

Leeds Inspired Light Night Commission 2014



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

Commission Brief

What would Vincent think?

Leeds Inspired is commissioning a major new projection mapping and sound work for the city's annual Light Night event.

Following the much loved *Momentous* by Illuminos in 2013 we are looking for an ambitious artwork to re-imagine the front of Leeds Civic Hall for two nights in October.

Leeds Civic Hall, was designed by Vincent Harris and completed in 1933. The building is faced with Portland Stone and constructed in a neo-classical style but for this year's Light Night we would like to see it dressed up for the next century using projection mapping and sound to create a futuristic new look.

We are interested in proposals that reference a connection to the building or the city but it is not essential that they are narrative led. The proposals may be abstract, sequence or pattern based. The artwork can be durational to last all evening; or shorter in length and designed to be looped.

The artwork must have cross-generational appeal and inspire a sense of wonder in everyone who sees and hears it. The work will preview on Thursday 2nd October and then on Friday 3rd October it will form the centrepiece to Light Night. Light Night is an annual event that takes place in Leeds city centre each October where artists, makers and performers transform the city's streets and buildings for an unforgettable evening of exhibitions, installations and performances. In 2013 an audience of 35,000 people attended Light Night experiencing 65 different events spread over 30 locations in the city centre.

Leeds Civic Hall is located on Millennium Square and is bordered by Leeds City Museum and the Carriageworks Theatre, which are also Light Night venues. It is also adjacent to Leeds General Infirmary.

Expressions of interest to this open call are invited from experienced professional artists, designers and organisations to create a new work that is inspired by and inspires the city.

Practical requirements

- ▶ The commission must be for original work, this might be a brand new piece or a significant development from an earlier piece of work.
- ▶ The artwork will run for approximately 3 hours each evening (exact times to be confirmed). Work designed to be looped over the course of the evening must be a minimum of 15 minutes in length.
- ▶ The sound composition must be integral to the work and must be sympathetic to the proximity of the hospital next door.
- ▶ Project delivery to take place in October 2014.
- ▶ Projects must be deliverable within budget and to agreed timescales.
- ▶ Applicants must not rely on a major commitment of staff resources from Leeds City Council. It is essential that you have the experience to oversee the installation/operation of the work.
- ▶ Applicants must proactively work with Leeds Inspired and Light Night to create a buzz about the commission in and about the city and to capture the imaginations of Leeds' residents.

Eligibility

- ▶ Applications are open to established artists, designers, groups or organisations who can clearly demonstrate experience of leading on successful large projection mapping projects of a similar nature. Applicants do not have to be based in Leeds.

Schedule

- ▶ Deadline for submissions – Tuesday 22nd April 2014
- ▶ Interviews – Wednesday 30th April 2014 (to be confirmed)
- ▶ Project development – May onwards
- ▶ Project delivery – 2nd & 3rd October 2014
- ▶ Evaluation complete – November 2014

Budget

- ▶ The budget is expected to be between £18,000 – £23,000 inc. VAT to include all development and production.
- ▶ Budgets must include all production, infrastructure and artist costs, including travel.

How To Apply

Please submit the following by electronic or hard copy

- ▶ A completed applicant information sheet.
- ▶ An outline proposal including images (no more than 5 sides of A4) and/or a video pitch (of around 5 minutes in length). Projects do not need to be fully formed at the proposal stage but should demonstrate clear viability.
- ▶ Please let us know where your video is hosted (eg Vimeo or Youtube) along with any password required to view the content if it is not publicly accessible. Alternatively you can supply in DVD format.
- ▶ Detailed project budget (supplied in Word, Excel or PDF format).
- ▶ Artists or organisations background information and supporting evidence. This must demonstrate experience of delivering successful large projection mapping projects.
- ▶ Applications from organisations/producers should include confirmed details of the Lead Artists involved.

Our Process

- ▶ Applications will be assessed by Leeds Inspired in consultation with the Light Night team.
- ▶ Short-listed applicants will be invited to interview.
- ▶ The selected applicant will work on the development of the full project plan and evaluation framework in consultation with the Leeds Inspired Programmer.
- ▶ Leeds Inspired reserves the right to re-open the call or not to make an award if applications are deemed unsuitable.

Further information

Please send all applications to:

Jane@leedsinspired.co.uk

If you have any questions about the commission please contact:

Jane Earnshaw

Leeds Inspired

Leeds City Council

Town Hall

The Headrow

Leeds

LS1 3AD

www.leedsinspired.co.uk

About Leeds Inspired

Leeds Inspired works with communities, arts organisations and artists to create, enjoy and share culture in the city. We support culture in the city through our grants schemes, commissions and the Leeds Inspired What's On website.

Through our annual grants schemes and commissions we fund cultural projects that create quality, accessible cultural experiences for Leeds' residents and visitors alike. We have funded over 170 projects and events that have transformed spaces, told stories and inspired new pieces of work to happen.

The Leeds Inspired What's On website works with event organisers across the city, bringing together the city's annual highlights alongside independent events and fleet-of-foot DIY happenings to create an ever changing cultural calendar. Leeds Inspired is part of Leeds City Council.

www.leedsinspired.co.uk

About Leeds*

Leeds is a modern and diverse city. It is the third largest and one of the fastest growing in the UK and is now home to an estimated 798,800 people. Leeds is the regional capital and the main economic driver for Yorkshire with major road, rail and air connections to neighbouring towns and cities and to national and international networks.

Its diversity can be seen in a population which is made up of residents of over 140 different ethnic groups and the fact that Leeds school children speak over 170 languages with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups representing 17.4% of the population.

A unique and distinctive place, the city has a rich industrial heritage; two-thirds of the district is green belt and it is in easy reach of two national parks.

Known as the leading financial and legal centre in the UK outside London, the city is home to some of the largest financial institutions in the country. It has a diverse economy, excellent universities and world-class culture and sport.

Culture, tourism and sport play a key role in attracting people and investment to Leeds. The growth in the number of visitors to the city has been helped by restoring and developing flagship cultural and sporting venues including Northern Ballet & Phoenix Dance Theatre, The City Museum, The Grand Theatre & Howard Assembly Rooms, The City Varieties, The John Charles Centre for Sport, Headingley Stadium and the recently opened Leeds Arena. Leeds is home to Yorkshire Dance, Opera North, West Yorkshire Playhouse, East Street Arts, Phoenix Dance, Henry Moore Institute and a wide range of festivals. It has a vibrant independent music scene and is jam packed with DIY events.

Visit **www.leedsinspired.co.uk** to get a flavour of what's currently on in the city.

* Information taken from *Vision for Leeds 2030* and the *State of the City* report.
Both are available for download from <http://www.leedsinitiative.org>

**If this form is required in large print
please contact the Arts Officer on
0113 247 6419**

Please use Adobe Reader to complete this form.

Download Adobe Reader free from <https://get.adobe.com/uk/reader/>

APPLICANT INFORMATION

1.1 Name of lead organisation/artist/producer

1.2 Contact details

Named contact for all correspondence:

Email address:

Web address:

Mobile number:

Daytime phone number:

Address for correspondence

1.3 Partnership organisations involved (if a joint application)

If this is a partnership application please list the key partners

A) Organisation:

Lead contact:

Contact number:

B) Organisation:

Lead contact:

Contact number:

1.4 **What is the title of your proposal?**

1.5 **Summary description** (approx 100 words)

1.6 **List of supporting materials enclosed with application:**

1.7 **Relevant web links:**

Signature:

Date:

Closing Date: Friday 22 April 2014

Submission by email: Jane@leedsinspired.co.uk