

**Maritime Memories Machine Creative Collective  
Brief**

<p>The Endeavour project</p>	<p><i>Endeavour</i> is an exciting 3 year project which will expand the National Maritime Museum’s public space by 40% creating four new galleries about global maritime exploration and encounter. The overarching aim for the <i>Endeavour galleries project</i> is to increase audience access to the NMM’s collections, physically and intellectually. In doing this, the Museum has the opportunity to reposition itself as a truly national collection representing the identity of an Island Nation.</p>
<p>The Maritime Memories Machine project</p>	<p>As an island nation the UK is intimately connected to the sea – no matter where people live in the UK they are no more than 70.2 miles from the sea. Our shared identity and history as a nation is firmly rooted in our relationship with the sea and how it has shaped lives and society.</p> <p>NMM are creating a story collecting machine that will tour the country engaging people in playful participatory, immersive and entertaining experiences and collecting stories of their connections to the sea. The tour will capture a picture of our nation’s relationship to the sea today. The van will encourage curiosity – its form will elicit memories of the seaside - vintage icecream and fun on the beach - and inside be evocative of an old seafaring vessel, collecting cargo of stories. Its old seafarer skin will collect Sailor Jerry style tattoos along its journey, relating to the places it visits and people it meets.</p> <p>The <i>Maritime Memories Machine</i> will tour the country from May to September 2017, visiting areas of lowest arts participation and high social deprivation to engage those not normally participating in the arts. The tour will give the National Maritime Museum's national audiences the opportunity to find out more about the Museum, take part in creative activities, explore their own connection with the sea and include their voice in the <i>Sea Things</i> gallery.</p> <p>The NMM is looking a for small arts collective to take over and animate the <i>Maritime Memory Machine</i>. Practitioners will use the van as a backdrop to lead participatory and theatrical performances. This might include song/music performances, story-telling, mini-dramas or performance poetry. As part of the experiences they create, the collective will gather feedback from local residents at each location to gain a picture of how they connect to the sea. The resulting stories, memories and descriptions will feed into a participatory on-gallery interactive in <i>Sea Things</i>, a brand new gallery at the Museum opening in 2018. Story collecting activities should be fully integrated into performances and visibly add to the van’s ‘cargo’ as the tour goes on.</p> <p>Alongside the tour NMM is commissioning six artists to each create a small artwork that represents their region’s connection with the sea, drawing on</p>



