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| The Whitworth Wallis Fellowship 2025  with Birmingham Museums Trust  APPLICATION FORM  **Closing Date: Monday 16 June 2025 Midnight**  The Sir Whitworth Wallis Trust funds an annual artist Fellowship with Birmingham Museums Trust, in partnership with Birmingham City University’s College of Art and Design.  Applications are sought from BA, MA and PhD fine art or art & design students (Full and Part-time), graduating from BCU’s College of Art & Design, and alumni of up to ten years since graduating.  **The selected artist will be paid an artist’s bursary of £2,000 to undertake a six month Fellowship with Birmingham Museums Trust.**  The Fellowship aims to enable the artist to have access to, research and study the city’s world-class museum collections to inform their own creative practice, and to develop their professional career.  Fellowship 2025 Programme  w/c 21 July 25: Start-up meeting with Birmingham Museums curatorial staff to plan the Fellowship. The first instalment of £1000 bursary will be paid to the artist following the signing of the contract.  **8 Sep 2025 -** 6 month Fellowship with access to Birmingham Museums’ collections on display and  **6 Feb 2026:** in store. The second instalment of £1000 bursary is issued to the artist 3 months after commencement of the Fellowship (Dec 2025).  5 Feb 2026: Artist to present a short end of project written evaluation report about their Fellowship, as well as present finished research and/or any resulting artwork(s) at a Sir Whitworth Wallis Trust board meeting on 5 Feb 2026.  The Fellowship is aimed at early and mid-career artists that have studied at Birmingham City University’s College of Art & Design and can demonstrate exceptional creative ability. The Fellowship has no defining conditions, moreover it is an opportunity for the selected artist to develop their practice under self-directed research, using the city’s collections at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, the Museum Collection Centre and other Birmingham museums to inform their work ([www.birminghammuseums.org.uk](http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk)). As one of the most important UK civic museum collections it covers art, history, science and industry. You can get an insight into the collection online at [dams.birminghammuseums.org.uk/](https://dams.birminghammuseums.org.uk/) and [www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/collection](http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/collection), but there are many more objects to discover both on display and in store.  The successful applicant will also have access to BCU’s School of Art facilities by appointment only, a free workspace at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery throughout the Fellowship as well as opportunities to potentially engage in public events at the world-renowned museum depending on their interests. We want you to be inspired and to inspire others!  **Interviews for shortlisted artists:** **Thursday 3 July 2025** **at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery**  **Mark tick boxes with an ‘x’**. | | | |
| **Section 1** | Contact Details | | *GUIDE* |
| a. | Forename and surname |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |
| b. | Address |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| c. | Telephone |  |  |
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|  | Mobile |  |  |
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|  | Email address |  |  |
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|  | Website |  |  |
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| **Section 2** | Artistic Background | |  |
| a. | Please provide information outlining your artistic background, including details of key projects, collaborations and awards. Please supply all dates. |  |  |
|  |  |  | This information can be supplied in a bullet point  format |
|  |  |  |  |
| b. | Please provide a short artistic biographical statement for yourself. (no more than 100 words) |  |  |
|  |  |  | This information should be in paragraph format, rather than bullet points, and may be used for future publicity purposes if you are selected for the Fellowship. |
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| **Section 3** | Your aims | |  |
| a. | Please describe what you would aim to achieve during this Fellowship and how you would undertake it.  (no more than 800 words) |  |  |
|  |  |  | This is an important section of your proposal.  Provide a project outline indicating your main artistic aims.  Consider what it is about your proposal that makes it unique.  State how you will approachyour Fellowship to fit into the timescale.  State how you will explore your artform and/or area of research.  State the medium and techniques you will use.  Explain how this project will benefit your creative and professional practice and future development. |
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| **Section 4** | Access requirements | | | |
| a. | Do you have any access requirements? | | |  |
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|  | No |  |  |  |
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|  | Yes |  |  |  |
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|  | If ‘yes’, please state |  | |  |
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| **Section 5** | Supporting Documentation  Use the following check list to ensure that you have completed all relevant areas of the form and included all necessary documentation. | | |
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|  | CV |  |  |
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|  | Up to 12 carefully selected images in PDF format or a weblink to view film(s) that **best represent your work** |  |  |
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| **Section 6** | Declaration | |
|  | Signature |  |
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|  | Full Name in Block Letters |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | Date |  |
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| **Section 7** | **Return Addresses** | |
|  | Please send the application form, complete with your CV and images to  [whitworthfellowship@birminghammuseums.org.uk](mailto:whitworthfellowship@birminghammuseums.org.uk) by no later than **Monday 16 June 2025 at midnight** |  |
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|  | Emails should be titled: ‘**WWT FELLOWSHIP 2025 – [your name]**’  If you have any problems emailing your submission then please feel free to use an online file transfer service e.g. wetransfer.com |  |
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| **Section 8** | Assessment  How your application will be assessed | |
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| * The assessment panel will comprise members of the Sir Whitworth Wallis Trust, Birmingham Museums Trust, and Birmingham City University’s College of Art & Design. * We will make an assessment on the quality of the ideas, selecting projects that demonstrate creativity and benefit artistic practice. * If you are shortlisted, you will be asked to attend an interview on Thursday 3 July 2025 at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. NB we are unable to alter the interview date. * We are unable to provide feedback for unsuccessful candidates. * The successful artist will be required to enter into a contract of agreement with Birmingham Museums Trust, before being paid the first £1000 instalment of the total £2000 artists bursary. * The artist fellow will be expected to actively record and promote their Fellowship over the 6 months through their own online platforms and those of Birmingham Museums and BCU. * The artist fellow will have up to 4 full days’ access to museum collections stored at the Museum Collection Centre, to help inform their research and creative practice. * We welcome suggestions from the artist for ways that they can engage the wider public through possible public events at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery or other museum sites. * The artist fellow will have to write a short end of Fellowship evaluation report and give a short presentation about their Fellowship at a Whitworth Wallis Trust board meeting on 5 February 2026.   To find out more about the Whitworth Wallis Fellowship and past artist Fellows please visit:  <https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/about/what-we-do/the-whitworth-wallis-fellowship> | | |