

FAULT LINES - Call for Artists

FutureEverything is delighted to announce the opening of the application period for FAULT LINES, a landmark talent development and commissioning programme supported by Arts Council England through its Ambition for Excellence scheme.

FAULT LINES will support the creation of new works by artists which contribute to the dialogue between technology, innovation, culture and society. The programme will encourage work across artforms and sectors, exploring specifically how artists can have an impact on innovation in the technology sector.

This exciting opportunity offers **up to 5 artists support for a period of 2 years** in the development of their careers, and includes a number of opportunities to commission new artistic works as part of major innovation projects, such as CityVerve, the UK's Internet of Things demonstrator, as arranged by FutureEverything. Selected artists will also have the opportunity to present their work as touring projects with our international partners, and have the opportunity to access other forms of support, including paid work opportunities such as workshops and consulting, and dedicated studio and/or desk space at FutureEverything's HQ. Selected artists will additionally receive mentoring from an Advisory Council, comprised of curators, industry experts and entrepreneurs.

Research funding structures are recognising the beneficial role artists have in cross disciplinary environments; the European Commission is introducing new technology funding calls that require the presence of artists as active agents, and are launching new programmes to support the collaboration between artists and the innovation ecosystem. The final goal of the programme is to develop new forms of sustainability for the creative practice of digital artists working today, encouraging cross sector collaboration and providing resources for art from beyond the arts. FAULT LINES will reimagine the studio for the 21st century new media art generation.

FAULT LINES: Who can apply?

We are looking for creators actively crossing the boundaries between art, design, science and innovation. Artists who, through their work, are opening up new dimensions and forging new visions of the role of technology in the future of society. They must be enthusiastic about cross disciplinary research and interested in developing their practice, working hand in hand with practitioners from other fields.

We are interested in applications from a diverse group of artists at different stages of their career, with practises spanning art forms and medium.

Are you:

- An early career or emerging artist looking for career development and mentoring?
- An established artist with an interest in integrating new technologies into your practise?
- An artist or practitioner with an international and mature practise that is interested in taking a new, exciting direction in their career?

Then we'd love to hear from you!

Selected artists will explore the social impact of emerging technological trends in their projects, this ranges from the Internet of Things and the role of connected objects in everyday life to the transformation of the city through new urban technologies; algorithms as new agents of decision making to the cultural and social applications of Artificial Intelligence and machine learning. One of these numerous opportunities will fall within CityVerve, a £10 million project using Internet of Things (IoT) and smart city technology to enhance the wellbeing of citizens.

All selected participants are expected to be able to develop work to a high professional standard and with intellectual rigour.

Applicants must be UK based or UK nationals based abroad. We actively encourage applications from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) creators, and applicants with a disability. We would also welcome applications from those who currently have caring responsibilities.

FAULT LINES: What are the benefits?

Artists selected to be part of the programme will have access to different forms of career development, ranging from commission of new pieces to the presentation of existing projects in affiliated international events and institutions.

Other benefits include other paid work opportunities, such as from workshops and consultancy, and the opportunity for free, dedicated studio and/or desk space for use during the programme. Mentorship, access to the FAULT LINES Advisory Council, and extensive networking opportunities will also be available for the participants.

What you can offer	What you might benefit from
Become an active and enthusiastic member of the community and participate in a workshop programme.	Access to opportunities for art commissions and/or paid commercial work using your creative skills. Free, dedicated studio and/or desk space at FutureEverything's HQ.
Making yourself available for cohort meetings and to attend commissioning site visits / pitches / opportunities / conferences.	Travel and related expenses for cohort meetings and to attend commissioning site visits / pitches / opportunities / conferences.
Peer support to other artists (to be defined).	Peer support from other artists (to be defined).
Blog posts.	Information and insights.
Openness to the idea your current work can be expanded in the context of new collaborators, producers or opportunities.	Possible opportunities to tour/install existing or expanded work via FutureEverything networks.
First option on presenting your new work at the FutureEverything 2018 Festival or international partners.	Poll position for inclusion of your practice / work in the FutureEverything 2018 Festival and international touring.
Be advocates for other artists in the cohort and help generate visibility for their work through your networks.	Marketing and communications support and resourcing.

