

ARTIST PLACEMENT WITH KINETIKA

(Freelance, short-term fixed contract)

IF: Milton Keynes International Festival is looking for a Milton Keynes-based artist to work with international company Kinetika on a project that will be delivered as part of the 2020 Festival.

This role offers a placement and continuing professional development, working with Kinetika's founder and lead artist, Ali Pretty, to produce large-scale hand-painted silk flags with a range of community groups. The flags and the groups will feature in the Grand Opening Procession that will mark the start of the Festival on Friday 17 July.



About the Festival

IF: Milton Keynes International Festival takes place every two years and plays a key role in the cultural development of Milton Keynes. It is recognised nationally as a landmark in the UK's cultural calendar and has established a strong brand and growing attendance drawn from the city and beyond.



Creating unique and memorable experiences, the Festival is designed to encourage people to see a different side to Milton Keynes, presenting a world-class, multi-arts programme which includes new commissions, site-specific and participatory projects, large-scale/outdoor and family events, concerts, theatre, dance, music and visual arts installations.

Engaging over 500,000 people, events take place in unusual locations across Central Milton Keynes, including parks, public squares, and the online and digital realm.



Running for 10 days, the next Festival takes place 17 - 26 July 2020. The Festival is developed with support of Arts Council England and Milton Keynes Council.

ifmiltonkeynes.org

Short film about the 2018 Festival: <https://bit.ly/2R4ICvT>

Further films can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ifmiltonkeynes>

Twitter: @IFMKfest

The Stables

The Festival is produced by The Stables (based in Wavendon, Milton Keynes) one of the UK's leading music venues with a vision to engage the widest range of people with music in all its diversity. It aims to enrich people's lives with opportunities to access, participate in and experience live music, and the arts in general.



Part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio, The Stables recently won the Milton Keynes Business Achievement Award for Culture and Arts.

stables.org

Short film about The Stables: <https://bit.ly/36BNL3K>

More information about the Festival and The Stables staff teams can be found on the Festival's website: <https://ifmiltonkeynes.org/about/the-team>

ARTIST PLACEMENT WITH KINETIKA

(Freelance, short-term fixed contract)

This placement offers a continuing professional development opportunity for a Milton Keynes-based artist.

The artist will work with Kinetika's founder and lead artist, Ali Pretty, to produce large-scale hand-painted silk flags that will feature in the Grand Opening Procession that will mark the start of the International Festival on Friday 17 July 2020.

The Festival has commissioned Kinetika to work with up to 10 community groups to create these flags for the Procession. They will then be displayed throughout the Festival, used for other city events or returned to the community groups that created them for their own use.

About Kinetika

Kinetika is an internationally renowned company, specialising in creating large-scale hand-painted silks. We have a 22-year track record of combining world-class design with community projects to produce spectacular outdoor commissions that engage diverse audiences wherever we work.

Founded by artistic director Ali Pretty in 1997, and inspired by her training in carnival arts in Trinidad and India, Kinetika now has an unrivalled reputation for working with local communities on projects that change the way people feel about where they live - from local community walks in Essex to ceremonial boulevards and local high streets across the UK, to the Great Wall of China and the heart of Kolkata.



The company's charitable arm, Kinetika People, is known for its high-quality community engagement work, running participatory programmes, workshops and artist training schemes, which aim to nurture new artistic talent and engage communities, raising aspirations and building a sense of place.

Kinetika's Project Work: <http://www.kinetikaonline.co.uk/all-projects/>

The company's commercial arm, Kinetika Design Studio, has created bespoke silks for ceremonies at high profile events including Atlanta Olympics 1996, FIFA World Cup 2009, Milan Expo 2015, The Royal Opera House Deloitte Festival 2015.

Kinetika's Website: <http://www.kinetikaonline.co.uk/>

THE PROJECT

The Festival has commissioned Kinetika to work with up to 10 community groups which may be connected through shared interests, faith, or geography. Where possible, the Festival would like to work with five groups that is has had a prior relationship with as well as five new groups.

