

Call for a Curator or Curatorial Team for the UK 2023 National Exhibition Project



Would you like to curate or be part of a curatorial team for the SBTD's 2023 National Exhibition project?

- The exhibition will reflect the vast range of design for performance being made across the UK - and internationally by UK designers. (This has included Costume, Set, Lighting, Sound, Media designers also maker-performers, architects and theatre consultants, designer-makers, designer-producers, etc.).
- It is important to the SBTD that participation is affordable and inclusive, and that the project actively seeks to increase diversity of membership and participation.
- In order to exhibit, participants will need to be a member of SBTD/ALDP/ASD.
- The scale of the project involves approximately 150 designers and their work. Selections may be made for PQ, for a London venue and /or touring to other UK galleries/spaces.
- Finding a space to accommodate approx. 150 designers' work is more likely possible outside London. This is also preferred by organisations such as the V&A who want to be the only London venue (for a smaller selected exhibition developed from the initial open exhibition).
- A print and/or e-catalogue to include all exhibitors is a key part of the project.
- You will need an 'umbrella' theme that excites, provokes, engages, enables designers to think how they might exhibit their work. This may be part of your curatorial overview and may be what drives you too!
- An education programme and/or programme of events, workshops, performances could be a useful component part of the project and, if so, should be built in from the start. - if aligned with 'the vision'.
- Raising the funding and sponsorship, or being an active member of the fundraising team for the project is essential. Passion is persuasive and developing funding applications is a good way to work out what really matters in the project - to you, to the participants, visitors and venues. Previous budgets have ranged from £67,000 - £235,000 for different scales of project.

- You will need to commit a substantial amount of time to this project over its lifespan. See timeline below.
- If fees are to be paid for curation, editorial leadership, etc, they should be a part of the project budget. Sometimes these have been calculated as in-kind funding, e.g. a university may have given time, marketing and research funding to enable the project, so becoming a major sponsor.
- The SBTD is at a very exciting stage developing dynamic initiatives in sustainable theatre practice, in mentorship and in working to increase its inclusivity. The exhibition project is a showcase, but it is also an opportunity for reflection, dialogue, sharing industry concerns, experiences and – importantly some social space!
- You will need to be sharing and communicative within the project team and widely with venues, funders, industry bodies and of course participant designers.

You are welcome to respond to this call as an individual or as a group. We are looking for *Expressions of Interest* (EoI) at this point, which can be developed into full proposals at, and/or, following a conversation with the Directors and External Advisors. Please consider the above points, but they shouldn't preclude other ideas and approaches.

Your initial EoI should be no longer than 600 words or 2 sides of A4, accompanied by an up to date cv or biography for yourself and each person, if a team. You can submit in written form, as an audio or video file (no longer than 10 minutes).

The timeframe is short...

Expressions of interest by midnight on 22nd November. After this first stage you will be invited to meet the SBTD Directors and external advisors in the weeks of 29th November and /or 6th December to discuss EoIs and consider developing into a more detailed proposal.

Deadline for full Proposals midnight on Tuesday 4th January 2022

A final decision on the National Exhibition project Curator/Curatorial team will be made on Monday 17th January 2022.

If you have any questions, do get in touch; admin@theatredesign.org.uk

The PQ2023 Countries and Regions exhibition entry deadline is the 30th November. The SBTD Directors are submitting our intention to participate in PQ2023 with details to follow.

Timeline

22 th November 2021	Deadline for submission of curatorial Expressions of Interest for the National Exhibition project.
29 Nov – 10 Dec 2021	Meetings with applicants to discuss Eols and develop proposals
Tues 4 Jan 2022	Deadline for full proposals (details to be confirmed in meetings)
17 th January 2022	Announcement of Curator/Curatorial team
January - April 2022	Funding applications to be made Secure venues for National exhibition 700 – 800 sq m Secure London venue and possible regional touring venues Develop/ establish theme(s) scope, key elements Develop PQ submission
May - June 2022	Create more detail of calls for catalogue and exhibition Industry sponsorship and fundraising PQ23 symposium inc. visit to Prague venues
30 th June 2022	Deadline for Countries and Regions final proposals with plan, etc.
July 2022	Send out and promote calls. Establish team(s) to manage entries and admin of catalogue and exhibition
Aug. - Sept. 2022	Submission reminders, commission essays, key components. Send out exhibition submission reminders Develop catalogue design and layout
30 Sept. 2022	PQ23 deadline for other participation elements. Deadline for catalogue submissions.
31 Oct. 2022	Deadline for exhibition submissions.
Oct. - Dec. 2022	Catalogue compilation of artwork and essays/ written content completed, edited, proofed. Sponsors, credits, finalised. Exhibition design, planning and advance construction
January 2023	Catalogue printed Exhibition built in venue
Jan. - Feb. 2023	Exhibition opening, events and education programme, promote and sell catalogues. Selection of work for PQ
March - May 2023	Development of exhibit and logistics for PQ, and other venues (London, etc) further fundraising
June 2023	PQ 2023
July 2023 – Dec 2024	Other UK exhibition spaces tbc