you confirm you meet the eligibility criteria and are not excluded by any of the exclusions listed above.
- We unfortunately cannot provide support to develop applications or feedback on unsuccessful applications.
- All artists must provide **and evidence** their own travel insurance and up-to-date EHIC card before their place on the trip can be confirmed; we strongly recommend that you [apply for your EHIC card](#) as soon as possible in order not to delay confirmation. After notification of your successful application, the deadline to provide this evidence will be: **12 noon Wednesday 7 February 2018**, to be supplied to Jane Lawson, CG Associates Co-ordinator, associates@castlefieldgallery.co.uk

If this information is not supplied by the deadline the offer of a place on the delegation will be withdrawn.