

2023 METRO ARTS + BRISBANE FESTIVAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Metro Arts

**BRISBANE
FESTIVAL**

OVERVIEW

Metro Arts is partnering with Brisbane Festival to present a visual arts project at our West Village galleries from 1 – 23 September 2023, as part of the Festival.

This open Call for Proposals invites artists to apply to be a part of this program, with suitably ambitious visual arts projects that align with the goals and curation of both Metro Arts and Brisbane Festival.

Please read on for further information.





ABOUT METRO ARTS AND BRISBANE FESTIVAL

Metro Arts is developing the future of Australian contemporary arts practice, now.

At Metro Arts we:

- Develop and co-present contemporary arts
- Create and champion quality contemporary arts
- Professionally and artistically develop, challenge and support artists
- Nurture existing audiences and develop new audiences
- Unite artists and their work with these audiences

Visit our website for more information: <https://metroarts.com.au/>

Brisbane Festival is the city's largest annual cultural event, with an expansive, international, multi-arts program. The Festival presents its program across numerous sites throughout Brisbane, including the West Village precinct, where Metro Arts is based.

Visit the Brisbane Festival website for further information:

<https://www.brisbanefestival.com.au/>

As part of an ongoing partnership, Metro Arts and Brisbane Festival have co-presented a visual arts program at Metro Arts' West Village galleries during the Festival since 2020. This has included interactive works by Hiromi Tango, Sally Golding and Tara Pattenden, as well as newly commissioned work by Kinly Grey, Susan Hawkins, Aishla Manning, Ross Manning and Sarah Poulgrain, in partnership with Traction and JCDecaux. Metro Arts and Brisbane Festival are excited to open up the 2023 iteration of this partnership to an open call for proposals. The programmed work will be exhibited at the Metro Arts' galleries and will be a vital and vibrant part of the broader programming of the Brisbane Festival at the West Village precinct.

METRO ARTS GALLERIES

In 2020, Metro Arts relocated from 109 Edward St in the Brisbane CBD to the West Village precinct at West End. At West Village, Metro Arts has three distinct gallery spaces in our new home on the ground floor of Factory Lane at West Village, West End.

Proposals for this program should activate all **three galleries**.

- **Gallery One** measures 60m² and is a rectangular white-walled space. The space has two potential configurations via an operable wall.
- **Configuration A** is a clear 60m² space with limited natural light, which can also be blocked entirely for completely regulated lighting within the space. This is the default configuration.
- **Configuration B** divides the space into two smaller spaces. With one space measuring 40m² and another space measuring 25m². In this configuration, the larger space is opened up to incorporate a 4-metre glass façade, bringing abundant natural light into the space.
- **Gallery Two** measures 20m² and is a rectangular space particularly suited to video works or intimate encounters with small-scale works. The space currently has black walls.
- **Window Gallery** is a 5m² space that incorporates a four metre glass façade facing onto Factory Lane. The space cannot be entered by the public, but is on constant public view. The space is approximately one metre deep and is backed by a white-wall. As such, the Window Gallery is particularly suited to wall-mounted works or sculptural works hung in the space, but certainly not limited to this. The space is adjacent to Gallery One (please refer to plans).

Plans and Images of the Gallery can be accessed here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1oEdvGkba9ACb-k3zl03h7yGHbU1RR5GB?usp=sharing>

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Metro Arts and Brisbane Festival are committed to engaging with a diverse range of artists within our programs and encourage applications from members of the creative community across spectrums of ability, age, race, gender identity and sexual orientation. Metro Arts has officially adopted the “Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts” which can be viewed here.

<https://australiacouncil.gov.au/investment-and-development/protocols-and-resources/protocols-for-using-first-nations-cultural-and-intellectual-property-in-the-arts/>

Brisbane Festival’s Indigenous Advisory Group is informed by the Australia Council Protocols.

Metro Arts and Brisbane Festival welcome proposals from early career through to established practitioners. This program is open to artists, artist collectives and curators working across any aspect of the visual arts, including sculpture, installation, moving image, painting, drawing, digital media, sound, photography and live art.

This call for proposals is open to Queensland and interstate applicants. Artists based outside of Brisbane should consider the practical requirements of travel and transport when considering the program and fee, as detailed below.

WHAT ARE METRO ARTS AND BRISBANE FESTIVAL LOOKING FOR?

The successful application will clearly meet the following requirements:

- A family-friendly approach to the exhibition that will engage a wide, non-specialist art audience
- Inclusion of participatory components in the exhibition, potentially including workshops or other public programming
- An engagement with contemporary art practices/contexts
- Openness to critical engagement
- Development of emergent practices or new directions within established practices
- New work or adaptations of existing work that is achievable within the timeline and budget of the program (as detailed below)

Please Note:

Metro Arts and Brisbane Festival will not program exhibitions from its Open Call that are part of Masters or PhD examination requirements, or which fulfil the obligations of an external course or degree.

