

# Call for submissions

## Visual Art Commission 2022 & 2023

Municipal Gallery, dlr Lexlcon,  
Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin



dlrLexlcon





## Visual Art Commission 2022 & 2023

**Closing Date: 19<sup>th</sup> October at 12 noon**

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council wishes to select two commissions for the creation of a new body of work which will culminate in an exhibition, by each selected artist(s), in the Municipal Gallery, dlr LexIcon in 2022 and 2023. These commissions are funded by The Arts Council and supported by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

### **Commission Details**

The theme of the commission is to create a new body of work that is responsive to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County. Applicants are invited to engage with the geographic, cultural and/or social context of the area.

Two commissions will be selected by way of an open selection process. Each artist(s) will be paid a commission of €10,000 and will be given an agreed period of time to undertake the commission. The resultant artworks will be displayed in the dlr LexIcon Gallery over a five to seven week period (including installation and take-down).

In 2022 the exhibition dates are in September to November.

Dates for 2023 are yet to be confirmed.

An outline of the number of artworks to be included in the exhibition will be agreed between the commissioner and the artist(s) prior to the signing of contracts.

The artist(s) must take into account the exhibition space and must create a body of work suitable to that context and a general public audience including children and young people. Please refer to the gallery policy on our website (under Related Documents) for further details about our programming priorities.

[https://www.dlrcoco.ie/sites/default/files/atoms/files/municipal-gallery-prog-policy-16-22-d2\\_3.pdf](https://www.dlrcoco.ie/sites/default/files/atoms/files/municipal-gallery-prog-policy-16-22-d2_3.pdf)

### **Eligibility**

Applications are invited from artists who are living in, working in or originally from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown or who have studied visual art in the County. This opportunity is open to individual artists or artists who work together in a collaborative manner. Applications for group shows will not be considered under this commission.

The body of original artwork must be responsive to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County.

The Gallery Learning Programme is central to all exhibitions in dlr LexIcon Gallery; selected artists must be open to having their work mediated for a general public audience. The selected artists may be required to take part in the Gallery Learning Programme as part of the overall commission.

Artists who have been awarded the Visual Art Commission previously or the Open Call in the last five years are not eligible to apply for this opportunity.

**What we offer:**

- Artist commission of €10,000\*
- Marketing material (format at the discretion of dlr) and PR
- Professional technicians for the installation of the exhibition
- Exhibition Launch (subject to public health guidelines)
- Curatorial support if required (to a maximum amount of €1,000 per commission)
- Insurance of the artworks while on site. On occasion an artwork may be deemed to be too fragile to be covered by dlr's insurance, in this case the artist may insure it themselves or remove it from the exhibition.

*\* Please note that this amount is fully inclusive of fee, transport of artworks (including insurance while in transit) display or framing costs, expenses, participation in Gallery Learning Programme as outlined below, required insurance and VAT. Technicians for the installation of the exhibition, launch costs and marketing expenditure will be met by the Commissioner. The commissioned artists will be required to have Public Liability Insurance with cover of €6.5 million with a specific indemnity to Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council if they wish to be on site for the installation or take down. If necessary, the artist will also be required to have Employer's Liability Insurance.*

**Gallery Learning Programme & Mediation of Artworks for the Public**

dlr Arts Office creates opportunities for the public to engage with the arts, as creators, participants and spectators. The Gallery Learning Programme forms an integral part of each exhibition in the Municipal Gallery and is intended to develop and enhance opportunities for audiences to view and experience high quality art.

Mediation opportunities may include, but are not limited to, workshops, demonstrations, talks and screenings. Work will be mediated with a non-arts audience in mind, in addition to specific audiences as decided by dlr Arts Office. Based on the identified preferences of the majority of our Gallery visitors, works will be clearly labelled and an A0 mediation panel in

plain English written by dlr Arts Office will be hung on the wall just inside the Gallery. This is to aid visitors' experience of the Gallery and exhibition programme, in particular our general audience members. Museum quality labels are used to label artworks in the Gallery. Artists will have the choice of 2 label sizes: 100 x 50mm / 100 x 150mm; text for the labels will be minimum 11 point sans serif font.

