EPHEMERAL ART COMMISSION: 2015/16
Burra

Artist project brief
January 2015

Country Arts SA, Burra Regional Art Gallery, the Regional Council of Goyder
INTRODUCTION

Country Arts SA, working with the Burra Regional Art Gallery and the Regional Council of Goyder, is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from South Australian artists to undertake a one week residency in the town of Burra and to develop a responsive ephemeral artwork for installation in the public domain.

Four (4) artists will be selected to take part in this project and to work with the project partners to develop their ephemeral artwork and install their work. Residencies will be held in July/August 2015. Artworks will be installed in March/April 2016. Sites for the ephemeral works will be negotiated with the Regional Council of Goyder following the residency.

As part of the residency each artist will facilitate a workshop, open to the general public, which explores one or more aspects of their practice and will participate in an open forum discussing public art, facilitated by Country Arts SA.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Country Arts SA is one of South Australia's largest arts organisations, providing arts services across regional South Australia through a range of arts programs and initiatives, the management of performing and visual arts venues, and the provision of grant funding which supports the creative endeavours of communities and individuals. The Visual Arts program has been refocused on achieving three key goals: promoting contemporary South Australian regional artists to a wider state and national audience, creating access and exchange between South Australia's regional gallery spaces and artists and building audiences through increased accessibility via our Learning Connections program.

In line with these goals, Country Arts SA developed a model for a regional residency and ephemeral art commission. This project aims to engage regional communities with contemporary art and artists and to create long-lasting exchange between artists within the community and those visiting the area. This model was developed as a pilot project, with the aim to move the residency and ephemeral art commission around the state, visiting new communities on a bi-annual basis.

For the pilot project, Country Arts SA sought a community with a strong arts culture, an established gallery space and knowledge base and a supportive and enthusiastic community. The mid-north town of Burra, located in the Regional Council of Goyder, was approached and showed enthusiastic support for the project from the outset. A partnership has been formed between Country Arts SA, the Burra Regional Art Gallery and the Regional Council of Goyder to work together to bring the project to the local community.

Located 160 km north of Adelaide, Burra has a population of approximately 1,200 people. The town was founded in 1845 and for three decades was the site of one of the world's major copper mines whose income helped save the fledgling colony of South Australia from financial disaster. The mine was closed in 1877 but the town had become a transport hub for travellers from SA, NSW and QLD and for a decade served the wheat farms in the area. In the late 19th and early 20th century Burra became a centre for the sale of sheep before the mine was opened again from 1970 - 1981. Burra is now a service centre for the surrounding farming communities, and a major tourist destination focusing on their important mining heritage.

The project will be undertaken in two stages: STAGE ONE the regional residency and STAGE TWO installation of the ephemeral art works around the town of Burra.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: STAGE ONE

Residency

Four (4) artists will be selected to take part in a one-week residency in the mid-north town of Burra. Two (2) artists will be residence from Wednesday 22 July – Tuesday 28 July, 2015, and two from Wednesday 26 August – Tuesday 1 September, 2015. This will bookend SALA Festival 2015, and will be a registered SALA event.

Please note that artists will be asked to nominate the time during which they would like to be resident in Burra and every effort will be made to ensure that they are allocated their preferred time.

While in residence artist will:

- Be provided with accommodation, travel expenses and a living away from home allowance in line with the NAVA Award.
- Be provided with a studio space open to the public in which to work throughout the week
- Be paired with a local ‘buddy’ who will assist them in making introductions in the community, exploring the area and visiting local tourist and historical sites
- Facilitate one (1) workshop open to the public, exploring one or more aspects of their practice and by negotiation with the project partners. Workshops may be held in Burra or other locations around the Regional Council of Goyder.
- Meet and interact with members of the Burra community, and wider Goyder area.

Studio spaces

The aim of this project is to engage artists with local community members. To this end, studios will be in public spaces, such as empty shopfronts, and open to the public throughout the time that the artists are in residence.

Applicants are asked to include any specific requirements they have for their studio in their application. Once artists are selected and workshops are finalised, suitable spaces will be allocated from a list collated by the project partners.

Workshops

Workshops have been included in the project as a means of passing on valuable skills to the local community and to encourage engagement with the artist-in-residence. These workshops may involve teaching skills to local community members and artists, talking through the artist’s practice and the concepts and ideas that inform them, or another form to be negotiated with the project partners.

Workshops proposed as part of the EOI must be relevant to the Goyder community and the capacity for community engagement will be taken into account as part of the assessment process.

As part of the residency, Country Arts SA will facilitate a public forum examining public art, its purpose and role in place making and the processes by which it is commissioned, designed and installed. Speakers will be invited from a number of areas including artists experienced in working in the public realm, professional place makers and arts workers and members of the council working in public art. This forum forms part of, and will be funded by, the Country Arts SA Learning Connections program.

