

SET Members' Programme Open Call for Exhibitions August - December 2024

Key dates

Submissions open: Wednesday 17 April 2024

Deadline: **Sunday 5 May 2024 (midnight)**

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted by Tuesday 14 May and follow-up meetings will be held week commencing 20 May, these can be conducted in person or online.

What is the Members' Programme?

At SET, we circulate two open calls per year to stage exhibitions as part of our public programme, and facilitate one-off bookings of the project spaces for events and workshops, as well as bookings to document and make work.

At four of our centres, we have allocated free exhibition space for use by our studio members, embedded within our studio buildings. We sometimes organise our own exhibitions (SET Projects) and partner with external, like-minded artists and organisations. The majority of the exhibitions staged in our project spaces reflect the interests of the artists who hold studios across our centres and are allocated each year according to the criteria outlined below,

What is the opportunity?

We are looking for exhibition proposals from our studio members to stage a 2- 3 week exhibition (extensions available upon request) in one of our project spaces between *August - December 2024*. We accept applications from artists working across a variety of practices including craft, architecture, and design. Studio members who are curators are welcome to apply to curate shows of work by members and non-members, although preference will be given to shows that include work by our membership. Similarly, if studio artists would like to partner with external curators to curate their work, they are welcome to do so.

Proposals for one-off events and workshops are reviewed on a rolling basis by emailing submissions@setspace.uk. There are also opportunities to book the project spaces in between exhibitions in order to document your work, or to make larger work. These bookings can be arranged with your Studio Manager. Exhibitions will be selected by the SET curatorial team. If you have already applied to our previous open calls and haven't been selected, please feel free to

apply again with a new application! Members can apply to stage one exhibition with us per year.

You can apply to stage an exhibition in one of the following centres:

[Lewisham Retail Park](#)

[Woolwich](#)

[Kensington](#)

[Ealing](#)

Preference will be given to studio members who apply for shows in the centres where they currently hold a studio. Equal weight will also be given to studio holders in buildings without project spaces to the nearest site with a project space (e.g North Greenwich to Woolwich; Clockwork Studios and Lewisham High Street to Lewisham Retail Park). If you would like to view any of these sites before the open call deadline, please contact submissions@setspace.uk.

Who is SET looking to support?

Applications will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- Quality of (art)work
- Collaboration with other members, artists or like-minded charities and organisations
- Uniqueness and inventiveness of approach
- Critical rigour and engagement with broader social, political, and/or theoretical discourses
- Relevance to SET's context and each centre's local audience

We will consider solo shows, but a preference will be given to shows that include collaborative working.

We welcome shows that present a coherent project and are responsive to the gallery spaces and their surrounding areas.

SET endeavours to support a diverse and inclusive programme and community. Promoting diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunities is fundamental to SET's operations and makes it possible for us to fill our charitable objective; *'for the public benefit, to promote, improve and advance appreciation of the arts'*. We are especially interested in applications from artists with disabilities, neurodivergent artists, BIPOC artists, the LGBTQI+ creative community, and womxn, non-binary and gender non-conforming people.

How to apply

Proposals must be submitted via email to submissions@setspace.uk by **midnight, Sunday 5 May**.

Please provide the following information:

1. Your name
2. Any collaborator's names
3. Your studio location (SET Centre and studio number, if you know it)
4. Contact details (email and phone number)
5. The project space you are applying to stage a show in (Lewisham Retail Park, Kensington, Ealing or Woolwich)
6. Project title
7. Preferred dates for your exhibition
8. Artist Biography (max. 200 words): including details about you and your practice(s).
9. Project Outline (max. 300 words): addressing themes, research, broader context of the work, production, installation, materials etc. This can include: images, sketches, research, works lists, as appropriate to the nature of your exhibition.
10. Additional media (optional): including examples of previous works, links to artist websites, CV.

PDF proposals should not exceed 8 pages and must be under 10MB.

You can also submit a proposal as a video or audio track instead of a pdf document. If you choose to submit via this method, please:

1. Tell us about your proposed exhibition
2. Tell us about yourself and your practice, including examples of your previous work
3. If you have any supplementary materials such as images or your work, website links, CV, please put these in a pdf or word document and sent to submissions@setspace.uk

If you have any difficulty submitting your work, or have any further access requirements, please email submissions@setspace.uk

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by the SET curatorial team. A shortlist of applicants will be selected for follow up conversations via zoom or in person.

Unfortunately, due to the volume of applicants we receive, we are unable to provide feedback on individual applicants.

If your application is successful, SET will be able to support you with the following:

- Free exhibition space for an exhibition that runs for 2-3 weeks
- A staffed exhibition opening that will take place on a Thursday evening, between 6-9pm.
- A £100 materials and printing budget that can be reimbursed via invoice, with receipts provided.
- A £50 total drinks budget (including disposable cups etc) for the private view that can be reimbursed via invoice, with receipts provided. Each project space has a fold-out table that can be used for drinks.
- Exhibition marketing (including social media promotion, newsletters and press liaison).
- Curatorial support to develop and realise your proposal within each centre's context.
- Help with any additional funding applications you may want to apply for individually (proofreading, advice, support letter).

SET expects from the selected artists:

- A collaborative, respectful and proactive approach to working with SET
- The coordination of the transport of artworks
- Installation and deinstallation of the show. We ask that the spaces are left in good condition (we will provide paint if the space needs to be repainted). Members may be fined for misuse of the space.
- Self-invigilation of the show
- Active participation in marketing your exhibition, including providing necessary media to SET well in advance of the event.
- Full responsibility for all additional costs including research, development and production, installation, documentation of your work.
- We do not have insurance to cover exhibited artworks and equipment against loss and damage. If you are concerned about the security of your works, please do get in touch with us for further information. We recommend that you get insurance cover individually through A-N.

Sale of work

SET is a registered charity, and it is outside of our charitable remit for work to be sold within our project spaces. We therefore ask that no prices are displayed alongside the works shown, and that any sale of work is arranged externally.

Meanwhile-use disclaimer

SET operates via a meanwhile-use model, meaning that we have a rolling contract with our landlords at each of our sites.

In the unfortunate event that we lose a site, we aim to provide as much notice as possible to our members, and we guarantee at least one month's notice will be given. If a show needs to be cancelled because of this, we will do our best to rehome it in a different project space and we will cover production costs under £100.

If you have any further questions about meanwhile-use, please contact your respective Studio Managers.