Selected artists may be required to be involved in an element of the Learning Programme up to a maximum of 10 hours. This could include participation in the Artists in Conversation Series, one tour of their work and/or an artist's workshop. These commitments are included in the overall commission fee of €10,000.

Subject to public health guidelines the Arts Office will host individual site visits to the Gallery on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of October to introduce the space and answer any specific questions. To book a place for this, please email [cbrown@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:cbrown@dlrcoco.ie) , with the subject heading **Gallery Visit**.

## **Proposals & Selection Process**

Applicants may only submit one project proposal.

Applicants are required to submit

1. A typed curriculum vitae;
2. An explanation of your connection to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown;
3. An outline of the proposed approach to the commission. Please include as much detail as possible at this stage, as to material and scale, you may include sketches;
4. A short description of previous work (max 150 words), if appropriate;
5. Examples of previous work (no more than 20 images in total). Each image should include the title, its dimensions, the material/medium, the date and your name. YouTube, Vimeo links etc. may also be included. Please supply direct links to any pages/sites you wish the panel to view and a brief explanation (max 50 words) of what will be viewed. All digital supporting material should be PC/Microsoft Office compatible. Where possible all information should be compiled into a single pdf document.
6. Applications should be no larger than 10MB.
7. Please indicate if you have availability for either year or if you have a strong preference for either 2022 or 2023.

## **Selection criteria**

Applications will be adjudicated by dlr Arts Office and independent adjudicators with visual arts expertise. The decision of the selection panel is final. Submissions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- **Suitability of outline proposal to the audience context and exhibition programme of the Municipal Gallery, dlr LexIcon (40/100)**

Consideration of the audience of dlr LexIcon should be clearly demonstrated in proposals submitted. The audience for the Municipal Gallery has been identified as a mix of library visitor, dlr resident, local arts community, tourist/day visitor. Artists should note that this is the Municipal Gallery for the County and work proposed must be suitable for viewing by both adults and children. Part of this assessment of proposals will include a curatorial judgement around how the submitted exhibition fits into both the future gallery programme and recent exhibitions. This may include considerations around medium and theme.

- **Quality of previous work (40/100)**
- **Experience of delivering projects/commissions within set budgets and timelines (20/100)**

## **Summary Timeline**

Facilitated Gallery Visit:	Friday October 8th
Deadline for receipt of applications:	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October @ 12 noon
Successful applicants informed by:	November
1st Commission Exhibition:	Sept – November 2022
2nd Commission Exhibition:	2022 dates to be confirmed

### **Freedom of Information**

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed to a request for information under the aforementioned Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

### **GDPR**

All information provided for this application will be held for a period of five years from the date of submission and will remain in the sole ownership of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Arts Office. Information supplied in the application will be used only for the purpose of the application itself, and will only be used by dlr Arts Office for the purposes of administering and managing this particular commission, including the selection process. You may withdraw your consent to the retention of the information relating to your application at any point by sending an email to [arts@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:arts@dlrcoco.ie)

### **Submission deadline**

The deadline for receipt of Proposals to the Arts Office is **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October @ 12 noon**

**Please send applications to [arts@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:arts@dlrcoco.ie)** clearly marked: Visual Art Commission Application

*Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserves the right not to commission work if none of the proposals received are deemed to be suitable. In this instance, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserves the right to pursue a different procurement process.*

**These commissions are funded by the Arts Council and supported by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.**

## Gallery Information

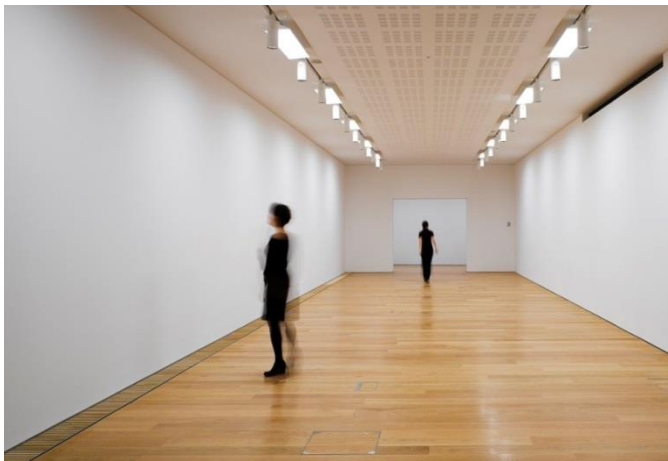
The Municipal Gallery, dlr LexIcon, is the first purpose built public gallery space in the county. It opened in December 2014 and since then has shown a range of exhibitions. The programme includes commissioned exhibitions; touring exhibitions; and advertised open call exhibitions, with 5 shows per annum. Each gallery exhibition programme is planned so that it includes both the artworks in the gallery space and a learning programme which gives visitors the chance to explore and engage with the artworks on show through events like talks, workshops, films and tours.

