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# VENICE FELLOWSHIPS

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A Steward-Research Programme  
At the British Pavilion during the Venice Biennale



## How does it work?

The British Council has created a programme to enrich engagement around the exhibition, and to help to make the Venice Biennale a reference point for universities and cultural organisations.

The British Council works in partnership with universities, arts and architecture organisations throughout the UK to support up to 70 Fellows to embark on a one-month Fellowship at the Venice Biennale.

Candidates are selected through a competitive application and interview process. Successful Fellows are awarded a grant to cover their travel, accommodation and living costs, and embark on a training and research programme, funded by participating institutions and the British Council.



**“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our students to learn from and contribute to the greatest art show on earth.”**

Dr Gary Boyd,  
Reader in Architecture,  
Queen’s University, Belfast

## What are the benefits for Partners?

Institutions will have:

- the opportunity to become active participants in the Biennale and contribute to linked research with other UK-based and international organisations
- the chance to send some of their brightest students and practitioners to Venice to embark on a unique personal and professional development experience
- the possibility of incorporating Biennale themes into their own programmes
- the potential to use the British Pavilion for tours, seminars and workshops when taking student groups to Venice.

## What are the benefits for Fellows?

Fellows will have the chance to:

- spend a month in Venice during a major international cultural event
- conduct independent research in and around Venice, enhancing current studies and professional practice
- receive training on exhibition planning, invigilation, access and public engagement
- gain experience of exhibition programming, stewarding and condition checking of art work
- enrich their research and practice through interdisciplinary engagement
- be empowered to communicate ideas to a diverse, international audience
- develop a creative and professional network across the UK and internationally.

**“I really cannot stress enough how grateful I am for having been given this opportunity. I am now feeling much more confident about job prospects and I really hope that soon I’ll be able to finally find a job in an arts/culture institution.”**

Danilo dos Reis, Venice Fellow 2018, Birkbeck University



## How are Fellows prepared for the programme?

The British Council organises an induction school in the UK, during which the Fellows receive practical advice, learn about the exhibition, meet curators and participate in discussions and workshops.

The induction is an important chance for Fellows to meet as a group, and build relationships across borders and institutions.

For the research aspect of the Fellowship, they also receive support and advice from the British Council, including information on key references and resources, access to events and workshops in Venice, and a midway research crit.

The Fellows investigate the themes through site-specific and/or archival research focused on the Biennale or within Venice itself. Fellows and Partners are encouraged to share and showcase the research responses.

Participants become part of an alumni network to support ongoing personal and professional development.



**“My time in Venice provided a fantastic platform from which to develop specific research, a personal approach to practice and fruitful collaborations with new acquaintances. The opportunity was a truly formative experience.”**

Ed Crooks, Venice Fellow 2016,  
Royal College of Art



**“The Fellowship inspired me more than I ever thought imaginable”**

Vicki Jones, Venice Fellow 2018,  
University of Bolton

## Contact us

For further information and enquiries about becoming a Partner, please contact Genevieve Marciniak, Venice Fellowships Programme Manager: [genevieve.marciniak@britishcouncil.org](mailto:genevieve.marciniak@britishcouncil.org)

## Find out more

[www.britishcouncil.org/venicebiennale](http://www.britishcouncil.org/venicebiennale)  
#BritishPavilion @Brit\_VisualArts

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## Who are our Programme Partners?

In 2018, participating institutions are:

- Arts University Bournemouth
- Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL
- Belfast School of Art, Ulster University
- Birkbeck College, University of London
- Central Saint Martins
- Coventry University
- Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, University of Dundee
- Falmouth University
- Glasgow School of Art
- Goldsmiths
- Jerwood Charitable Foundation
- London College of Communication
- Loughborough University
- Manchester Schools of Art and Architecture
- Plymouth College of Art
- Queen's University Belfast
- Royal College of Art
- Sheffield Hallam University
- The Sir John Cass School of Art, Architecture and Design
- London Metropolitan University
- University of Bolton
- University of Derby
- University of Dundee
- University of Kent (Canterbury)
- University of Liverpool
- University of Portsmouth
- University of Salford
- London School of Architecture
- University of the West of England
- University of Warwick