



**2020 residency: Summerhall, Edinburgh 20th-31st
January 2020
and Scotland-Quebec Puppetry Exchange Jan-March
2020**

Applicant information

What is Rough Mix?

Rough Mix is a paid creative development residency for practising artists from any discipline. Developed and run by Magnetic North, a theatre company that specialises in creating new work and encouraging multi-art form approaches, this will be the 11th edition of the residency and is presented in partnership with Manipulate Visual Theatre Festival and Summerhall.

Rough Mix encourages boldness and innovation in the work of the artists who take part by giving them a unique opportunity to have a creative interaction with artists from different disciplines in a focused and supportive atmosphere. It is curated and led by Magnetic North's Artistic Director Nicholas Bone, who has developed a distinctive and widely-respected approach to developing new work and creating links between artists and art-forms. Previous participants include playwrights, choreographers, visual artists, film-makers, and composers. Previous editions of Rough Mix have been run in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Peebles, Perth and Auckland.

Who can apply?

There are two categories of participants:

- Experienced artists (2 place available*)
- Early-career artists (2 places available)

*See **How to Apply** below to see how we define these categories.*

* There are 5 places in total for experienced artists, but only 2 are available through this application process. The other 3 places are already filled by an artist from Quebec (as part of the Scotland-Quebec Puppetry Exchange programme), a playwright from New Zealand (as part of the Scotland-New Zealand Playwright Exchange programme), and our current Artist Attachment holder Jenna Watt.

Of the 2 experienced artist places available, 1 will be awarded to a Scotland-based puppetry artist, who will take part in a wider programme of activity delivered in partnership with Puppet Animation Scotland and Festival de Casteliers: there is more information about this on page 4.

Equalities and Diversity

We are committed to developing and widening opportunities for all artists and particularly welcome applications from artists who are d/Deaf or disabled, and from artists from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) background. The aim is both to make Rough Mix more accessible and to support and encourage diversity within the

arts. We believe that this will be to the benefit of all participants in Rough Mix, and to artists and audiences more widely.

It is hard to express how important Rough Mix has been for us

Tristan Surtees and Charles Blanc - Sans façon, environmental artists

How does it work?

Rough Mix brings together a carefully selected group of experienced and early career artists from different art forms – for example, theatre, dance, music, film and visual arts – and an ensemble of performers for a two-week residency.

*You can read how we define experienced and early-career artists in **How to Apply** below.*

Each experienced artist brings to the lab an idea or starting point for a project, or a new approach they are interested in exploring. The early-career artists take part primarily as observers, but this may include practical involvement in the lab work.

During the course of the lab, the established artists have dedicated time to work on their own idea, as well as the opportunity to observe and collaborate with others. They can work with the ensemble of performers, have access to space to work in, materials to work with, and, perhaps most importantly, each other. The residency ends with a public showing of the work that is developed.

Rough Mix aims:

- to bring together artists from different disciplines to share learning and skills
- to enable the exploration of new ideas and the development of new creative partnerships
- to give artists time and space to experiment with ideas for new work
- to enable artists to share their working practices and philosophies in a supportive atmosphere
- to enable artists to try out work in front of a supportive audience and to benefit from structured and facilitated feedback.

All participants are paid a fee for their time: experienced artists are paid £600 per week and early-career artists are paid £475 per week. If you live more than 25 miles outside Edinburgh we will also pay travel costs and, where appropriate, provide accommodation.

*I changed the way I think about my own practice.
Possibilities that I'd never considered before became
tantalising.*

Ruth Barker, visual artist

How to apply

Please read this section carefully to make sure you send the right information with your application.

Rough Mix will take place at Summerhall in Edinburgh from 20th-31st January 2020 (Monday to Friday both weeks): you must be fully available for both weeks in order to take part. If you are applying for the puppetry exchange place, you must also be available for additional dates: see the **Scotland-Quebec Puppetry Exchange** section on page 4 for more information.

- **Experienced artists** will already have a significant track-record of making work and have had their work produced, performed or exhibited professionally over a number of years.
- **Early-career artists** will be in the early stages of their career; they will have had some work produced, performed or exhibited professionally already.

Please contact us for advice if you are not sure which category you are in.

Experienced Artists will be asked to include an outline of what they would like to develop at Rough Mix - this could be exploring an idea for a new project or trying out a new way of working - plus any background material that might be useful. You will need to say why you think your project might be particularly appropriate for Rough Mix. Read the **Guidance** below before writing your outline.

Early-career Artists will be asked to include a short outline of what they hope to gain from taking part in Rough Mix.

All applicants will need to provide

- An outline of your work and experience (up to 500 words)
- A CV
- Up to 5 examples of your work (files or links)

If you are applying for the **Scotland-Quebec Puppetry Exchange** place, you will need to provide additional information as detailed on page 4 of this document.