The Gallery consists of two spaces: Gallery 1 is 22m x 5.9m x 3.335m high and Gallery 2 is 4.65m x 5.75m (average dimensions as room is not square) by 3.5m high. Lighting is a mix of wall washers and spotlights. Gallery 1 has no natural light; Gallery 2 has a full length window which may be blocked off by way of a timber screen. Power points are set into the gallery floor. There is one projector (Sony VPL-FH36 WUXGA projector) which is set into the ceiling in Gallery 2 and projects onto the back wall of the gallery. 2D works may be no larger than 2200mm high x 2250mm wide. 3D works may not exceed a weight of 730kg per metre squared. Artists should note that artworks may not be hung from the ceiling or screwed to the floor. The maximum weight that the gallery walls will support is 32kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

Due to health and safety considerations, there are certain areas in the Gallery where 3D works may not be placed – this includes the area directly inside the main Gallery doors; and the path between the emergency exit in Gallery 2 and opening into Gallery 1.

The Gallery is un-invigilated, therefore artists are advised not to propose artworks of a delicate nature unless they are to be displayed in locked plinths. In general the artworks will be insured while on the premises. However, in certain instances where dlr Arts Office deems the work to be vulnerable and the artist is willing to absorb the risk, the artist will be required to sign an indemnity letter for dlr County Council whereby they acknowledge that the work is uninsured by dlr, and exhibited at their own risk.





***Municipal Gallery  
& Project Room,  
dlr Lexlcon***





## **dlr Lexlcon, Dún Laoghaire**

In autumn 2014 Lexlcon, the new Central Library & Cultural Centre opened to the public. This iconic public building is a crucial part of a programme of regeneration in Dún Laoghaire. It includes a major commitment to provide public facilities and represents the single biggest investment by the Council in a civic amenity. dlr Lexlcon is a key component in the delivery of the cultural programme in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and its environs. It is a vibrant centre of learning and creativity for all those who live, work in and visit the county. It accommodates general reading rooms with a rich collection of some 80,000 books.

The library includes a public 'living room' floor overlooking a beautiful new park; this floor accommodates informal access to a taster collection, the Internet, newspapers and magazines. In addition there are extensive resources for the local community and a dedicated suite for young people. The Municipal Gallery is on this level also. The main lending library includes a state of the art children's library and caters for the varied needs and interests of all children. It plays a pivotal role of support for the Primary and Post Primary Schools in the County. The top floor in the building is dedicated to Local Studies, recording the history and heritage of the county. It also acts as a repository for the county's extensive local history collection. The room for the writer-in-residence is on this level.

The Council has a long and rich tradition of cultural provision in the county. dlr Lexlcon has further developed its reputation as an area rich in artistic activity and continues to increase access to the arts for the general public. dlr Lexlcon provides a unique opportunity for local art, heritage and cultural groups to showcase their work to a broader audience at a high quality, purpose-built venue. A multi-purpose performance space adjacent to the café seats approx. 100 people.

## **dlr Arts Office**

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council supports the development of the arts at a local level and aspires to provide opportunities for all who live in, work in and visit the County to engage with the arts as creators, participants and spectators.

Since the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Arts Office was established in 1994, the County Council has developed a high quality programme including exhibitions, learning and participation initiatives, festivals, public art projects and artists' residencies.

Key priorities identified are:

- Participation in the arts for all, in particular children, young people, older people and dlr's local arts community.
- The encouragement of opportunities for the creation and showcasing of work.
- That all activities will offer opportunities for further learning and engagement.
- Advocacy for the development of the arts at local level.

