



## **V&A Ceramics Residency**

**Studio Ceramics: Mid-Career and Established UK Makers**

**10 April 2017–30 September 2017**

**Deadline for applications: Sunday 8 January 2017 (midnight)**

### **Information for applicants**

Bursary: £10,000 for six months (subject to tax and national insurance)

The V&A is inviting applications from mid-career and established UK-based studio ceramicists who wish to develop their practice in new ways by working with the V&A's collections and developing public engagement activities. Applicants must have significant experience in professional practice (minimum 8–10 years) and be able to demonstrate ongoing development in their practice through a track record of innovation and the regular exhibition of new work. Proposals should be dynamic, ambitious and inspiring – pushing forward the boundaries of contemporary creative practice.

The Residency will be based in a purpose-built studio in the Ceramics galleries, at the V&A in London. It will take place between 10 April and 30 September 2017 and is open to UK-based mid-career and established practitioners. It will provide a monthly bursary (taxable) and additional budget for materials needed for production and any other public facing activities.

A team drawn from the Museum's staff will provide support throughout the project. We are interested in practitioners who wish to work with the Museum's resources and collections and would welcome the opportunity to actively work on projects with the public.

The Residency Programme is integral to the philosophy of the V&A, helping to make the Museum's learning programmes dynamic and creative. Past Residents have gone on to achieve significant success in their professional careers, winning prizes and securing gallery representation. For more details on past residents see [www.vam.ac.uk/residencies](http://www.vam.ac.uk/residencies).

### **Aims and Expectations of the Residency**

The aims of the residency are to:

- Enable the selected practitioner to draw upon the V&A's collections to carry out research, learn new skills and create new work;

- Inspire public interest in creative practice and making;
- Offer professional development to the selected practitioner in public engagement and arts education;
- Create links between the V&A's collections and contemporary art, craft and design practice;
- Undertake an imaginative participatory programme to engage the public (this could include workshops, open studios, talks, mass participation events, family art activities, student projects, seminars etc.);
- Raise the profile of contemporary ceramics.

### **Expectations**

We would like to achieve a balance of benefits for the Resident, the public and Museum as far as possible.

Residents will be expected to:

- Spend 40 days developing and delivering public facing activities
- Treat the Residency as a full time commitment, relocating other activities (commissions, teaching etc.) to the V&A if feasible;
- Display work in progress in their studio and open the studio to visitors on a regular basis
- Undertake collections research;
- Develop an online presence for their Residency on the V&A website (technical support is offered);
- Develop their practice into new areas

### **Selection Criteria**

Proposals should be dynamic, ambitious and inspiring – pushing forward the boundaries of contemporary creative practice. We are looking for applicants who can adopt a range of different roles and who are keen to draw upon the resources of the V&A and to enter into a dialogue with the public.

Candidates must demonstrate:

- An interest in working in educational / community settings
- An understanding and desire to work with the public as part of their creative practice
- Ideas for innovative ways to respond to opportunities to work with the V&A's collections
- Dynamic and inspiring ideas about how they would use this opportunity to develop their practice and how they intend to meet the aims of the Residency
- Creative originality and professionalism in their work

Note: works created during the residency period at the V&A shall remain the joint property of the V&A, any partners and the Resident. At the end of the Residency, the V&A will transfer ownership of the works to the Resident with the agreement of all Parties (the V&A, any partners and the Resident). Works produced with the public as part of this residency is owned by the V&A. The V&A shall have the right to reproduce the Works, for non-commercial purposes, in

agreement with other the other parties in connection with the promotion of the Residencies subject to crediting the Resident and the project in all material.

### **Payment**

The Bursary is £10,000 for 6 months. It is paid monthly through the V&A payroll and is subject to income tax and National Insurance. This fee is inclusive of travel costs within the UK during the residency, living expenses and material costs for the period of the residency.

An additional budget of £1500 will be available for materials needed for production and any other public facing activities.

### **Studio**

The Residency Studio for this Residency is on the main site of the V&A in South Kensington, situated alongside Gallery 143 on level 6.

### **To apply**

Applicants should apply online at the V&A's website at [www.vam.ac.uk/jobs](http://www.vam.ac.uk/jobs) where you will be asked complete an online application form.

While completing your application on-line, you will be asked to include a website address which will contain examples of your work.

Applicants must be available for this project from 10 April to 30 September 2017. The selection process will be carried out by a panel of representatives from the V&A and external expert(s).

