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## Studio Residencies 2012

### Call

Watershed is offering two UK based artists an opportunity to spend supported time at Pervasive Media Studio, to research new projects at the intersection of art, technology and culture. This is a unique opportunity to explore process and practice within a collaborative environment.

Now open for applications, we're looking for artists' seeking time and space to research innovative ideas, develop experimental works and make new connections. The Studio Residencies programme will support early stage projects that require critical and technical investigation and discussion.

There are two residencies available, both open to artists from varied disciplines.

### When

Studio Residencies include a two-month development period, beginning 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012 and will culminate in a showcase event in early December.

### More about the programme

Residencies at Watershed's Pervasive Media Studio enable artists to explore the potential for collaboration and exchange with creative peers. Participants share knowledge as widely as possible through a structured, facilitated programme including:

- Regularly scheduled conceptual and technical critiques
- Online documentation of project process
- Research dissemination through a range of social media
- Opening and closing events offering the opportunity for discussion with both peers and public

As well as supporting a strong network of creative practitioners and academics, Watershed seeks to engage the public through its year round programme of films, events, festivals, artist commissions and conferences. As such, we're keen for work produced during the residencies to have visibility within the main Watershed building. This could be realised through punctuated activity such as audience participation and feedback during development, test installations, engaging use of café bar/foyer screens or open lab style events.

At the end of the Studio Residencies programme, participants will be expected to present and demonstrate their work in a public arena and produce a final report that considers process, findings and value. Event documentation and reports will be published online and disseminated through the Pervasive Media Studio and Watershed networks.

### Who

We're looking for artists with open, rigorous and experimental approach, who are willing to produce work that is exposed, tested and investigated as it is developed. Artists will be encouraged to focus on exploration and process, rather than completion of a finished product.

We're keen to hear from established or emerging artists - particularly those interested in researching and extending their existing practice at the juncture of new technologies and culture. We're most interested in supporting artists whose practice will significantly develop through inclusion in the programme.

The programme welcomes applications from varied artistic disciplines such as installation, sculpture, drawing, writing, animation, film, performance, gaming, dance, electronic, live, sonic or time-based arts; and is open to both individuals and groups. The scheme supports projects that have already been conceptualised, but require financial, critical and technical support to develop.

## Where

Studio Residencies will be hosted at Watershed's Pervasive Media Studio and artists will become part of its community of content producers, artists, academics, technologists and tinkerers, whose practice resides in diverse creative fields such as performance, live art, theatre, gaming, music, animation, television, storytelling, sonic art, film & video, augmented reality, projection, sensory environments and social media.

## About the Pervasive Media Studio

The Pervasive Media Studio is a city-centre research lab, bringing together artists, technologists and academics to explore the future of mobile and wireless media. Research projects are both cultural and commercial and span gaming, projections, location-based media, digital displays and new forms of performance. Run in partnership with the University of the West of England's Digital Cultures Research Centre and the University of Bristol, the studio has a great workspace, an open ethos and a can-do attitude.

<http://www.pmstudio.co.uk>

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## What's on offer?

Each artist will receive:

Research support:

- £3,000 commission (tax inclusive)
- Up to £1000 for travel and accommodation\*
- Opportunity to focus intensively on development of an idea

\* Travel and accommodation is not provided, but Watershed will assist in sourcing local places to stay.

Development support:

- Peer community of potential collaborators for current and future projects
- Structured process featuring research blogs, regular catch ups, discussion and feedback events

Production support:

- Up to £1000 production budget (managed by iShed)
- Critical and technical advice and support
- Access to production facilities and equipment
- Studio space in a collaborative environment

## What do we expect from you?

- Regular online documentation of progress and ideas
- Participation in events, critiques and discussions
- At least 2-3 days per week dedicated research time at the Studio
- A willingness to contribute to the Studio community
- An open, rigorous, experimental approach
- Production of work which is exposed, tested and investigated as it is developed
- Presentation and demonstration of a work in progress or finalised piece
- Completion of an illustrated research report, documenting process, describing findings and considering value

## Timetable

Open for applications: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012

Close to applications: 9am, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012

If your application is successful, you will hear by: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2012

Interviews and selection: 4<sup>th</sup> July 2012

Development period begins: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012

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## **Eligibility**

We will consider applications from:

- Established or emerging artists who live and work in the UK (as described in the 'Who' section, page two);
- Artists may apply as individuals or groups.

No other applications will be considered. If artists are unsure whether they are eligible to apply, they should contact the iShed Producer, Victoria Tillotson (contacts below).

Applicants are not limited to making a single application to the scheme.

## **Assessment Criteria**

Project applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Development – How will the proposed project develop and enrich the artists' practice in the medium to long term?
- Quality of content
- Fit of project within the artists current practice
- Communication - How will the proposed project communicate the idea or concept?
- Impact – What is the anticipated impact of the proposed project beyond the timescale of the residency?
- Originality
- Technology - Does the proposed technology augment the work in an interesting and surprising way?
- Viability - Is the scope of the project realisable in terms of the available resources and timescale?
- Approach - Does the artist advocate an open, rigorous, experimental approach?
- Contribution of the proposed project to the breadth and balance of the Pervasive Media Studio portfolio

## **How to apply**

If you are interested in applying for a residency, please download and complete a short application form by visiting:

<http://www.watershed.co.uk/ished/news/open-call-for-studio-residencies-2012/>

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## **Contact**

If you have any questions or queries please contact:

Victoria Tillotson, iShed Producer  
[victoria@watershed.co.uk](mailto:victoria@watershed.co.uk) / 0117 370 8872

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**Studio Residencies 2012 is a Watershed programme, made possible by Arts Council England.**

## **About Watershed**

Watershed is a cross-artform producer, sharing, developing and showcasing exemplary cultural ideas and talent. Curating ideas, spaces and talent, Watershed enables artistic visions and creative collaborations to flourish. Watershed is rooted in Bristol but places no boundaries on its imagination or desire to connect with artists and audiences in the wider world.

<http://www.watershed.co.uk>

DShed is Watershed's online showcase of creative work, talks, commissions, innovation, artist journals, festival diaries and archive projects. Documentation produced during the residencies will be disseminated in part through the DShed platform. <http://www.watershed.co.uk/dshed>  
This residency programme will be managed by iShed, a part of Watershed that brings together unusual partnerships to develop talent, support new ideas and explore creative technologies. iShed's portfolio of commissioning schemes, events, research and consultancy encompasses the arts and creative industries. It extends the impact of Watershed, widening opportunities for engagement with technology and developing digital practice through a focus on collaboration and open investigation. iShed publically shares all of its projects, from work in progress blogs to showcase events, exchanging learning, knowledge and networks with a national and international creative community. <http://www.watershed.co.uk/ished>

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#### **Current and recent artists resident at Pervasive Media Studio:**

Jen Southern

<http://www.theportable.tv>

AntiVJ

<http://www.antivj.com>

Stand + Stare Collective

<http://www.standandstare.com>

Mercurial Wrestler

<http://www.mercurialwrestler.com>

Guerilla Dance Project

<http://www.guerilladanceproject.com>

#### **Other projects we like:**

Fortnight, Proto-type Theatre

<http://www.dshed.net/content/theatre-sandbox-outcomes?show=0>

Pulse Room, Rafael Lozano-Hemmer

<http://www.lozano-hemmer.com/english/projects/pulseroom.htm>

<http://channel.tate.org.uk/media/26511903001>

Circumstance

<http://productofcircumstance.com/portfolio>

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