



**York
Mediale
2018**

Art, meet the future.
27.09.18 - 06.10.18
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STILL WE RISE: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Background & Context:

York Mediale is a new international digital art festival which will bring world premiere commissions from leading artists to the city of York, UK and provide a brand new platform for the best emerging talent to showcase their art.

Through incorporating technologies into their works, artists of all kinds will challenge, provoke, interrogate and celebrate our cities, our landscapes and our lives.

It will confront our thinking about what art is and can be, when brought together with technology and media, and celebrate the UK's first, and only, UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts.

This biennial event will offer opportunities for collaboration between artists, curators, businesses and educators throughout 2018, culminating in a 10 day programme of exhibitions, performances, lectures, workshops and much more, from 27th September - 6th October 2018. These events will mark and celebrate York's status as the UK's first, and only, UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts.

Introduction:

We are delighted to announce that York Mediale, the 2018 media arts biennial, UNESCO Creative Cities of Media Arts, and the British Council's Creative Economy team are launching a call for proposals by female digital artists, with installations and projects that they would like to be presented in York, 27th September to 6th October 2018. We will select and invite between 6 and 8 works. We are seeking applications from projects led by female, non-binary, or femme-identifying artists, technologists, researchers, engineers and cultural producers based in:

- Austria (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Linz)
- Canada (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Toronto)
- China (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Changsha)
- France (via UNESCO Creative Cities of Media Arts, Lyon & Enghien-les-Bains)
- Israel (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Tel Aviv)
- Japan (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Sapporo)
- Kenya
- Mauritius
- Mexico (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Guadalajara)
- Mozambique
- Portugal (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Braga)

- Senegal (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Dakar)
- Slovakia (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Košice)
- South Africa
- South Korea (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Gwangju)
- USA (via UNESCO Creative City of Media Arts, Austin)

Outline:

The nominated work needs to be by a female, non-binary, or femme-identifying artist / collective, can be categorised broadly as 'media art' in its form, and in some way, critically or otherwise, deals with social and/or political concerns relevant to their own context.

A number of in depth interviews with Maya Angelou drawn from the 'Studs Terkel' archive, will form part of the curatorial framing of the exhibition. Maya Angelou (1928 - 2014) was an acclaimed American poet, storyteller, autobiographer and civil rights activist.

The exhibition title, "Still We Rise" is inspired by Maya Angelou's 1978 poem "Still I Rise". The poem urged the importance of reigniting self-worth in order to fight against oppressions. Today inequalities remain rife and even permeate the technologies that pervade our lives - from a holocaust denying twitter bot, to the gendered labour of artificial intelligence. In this context, "Still We Rise" will examine the systems which perpetuate inequalities from the perspective and locale of an international group of women, non-binary, femme-identifying people.

"Still We Rise" will ask what systems - visible and hidden - do we need to rise up against or beyond today? What is invisible or absent and needs to be seen or heard? And by whom?

Proposal process:

- Submissions must be sent to stillwerise@yorkmediale.com by **09:00 GMT on Friday 20th July**.
- Submissions should comprise 3 documents:
 - a written proposal, outlining the idea/installation, what sort of venue is required, and the thematic focus of the work - maximum 3 pages
 - Links to, or a summary of, artist portfolio
 - Budget and production timeline

Logistics and commission structure:

- We will select and invite at least 4 works from UNESCO Creative Cities of Media Arts
- Invited projects will receive a commission fee of £1,000 GBP, travel to York for install (2 people per project) and the festival opening, and local production/realisation, up to £2,000 GBP per project