Applicants will be short-listed from the examples of work provided (website) and supporting information and those selected will be invited for interview. **Interviews will take place on Tuesday 24 January 2017 the V&A.** Candidates must be available for interview on this date, for the whole day.

If you have any queries regarding the recruitment process, you can email us – [hr@vam.ac.uk](mailto:hr@vam.ac.uk). **Closing date for receipt of applications is Sunday 8 January 2017 at midnight.**

### **Guidance notes for V&A Residency Programme applicants**

The V&A only accepts applications in response to an Open Call for Proposals. Please do not submit applications that are not in line with the advertised call.

These notes are to help applicants to the V&A Residency Programme complete the online application form on the V&A website. You should read these notes before beginning to complete the form online. The online application is set out to help applicants structure their applications to meet the essential criteria for the programme.

Before you start writing an application, it might be helpful to consider whether you are eligible, and at the right point in your career to undertake such a commitment. Consider the following points:

### **Is this residency right for you?**

The V&A Residency Programme is public-facing and public engagement is the primary purpose of this residency. You will be expected to work actively with visitors through educational activities. Residents work with a wide variety of audiences. Residents are also required to open their studio to the public or stage gallery interventions on a regular basis. If you don't enjoy working with the public, and are not comfortable sharing your work in progress through open studio sessions, then this particular Residency is probably not for you.

### **In which discipline do you work?**

The V&A advertises for specific disciplines in art and design, for example, fashion design, digital design, sound art, animation, photography, calligraphy, and ceramics. This is usually to link up with major exhibitions or strategic aims for the Museum. If you do not work within the specified discipline, please do not apply. You may however add your name to the notification section to receive further information about future residencies.

### **Are you interested in the V&A collections?**

Are you excited about having behind the scenes access to collections, to have the opportunity to study objects closely and to develop ideas around the Museum's holdings? The V&A are keen to hear proposals on re-interpreting and representing their collections and for the research journeys you might wish to take.

### **Are you at the right stage in your career?**

This Residency is aimed at mid-career and established UK based ceramic artists and designers who have worked independently for a number of years and have substantial experience in working within the discipline stated. Are you at a point where you want to have some time and head space to focus upon a new direction in your practice, or develop new skills that will support new work? Have you experience of working with small and medium-sized organisations and think you are ready to work with a large institution like the V&A?

### **Can you make the commitment?**

You will want to make the most of the opportunity if you are offered a Residency. It is understood that you may have some teaching commitments and might need to continue with some commercial practice while undertaking the residency. We hope that you will be at the Museum at least 3 days a week, often at weekends for Open Studio sessions.

### **International Residencies**

Most of the V&A Residencies are aimed at UK based practitioners, that is those currently living and working (with a UK work permit) in the UK. The V&A aims to have one international residency per year. If the residency is marked as an International Residency, then those living

outside of the UK may apply. Successful applicants will need to apply for a UK visa through the usual process, but the V&A will support an application. For international Residencies, the V&A will cover the cost of one standard return air or rail fare and some funds to pay for shipping of work. The Museum will also help to find accommodation, (a room in a shared house with other artists), but you would need to pay the rent either out of your own funds or the bursary (including a deposit on the property). For residencies such as this one (advertised as UK-based), the V&A will not cover any travel or accommodation expenses.

### **Application deadline**

The online system will not accept applications after midnight on the date specified as the closing date. The online application system is fairly reliable, but do try to get your application completed at least one day before the deadline.

### **Preparing your application**

Leave yourself as much time as possible to do some background research and think through your proposal. You should consider the following:

The main aims of the residency programme:

- Enable the selected practitioner to draw upon the V&A's collections to carry out research, learn new skills and create new work;
- Inspire public interest in creative practice and making;
- Offer professional development to the selected practitioner in public engagement and arts education;
- Create links between the V&A's collections and contemporary art, craft and design practice;
- Undertake an imaginative participatory programme to engage the public (this could include workshops, open studios, talks, mass participation events, family art activities, student projects, seminars etc.);
- Raise the profile of contemporary ceramics.

### **Selection Criteria**

Your proposal should be dynamic, ambitious and inspiring – pushing forward the boundaries of contemporary creative practice. We are looking for an applicant who can adopt a range of different roles and who is keen to draw upon the resources of the V&A and to enter into a dialogue with the public.