To apply, please complete the online form here:

<https://forms.gle/WuRmRXJzAvRroFkM8>

The closing date for applications is **1pm (UK time) on Monday 23rd September**; all applicants will hear back from us by Monday 7th October.

If you would like this information in an alternative format – large print or audio transcription – or want to make your application in an alternative format, please contact us at artistdevelopment@magneticnorth.org.uk

The time gave me a space to re-think ideas in an environment that was truly sympathetic to experimentation. Such opportunities are truly so rare.

Marisa Zanotti, choreographer/film-maker

Guidance

The resources we can offer during the residency are limited. They include: performers, video cameras, projectors, sound recorders, PA system and basic props. Nothing more elaborate than working light is available and the studios will not necessarily have blackouts. We try to provide what is necessary, but working with limited resources is part of Rough Mix: the focus is on process rather than a highly polished outcome.

Ideas at an early stage of development work best – this is an opportunity to play with a hunch rather than hone an already well-developed idea. If an idea has already had development time elsewhere, it is unlikely to be selected. Please bear all this in mind when thinking about ideas to submit.

Projects that have developed from Rough Mix include:

- **Working on My Night Moves** by theatre-maker Julia Croft (Winner, Total Theatre Award 2019)
- **Space Ape** by theatre-maker Andy Cannon for Red Bridge (Winner, Best Work for Children and Young People, Critics' Awards for Theatre in Scotland 2018)
- **WhirlyGig** by composer Daniel Padden for Catherine Wheels.
- **Dispatches from the Source** by choreographer Clare Pencak for Tabula Rasa.
- **Money: The Game Show** by playwright/director Clare Duffy for Unlimited Theatre/Bush Theatre.
- **Walden** – a collaboration between environmental artists Sans façon and director Nicholas Bone for Magnetic North.
- **crying on the inside (laughing on the outside)** - by composer David Fennessy for Ensemble Modern, Frankfurt.
- **Odd Sympathies** by environmental artists Sans façon in collaboration with composer John Metcalf for Artes Mundi, Wales International Visual Art Prize.

If you have any access or support needs, we will discuss these with you if you are successful in your application.

If you are unsure about anything, please email artistdevelopment@magneticnorth.org.uk for advice.

Scotland-Quebec Puppetry Exchange – *Stop-Motion and the Stage*

Applicants to Rough Mix 2020 with experience of puppetry can also apply to take part in the Scotland-Quebec Puppetry Exchange, for which there is one place available for a Scottish-based artist.

The exchange is a collaboration between Magnetic North, Puppet Animation Scotland, and Casteliers; it is for professional puppeteers from Quebec and Scotland. It creates an opportunity for the early-stage development of two new projects which mix theatre, puppetry and stop-motion animation: two experienced puppeteers - one from Quebec and one from Scotland - will each have the opportunity to research and develop a new project.

The exchange programme has two parts:

- **Edinburgh** 20-31 January 2020: Rough Mix at Summerhall (20-31 Jan), followed by the Manipulate Visual Theatre Festival (1-8 Feb).
- **Montréal**, 17 February-8 March 2020: residency at MIAM (17-28 Feb), followed by attendance at the Festival de Casteliers (4-8 March).

In Edinburgh, the selected artists will work alongside other experienced artists as part of Rough Mix; in Montréal the two artists will each have dedicated studio time at the Maison Internationale des Arts de la Marionnette (MIAM) to develop their ideas further. Although each artist is developing their own project, it is intended that they will support and encourage each other. Both artists will have the opportunity to attend performances at the Manipulate Visual Theatre Festival (Edinburgh) and the Festival de Casteliers (Montréal). There may be an opportunity for the Scottish artist to give a workshop for other professionals at the Casteliers festival.

Criteria for the Exchange programme:

The programme is aimed at experienced puppeteers who have worked professionally in puppetry arts for at least 5 years. Proposed projects must include a mix of live puppet-theatre and stop-motion animation techniques.

Applicants for the Scottish artist's place must:

- be a UK citizen or permanent resident;
- live in Scotland.

In addition to the fee of £1,200 for Rough Mix, the successful artist will receive a fee of CA\$1,250, as well as:

- travel costs (round-trip airfare);
- accommodation and per diem payments while abroad;
- workshop space (Summerhall in Edinburgh and MIAM in Montréal)
- materials and creative supplies, if needed;
- internet access at Summerhall/MIAM
- tickets for performances at manipulate and Festival de Casteliers

To take part in the exchange programme you must be fully available for both periods: **20th-31st January** (optional attendance at manipulate 1st-8th February) in Edinburgh and **17th February to 8th March 2020** in Montréal.

To apply, you will need to provide the following additional information:

- a statement outlining what you hope to gain from taking part in the exchange programme (500 words max)
- an outline of a workshop which could be offered to professionals in Montréal (200 words maximum);
- reviews or articles about your work from the last five years (maximum of five pages or online links).

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