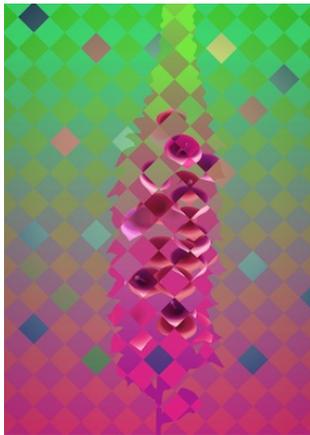12 July 2011

Digitalis Commissions:
Open call for inquiring animations

Call for submissions deadline: 24 August 2011

Exhibition online: from November 2011

Guidelines: animateprojects.org/opportunities

Image: Digitalis © Sebastian Buerkner

Animate Projects, with support from the Jerwood Charitable Foundation, announce four new commissions for animated works that explore, question, subvert or confound our expectations of art and the 'digital'.

Applicants should consider ideas that examine the textures and materials of digital practice. We are looking for ideas that consider the digital exhibition context: that explore the technology and the intimacy of the viewing platform (the laptop, tablet or smartphone).

The works will be shown online - at animateprojects.org - and on other digital platforms, including Vimeo and iTunes from November 2011. The online exhibition of the Digitalis Commissions will also include interviews with the artists.

We are looking to commission four works, at a budget of £2,000 each, including artist's fee. The commissions are available to UK-based artists, animators and filmmakers who can craft an inventive and engagingly provocative work.

The works will be selected by a Jury comprising of: Abigail Addison, Assistant Director, Animate Projects; Nick Bradshaw, Web Editor, Sight & Sound Magazine; Susan Collins, artist and Director of the Slade School of Fine Art; Gary Thomas, Director, Animate Projects; and Sarah Williams, Coordinator, Jerwood Visual Arts.

The commissions are part of Digitalis, a strand of activities for 2011 that have a focus on the potential of the digital space as a site for artistic production. Animation is at the forefront of digital innovation, in creative and scientific fields, and Digitalis offers a pause for thought about what the impact of digital might mean.

-Ends-

Notes to editors:
Submission guidelines: http://www.animateprojects.org/opportunities
Deadline for submissions: 4pm, Wednesday 24 August 2011

The Digitalis Commissions will be announced in September 2011
The works will be online from November at
http://www.animateprojects.org/films/by_project/digitalis/digitalis_commissions

Digitalis
Digitalis is a provocative strand that sets out to explore, question, subvert or confound our expectations of art and 'the digital', and intended as a focus on and further debate around the potential of the digital space as a site for artistic production. Animation is at the forefront of digital innovation, in creative and scientific fields, and Digitalis offers a pause for thought about what the impact of digital might mean.

The strand includes: Animate OPEN: Digitalis, an online exhibition of up to ten existing works; Digitalis Commissions: four new works for online exhibition, supported by the Jerwood Charitable Foundation; Digitalis Dialogue: a screening and panel event, a free publication featuring critical writing and information about the commissioned and exhibited works, and a discussion event.

Sebastian Buerkner was also specially commissioned to produce the Digitalis artwork featured above. The work will be available to purchase as a limited-edition print from the Animate Projects Shop from July.

Digitalis Commissions Jury

Abigail Addison is Assistant Director of Animate Projects.

Nick Bradshaw

Nick Bradshaw has been the Web Editor for Sight & Sound magazine for the past two years. He has written interview and reviews for Guardian Unlimited, LA Weekly and Vertigo magazine, edited Plan b magazine and has both edited and written for Time Out London. He is also an independent film- and video-maker with an MFA from California Institute of the Arts.

Susan Collins

Susan Collins is one of the UK's leading artists working with digital media. Collins works across public, gallery and online spaces. Works include Tate in Space (a BAFTA nominated Tate netart commission); Seascape, commissioned by Film and Video Umbrella, exhibited at the De La Warr Pavilion; and Love Brid, commissioned by Animate Projects for Sea Change. Susan Collins is currently Director of the Slade School of Fine Art, University College London where she established the Slade Centre for Electronic Media in Fine Art in 1995. Visit http://www.susan-collins.net/

Gary Thomas is Director of Animate Projects.

Sarah Williams

Sarah Williams coordinates and curates within the Jerwood Visual Arts exhibition programme at Jerwood Space. She also works as an independent curator, artist and lecturer. Sarah was a selector for the Sussex Coast College Art Prize (2010), the Drawing Inspiration Awards (2011) and the Core Gallery Open (2011). Visit http://sarahwilliams.co/

About Jerwood Charitable Foundation

The Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts. Visit http://www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

About Animate Projects

Animate Projects champions experiments and creative risk taking in animation across a broad spectrum of practice. It is the only UK organisation dedicated to commissioning and exhibiting innovative animation online and on digital platforms. Since 2008, animateprojects.org has received over 800,000 visitors and has an international reputation as a place to encounter outstanding work by British artists.

Experiments in animation - http://www.animateprojects.org
Connect with us - Facebook - http://www.facebook.com/AnimateProjects / Twitter - http://twitter.com/#!/animateprojects

Further press information:

Abigail Addison at Animate Projects
abigail@animateprojects.org
+44 (0)20 7407 3944 or +44 (0)778 968 6903