Relationships with local community

Once selected, Country Arts SA will facilitate a meeting with the artists, project partners and the Assistant Regional Coordinator. This meeting will be a chance for all the participants to meet,
make introductions and plan for the residency. The Visual Arts Coordinator and Assistant Regional Coordinator will be in contact with selected artists in the lead up to the residency to ensure that time spent in Burra is maximised and meetings are set up prior to the artist's arrival.

Artists will have the opportunity to meet with local Indigenous community members. Indigenous community leaders will be consulted prior to the finalisation of the artworks for installation to ensure the artworks are created with respect to the traditional custodians of the Goyder area. The Visual Arts Coordinator and Assistant Regional Coordinator will work closely with the Country Arts SA Indigenous Community Engagement Officer to ensure correct protocols are respected and followed and the Indigenous community feels welcome and able to engage with the project.

**Concept development**
As part of Stage One artists will submit an artwork proposal to Country Arts SA no later than one month after the completion of their residency. This proposal could take the form of a maquette or concept drawing and will form part of the application for funding for Stage Two.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION: STAGE TWO**
Stage Two will be dependent on a successful funding application to Arts SA's Commission Support Funding.

**Installation**
Ephemeral artworks will be installed by the artists on the final weekend, and as part of, the Adelaide Fringe Festival 2016 and will remain for one month or until they deteriorate. The Regional Council of Goyder will be consulted when determining how long the artworks will remain installed.

Artists will be supported to travel to Burra for the final installation of the artwork and to attend the opening celebrations. The Visual Arts Coordinator and the Assistant Regional Coordinator, supported by the Regional Council of Goyder, will work with the artists to finalise locations for the artworks and to ensure that the work adheres to the WHS policies and risk management principles of the Council. In the event that the artist is unavailable to travel they will be responsible for organising an alternative installation plan, in consultation with the Visual Arts Coordinator. Additional costs will be the responsibility of the artist.

An opening event will be held following the installation of the works, in conjunction with the Adelaide Fringe Festival 2016 closing weekend. Artists will be supported to attend this event.

Country Arts SA will be responsible for the documentation of the project, including the ephemeral art installation.

In the event that artworks need to be de-installed at the conclusion of the month, this will be done by negotiation with the Visual Arts Coordinator.

This project is being launched as a pilot for future projects. Evaluation will form an important part of this process and planning for future projects. At the conclusion of the project, the Visual Arts Coordinator will convene an evaluation panel, including artists and representatives from all project partners. The purpose of the panel will be to discuss the project and the experiences of the artists and project partners and to evaluate its impact on the artists, artworks and the community. This panel will be supported by the Mid North Knowledge Partnership who will be working on evaluation projects through Stage One and Stage Two. In addition to sitting on this
panel, artists may be asked to complete either a brief report on their experiences or to participate in an exit interview with the Country Arts SA Visual Arts Coordinator and a representative from the Mid North Knowledge Partnership.

**ARTWORKS**

It is anticipated that sites for the installation of the artworks will be selected during the artists’ time in residence.

**It is expected that artworks will:**

- Be high quality and of strong artistic integrity
- Be new work created as a result of the experiences of the artist while working in the Burra community
- Be ephemeral or temporary artworks. No maintenance will be performed on artworks by the project partners once they are installed
- Adhere to the WHS and risk management policies of the Regional Council of Goyder
- Be visually appropriate to the site
- Be of a scale relevant to the site and in keeping with the other project requirements
- Take into consideration the environmental concerns of their chosen site and be safe for the environment.

**BUDGET**

The total budget to be paid in artist fees will be $16,000 (GST exclusive) ($4,000 ex GST per artist).

PLEASE NOTE: Stage Two of the project will only go ahead if further funding is secured.

The project will be run and funded in two stages.

**STAGE ONE: Residency**

Selected individual artists will be paid a total fee of $2000 (ex. GST) for STAGE ONE

Payment will be made in two stages before and after the residency.

In addition to artist fees, Country Arts SA will pay the artists’:

- Travel costs
- Accommodation for the period of the residency
- Studio costs
- Living away from home allowance during the residency

**STAGE TWO: Installation**

Selected artists will be paid a total fee of $2000 (ex. GST) for STAGE TWO

Payment will be made in two stages before and after installation.

In addition to artist fees, Country Arts SA will pay the artists’:

- Travel costs
- Accommodation for the period of the artwork installation and opening celebration
- Living away from home allowance during the artwork installation and opening celebration
- Freight costs associated with the project

PLEASE NOTE: collaborative teams of artists may apply but the total artist fee for the group will be $4000 (+GST). All accommodation, travel and living away from home allowance must be shared within the group. If you would like to apply as a team you must speak with Country Arts SA Visual Arts Coordinator about your project prior to applying.
Country Arts SA will be responsible for all other costs associated with the project.

