

Press release: 7 November

**Unlimited opens the second round of submissions today
and Arts Council Wales announces its support of £120,000**

Unlimited, the initiative which supports disabled artists to create and present exceptional work across the artforms, announces the opening of the second round of submissions for commission funds. Disabled artists and companies who are creating new disability-led work are invited to apply.

Unlimited is funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and Creative Scotland and delivered by Shape and Artsadmin. This round of Unlimited commissions will also be supported for the first time by Arts Council Wales which contributes £120,000.

Commissions from Unlimited's first round of applications were highlights of this September's Unlimited Festival at Southbank Centre. They included Katherine Araniello's *The Dinner Party Revisited*, Julie McNamara's *Let Me Stay*, Ian Johnston and Gary Gardiner's *Dancer*, Jo Bannon's *Exposure*, Fittings MultiMedia's *Edmund the Learned Pig*, Birds of Paradise Theatre's *Wendy Hoose*, Juan delGado's *The Flickering Darkness (Revisited)* and Owen Lowery's *Otherwise Unchanged*. Many of these artists continue to tour in 2014 and 2015 (see listings information below).

Artists and companies are also invited to attend surgeries on the application process in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool, London, Caernarfon and Cardiff (weareunlimited.org.uk/contact for more details). The deadline for applications is 2 February 2015 with funding decisions announced at the end of March 2015.

Jo Verrent, Senior Producer of Unlimited, said:

“Art is at the heart of Unlimited; it's the work that disabled artists and companies create that has the power and potential to transform perceptions. It's a real privilege to be able to extend that opportunity now not just to artists based in England and Scotland but Wales too. I can't wait to see what they all have to offer!”

Diane Hebb, Director of Engagement and Participation from Arts Council Wales said:

“We are very pleased to support the second round of Unlimited commissions. This exciting development will offer a number of commissions for Wales-based artists to develop and produce ambitious and high quality work, with mentoring support. We aspire to a society that embraces equality and celebrates diversity and the Unlimited commissions play a vital part in realising this goal.”

Ends

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7 November 2014

Notes to Editors

Unlimited is delivered by the disability-led arts organisation Shape and arts producing organisation Artsadmin and funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and Creative Scotland. The programme supports disabled artists to develop their practice, forming new relationships and collaborations with producers, venues and promoters; it will increase distribution of the work (through touring, including international touring, and digital iterations) affording greater opportunities for audiences to see some of the very the best work available from disabled artists right across the UK and internationally. The Unlimited initiative also includes an aligned programme called Unlimited Impact which focuses on supporting young people, geographic reach and ensuring legacy.

Shape is a disability-led arts organisation working to improve access to culture for disabled people by developing opportunities for disabled artists, training cultural institutions to be more open to disabled people, and running participatory arts and development programmes. www.shapearts.org.uk

Artsadmin is an arts lab for the 21st Century, supporting the creation of new performance, site-specific and interdisciplinary work by the most talented and innovative artists through mentoring, development and producing support. www.artsadmin.co.uk

Arts Council England champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2010 and 2015, we will invest £1.9 billion of public money from government and an estimated £1.1 billion from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. www.artscouncil.org.uk

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit www.creativescotland.com

Arts Council Wales

Arts Council of Wales is an independent charity, established by Royal Charter in 1994. Its members are appointed by the Welsh Government's Deputy Minister for Culture, Sports and Tourism. Its principal sponsor is the Welsh Government. It also distributes

funding from the National Lottery and raises additional money from a variety of public and private sector sources. It's the country's funding and development organisation for the arts. Working together with the Welsh Government, it's able to show how the arts are helping to meet the Government's policy ambitions. Its vision is of a creative Wales where the arts are central to the life of the nation.

Unlimited artists on tour in 2014 and 2015

Listings information

Ian Johnston and Gary Gardiner

Dancer

8 November 2014
Battersea Arts Centre
020 7223 2223
www.bac.org.uk

13 November
People Dancing Festival - Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff
0116 253 3453
www.communitydance.org.uk

21 November
Dadafest, Liverpool
0151 707 1733
www.dadafest.co.uk

The vacuum cleaner's Madlove Asylum

13 November 2014
Nottingham Contemporary
0115 948 9750
www.nottinghamcontemporary.org

14 November 2014
NAGAS
Newcastle
0191 2616027
www.chillistudios.co.uk

Owen Lowery

Otherwise Unchanged

20 November 2014
John Rylands Library, Manchester
0161 306 0555
www.manchester.ac.uk/library/rylands

4 December 2014
The Bluecoat, Liverpool
0151 702 5324
www.thebluecoat.org.uk

10 February 2015
Octagon Theatre, Yeovil
01935 422884
www.octagon-theatre.co.uk

6 May 2015
Worktown Literature Festival, Bolton
07954 996826
www.livefromworktown.com

3 June 2015
The Ted Hughes Arvon Centre, Lumb Bank, Hebden Bridge
01422 843714
www.arvon.org

8 October 2015
Morley Literature Festival, Leeds
0844 848 2706
www.morleyliteraturefestival.co.uk

Extant
Flight Paths

26 November 2014
The Albany, Deptford
0208692 4446
www.thealbany.org.uk

Lea Cummings
Exhibition
17 January 2015
Project Ability Gallery, Glasgow
0141 552 2822
www.project-ability.co.uk

Fittings Multimedia

Edmund the Learned Pig

11 March 2015
Norwich Playhouse
01603 612580
www.norwichplayhouse.co.uk

19 March 2015
Liverpool Everyman
0151 709 4776
www.everymanplayhouse.com

16 April 2015
West Yorkshire Playhouse
0113 213 7700
www.wyp.org.uk

Jo Bannon

Exposure

23 April 2015
Buzzcut – The Arches, Glasgow
0151 707 1733
www.thearches.co.uk