

OVADA: The Gallery Artistic Policy

OVADA is passionately committed to the development of visual arts and artists in Oxfordshire.

What we do:

- Our programme aims to be of the highest quality presenting the best possible view of contemporary visual arts in Oxfordshire to the rest of the world.
- Our programme presents Oxfordshire artists within the context of contemporary practice, alongside national and international artists.
- We aim to create a stimulating environment in which artists are given more opportunities, encouraged to take risks in their work and are supported in their continuing professional development.

How we do this:

- We create new opportunities for artists through exhibitions, commissions, residencies, networking and publicity.
- We research and develop new ideas for exhibitions, including seeking out new or previously unrepresented artists.
- Exhibitions and related activities grow out of dialogue with artists, through partnership with other organisations and through our own patronage.
- We respond to opportunities with enthusiasm, in an open and unprescriptive way, welcoming ideas from artists and curators for exhibitions, and from potential partners.

What do we want to achieve?

- We want artists to develop professionally through their engagement with OVADA including, where appropriate, mentoring, structured development opportunities and informal advice.

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- We aim to generate new networks through bringing artists from Oxfordshire into contact with those from other areas and countries.
- We wish to stimulate the collective development of both artists and audiences through the cross-fertilisation of ideas, artists and art forms, exposure to a wide range of contemporary practices and an increased level of activity.
- Our gallery programme reflects the organisation's principles, ambitions and ethics as defined in our mission statement and business plan.

How can you be involved?

- The OVADA Friends email network keeps artists and visitors updated on exhibitions, events and opportunities. It's a free service and you can subscribe on line at: www.ovada.org.uk
- In the first instance we encourage all applicants to look at our website and if possible to visit the gallery, so that you are aware of the space and the breadth of our programme. We are also keen to discuss proposals in person before submitting.
- To submit an application send a covering letter and stamped SAE with a brief outline of your proposal and not more than 10 images or 5 minutes of video/sound. Some project or exhibition calls have different application processes - please check if you are unsure.
- OVADA also offers advisory services to artists. Please ask for further information.
- All applications to the gallery are considered by an advisory panel and some open calls have selection panels convened specifically with expertise relevant to that exhibition.

For further advice or information please contact the Gallery staff:

Janine Charles, Development Director or **George Mogg, Projects Co-ordinator.**

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