An open mind to working with or alongside collaborators from different industry sectors.	New ways of thinking about links with other industries and how to demonstrate the impact and value of your work outside the arts.
Your time, energy and enthusiasm.	A fee for some aspects of your time.

Specific opportunities for the artist cohort include:

- The opportunity to apply for two new public artwork commissions with a total budget (creation, production, producing and presentation) each of £50,000 to be developed as part of the CityVerve Project. This opportunity is exclusively for members of the FAULT LINES artist’s cohort, and will not be offered externally. These commissions will be impactful interventions exploring the potential of the Internet of Things to engage communities. The projects will bring to life, animate and question the social issues and technologies deployed under the Internet of Things paradigm.
- As part of CityVerve, selected artists may gain access to brand new and emerging technologies from the industrial and commercial sector that would not normally be accessible. Participants will be funded to take part in a workshop that will introduce them to the technologies and use cases in CityVerve.
- FutureEverything will actively pursue opportunities to present new and existing work in institutions and events globally, through our network of international touring partners. Recent FutureEverything projects have been presented in events such as Sónar Festival (Spain), as part of an ongoing collaboration during the last 3 years, FutureEverything Singapore (Singapore), Today’s Art (Netherlands), Signal Festival (Czech Republic), FutureEverything Moscow (Russia) and others.
- Upcoming opportunities through European Commission programmes in which FutureEverything is a funded partner. (Details to be announced).
- Other opportunities for paid work for artists include workshops, talks and presentations delivered to both commercial and third sector clients.

- In order to assist the selected artists in developing new business strategies and accessing additional sources of funding beyond the art world, they will receive mentoring and support from our Board of Advisors, comprising key members from our networks in culture, science, technology, and infrastructure, to advise on future potential funding and touring options.
- Mentoring and support from international festival curators and professionals through cohort workshop sessions.

FAULT LINES: How to apply

The deadline for applications is 10am Wednesday 9th November.

- Equal Opportunities Monitoring form
- Artist Statement (1000 words maximum)
- Bio / CV

Questions for applicants:

- Q1: How would participation in this programme benefit your practise and career? (250 words)
- Q2: What do you see yourself achieving over the 2 years of the programme? (250 words)
- Q3: What do you feel you can contribute to the programme? (250 words)
- Portfolio: Link(s) to your website or relevant video(s)

Link to application form:

<https://futureeverything.wufoo.com/forms/fault-lines-call-for-artists-application-form/>

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I need to relocate to Manchester?

No, though a number of meetups, events and meetings will take place in Manchester. FutureEverything will also create working spaces for artists that wish to use them at our base in Manchester Science Park.

How much time will I need to commit to the location specific aspects of the programme?

This will be dependant on the final structure of the programme as it develops, and will be confirmed with participating applicants.

How much time will I need to commit to collaborative and meeting aspects of the programme?

As this is not a location specific programme, FutureEverything will setup and manage an online collaborative environment (e.g. Slack) which we will expect all participants to contribute to and use to stay in contact with other members of the cohort. We will arrange opportunities for the cohort to meet, and dates will be confirmed to suit majority of the participants.

Can I apply as a collective of artists?

Yes, however you will be considered one artist entity of those selected.

What artistic freedom will I have, and what will the crediting be? Will I own my own work within this programme?

All intellectual property rights for commissions will belong to the artist, as well as subsequent work, including artwork, blog posts, and anything else created during the period of the programme. FutureEverything will act in a representative role, aiming to find venues and touring opportunities for works created within the programme. Artists will have complete artistic freedom, although we do ask artists to respond to specific briefs and themes as they arise.