



a project of Aune Head Arts with Somerset Art Week and Allenheads Contemporary Arts

## Artist Brief

### About the project

*Triparks* is a collaborative project that will explore links between three National Parks, Dartmoor, Exmoor and Northumberland. Three lead artists and three early career<sup>1</sup> artists are being commissioned to develop artworks during residencies in one of the three parks (two artists will be resident in each park).

Artists resident on Dartmoor will be hosted by Aune Head Arts, those on Exmoor will be hosted by Somerset Art Week and those artists in Northumberland will be hosted by Allenheads Contemporary Arts.

We are looking for artists who work in *any artform*, including sonic and performing artists, who are able to demonstrate both a quality of work, an ability to work sensitively and openly with others and who are able actively to engage audiences. In addition we will be bringing in an evaluator a web programmer and an exhibition curator/designer. The early career artists will be offered professional peer mentoring.

Following our usual practice (visit [www.auneheadarts.org.uk](http://www.auneheadarts.org.uk) for details of previous projects) we have kept the artist brief very open to allow work to develop in ways that we might not have anticipated.

### Lead Artists Brief

The project includes 20 days in residence within the boundaries of one of the above national parks between April and July 2008 (based on 1 week/month). At the beginning of the residency, in April, we will arrange five days of shadowing within the National Park Authority to introduce you to your park. This may include working with individual members of staff from planning, archaeology, marketing, geology, forestry departments, etc. or with park rangers. The nature of these initial five days will be decided upon by the project partners and may focus on a particular area of the park.

Following this first week, we will assist you in making arrangements for accommodation in the area of the park within which you choose to work, and help you make contact with groups, organisations and individuals with whom you might wish to work.

Your brief is to create *at least* one major work (although it may be a series of smaller pieces) that explores **people-place-time**, and which **provokes-relates-reveals**. A core aim is that this work **involve** and **engage** those who experience it (resident and visitor alike). This work

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<sup>1</sup> The ECAs are those in the early years of their careers; they may have recently graduated or returning to artmaking after a period away. By contrast, the Lead Artists are mid-career artists.

may well be made in collaboration with others involved in the project. Artworks may take any form, although an element should be exhibitable and able to tour. The project encourages both temporary work and work that leaves some form of permanent record. You are also encouraged to make work that continues to evolve over time. The project curator will make the final decisions about what pieces of work are included in the final exhibition.

It is important that artists across the three parks do not work in isolation from each other, so we will encourage you to develop innovative methods of continuing communication amongst yourselves and between residents and visitors in the different parks. We will, whenever we can provide the necessary infrastructure, help you do this. Further to this you will be paid for 5 additional days during the project period for full group meetings with all artists and project managers present. These meetings will provide opportunities for co-mentoring and to share work in progress as well as the opportunity to evaluate the project.

Lead and early career artists resident in the same park are expected to regularly communicate with one another. As the lead artist, you will likely take at least a degree of mentoring support for the early career artist you are paired with, even if this only takes the form of opening up your process for observation. However, AHA will be providing one-to-one mentoring for the early career artists, so this should not be seen as burdensome or as an interference in your work. We will be very happy if you decide to make some work collaboratively, but this is by no means compulsory.

Following the residency period you will have 10 more days of paid studio time between August and September 2008 (based on 1 week/month) to complete your work ready for exhibition, having agreed its form and content with the project partners ahead of time.

Lead Artists Fee *subject to funding*: £4,550 (based on 7 weeks at £650 per week) plus travel expenses of up to £600. Your accommodation costs and meals (up to £40/day combined) will be met for the 20 days that you are resident in your national park and for residential group meetings. There is also a budget for materials and for exhibition.

## Early Career Artists' Brief

The project includes 20 days in residence within the boundaries of one of the national parks above between April and July 2008 (based on 1 week/month). At the beginning of the residency, in April, we will arrange five days of shadowing within the National Park Authority to introduce you to your park. This may include working with individual members of staff from planning, archaeology, marketing, geology, forestry departments, etc. or with park rangers. The nature of these initial five days will be decided upon by the project partners and may focus on a particular area of the park.

