

**Participatory commission for creative practitioner  
to welcome communities back to Royal Museums Greenwich**

<p>Royal Museums Greenwich</p>	<p>Royal Museums Greenwich comprises the Royal Observatory, Cutty Sark, National Maritime Museum, Queen’s House and Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre. Together we’re dedicated to enriching people’s understanding of the sea, the exploration of space, and Britain's role in world history. Royal Museums Greenwich, along with the rest of the world, has been navigating these past few months through unprecedented and challenging times.</p> <p>As we look to the future and the gradual reopening of our sites, we are thinking about how to welcome our valued stakeholders and participants in this post Covid-19 world. In consideration of the current Black Lives Matter movement, it is also essential for us to re-evaluate and challenge our past museum practices and to communicate our values and commitment towards a more equitable society.</p>
<p>The Project: The New Welcome</p>	<p>This project aims to deliver a dynamic and inclusive welcome illustrating our values as a Museum, to open dialogue and representation of all identities. In doing this we want the lived experience of an artist of African or Caribbean heritage to inform the framework within which we create a welcome back to our communities.</p> <p>As we start the gradual reopening of Royal Museums Greenwich sites in Greenwich, we want to use our spaces to bring people back together, to renew and to rebuild. We are proposing to create a series of opportunities for community expression so we can listen and reimagine the future. This invitation to share voices is proposed with the aim of reflecting on the national, local and global experience, sharing positive ideas for the future and to capture the moment of a nation coming together again.</p> <p>The Covid-19 lockdown has provided a time for reflection, it has brought forward a recognition of inequality that is threaded through our society. As we emerge from this difficult time we have the ambition of using this opportunity to collaborate and consult with our visitors and local communities and to create a dynamic expression of what Royal Museums Greenwich offers everyone to relate meaningfully with one another.</p> <p>We aim to extend this welcome from the National Maritime Museum, Cutty Sark and Royal Observatory and the Queen’s House – with a different approach for each site based on the unique opportunity each offers (please see below opportunities for displays on site).</p>
<p>The opportunity:</p>	<p>We are seeking a creative practitioner, or artists collective, with experience in a public participatory practice, to produce a framework for co-curated display(s) which will ‘dress’ our sites as a statement of invigoration and inspiration for reopening, one that has the potential to evolve over the summer months as the nation adjusts to its new way of life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This project is focused on creating an inclusive, collaborative, community response.</li> <li>- The desired outcome is to evoke ‘Togetherness’ sharing multiple perspectives on lived experiences of communities living a distinct island community.</li> <li>- The project will collate responses from a local and national invitation for collaboration and contribution to building an inclusive moment of programming that engages with the shared experience of the breaking down of barriers to meet the challenges of Covid-19.</li> </ul>

	<p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Accessible drawing format: Producing a template that can be distributed to local community groups, residents and schools</li> <li>- A pre-recorded artist-led online workshop to provide context to the invitation and demonstrate the process</li> <li>- The co-curated installation would begin on the Cutty Sark and be an evolving framework for the National Maritime Museum, Queen’s House, Royal Observatory, enabling different themes to be addressed.</li> <li>- The display will be temporary and evolve as all the sites reopen, the messaging and approach will help inform future thinking around programme.</li> </ul>
<p>Aims and objectives of the project:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create an innovative and inclusive welcome back statement for audiences</li> <li>• To reflect on how society has endured the Covid-19 pandemic and provide a moment of Togetherness and shared experiences</li> <li>• To create an accessible opportunity for consultation around the future of the Museum with local residents and communities of identity.</li> <li>• To communicate Royal Museums Greenwich’s values and commitments to creating a more inclusive focus for local communities.</li> </ul>
<p>Expected outcomes for this piece of work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create an eye-catching dynamic, positive welcome, presenting diverse voices and perspectives on the purpose of the Museum as the sites reopen, signalling transformational change for communities of identity.</li> <li>• An impactful co-curated display that is inclusive and representative lived experiences and sharing an optimism for the future.</li> <li>• A physical display, with potential for digital representation and extension in collaboration with local communities</li> </ul>
<p>Scope and exclusions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with the Collections Management Team will ensure the project aims can be achieved within the requirements of building and object conservation.</li> <li>• Please read the site opportunities for display guidelines (attached) to inform use of materials and logistics of the display.</li> <li>• Full consideration is needed for the restrictions of social distancing to keep participants safe. Digital facilitation of this programme enables increased participation in this opportunity, we welcome applications from practitioners living anywhere in Britain.</li> </ul>
<p>Your Proposal</p>	<p>Please submit an expression of interest for this commission. We are expecting a light touch submission in the first instance, due to the limited timescale available, more details of the framework will be developed in collaboration with Royal Museums Greenwich after artist selection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A covering letter sharing why you’re interested in the commission, how it supports your working practice and your vision for the co-curated outcome (one side of A4)</li> <li>• A proposal detailing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial ideas (to evolve once the commission is appointed)</li> <li>- Time frame</li> <li>- Budget breakdown (materials, equipment and delivery)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• CV / portfolio / website / digital platform including images and examples of your work</li> </ul> <p>Please send proposals or questions to <a href="mailto:jsalter@rmg.co.uk">jsalter@rmg.co.uk</a></p>
<p>Timings</p>	<p>It is anticipated the proposal will be developed between 8 -15 July 2020</p>

	There is a potential date of the end of July for initial installation of the co-curated outcomes, with an evolving display growing throughout the summer of 2020.
Fees and budget	A daily rate of £300 is anticipated – with the creation of the framework taking up to 5 days. Material budget additional depending on co-curated outcome.
Deadline for proposals	Expressions of interest to be submitted by 2 July 2020 at midnight.

### Site opportunity guidelines

Below are some suggested platforms for the display of the work, any development of proposals would be in consultation with The Collections Management and Estates Teams.

The outcome should be fit for purpose for the suggested location (e.g. weather proof, presents no damage to buildings, objects or the grounds) and robust enough to meet the required health and safety requirements needed for the safety of our audiences on site.

Potential areas:

#### The Cutty Sark

The signalling flags on the ship

Free standing installation in the Dry Dock underneath the ship – viewed through the windows

#### The National Maritime Museum

Takeover of the advertising banners at the Romney Road entrance and parkside entrance to the Museum/poster sites

The glass exterior at the parkside/Romney road entrances to the Museum

The lawns around the exterior of the building

#### The Queen's House

Colonnades throughout the walkways (NB consideration for the stonework – fixings/materials)

Queen's House terrace area (potential for freestanding display)

The lawns around the exterior of the building

#### Royal Observatory Greenwich

Banners/Poster sites

Exterior space

We are open to suggestions for other options in discussion with the relevant departments at Royal Museums Greenwich.