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	<p>their own local knowledge and that gathered as part of the tour. The resulting artwork will be on display in the <i>Sea Things</i> gallery.</p>
<p>The opportunity:</p>	<p>We welcome applications from small groups or collectives (maximum 2 people travelling with the van due to limited seating in the van) with a specialism in performance and participatory practice.</p> <p>The Practitioner/s will curate and deliver activities at specified locations in the following six regions: North West, North East, Central, East, West, London and South East, South West. This will include activities in each region, using the ice cream van as a base and a backdrop. The activities will be highly participatory or immersive, dynamic and will capture the imagination of passers-by to participate. This performance or activity will tour, collecting memories, thoughts and connections to the sea on the way. The Collective will be responsible for the van and adhering to the Museum's safety and security procedures.</p> <p><b>Working with local artists:</b> The Collective will work with the six artists commissioned to create artworks to learn about audiences and places the van will tour to drawing on their local knowledge and expertise. They will ensure the maritime stories, memories and connections are collected effectively on the tour to feed into the artists' commissions.</p> <p><b>At the Museum:</b> Each location visited throughout the tour will be documented and the maritime stories, memories and connections collected will be shared via a digital interactive in the <i>Sea Things</i> Gallery for visitors to search, view and add their own to. The six artists' commissions will form part of an 'installation' at the entrance to the gallery in the form of suspended boxes of curiosity.</p>
<p>Aims and objectives of the residency:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To capture and celebrate shared heritage and identity</li> <li>● To encourage the next generation to consider and celebrate their connection with the sea</li> <li>● To engage hard-to-reach audiences in spectacular creative experiences (those with less access to the arts, and with protected characteristics - a particular focus on BAME audiences and C2DE audiences. Thorough research has been carried out into the demographics of the UK and tour locations have been scoped to reach areas with the least arts participation, highest proportions of our target audience groups)</li> <li>● To inform how NMM works with these audience groups in the future and shape how future interpretation and programming reflects their needs and interests</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>● Increased knowledge of the NMM collection and archive</li> <li>● Opportunity to collaborate with artists in different regions around the country</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Professional development of working with the public</li> <li>● Opportunities to showcase practice around the country</li> <li>● Developing practice throughout the residency</li> <li>● Profile-raising</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes for people, communities, heritage and NMM</b></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> <li>● <b>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 their maritime heritage.</li> <li>● <b>Heritage will be identified and recorded:</b> personal memories of the seaside and connections to the sea will be recorded and preserved for future generations.</li> <li>● <b>People will have learnt about heritage:</b> the pop-up will bring heritage to light for new audiences re-framed in an accessible and dynamic way.</li> </ul>
Tour timings	May – September 2017 (dates tbc)
The residency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To work closely with the Endeavour Learning Project Manager and Senior Manager - Participation to develop ideas</li> <li>● To take-over (drive and manage) the <i>Maritime Memories Machine</i> (MMM) van for the duration of the tour</li> <li>● To bring fresh, creative approaches to participatory activities in unconventional settings</li> <li>● To develop and deliver extraordinary participatory experiences inspired by the NMM collections for audiences capturing their curiosity</li> <li>● To engage hard-to-reach audiences at everyday leisure locations such as parks, shopping centres, leisure centres, pubs etc.</li> <li>● To draw on local knowledge and research to shape activities and the region's tour locations</li> <li>● To collect and record maritime memories and connections of people around the country</li> <li>● To feed into project evaluation processes and provide feedback</li> <li>● To write regular blog posts and share updates via social media platforms (Twitter, Instagram etc.)</li> </ul>
What we're looking for	<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 performance, spoken word, comedy, music, acting, 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 national identity of the UK and the nation's relationship to the sea</li> <li>● Ability to be proactive and work self-sufficiently</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A current and clean driving license</li> <li>● Able to work weekends and for the duration of the tour</li> <li>● Proven experience of writing for social media and blogposts</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> <li>● Interest in maritime history</li> </ul>
Your Proposal	<p>Your proposal needs to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A description of the collective and who it involves (limited to three people due to the seating in the van)</li> <li>● An idea for the curious and spectacular experience you would create for participants taking inspiration from the van narrative in Appendix A. This should include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ how it will draw in passers-by</li> <li>○ how it will use the van as a backdrop/ part of the experience</li> <li>○ an integrated activity that would draw out and document people’s connections to the sea in a meaningful way</li> <li>○ how the experience would draw on island nation identity of the UK</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Up to date CV’s and examples of work for everyone in the collective and experience of working of engaging different audiences in public spaces</li> <li>● Budget breakdown</li> <li>● Confirmation you hold a valid clean driving license</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application deadline: 10am Monday 27 March.</b>  Please send applications to Ros Croker – <a href="mailto:rcroker@rmg.co.uk">rcroker@rmg.co.uk</a>  Do get in touch with any questions about the residency before 23 March.</p>	
Fees and budget	<p>£37,000  Including all materials/ props/costumes, travel and accommodation for the duration of the tour</p>
<b>Appendix A</b>	<p>Van narrative written by Laura Dockrill</p> <p><b>NOT SEASICK, HOMESICK FOR THE SEA</b></p> <p>Some say she sneaked out in the deep blue night  engine humming and growling appetite  all was silent, the guards slept at their desks  the moon was violet, museum at rest  it was her moment, her longed great escape  for a curious break from Greenwich gates  she loved her home, she loved her company  <i>not seasick, she was homesick for the sea</i>  hungered, she sprung, a comfort starved compass  towards the sea, seeking new adventures  now salty water tales call out her name  as she flees the city, to feed her brain</p>



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trust her with a secret, lend her stories  
no story of the sea can be boring  
siren song, lullaby, sweet little note  
messages in vessels, sent out to float  
whispers or rumors, the odd little joke  
she'll haul the precious load back to Big Smoke  
She knows the atlas, she knows where to be  
*not seasick, she was homesick for the sea*  
twinkling stars guide her, the sun paves a way  
as she drives through the night, and the next day  
craves the rushing crush of raw silver waves  
the gulls, the pebbles, the memories saved  
a greedy belly, ready for cargo  
so feed her a telling, to come home to  
one day she'll return, with treasure to share  
a little from here, a little from there  
but for now, be lucky you saw her prowl  
as she darts through the dark like a night owl  
be proud that you got to know her somehow  
the fair seafarer hunts gold ocean bound  
add to collect, make drops in the old blue  
homesick van runs like ship without crew  
you can't define the arc of the seas spine  
but you can go on to be marked in time  
for a captured idea, a bottled dream  
is far sweeter than the taste of ice cream.



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