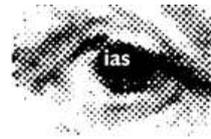


Firstsite



FIRSTSITE / COLCHESTER ART SOCIETY / IPSWICH ART SOCIETY

CALL TO ARTISTS

An opportunity for all Colchester Art Society and Ipswich Art Society members to apply to be part of an exhibition at Firstsite during summer 2020.

EXHIBITION BRIEF

Colchester Art Society (CAS) and Ipswich Art Society (IAS) face each other across a common border, the River Stour. From Sudbury in the west to Felixstowe and Harwich in the east the River Stour flows not only through the landscape but also through art history. It is our border but one that unites rather than divides.

CAS and IAS are collaborating with Firstsite to present an exhibition that considers this mutual border, its landscape and meaning and by implication borders more generally: what they are for, why we feel the need for them, what they divide, what they mean politically and psychologically.

We are inviting CAS/IAS artists to reflect on the lure of the river as subject as well as its historical significance as one of the sources of English landscape painting. CAS/IAS artists are invited to interpret the brief broadly and to produce new work, whether it is painting or print, sculpture, film or installation, knitwear, poem or recipe, for exhibition at Firstsite. There are no rules or preconceptions as to media or format; we wish each artist to go with the grain of their enthusiasm rather than impose unnecessary restraints.

WHAT TO DO NOW

Initially, in order to gauge and manage the size of the exhibition, we need artists who wish to participate to register their interest. If you are interested in being part of this project please register by emailing CAS Chair Bryan Whiteley at bryanwhiteley@hotmail.co.uk.

Deadline to register is Monday 6th January 2020

Work will need to be completed by end of May 2020

FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

Exhibition dates: 18 July – 11 October 2020

The project aims to encourage visual conversations between artists and across borders. Initial discussions with Firstsite have brought up the possibility of hanging the exhibition geographically, grouping works from similar geographic coordinates together. To help this process, please note the location represented in the work, and ensure this information is conveyed with your final submission.

Artists of all levels are encouraged to submit work. A list of participating artists will be circulated thus giving the possibility of developing collaborations. A joint meet up at Firstsite to discuss and develop ideas and even arrange collaborative work can be arranged if desired.

There will be a nominal maximum size of work of 122x122cm. However, if you are planning something bigger, or 3D work, please let us know beforehand so that we can plan accordingly.

If the level of interest is high it will be necessary to convene a selection process

The works can be for sale, with a commission going to Firstsite.

We are planning to exhibit some or all of the work in Ipswich after the Firstsite exhibition closes at a venue to be confirmed.

December 2019