

**Brief: Travellers' Tails – Residency – Lewisham Shop Take-Over**

<p>Travellers' Tails project description:</p>	<p>Travellers' Tails is a programme of activities to engage the public in two paintings the National Maritime Museum bought in 2013: <i>The Kongouro from New Holland (Kangaroo)</i> and <i>Portrait of a Large Dog (Dingo)</i> by George Stubbs (1724–1806). These paintings are a product of Captain Cook's first voyage to Australia and the earliest images of these Australian animals in Western art. The project is a journey of exploration to test new ideas for audience participation and engagement with the history of exploration, inspired by the works. Travellers' Tails is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Art Fund.</p>
<p>The opportunity:</p>	<p>The National Maritime Museum has an exciting six month opportunity for a Travellers' Tails practitioner in residence. As part of the residency the practitioner will occupy a retail unit in Lewisham Shopping Centre, giving the National Maritime Museum's local audiences the opportunity to take part in creative activities and events and find out more about the paintings. This will be complemented by the second stage of the residency, based at the National Maritime Museum.</p> <p>The practitioner will lead hands on dynamic activities from the retail unit and invite people to participate. This might include (but isn't limited to) drawing, art, model making, urban exploration, scientific experiment, story-telling, mini-dramas or collective crafting. Practitioners will engage people creatively in the paintings and wider issues around exploration.</p> <p>The activities will be highly participatory or immersive, dynamic and will capture the imagination of passers-by to encourage them to participate.</p> <p>The second phase at the National Maritime Museum will allow for a period of research and larger scale creative programming as well as further developing an activity offer for the museum's public.</p>
<p>Aims and objectives of the residency:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote engagement with the paintings, their context and history.</li> <li>• To capture ideas around, stimulate debate and celebrate exploration.</li> <li>• To find out from the public how they would like to learn about the paintings and how they relate to issues around exploration, art and science.</li> <li>• To engage hard-to-reach audiences, those with less access to the arts, and with protected characteristics. There is a particular focus on BAME audiences and C2DE audiences.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To inform how the NMM works with these audience groups in the future and to shape how future interpretation and programming reflects their needs and interests.</li> <li>• To feed into our participatory practice with audiences and the development of the new Pacific Gallery.</li> </ul> <p>The project will deliver on RMG's strategic mission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Put visitors first:</u> ensuring creation of inspiring experiences that people care about, transforming subjects and collections to make the NMM truly accessible.</li> <li>• <u>Value our heritage:</u> making us relevant to people - if our community value their heritage they will care for it.</li> <li>• <u>Extend our reputation:</u> extending our reach and impact within the public sector and develop our audiences, demonstrating what we do and our collections, expertise and resource.</li> <li>• <u>Strengthen our organization:</u> increasing interest and relevance for audiences to engage people more deeply, encourage repeat visits and build partnerships. Involving practitioners and audiences will give us the opportunity to benefit from different forms of expertise, making the organization more robust and opening up the collections, research and programme to further interpretations.</li> </ul>
<p>Expected outcomes for this piece of work:</p>	<p><b>Outcomes for the practitioner/s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of working with a large national institution with a range of audiences and Museum staff</li> <li>• Increased knowledge of the NMM collection</li> <li>• Professional development in working with the public</li> <li>• Opportunities to showcase work at two locations</li> <li>• Leading on a programme of activities</li> <li>• Developing practice throughout the residency</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes for people, communities, heritage and NMM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>More people and a wider range of people will have engaged with heritage:</b> people who are not used to engaging with heritage and the arts will have connected with heritage.</li> <li>• <b>Visitors engage with the paintings and respond creatively:</b> people acquire new knowledge and understanding about the paintings and are supported to offer imaginative responses.</li> <li>• <b>Visitors gain knowledge and understanding of art, science and</b></li> </ul>

	<p><b>exploration:</b> the residency will bring these areas of knowledge to light for new audiences re-framed in an accessible and dynamic way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>People will have had an enjoyable experience:</b> participants will have taken part in fun, creative and dynamic activities to have a joyful and memorable experience.</li> </ul>
Timings:	November – January 2016: recruitment of practitioner January – June 2017: Residency.
Role description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To work closely with the Travellers’ Tails Programme Manager to develop ideas</li> <li>• To take-over (invigilate and offer activities out of) the retail unit in Lewisham Shopping Centre.</li> <li>• To research your practice, offer a range of activities and programme from the National Maritime Museum.</li> <li>• To bring fresh, creative approaches to participatory activities in two very different settings</li> <li>• To develop and deliver extraordinary participatory experiences inspired by the paintings for audiences, capturing their curiosity</li> <li>• To engage hard-to-reach audiences</li> <li>• To draw on research done by the NMM to shape activities</li> <li>• To feed into project evaluation processes and provide feedback</li> <li>• Develop an online presence on the RMG project website including blogging and social media platforms (technical support available)</li> </ul>
Skills and experience:	<p><b>Essential</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A dynamic and creative practice that is participatory and audience focused – this could be drawing, art, performance, comedy, music, acting, collective crafting etc.</li> <li>• Proven experience of engaging audiences in public spaces</li> <li>• Experience of engaging hard-to-reach and a range of audiences</li> <li>• Enjoyment and skill with social interaction and dialogue as part of creative practice</li> <li>• A desire to explore the theme of exploration and the historical, scientific and artistic context of the paintings</li> <li>• Ability to be proactive and work self-sufficiently</li> </ul> <p><b>Desirable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of working with cultural institutions such as museums or galleries</li> <li>• Experience of working as an artist in residence</li> <li>• Flexible approach to creative projects</li> </ul>
Fees and	Practitioner’s fee: £15,000 for the practitioner (5 days a week, to include at



# *travellers' tails*

budget:	least one weekend day a week). Materials: £4,000
How to apply:	Please send the following with a covering letter: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Curriculum Vitae</li><li>2. Some examples of your work</li><li>3. Two examples of participatory ideas using this content as inspiration and with a target audience in mind</li></ol> <b>Please email the above to Lucy Yates – <a href="mailto:lyates@rmg.co.uk">lyates@rmg.co.uk</a></b> Completed applications must be received by 5pm on 12 <sup>th</sup> December. Interviews will be held on Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2017.