
VENICE FELLOWSHIPS

A Steward-Research Programme

At the British Pavilion during the Venice Biennale



The Venice Fellowships programme is a unique opportunity for students and graduates to spend a month in Venice during the world's most important art and architecture biennales.

Fellows share their time between invigilation of the British Pavilion exhibition and independent research. The themes of the individual research projects are guided by the focus of the Biennale and the exhibition, and can be steered by university interests and course links.

How does it work?

The British Council has created a programme to encourage discussion around the exhibition, and to help to make the Venice Biennale a reference point for universities and their programmes.

The British Council works in partnership with universities and arts and architecture organisations throughout the UK to support up to 60 Fellows to embark on a one-month fellowship at the Venice Biennale.

Candidates are selected through a competitive application and interview process, and successful Fellows are awarded a grant to cover their travel, accommodation and living costs, which is funded by participating institutions and the British Council.



“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our students to learn from and contribute to the greatest art show on earth.”

Dr Gary Boyd,
Reader in Architecture,
Queen's University, Belfast

What are the benefits for partners?

Institutions will have:

- the opportunity to become active participants in the Biennale and contribute to linked research
- the chance to send some of their brightest students or most motivated graduates to Venice to embark on a unique personal and professional development experience
- the possibility of incorporating the Biennale themes into their academic programme
- the potential to use the British Pavilion for tours, seminars and workshops when taking student groups to Venice.

What are the benefits for participants?

Fellows will have the chance to:

- spend a month in Venice during a major international festival
- conduct independent research in and around Venice, enhancing current studies and professional practice
- receive training on exhibition invigilation and access
- gain experience of exhibition stewarding and condition checking of art work
- develop a network of creative peers across the UK and gain international connections.

“The induction days were an engaging way to learn more about what I could expect from my time in Venice. It was an excellent way to network, to ask questions and I now feel more confident.”

Rachel Goodwin, Venice Fellow
2017, University of Dundee



How are Fellows prepared for the programme?

The British Council coordinates an induction school, during which the Fellows receive practical advice, learn about the exhibition, meet curators and participate in discussions and workshops.

The induction is an important chance for Fellows to meet as a group prior to their travel to Venice, and build relationships with peers across borders and institutions.

For the research aspect of the Fellowship, they also receive support and advice from the British Council, including information on key references and resources. The Fellows investigate the themes through site-specific and/or archival research focused either on the Biennale or within Venice itself.

The Fellows and partners are encouraged to share and showcase the resulting research responses.



“My time in Venice provided a fantastic platform from which to develop specific research, a personal approach to practice and fruitful collaborations with new acquaintances. The opportunity was intellectually stimulating and a truly formative experience.”

Ed Crooks, Venice Fellow 2016
Royal College of Art



Who are our Fellowships partners?

In 2017, the participating institutions include:

- Belfast School of Art, Ulster University
- Bow Arts
- Birkbeck College, University of London
- Central Saint Martins
- Coventry University
- Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, University of Dundee
- Falmouth University
- Kingston University
- Loughborough University
- Manchester School of Art
- Queen's University Belfast
- Royal College of Art
- The Sir John Cass School of Art, Architecture and Design, London Metropolitan University
- The Ruskin School of Art
- Slade School of Fine Art, University College London
- University of Salford, School of Arts and Media
- University of the West of England
- University of Warwick

Contact us

For further information and enquiries about becoming a partner, please contact Laura Broderick, Venice Fellowships Programme Manager:
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Support us

If you're interested in supporting the Fellowships programme, please contact Charlotte Wren:
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Find out more

www.britishcouncil.org/venicebiennale
[@BritishPavilion](https://twitter.com/BritishPavilion) [@Brit_VisualArts](https://twitter.com/Brit_VisualArts)

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