**PROJECT COORDINATION**
Country Arts SA’s Visual Arts Coordinator will be responsible for the coordination of the project and liaising between the artists and the Burra community.

Country Arts SA will appoint an Assistant Regional Coordinator with strong knowledge of the Goyder community. The Assistant Regional Coordinator will work closely with the Visual Arts Coordinator to support the project and liaise with the artists while they are in residence in Burra. Each artist will be assigned a local ‘buddy’ to act as a guide throughout their residency.

The project partners will have representatives available to advise the artists through the time of the project.

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time period /deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expressions of interest open</td>
<td>January 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engage a regional coordinator</td>
<td>February 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expressions of interest close</td>
<td>13 March, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selection of artists for residency</td>
<td>March/April 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artists to meet project partners</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirm studio/workshop spaces for residents</td>
<td>June 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Artists in residence (2 artists)</strong></td>
<td><strong>22 – 28 July, 2015</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Artists in residence (2 artists)</strong></td>
<td><strong>26 August – 1 September, 2015</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Artist proposals due: 1 month post-residency</td>
<td>August/September 2015</td>
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<td>Project partners meet to discuss proposals</td>
<td>October 2015</td>
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<td>STAGE TWO funding application</td>
<td>End of October 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant notification</td>
<td>December 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirm sites for installation</td>
<td>January 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirm location and catering for opening weekend</td>
<td>January 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Installation of artworks</strong></td>
<td><strong>March/April 2016</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Opening celebration</td>
<td>March/April 2016</td>
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<td>Artworks on display</td>
<td>April/May 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>De-install artworks</td>
<td>May 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Return artworks to artists (if required)</td>
<td>May 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acquit the grants</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
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**ARTIST SELECTION**
Artists from around South Australia are invited to apply for the residency and commission. Regional artists and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists are encouraged to apply for this opportunity.

**Selection Committee**
The selection committee will be comprised of representatives from the three (3) project partners (Country Arts SA, the Burra Regional Art Gallery and the Regional Council of Goyder) and Arts SA.
The panel will be formed of:
1 x Visual Arts Coordinator, Country Arts SA
1 x Assistant Regional Coordinator, regional South Australia
1 x Exhibition Coordinator, Burra Regional Art Gallery
1 x Councillor, Regional Council of Goyder
1 x Arts & Cultural Development Manager, Country Arts SA
1 x Representative, Art in Public Places, Arts SA

Expressions of interest
Expressions of interest are to be submitted either in person, by mail or electronically (encouraged), by no later than 5:00 pm Friday 13 March 2015, including all support material to:

Eleanor Scicchitano
Visual Arts Coordinator
Country Arts SA
2 McLaren Parade
Port Adelaide SA 5015

Or electronically via email to:
eleanor.scicchitano@countryarts.org.au

All applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of their application no later than Monday 16 March, 2015. If you do not receive this email you must contact the Visual Arts Coordinator to confirm receipt of your application. Applications that are not confirmed by email will not be considered.

Expression of Interest Submission

Expressions of interest shall include:

- **Title page:** Artist details including name, address, phone number, email, preferred residency dates.
- **Written response to the brief:** (maximum 2 pages) including: a brief description of your practice, your area of focus and your interest in applying for this residency and commission. Please note that the project is intended to inspire the creation of new work in response to the opportunity and the Goyder community. It is not expected that applications will have final details of the artwork to be produced.
- **Workshop description:** (500 words max), including an outline of your proposed workshop, materials, maximum participants, expected skill level of participants and equipment needed (electricity, running water, paint, glue etc.). Please note, it is important that workshops are relevant to community members and will attract participants. The capacity to engage local community in your workshop will be assessed as part of the selection criteria.
- **Current CV:** (maximum 2 pages)
- **Six (6) high quality images of current work:** (300dpi, jpeg format) with artwork details, including title, date, medium and dimensions. Artworks must have been created in the past three (3) years. (If applying as a team please speak to the Visual Arts Coordinator regarding the number of images submittable.)
- **Names and contact details for two referees**
Selection criteria

- artistic merit as evidenced by the visual material provided
- response to the opportunity: strength of project proposal, including your interest in undertaking this residency and commission
- demonstrated ability to create work that engages with a broad public
- demonstrated ability to facilitate a workshop that engages with a broad public
- demonstrated ability to work on significant projects within timelines and budget

Eligibility

- All permanent residents of South Australia over the age of 18 are eligible to apply.
- Residents of regional South Australia are encouraged to apply.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists are encouraged to apply

CONTACTS

All enquiries should be directed to:

Eleanor Scicchitano
Visual Arts Coordinator
Country Arts SA
e. eleanor.scicchitano@countryarts.org.au
p. (08) 8444 0425

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