



Now That We are Free?

An open call by An Indian Summer Festival for the inaugural AIS OPEN 2020

What is the opportunity?

Artists are invited to submit work exploring the theme of 'Now We Are Free?' and what it means to be free in today's world. The exhibition will be curated by artist Ashokkumar Mistry with a panel of experts and festival stakeholders

Inspired by the anniversaries of South Asian independence in recent years, the exhibition aims to explore what freedom feels like, tastes like and means once it has been attained. How does one express a freedom that is craved for so long? As the Covid-19 crisis forces us into isolation and takes away many freedoms globally, does this force us to understand and appreciate freedom differently?

What will awarded artists receive?

- 15 artists will have their work exhibited in the exhibition.
- These 15 artists will also be entered into the final competition to win one of four prizes
- All artists will receive exposure through our social media feeds and the exhibition website
- There are no fees for submitting work to this open call
- There are no artist fees offered for participating in the online exhibition
- The three runner ups will be awarded a £200 cash prize each
- One winner will be given a £500 cash prize.

Who is eligible?

UK and International visual artists, at all stages of their careers, of any background and of any age. We strongly encourage artists who are under-represented within visual arts in the UK and internationally to apply, particularly artists with disabilities or long-term health conditions, and artists from low-income, LGBTQI and minority backgrounds, and artists living outside metropolitan cities.

How to apply

Applications will be made via Google Forms, [Here](#). If you have any barriers to submitting an application please get in touch with us via email sean@inspirate.org . The required items in the application are:

- Name, email address, country, telephone number and social media handles
- Your art form area



- About your practice (max 300 words) either as written text or as recorded audio or video)
- About the artworks you are submitting and how they relate to the theme (max 300 words, as written text or as recorded audio or video)
- Website link: optional
- Submit upto 3 artworks. Note you can submit one, two or three based on your preference and artworks do not need to be from the same series.
- Complete the agreement by reading and ticking the terms and conditions

The first part of the selection process will be undertaken by curator Ashokkumar Mistry. The final awards will be decided by a panel led by the curator and comprised of TBA.

Terms and conditions.

Artists will be asked to sign an agreement with Inspirate and AIS as part of the submission to the open call. This agreement will, amongst other things include:

- Confirm that you hold the copyright to the original artworks being submitted
- Confirm that you hold the copyright to the images of the artworks being submitted (the photographs of the artworks may be taken by someone other than you even if you are the artist)
- Confirm that you allow Inspirate and AIS to edit the size and shape of the images you have submitted to enable them to fit the design guidelines of the website and social channels.
- The right for Inspirate and AIS to host the work on websites, digital channels and in situ exhibitions on an ongoing basis
- Confirm that you allow Inspirate and all associated organisations to use the images you have provided for marketing and promotion of AIS and AIS OPEN online and in print in on an ongoing basis
- Confirm that you allow the images of the artworks being submitted to be broadcast online for the purposes of an online exhibition on both Inspirate's platform and other platforms such as Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and other social media platforms

Privacy

The personal data you give us in submitting your application will be used to process your application for this opportunity, by Inspirate and AIS and will be shared with members of the selection panel. We will only contact you in connection to this application. Your personal data will be kept by Inspirate for up to 10 years and will only be used for research, evaluation, reporting and marketing analysis for artist opportunities. It will not be passed on to anyone else. If you want to be removed from our database you can email sean@inspirate.org.



You have the right to contact the Information Commissioner's Office should you wish to complain about how your information has been handled.

FAQS

Does the artwork/s I submit need to be my own?

Yes. We can only accept artworks from the originators of the work. You can not submit on someone else's behalf or use artwork by another artist as your own. You can help an artist apply but they need to apply in their own name.

How old can the work be?

Generally, the artworks should be no less that five years old. This is to ensure the work is consistent with contemporary themes and we can show the best new work.

What is the theme?

The theme is freedom once attained. We want the work to relate to the practicality of freedom and the questions it throws up once it has been attained.

Can I consider freedom in the context of the Covid-19 crisis?

Yes, however, think about the core message of the theme i.e., a freedom attained.

Is this opportunity only open to artists of South Asian descent?

No. The opportunity is open to everyone, from any background as long as the work relates to the theme.

Restrictions in relation to Covid-19

Due to the restrictions we have placed the entire exhibition online. This means that there will be no physical exhibition this year but subsequent AIS Open's may have a physical exhibition.

What will Selectors be basing their decisions on?

Selectors will be making decisions based on the quality of the work that you submit. We will look at the work in terms of its originality, excellence, technique and core ideas. It is therefore important that you speak truthfully about why you created an artwork and how an artwork relates to your general approach or ideas. We want to ensure that a diverse group of artists from around the world, and using range of art forms and practices apply.

I find it difficult to write about my work. What should I do?

We will accept the main two components of the applications in audio or video format. However, we will need you to upload this audio or video to a sharing site and send us the



link. Please do not try to upload the audio or video to the Google form. You can password

protect the audio or video so other people can not listen to or view this part of your application. If you do add a password to the video, please send us this password. Note: do not send us that account password for the video/audio sharing site. Please contact us if you need any assistance in your application.

Is there any support available to help make an application?

If you would like to talk through making an application in advance of applying you can email us at indiansummer@inspirate.org

Are there any fees I need to pay for submitting my application?

No. There are no fees.

Will I get paid a fee for exhibiting

No one will get paid a fee for exhibiting. We will offer four cash prizes for the best work judged by a panel.

How many artists will be selected for the exhibition?

We will select up to fifteen artists for the exhibition.

Will I get feedback on my application?

Due to the high volume of applications that we receive to our calls for entries, we are unable to provide individual feedback to applicants.

Can I apply without having a google/gmail account?

It is not a requirement that you have a gmail account in order to apply, just an email address and contact phone number. Link to the google form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeK553xIEcdjllg3H5xyISO4jyVHgBmtF-JFVJwq09Fq_d5bA/viewform?usp=sf_link

What happens if I disagree with the decision of the curator or the panel?

The decision of the curator is final and can not be challenged. If you feel that something has gone wrong, then you are more than welcome to contact us and we will see if we can help. However, please note that we are unable to change the decision of the curator or the panel.