



We are delighted to open our call for proposals for our new residency programme supported by Jerwood Arts and delivered in collaboration with a community of MAYK associated artists and producers.

*I Like It. What Is It?* will make space for up to four artists or companies making experimental live performance to explore 'boomerang' ideas – by this we mean the ones that won't go away; that dance around your head, and haven't had enough of a chance to see what they might want to be yet.

This is a chance to engage with ideas that feel challenging, elusive, or untameable, without being restricted by production schedules or expectations of what the thing is, before you know what the thing is. Do we ever know what the thing is?

As curators and producers we are interested in supporting wild and beautiful ideas, and in really paying attention to creating environments (physically and intellectually) that allow us to slow down, to breathe, to prioritise playfulness, rigour and care.

There's no restriction on form or theme. It's a space to play.

*I Like It. What Is It?* will run until the end of 2024, and we will stagger each residency across that time to include time in our

MAYKING space as well as building a dialogue and support network that stretches to where you are too.

The programme centres 'slow' working, which resists hyper-productivity in favour of depth of experience. We are committed to removing barriers for artists who identify as D/deaf or disabled and will cover access costs wherever necessary.

What's important here is that we will design the process with you, and it can shift as we go, if you need it to. It's a collaboration.

As part of the residency we will also build moments to bring resident artists together to share ideas, challenges and build connections with our broader network. The residencies will be supported by our wider MAYK 'family' who will be part of selection and be there as we go as mentors, critical friends, and general mischief makers.

- Are working in live performance and who define as interdisciplinary or working at the edges of form
- Have no less than five and no more than ten years professional experience (we know this is a blurry area, so just tell us how you fit into that)
- Have not had a producing relationship with MAYK in the past (by this we mean have not been directly produced by us. If you've been in Mayfest or another presenting context that's fine)

**Please thoroughly read the criteria for this residency before considering applying.**

**I Like It. What Is It? is for artists who:**

- Are working in live performance and who define as interdisciplinary or working at the edges of form.
- Want to explore an idea that has not yet had significant support. But still keeps coming back to you.
- Have no less than five and no more than ten years professional experience working in live performance (we know this is a blurry area, so just tell us how you fit into that)
- Are UK based, or primarily based in the UK.
- Have not had a producing relationship with MAYK in the past (by this we mean have not been directly produced by us. If you've been in Mayfest or another presenting context that's fine)

## **The offer:**

- £8k development commission
- Access costs covered wherever necessary
- Flexible access to our accessible [MAYKING space](#)
- Creative mentoring and support
- Access to extensive UK and international networks
- Flexible access to desk space in our Bristol office
- Festival pass for Mayfest 2024
- Invitation to contribute to wider curatorial conversations around our programme
- Hosted sharings
- Accommodation/travel for artists based outside of Bristol

## How to apply

We want to make this as easy as possible, so we're not going to ask for pages of information or budgets at this stage, we just want to know:

- **Who you are and what your practice is.** You can do this by writing no more than 500 words or as an audio file or film of around four minutes maximum. Use the form that will support the best articulation of who you are as an artist. Please also submit a link to your website or a recording of your work.
- **The idea that you want to play with.** We've said there are no restrictions on form here, but do take a moment to have a look at what we do and have done in the past so that you can get a sense of whether we are likely to be a good fit for what you want to explore. You can do this by writing no more than 500 words or as an audio file or film of around four minutes maximum.

[Please submit your proposal via the form at this link.](#)

Please also [fill out an anonymous equal opportunities survey.](#)

**Deadline for submissions: midnight Monday 10th<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

What will happen next:

We will read/watch/listen to all applications that are eligible and will respond to all applicants week beginning 1st May 2023.

This process will be led by us, Kate and Matthew working alongside 2/3 artists.

If you have any questions at all regarding the programme or the application process then please don't hesitate to contact us on [matthewandkate@mayk.org.uk](mailto:matthewandkate@mayk.org.uk)

## **About MAYK**

MAYK is one of the country's leading live performance producing organisations.

Based in Bristol but working internationally, we create dynamic meeting points for participation in world-class live performance both in and out of traditional art spaces.

Led by Kate Yedigaroff and Matthew Austin, MAYK was established in 2011 and continues to make a space for a holistic, long-term approach to creating memorable experiences that are accessible to lots of people.

"The value of having MAYK as producers for my work has been immeasurable. From the intangible to the practical, the support afforded to me through working with MAYK has been and continues to be essential in fostering my growth as an artist."

— Dan Canham

## **About Jerwood Arts**

Jerwood Arts are the leading independent funder dedicated to supporting artists, makers, curators and producers to develop and thrive across the UK. They collaborate with organisations across artforms, disciplines and genres to create transformative opportunities and a more sustainable sector.