Each group will be invited to create one large flag and 10 small flags (10 large flags + 100 small ones in total). Design will be influenced by the group's own response to the 2020 Festivals emerging programming themes of earth and sky, light and dark, strength and fragility.

Presentation of Flags

Each community group will be encouraged to have a celebration and procession in advance to the Festival within its own community and/or locality.

In the afternoon of Friday 17 July (the Festival's opening day), groups will then convene at centre:mk (www.centremk.com) in the heart of Central Milton Keynes, to participate in the Festival's Grand Public Procession to the MK Rose (managed by The Cenotaph Trust: miltonkeynesrose.org.uk) in Campbell Park. The Park is where the Festival's main hub - 'Festival Central' - is located.

The flags will be displayed for the duration of the Festival. After the event, flags will be either retained for Festival use, used for other city events or returned to the community group.



MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ARTIST PLACEMENT

This exciting opportunity will see a Milton Keynes-based artist develop skills in:

- Drawing, upscaling designs and laying out designs
- Managing and handing hand-made silk
- Hot waxing
- Colour mixing and the use of cold-water dyes
- Artistic decision-making with regard to painting the silks
- The process of double waxing
- Community engagement and communications

The successful candidate will also visit Kinetika's studios in Purfleet in Thurrock (Essex) and learn from the company's industry-leading processes in the creation of high-quality silk batik work.

The Festival is inviting artists from across visual arts practices to apply for this position. It would be an advantage if you have previous experience of working in a community setting with people of all ages and abilities.



The candidate will need to be available and flexible for circa 20 days during the following weeks:

- Week commencing Monday 20 April 2020
- Week commencing Monday 4 May
- Week commencing Monday 1 June
- Week commencing Monday 8 June
- The afternoon of the Festival's Opening day - Friday 17 July

TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT

The contract for the Placement will be issued by The Stables, the producer of IF: Milton Keynes International Festival.

Locations: Milton Keynes and Kinetika's studios in Purfleet in Thurrock (Essex)

Some remote/home working may be required

Travel: This requires the post-holder to have access to suitable transport to attend Kinetika's studio in Essex, and Festival and/or community locations in Milton Keynes.

Reporting: This role will report to Emily Cheshire, Festival Project Manager.

Dates: This contract is for circa 20 days and will commence on Monday 20 April 2020.

The contract is to include all research, preparation, planning, meetings and delivery. Working hours are flexible to suit the needs of the role.

Contract: This role is offered as a freelance or short fixed-term contract.

Fees: A £3,000 project fee is available.

Expenses and accommodation (when necessary - to be agreed and booked by the Festival) will be paid when traveling to/from Essex and/or staying in Essex to work in Kinetika's studio. Travel and any expenses within Milton Keynes are included in the project fee.

Travel to/from Essex will be reimbursed at the standard class rail fare, petrol receipts or mileage at an agreed rate. These out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed on submission of relevant VAT receipts.

Submission: To apply, please submit:

- Your CV (maximum 2 pages)
- A cover note that outlines how you/your practice would benefit from this opportunity
- Up to three examples of recent work or projects that show your suitability for the role

Please ensure that your application is submitted by 10am on Wednesday 18 March 2020 to Emily Cheshire, Festival Project Manager by email: takepart@stables.org

Alternative formats to written applications are accepted as a reasonable adjustment.

Interviews: Shortlisted artists will be advised if they have been selected for interview on Wednesday 18 March.

Interviews will take place on Monday 23 March from 9.30am at The Stables, Stockwell Lane, Wavendon, Milton Keynes MK17 8LU.

The Interview Panel will include the Festival's Creative Director, Bill Gee; Kinetika's Ali Pretty and Emily Cheshire the Festival's Project Manager.



IF: Milton Keynes International Festival 2020

Produced by The Stables, Stockwell Lane, Wavendon, Milton Keynes MK17 8LU

The Stables is committed to equality of opportunity in recruitment. We value a diverse team and welcome applications from all sectors of the community.

Registered Charity: 1178665