



PRESS RELEASE

FACT ANNOUNCES RETURN OF ONLINE COMMISSIONING SCHEME 'FACT TOGETHER' TO SUPPORT NORTHERN ARTISTS



Image: Gregory Herbert, *We Are Symbiotic* (2020). Courtesy of the artist.

FACT is inviting artists living or working in the North of England to create new digital work in the latest round of its *FACT Together* commissioning scheme. *FACT Together* will offer 4 early-career artists a grant of £2500 each plus a production budget to develop an idea that will be presented online.

- FACT Together is a 3-month online artist residency open to all early-career artists in the North of England
- Four artists will each receive a fee of £2500, a production budget of £1500 plus 3 months of mentorship and support
- Artists will create digital artwork that will be presented online, and on a new large-scale screen on the front of FACT's building, from November 2021. No previous experience of making digital work is necessary
- Artists are invited to respond to the theme *Radical Ancestry*, which focuses on ideas of belonging
- Deadline to apply is midnight, Sunday 1 August 2021



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Following the success of the *FACT Together* pilot scheme in 2020 - developed in response to the financial uncertainty caused by the temporary closure of galleries and museums across the world - FACT is delighted to announce the second instalment of the scheme. *FACT Together* will offer four early-career artists based in the North of England a grant and production budget, plus 3 months of curatorial and production support to create a work that pushes online presentation, and experiments with how digital art can engage audiences.

For this round of funding FACT has partnered with guest curator and mentor Zaiba Jabbar of [HERVISIONS](#) - a femme focused curatorial agency supporting and promoting new media artists working with emergent technologies at the intersection between art, technology and culture. As a curator whose practice is firmly founded in the production and presentation of online artworks, Zaiba's experimental approach to digital space will help shape the final *FACT Together* commissions. As well as being a part of the artist selection panel, Zaiba will work alongside FACT to mentor artists with a focus on creating art in digital spaces.

Each new digital work created will become part of *Radical Ancestry*, FACT's 12 month programme that explores how a fluid understanding of definitions, borders, and belonging brings with it the freedom to create, and to reimagine. The 4 *FACT Together* artists will join a whole host of others, both internationally renowned and emerging, who will respond to the *Radical Ancestry* theme, exploring what happens when we move beyond outdated, unrepresentative structures and ideas which dominate how we see the world.

The [first round of funding in 2020](#) saw artists create works ranging from podcasts, live streams, games, short films, interactive artworks and more. The open call welcomes all forms of online work including audio, video, text, games, performance, animation, social media and workshops. FACT is particularly keen to receive proposals from artists who are looking to develop their practice, so there is no need to have previously created digital or online work.

Nicola Triscott, CEO/Director at FACT, said: “The lifeblood of any art institution is artists. FACT is committed to supporting artists, and enabling them to experiment and develop new work. FACT Together is an important part of our talent development programme, specifically created for emerging artists – the new generation of artists and the future of art.”

Charlotte Horn, Senior Producer at FACT, said: “FACT Together offers a unique opportunity for artists to explore, experiment with and understand digital spaces. We are excited to see the varied work that artists and creatives are producing in the North, and to have the opportunity to work with and learn from them as they develop their practises.”



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Shonagh Short, FACT Together 2020 artist, said “Being part of FACT Together has changed the direction of my practice. As a socially engaged artist, my work has always been participatory and interactive in a live site-specific way but now I understand the potential of taking these elements into the digital realm. It was fun to be a beginner and have permission to play without any expectation of perfection.”

Artists can submit their proposal online by sending a written proposal or recording an audio or video clip. For more information about *FACT Together*, eligibility and how to submit a proposal, please visit www.fact.co.uk/together.

Deadline for artist proposals is Sunday 1 August at midnight. If artists have any questions around accessibility or specific working requirements, please contact residency@fact.co.uk.

FACT Together 2021 is presented in collaboration with Hervisions, supported by The Granada Foundation.

NOTES TO EDITORS

For further information, please contact:

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ABOUT FACT

FACT is the UK's leading film and media arts centre, bringing people, art and technology together. Based in Liverpool, FACT's award-winning building houses two galleries, four cinemas, a café and bar. Now celebrating 18 years in its Liverpool home, FACT has welcomed over 5 million visitors and commissioned and presented over 350 new media and digital artworks from artists including Nam June Paik, Krzysztof Wodiczko, Wu Tsang, Ryoichi Kurokawa, Agnes Varda, Isaac Julien and Marianna Simnett. fact.co.uk

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