

## **A Good Age** ***Change in my Time***

### **Five contemporary craft commissions**

Devon Guild of Craftsmen and Libraries Unlimited are commissioning five, UK based, professional older artists (born before 1948) to make new contemporary craft work responding to a theme of age and change within the artist's lifetime. The commissioned works will be shown in a celebratory exhibition, *A Good Age*, at Devon Guild of Craftsmen in 2019.

### **Context**

The commissioned works will be exhibited alongside participatory craftworks made by older people in local workshops running during September 2018 - June 2019. Devon Guild of Craftsmen is working in partnership with Libraries Unlimited to bring arts and culture into places where older people find it easier to engage with social and creative activity and the two organisations are planning craft based workshops for participants with the theme *Change in my time*. Workshops will be run by separately selected community artists in five different Devon towns, with town libraries hosting exhibitions of the participatory work at the end of the project. Local community artists are part of a different selection process for workshops, and not part of this commission for individual professional artists.

At the culmination of the project Devon Guild of Craftsmen will host the exhibition *A Good Age* in the main Jubilee Gallery at their headquarters in Bovey Tracey. This exhibition will show the five professional artists' commissioned, alongside community craftwork created in the workshops.

### **Brief**

Devon Guild of Craftsmen is an organisation dedicated to exhibiting, commissioning and selling contemporary crafts. We will consider commission proposals in the disciplines we support. Broadly, these are all disciplines of craft including photography, printmaking and sculpture.

The overall theme, *Change in my Time*, may be interpreted in many ways:

- As change within the artist's lifetime, either personal or relating to the bigger global issues that surround us
- Celebrating age
- Awareness of age and wellbeing

The overall premise for the project is to engage and support older people and as such these commissions are seen as an investment in older artists. These commissions are given as an example of validation of the artist, and aim to have a positive impact on society's approach to ageing, and to contribute to the desire to keep making into older age.

### **Fee**

£2,500 per commission.

### **How to apply**

We will consider applications from any UK based contemporary craft practitioner over the age of 70 (born before 1948).

## Please make sure your application includes

- No more than 2 sides of A4:
  - explaining how you will interpret the theme – personally and through your work
  - your chosen discipline
  - the scale of the intended work
  - previous history of working to commission
- Short C.V.
- Up to 6 images of recent work (title, material, size, date made) no larger than 1MB each

## Please submit your application via email to: [saffron.wynne@crafts.org.uk](mailto:saffron.wynne@crafts.org.uk)

Please use **A Good Age craft commission** in the subject line of your email.

Each application will be acknowledged, so if you don't receive this acknowledgement please re-send.

**Deadline for applications:** Monday 3 September 2018, 9am

## Timescale

Application deadline	Monday 3 September 2018, 9am
Selection	Week beginning 17 September 2018
Making of commission	October 2018 – August 2019
Mid-commission report	March 2019
Delivery of commission	9 – 11 September 2019
Opening party	20 September 2019, 6-8pm
Exhibition dates	21 September – 3 November 2019

## Devon Guild of Craftsmen

is the leading contemporary craft venue in the south west, recognised for the quality of our exhibitions and learning programme. We run a full exhibitions programme throughout the year at our Devon base, and tour exhibitions regionally and nationally. As a membership organisation we support over 300 professional makers from across the south west to develop their creative practice. Our education outreach programme seeks to reach communities who have limited access to creative opportunities.

## Libraries Unlimited

is a new and independent social enterprise, established in April 2016 with the support of Devon County Council to run the public library service across Devon. Its mission is to bring ideas, imagination, knowledge and creativity to people's lives and includes supporting the health and wellbeing of communities as a core purpose. Libraries Unlimited has been awarded Arts Council England National Portfolio status commencing in April 2018, one of only six library applicants given this distinction.