

Artangel

PRESS RELEASE
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Open

A £1 million initiative for new site-specific commissions across the UK

'Artangel lets artists do what no one else will. It's as simple as that.' Jeremy Deller

Artangel and BBC Radio 4 today launch a new **Open for artists** anywhere in the UK: a call for artists working in any media to share with Artangel and BBC Radio 4 proposals for ground-breaking projects that will transform the UK's cultural landscape.

Previous Artangel **Open** calls have led to some of the most iconic projects of the past decade – Michael Landy's *Break Down*, the very public destruction in a department store on Oxford Street of absolutely everything the artist owned; Jeremy Deller's *The Battle of Orgreave* in South Yorkshire, the re-enactment of a dark day in the conflict between police and colliery workers during the 1984 Miners' Strike; Roger Hiorns's *Seizure*, the brilliant blue crystal council flat in South London; and Clio Barnard's award-winning film *The Arbor* shot on the Buttershaw Estate in Bradford.

James Lingwood and Michael Morris, Artangel Co-Directors, say: 'Artangel is adamant that nothing potentially exceptional should be thought of as impossible. It's the right time for artists to be as ambitious as possible and for Artangel to be as open as possible. Some remarkable new art in extraordinary places will come out of Open and we're delighted to be collaborating with Radio 4.'

Gwyneth Williams, Controller, Radio 4 says: 'I want to open up the airwaves and invite artists to bring their talents to Artangel and Radio 4. At a time when political and economic ideas often seem to reference the past, what does culture have to say about the way we live now? I am thrilled to launch this new initiative for artists across the UK.'

To mark the new alliance of Artangel and BBC Radio 4, five artists including Christian Marclay and Susan Hiller will participate in **Open Air**, a series of short pieces scheduled for broadcast immediately after the Today programme from 25 – 29 March 2013.

12 **Open Platforms** for artists across the UK are being hosted by some of the UK's leading arts organisations in cities including Belfast, Bristol, Glasgow, Manchester and

NewcastleGateshead between January 28 and February 26. The Platforms are an opportunity to meet Artangel Co-Directors James Lingwood and Michael Morris and artists including Barnard, Deller, Hiorns and Landy.

Open proposals are encouraged from visual artists, filmmakers, writers, composers, theatre makers, choreographers and producers as well as artists working in the digital space. The closing date for 2013 Open submissions is Monday 29 April. Shortlisted artists will have the opportunity to meet and develop their proposals with **Open Mentors**. A range of influential cultural figures including **Andrea Arnold, Felix Barrett, Adam Curtis, Tacita Dean, Ryan Gander, Rachel Whiteread** and **Penny Woolcock** have made themselves available as **Open Mentors**.

In June the first **Open** commissions will be chosen by a selection panel including James Lingwood and Michael Morris, Tony Phillips, Arts Commissioning Editor at Radio 4, Clio Barnard and Roger Hiorns. They will be announced in June and presented between 2014 and 2015.

For more information and submissions visit artangel.org.uk/open

-Ends -

For further press information and interview requests, please contact Emily Bromfield at emily@artangel.org.uk or Anna Larkin at anna@artangel.org.uk or call +44 20 7713 1400.

Notes to Editors

About Open

- Open is an Artangel initiative first launched in 1999. Its aim is to seek out the most grand and extraordinary ideas from artists to commission and present in public spaces across the UK.
- In 2013, up to £1 million is available for new site-specific commissions by artists living and working in the UK.
- For the first time, the initiative is accepting proposals for projects in the digital space.
- Previous Open artists have included Clio Barnard (*The Arbor*), Turner-Prize winner Jeremy Deller (*The Battle of Orgreave*), Roger Hiorns (*Seizure*), Alan Kane (*Life Class: Today's Nude*) and Michael Landy (*Break Down*).
- Monday 29 April 2013 is the first deadline for submissions.
- The 2013 selection panel includes Artangel Co-Directors James Lingwood and Michael Morris; Commissioning Editor, Arts, Radio 4, Tony Phillips; Clio Barnard; and Roger Hiorns.
- Between 28 January and 26 February 2013, Artangel will visit 12 cities across the UK for Open Platforms, events providing artists the opportunity to talk to Artangel directly about the initiative. Cities include London (28 January, Conway Hall); Manchester (29 January, Whitworth Art Gallery); Liverpool (30 January, Liverpool Biennial); Leeds (31 January, Leeds City Art Gallery); Suffolk (2 February, Aldeburgh Music, Snape); Cardiff (4 February, National Theatre Wales); Bristol (5 February, Bristol Old Vic); Nottingham (11 February, Nottingham Contemporary); Birmingham (12 February, Ikon Gallery); Newcastle (13 February, Baltic, Gateshead); Belfast (19 February, the Mac); Glasgow (26 February, The Common Guild).
- Open Air, five new commissions by artists including Susan Hiller and Christian Marclay produced by Artangel and Somethin' Else exclusively for BBC Radio 4, will broadcast, one a day, between 25 and 29 March 2013.

- Mentoring opportunities with some of the UK's most respected artists through Open Mentors, in association with Diversity Art Forum, will be available for shortlisted applicants. Mentors include Andrea Arnold, Felix Barrett, Adam Curtis, Tacita Dean, Ryan Gander, Rachel Whiteread and Penny Woolcock.

Artangel commissions and produces exceptional projects by outstanding contemporary artists. Over the past two decades, Artangel projects have materialised in a range of different sites and situations and in countless forms of media, from film and video to sculpture and sound installations. Artangel has generated some of the most talked-about, contentious and acclaimed art of recent times, including work by Francis Alÿs, Clio Barnard, Matthew Barney, Jeremy Deller, Brian Eno, Douglas Gordon, Roger Hiorns, Michael Landy, Susan Philipsz, Gregor Schneider, Rachel Whiteread and Robert Wilson. Artangel is generously supported by Arts Council England and the private patronage of Artangel International Circle, Special Angels and the Company of Angels. www.artangel.org.uk

BBC Radio 4 is to become a playground for artists in 2013, with a renewed focus on arts and culture on air, online and beyond. The network will be inviting some of the finest creative minds in the world today to share their vision and ideas with the audience, from preeminent writers and artists to era-defining musicians and directors. In keeping with its dedication to cultural curation and criticism of the highest quality, Radio 4 will continue to engage with listeners on the value of culture to society today.

Arts Council England works to get great art to everyone by championing, developing and investing in artistic experiences that enrich people's lives. It supports a range of artistic activities from theatre to music, literature to dance, photography to digital art, and carnival to crafts. Great art inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves, and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2011 and 2015, the Arts Council will invest £1.4 billion of public money from government and a further £0.85 billion from the National Lottery to create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. www.artscouncil.org.uk

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