

factory international



Artist in Residence: Blackpool

The Old Electric is delighted to announce an open call for a three month writing residency dedicated to new writing in Blackpool. This has been supported by Factory International as one of their first Northern place based partnerships.

This opportunity is aimed at writers in the North who have at least two year's writing experience under their belt (in any genre, including prose, verse, script, poetry, spoken word, creative and non-fiction).

You'll be resident in the heart of Blackpool at [The Old Electric](#); we'd expect, as part of your residency, that you will engage directly with the location, existing participants and audiences and support new stems of creativity as well as new connections in the town and beyond.

The residency will take place over 15-20 days between March-July 2024 and you'll be supported by TESP Artistic Director Melanie Whitehead to connect with broader programmes of new writing scheduled in 2024.

This residency offers time and space for contemplation alongside the opportunity to be immersed in this inspirational location; to write and engage with a host of communities. As part of the residency we ask for you to create a new piece of writing that could be shared publicly, inspired by your time at the venue.

The Old Electric opened in 2020, formerly a derelict nightclub, now a hub of social connectivity and creative practice that sits in the heart of Blackpool is supported by Lottery Community Fund. It's core purpose is to ensure that arts and creativity is accessible for all Blackpool communities by: inspiring individuals to connect with their own creativity; collaborating with others to reduce barriers to communities connecting with high quality arts programmes; supporting emerging creatives in their professional aspirations via regular development and employment opportunities; and staging socially engaged productions that have resonance with local residents.

[Factory International](#) is the producer of extraordinary art from world-renowned artists to the North's rising stars. It produces Manchester International Festival every two years alongside running a hive of invention and creative exploration at Aviva Studios in the heart of Manchester - the new home of Factory International. Development of great art and artists across the world with a focus on Manchester and the North of England is a key priority and it is delighted to be supporting this artist residency in Blackpool.

The selected practitioner will receive:

- A fee of £3000
- Travel allowance of up to £250 (use of public transport is encouraged) to see work at Factory International
- Space at The Old Electric and access to the programme
- Supported meetings with other artists/residents
- Curation opportunities
- Mentorship

Selection Process:

Please submit a CV, covering letter that details why you would like to be a writer in residence at The Old Electric and sample of your work to info@theoldelectric.co.uk with the header "Writer in Residence" by 12noon Friday 26 January 2024.

We will follow up with all applicants by Friday 2 February. We will conduct interviews face to face or online wk/comm 12 February 2024.