

Sandra George Archive Commission for Glasgow International

Deadline: 5pm 11 March 2024

Fee: £2352 (incl. VAT) based on 7 days at £336 per day

Travel costs: up to £100

Production costs: up to £500



Image: *Self Portrait, Bread Street, May 1993*, Sandra George, courtesy of Craigmillar Now

The Glasgow School of Art Exhibitions in partnership with Craigmillar Now are seeking to commission a Scotland-based Black or Person of Colour contemporary photographer / artist / community education worker or curator to engage with the Sandra George Archive at Craigmillar Now and develop an event for Glasgow International that shares their response to her work. A solo exhibition of Sandra George's work will be presented by The Glasgow School of Art Exhibitions in partnership with Craigmillar Now, as part of Glasgow International 2024 at 5 Florence Street, Glasgow. The commissioned event will be part of the programme at 5 Florence Street and take place during Glasgow International, which runs Friday 7th – Sunday 23rd June 2024. It is open as to the form the event commission takes – it could range from an artist talk with images to more speculative forms of presentation, including creative writing, workshops, performance or audio. The event could respond to the exhibition itself at 5 Florence Street.

About Sandra George

Born in Nottingham, Sandra George (1957-2013) lived the first seven years of her life in Jamaica with her mother, before moving to Birmingham, and then Edinburgh, to live with her father. George was a community worker in Craigmillar, Edinburgh. She was a prolific social-documentary photographer, taking thousands of images of community projects across Scotland between the late 1980s through to the late 2000s. Social justice and equity was at the heart of both George's community and artistic work. This solo exhibition of George's work presents her photography and a selection from her wider artistic multi-disciplinary practice which includes printing, painting, bookworks, textiles and jewellery. Her black and white photography includes subjects ranging from Braille classes in Royal Blind School Edinburgh, to capturing sessions with disabled musicians. Her perspective and insight as

a Black female social documentary photographer and artist adds further importance to this collection – women photographers of colour capturing community life in Scotland over this time period are significantly underrepresented. George did not exhibit work in her lifetime. The message of her work – community, care, accessibility and equality in the arts and workplaces, ethics in working with others in under-reached communities, exploration of identity - are all relevant to issues and themes today.

This project is in partnership with Craigmillar Now, a community-led arts and heritage organisation based in Craigmillar, Edinburgh who hold George's collection. Read more about Sandra George and Craigmillar Now [here](#).

Glasgow School of Art Exhibitions curates an innovative year-round public programme that links into GSA staff research, teaching and learning, student experience, creative network, our communities, contemporary practice and heritage. The programme also works with contemporary artists, designers and architects from the UK and abroad.

5 Florence Street is a former Public School Board of Glasgow school building, located across the River Clyde from Glasgow Green. 5 Florence Street is accessible, with lift.

Glasgow International is in its tenth edition. It is Scotland's biennial festival of contemporary art, presenting an array of artists' projects across Glasgow, celebrating and amplifying the city's identity as a vibrant and distinctive centre for artistic production, presentation and cultural organising.

How to Apply

Please provide covering letter outlining the following by **5pm 11 March 2024**

- **What your initial approach would be to this opportunity.**
- **What do you see as the link between your current practice and the themes of Sandra George's work?**
- **A weblink to your work or up to 5 images**
- **A short cv**

We will also accept equivalent descriptions recorded as audio or video files.

If you have any particular access needs that would make the process of submission easier, please email exhibitions@gsa.ac.uk. Please get in touch also if you have any questions and we will put you in touch with Rachael Cloughton (director, Craigmillar Now) or Jenny Brownrigg (GSA Exhibitions Director) via the same email.

Proposed Schedule:

Deadline for Applications: 5pm 11 March 2024

Applicants will Hear back by 22 March 2024

Three archival visits in April 2024

Three development days during May 2024

Event to take place (on 1 day) during GI festival (7 - 23 June 2024) at 5 Florence Street, Glasgow