If you plan to realise your exhibition in partnership with another organisation or event, please indicate this on your application.

WHAT METRO ARTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BRISBANE FESTIVAL WILL PROVIDE

- An artist fee of \$14,000. This is all-inclusive and includes any associated production, logistical costs and so on, as detailed in the program participant responsibilities below.
- Use of the Metro Arts Galleries. The proposed dates, including installation, deinstallation and the exhibition period are 14 August – 1 October, 2023. The exhibition will need to open on the first day of the Brisbane Festival, 1 September 2023.
- Access to the Galleries during the installation period from 9am - 11pm.
- Metro Arts has a range of audio-visual equipment, including projectors and monitors that are available free of charge for exhibitors, subject to availability. Staff can also assist in potentially securing additional equipment but cannot guarantee this. If you have very specific or extensive requirements, please detail this in your proposal, along with your plans for sourcing this equipment.
- Marketing support for your Exhibition (most promotion and communication is delivered electronically)
- Advice and support from Metro Arts and Brisbane Festival staff; including curatorial support and professional development
- Hosting of an Opening event

Please Note: Gallery opening hours will be determined closer to the exhibition date and are subject to change from current exhibition hours.

PROGRAM PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Transportation, installation, de-installation and insurance for loss and/or damage of artwork
- Providing high quality images of your work for promotion, in addition to providing all necessary information for promotion of the exhibition to marketing deadlines
- Liaising with Metro Arts for contractual arrangements and use of venue and equipment
- Adhering to the rules and policies specified in the contract and following the direction of Brisbane Festival and Metro Arts' staff with respect to venue use
- Providing written evaluation of the project within six weeks of the project's conclusion
- Sourcing specialised equipment should it be required for your project
- Attending the opening is strongly encouraged
- Program participants must have Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$20 million

HOW TO APPLY

Applications should be submitted via the online application form. Access the form here:

<https://forms.gle/3UVtQVoCBpZXxn3aZ>

This form also requests that **three attachments** are uploaded

1. Proposal document (2-3 pages) that explicitly addresses the following:

- A clear and concise description of the work and the ideas that inform this
- A succinct statement on your existing work and the relationship of this proposal to your broader practice and its development
- Indication of participatory aspects of the proposed exhibition
- Basic details of any proposed public programs, such as workshops or other activities, that will be a part of, or extension of, the exhibition
- If the exhibition is planned to be realised with external partnerships or organisational support, please provide details
- If you are an interstate applicant, please provide consideration of the feasibility of, and requirements for, remote installation of your exhibition, if required
- Any specific equipment or installation requirements for the work

2. Curriculum Vitae for each artist participating in the program

- 1-2 page CV outlining key relevant artistic activities

3. Support Material

- Support material should provide the assessors with a clear picture of the work to be exhibited or of previous works relevant to this project
- Support material is to be uploaded as a single pdf and can include images, links to video or sound samples, as well as proposed plans for installation or other relevant material
- Digital images should be restricted to a maximum of 12, and video or sound samples should total a maximum of 10 minutes
- If this is indicative work and not the work to be featured in the exhibition, provide a brief description of the relationship between your support material and the proposed project
- Images can be embedded in the pdf or provided via links. Video and sound material should be provided only as links. The links should direct to specific material and not just to the homepage of the artist's website. If there are issues in linking to this material, please contact Metro Arts

Please use the following file naming convention when uploading your attachments: 'Applicant Surname, Applicant First Name_Project Name_Attachment Name'.

For example

- 'Smith, Lesley_The Art Project_Program Proposal'
- 'Smith, Lesley_The Art Project_Key Creatives'
- 'Smith, Lesley_The Art Project_Support Material'

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications will be assessed by relevant staff from both Brisbane Festival and Metro Arts, including the respective Artistic Directors of these organisations, Louise Bezzina and Jo Thomas.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE:

SUNDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2023, 11:59PM.

Applications should be submitted via the online application form:

<https://forms.gle/3UVtQVoCBpZXxn3a7>

All attachments should be uploaded to the application form as PDFs using the file naming convention outlined above.

NOTIFICATION

You will be notified on the outcome of your application by Monday 5 March 2023.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about this special application process, please contact Metro Arts on (07) 3002 7100 or email:

Metro Arts Exhibition Program Curator | Kyle Weise kyle@metroarts.com.au



Image: Hiromi Tango, Rainbow Magic, 2020. Installation View, Metro Arts. Photograph by Joe Ruckli