### **Completing the online form & how applications are considered**

Your written application should be completed in line with the online application. You must complete every section of the application. In your written application, you should address how you propose to meet the aims of the Residency (listed above) by responding to the questions. The questions that you will be asked to respond to are listed below with some guidance.

The online application questions are listed below along with some guidance on how to structure the content of your application.

	Online Application Questions	Guidance Notes
<b>A</b>	<b>Essential information</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Personal Details</li> <li>• Supply names, contact details and relationship details for 2 potential references</li> <li>• Ability to work in the UK</li> </ul>	This section is self-explanatory, you should complete this including details of references. Your references should both be individuals who you have recently worked with in terms of your art practice / arts education experience.
<b>B</b>	<b>Experience</b>	<b>Past Experience</b>
1.	Describe your creative practice and the thinking behind it.	The originality and quality of your work, and level of skills used to make the work including your past exhibition / display / exposure record
2	Give details of any experience you have of working in a community or educational environment, or with working with the public.	Your past experience of working with the public as an artist or designer. An education qualification is certainly not expected, but some experience of working with the public is desirable.
<b>C</b>	<b>The Residency</b>	<b>The Residency (your proposal)</b>
This section focuses on what you want to do at the V&A during the six month residency. Show that you have undertaken some research into the collections, visited the web site, and possibly visited the Museum to prepare for this application. Communicate why the collections of the V&A are relevant to the project you are proposing.		
1.	Give details of how you propose to use this opportunity to develop your practice.	Describe how this particular residency will help to take forward your practice. Discuss what new skills or research you would like to explore and outline why you think this is the right time for you to participate in this programme.
2	Give details on how you propose to respond to the V&A's collections.	This section should include suggestions of areas of the collection that you might wish to use for research, possibly specific objects. You should give a clear indication of how you think you might work with the V&A's collections and other study resources and how these will impact on your work.
3	Give details of how you might to engage with the V&A's diverse audiences (and those of any associated partner organisations).	You should also propose ideas for hands on working with the public, actively engaging visitors in the V&A collections and enabling them to develop their own creativity. Online activities are welcomed as well as practical

		workshops and activities. All residents are expected to open their studios to the public, so include -some suggestions of how your studio might interpret the creative process for visitors. The V&A has a wide and diverse audience and so do consider the different audiences that you might wish to work with.
4	Give an outline of how you envisage engaging the public with the process of developing creative work.	How will you communicate creative process using your practice? How will visitors experience this?
<b>D</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>	
1	Any other information or skills that you think are relevant to this application.	Give details of any specialist skills that you have which may be relevant to the application.
2	Is there any further information that you think is relevant to this opportunity?	If the application requests you to send films or sound, you should add these files to a website, and then add the web links to this section with brief outlines of what each file is. Also include any information about languages spoken, along with any further information you think is relevant.
4	Please include a link to your website or a dropbox link with your portfolio.	Your website or dropbox link will act as a portfolio of your work.

### What happens next?

Applications are considered by at least two members of staff and an external maker / practitioner.

Do include all the information you want the panel to see in your online application. Unless otherwise stated, the panel do not visit websites or refer to information sent to them outside of the application process. Short listing will take place within a few days after the application closing date.

Once a short list has been selected, unsuccessful candidates are informed by email and short listed candidates are invited to interview. Interviews take place on the day advertised in the call for proposals and take place in two parts. The candidate will be asked to prepare a 15 minute presentation to a group of around 10 Museum staff and external contacts.

### **Residency Information – support and resources for appointed residents.**

- Bursary –currently set at £10,000 over six months, and subject to tax and national insurance. The bursary is paid in monthly instalments via a payroll system.
- Onsite studio at V&A South Kensington.
- The Ceramics studio has a small kiln, a wheel and specialist sinks and drainage. Some materials are available for use such as glazes and clays. A Public Ceramics workshop space is attached to the Resident’s studio which includes 6 potters’ wheels.
- Residents are supplied with a computer for the duration of their residency.
- Residents have access to the National Art Library is at the V&A, as well as the V&A RIBA Prints and Drawings Study Room.
- Where appropriate the V&A will foster links between the Resident and appropriate Learning Programmers, Curators, Conservators, Technicians, Web developers, Photographers and Gallery Attendants.

### **Payment of the bursary**

The artist will be paid £10,000 during their 6 month residency in monthly instalments. This includes Income Tax and National Insurance. This fee is inclusive of travel costs within the UK and living expenses. There will be an additional budget for materials for any public facing activities, to be agreed with the Residency Programme Manager.