Following this first week, we will assist you in making arrangements for accommodation in the area of the park within which you choose to work, and help you make contact with groups, organisations and individuals with whom you might wish to work

Your brief is to create *at least* one major work (although it may be a series of smaller pieces) that explores **people-place-time**, and which **provokes-relates-reveals**. A core aim is that this work **involve and engage** those who experience it (resident and visitor alike). This work may well be made in collaboration with others involved in the project. Artworks may take any form, although an element should be exhibitable and able to tour. The project encourages both temporary work and work that leaves some form of permanent record. You are also encouraged to make work that continues to evolve over time.

It is important that artists across the three parks do not work in isolation from each other, so we will encourage you to develop innovative methods of continuing communication amongst yourselves and between residents and visitors in the different parks. We will, whenever we can provide the necessary infrastructure, help you do this. Further to this you will be paid for 5 additional days during the project period for full group meetings with all artists and project

managers present. These meetings will provide opportunities for co-mentoring and to share work in progress as well as the opportunity to evaluate the project.

There are a number of resources available to you in your role as an early career artist:

- Your Lead Artist is there to offer advice and support, and has been encouraged to open up their process to you so that you can gain insight into how a major piece of work is undertaken and planned.
- The project managers are also available to help you as you make work during the project.
- AHA will also provide one-to-one mentoring support, and a named mentor is available for support at your request.
- If you need special equipment, studio time or resources for the project, then these can be negotiated with us, although the project budget is not unlimited.

Following the period of residency you will have 10 more days of studio time between August and September 08 (based on 1 week/month) to develop your work ready for exhibition, having agreed its form and content with the project partners ahead of time. As an early career artist (ECA), you will not be expected to create work perhaps on the same scale as the Lead Artist, but we hope you will be able to create work of a standard that will be exhibitable. The project curator will make the final decisions about what pieces of work are included in the final exhibition.

Early Career Artist Fee *subject to funding*: £3500 (based on 7 weeks at £500 per week) plus travel expenses of up to £600. Your accommodation costs and meals (up to £40/day combined) will be met for the 20 days that you are resident in your national park and for residential group meetings. There is also a budget for materials and for exhibition.

## Person Specification

In recruiting the artists, a track record in creative interaction with people and places will be specifically looked for. The ability to work closely and sensitively with people and communities and, where appropriate, to engage them in the creative process are key aspects of the residency brief and process.

Artists applying will need to

- be a good communicator and have the ability to manage their work with minimal supervision.
- have an awareness of the issues that may affect rural communities.
- have a commitment to innovative arts practice and the sharing of high quality creativity.
- have an understanding of health and safety and and protection issues.
- be a UK resident.
- be transport independent. The rural areas in which you will be working have very limited public transport services.
- be available on the interview date if shortlisted (11<sup>th</sup> February).

## For further information

If you'd like to learn more about the three arts organisations involved, or more information on the National Parks, please explore these websites:

[www.auneheadarts.org.uk](http://www.auneheadarts.org.uk) - Aune Head Arts. Lead Partner and local host for artists on Dartmoor.

[www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk](http://www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk) - Dartmoor National Park Authority.

[www.somersetartweek.org.uk/](http://www.somersetartweek.org.uk/) - Somerset Art Week. Local host for artists on Exmoor.

<http://www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/> - Exmoor National Park Authority.

<http://www.acart.org.uk/> - Allenheads Contemporary Arts. Local host for artists on Northumberland National Park.  
[www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk/](http://www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk/) - Northumberland National Park Authority.

## Timetable

### **April/May/June/July 2008**

20 days residence within your national park — including 5 consecutive days in residence within your respective National Park Authority Office (or a similar rural regulatory body) in April.

### **Dates to be determined (within project period)**

5 days of project meetings, in which all artists, project managers and associated individuals come together.

### **August/September 2008**

10 days for exhibition preparation.

### **October 2008 to November 2009**

Exhibition travels

## Equal Opportunities

The appointment procedures for these commissions will be carried out in accordance to AHA, SAW and ACA equal opportunities policies.

## Terms and Conditions

Triparks is administered by AHA, SAW, and ACA. All appointed artists will be self-employed and be responsible for their own tax and N.I. payments.

## How to Apply

The application form is online at [www.auneheadarts.org.uk](http://www.auneheadarts.org.uk). You will need to upload three examples of your work, or send them by post in time to reach us for the application deadline. Application forms will only be accepted online.

**Deadline for applications:** 23rd January 2008

**Shortlisted candidates notified by:** 4<sup>th</sup> February 2008

**Interviews:** 11th February 2008