**FACT TOGETHER**

**KEY INFORMATION**

## 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 work that will be presented online from November 2021
* All forms of online artwork are encouraged including audio, video, text, games, apps, virtual or augmented reality, performance, animation and social media.
* No previous experience of making digital work is necessary
* Artists must respond to the theme *Radical Ancestry,* which focuses on ideas of belonging, how our biological and cultural heritage shapes our identities, and how we understand and construct who we are.
* Submit your application online here.
* Deadline: Apply by midnight, Sunday 1 August.

## **OVERVIEW**

Following the success of the FACT Together pilot scheme in 2020 - developed in response to the uncertainty caused to artists and creatives by the Covid-19 pandemic - we’re launching the second instalment of FACT Together as part of our ongoing commitment to online commissioning.

FACT Together 2021 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 call we have partnered with guest curator and mentor Zaiba Jabbar of [HERVISIONS](https://www.instagram.com/hervisions_/?hl=en) - 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.

## **ARTIST BRIEF**

FACT Together will offer four early-career artists a fee of £2500 and production budget of £1500 each to create a new work responding to FACT’s 2021 programme *Radical Ancestry* - see ‘Context - Radical Ancestry’ below.

The main output of this work will be online, but we will also invite the successful artists to present their work on a new large-scale screen on the front of FACT’s building, to be launched later this year. Final outcomes can also include events and live performances, should they suit the scope of the work.

Each artist will receive mentorship from FACT who will support the development, production and promotion of their proposals. This includes virtual group sessions with fellow FACT Together 2021 artists, creating a support network; and a programme of talks and workshops focused on practice and professional development. The physical production and outcome of the residency will be mainly online, though presentation on FACT’s new large-scale screen may require a site visit to the gallery - the cost of which will be covered by FACT.

**CONTEXT - RADICAL ANCESTRY**

Proposals should respond to the themes of FACT’s 2021/22 programme *Radical Ancestry*, a year-long exploration into the sense of belonging. In the aftermath of a global pandemic, we are more aware of how technology has changed how we think about ourselves, the people around us, and the places we call home. History, geography, biology and culture all form part of our ancestral story but how does technology help us to explore new ways of thinking and experimenting with who we are? This programme aims to change previous narratives and move towards a more inclusive understanding of what it means to belong.

## **PROCESS**

We welcome all forms of online work and encourage a diversity of media: audio, video, text, games, app design, virtual or augmented reality, performance, socially-engaged practice, web or desktop interventions, animation, social media takeovers and workshops. We are particularly keen to receive proposals from artists who are looking to develop their practice, so you do not need to have previously created digital or online work.

Proposals will be assessed by FACT and Zaiba Jabbar, and selected on their response to this brief, how well they articulate FACT’s 2021 theme of *Radical Ancestry*, and their feasibility within the budget and timeline. The final project should be ready to share from November 2021.

**ELIGIBILITY AND ACCESS**

* *FACT Together* is open to all artists living and working in the North of England (as defined by [Arts Council England](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/your-area/north) which includes North West, Yorkshire and North East).
* This scheme is aimed at early-career artists. We define an early-career artist as someone in the early stages of their professional career as an artist. This is usually someone who has been working on their practice for more than 2 years.
* FACT is flexible to the different circumstances in which people work. If your application is successful, we will invite you to share with us details of any access requirements you may have, however you define access.
* No previous experience of making digital work is necessary, however, an awareness of online channels is important.

**HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL**

Please visit our online submissions form here. The closing date for applications is midnight on Sunday 1 August.

If you need any further support with the application process, please email residency@fact.co.uk with the subject line 'FACT Together 2021'.

**BUDGET & GRANT**

Each artist will receive a fee of £2500, and a production budget of £1500.

The fee will be paid in two instalments. 50% on selection and 50% upon completion of the project. Fees will be paid 30 days after the receipt of a valid invoice. Production budget can be managed by the artist or FACT, subject to agreement.

**KEY DATES**

Deadline for proposals: Sunday 1 August 2021, midnight

Outcome of decision and all applicants informed: From Monday 23 August

Initial conversations with selected artists: From Monday 23 August

Online or digital work ready to go live: From November 2021

## **Funders**

FACT is funded by Arts Council England and Liverpool City Council. FACT Together 2021 is presented in collaboration with Hervisions, supported by The Granada Foundation.