

West Dean Tapestry Commission Open Call

Your artwork hand-woven by weavers at West Dean Tapestry Studio

Background

West Dean Tapestry Studio is pleased to announce its first open call commission. This is an exceptional opportunity for artists working in any discipline to propose a tapestry to be hand-woven by Master Weavers at the West Dean Tapestry Studio. We invite artists to propose bold and imaginative ideas, no experience of working with tapestry is necessary.

West Dean Tapestry Studio specialises in contemporary design and weaving using traditional techniques. The Master Weavers are dedicated to working closely with artists and have developed an outstanding portfolio of work, including previous commissions from Tracey Emin, Martin Creed, John Piper, Eileen Agar, Basil Beattie, and Henry Moore.

The Opportunity

Artists working in any medium are invited to propose a design or concept for a tapestry to be woven by Master Weavers at the West Dean Tapestry Studio. This opportunity includes a three-week residency at West Dean College which will enable the successful applicant to work closely with the Master Weavers to expand their knowledge of the weaving process and develop the final design. The residency can be taken in one three-week block or over a period of up to three months. At the end of the development stage the Master Weavers will weave the tapestry.

Selectors

Simon Martin, Co-Director, Pallant House Gallery www.pallant.org.uk

Helen Turner, Curatorial Assistant, Cass Sculpture Foundation www.sculpture.org.uk

Sarah Hughes, Artist www.sarahhughes.org

Philip Sanderson, Master Weaver West Dean Tapestry Studio www.westdeantapestry.org.uk

Katherine Swailes, Master Weaver West Dean Tapestry Studio www.westdeantapestry.org.uk

Alison Baxter, Head of Creative Enterprise, West Dean College www.westdean.org.uk

Key Dates

1 June 2016: Open Call Commission Launch

1 September 2016: Deadline for entries 5pm

Shortlisted artists must be available for interview during the week commencing September 19th

3 October 2016: Winner announced

October-December 2016: Research and development period. 3-week residency.

January – June 2017: Weaving of Tapestry

How to Enter

- A maximum 400-word proposal outlining why you want to use tapestry in your work and how it will support the progression of your practice
- A 200-word artist statement
- A current CV
- Five images of your work (files no larger than 500kb)
- Link to website
- An entry fee of £10 per application

Eligibility

- Artists working in any medium
- An individual or collaborative practice
- Artists must be 18 or over
- Currently based in UK
- Resident in the UK for at least 3-years
- This opportunity is not open to students in full-time education

Terms and Conditions

- The successful applicant will give two presentations as part of the commission – one at the beginning of the residency period and another at the end of the project.
- The successful application will write a blog post outlining the development of the project.
- The artist will own and have intellectual property rights of the tapestry, with the option of storing and exhibiting the finished work in West Dean Tapestry Studio. This will be available for external exhibitions when required.
- The West Dean Tapestry Studio will retain all samples of works. Intellectual copyright will remain with artist.
- The tapestry must be available for sale, with 50% commission.
- The artist retains copyright of the work and all reproduction rights save for the following limited rights granted to the West Dean Tapestry Studio, West Dean College and the Edward James Foundation: reproduction for marketing and promotional purposes; for portfolio catalogues; to accompany printed articles in catalogues, journals and magazines; to contribute to an archive providing a record of the studio history.
- Images of work in progress and the final tapestry are available to be used on social media by West Dean Tapestry Studio and West Dean College.
- The studio will credit all photographs with the artist's name, the title of the work and the name of the photographer.