

OPEN EYE GALLERY

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Registered Charity No.1056743

18 Feb 2019

To Whom it may concern.

Reference for Pauline Rowe application

This letter emphasises the importance of support for artists, like Pauline Rowe, that have developed a strong and impactful business model of community engagement, whilst developing opportunities to strengthen their own creative practice.

Open Eye Gallery (OEG) in 2016 appointed Pauline Rowe as our first writer-in-residence following a successful PhD placement from the University of Liverpool. During this time she contributed to our interdisciplinary programme as follows:

- 2016 'Poetry & Protest' readings and workshop in partnership with New and International Writing centre, University of Liverpool with poets Juliana Spahr, Sean Bonney, Ruby Robinson.
- 2017- 2018 Programming events at OEG - 'Writing & Photography' series including the following: John Redmond, Elspeth Accordion, Seán Hewitt and Maria Isakova Bennett, Lauren Elkin, Vona Groarke, Rebecca Goss and Chris Routledge, Mary Jean Chan, Jennifer Lee Tsai.
- She conducted artist interviews for exhibition information (Open 2 & Open 3) with photographic artists: Phoebe Kiely, Nicola Dale and Steve Iles, Peter Watkins, Sam Hutchinson, Thom Isom, Yetunde Adebisi, Libby Groves, Jane MacNeil, Matthew Lambert, Danny Ryder and (for Jerwood-Photoworks exhibition) - Matthew Finn, Tereza Zelenkova.
- Delivered a range of open creative workshops linked to exhibitions, and most recently devising and delivering the 'Here & Now' arts and health project at OEG between July and Dec 2018 in partnership with Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust - exhibition due 19 - 23 Feb.
- New writing work: May 2018 collaboration with photographer, AJ Wilkinson exhibited at OEG as sound recordings of 10 poems with exhibition of AJ's photographs 'Sleeping in the Middle'.
- OEG related commissions & other initiatives: *We Women Sing* poem included in Culture Shifts exhibition, Open Eye Gallery & [Winds of Change](#) (Sept 2017 – Jan 2018) Kirkby Art Gallery.
- 25th Jan 2018 Evening with photographer AJ Wilkinson presenting ideas on collaboration, photography and poetry at Open Eye Gallery.
- *Pilgrim* poem in response to photograph by Tom Wood, Tilt 3, Open Eye Gallery.

- Workshop for 'Ferry Folk' with Liz Weiwora, 1 Oct 2018 Celebrating Old Age symposium at Open Eye Gallery – with Mossley Hill Writing Group and reading 'We Women Sing' (*Winds of Change*), introducing Jaclie Kay.

Her final work for OEG includes a piece for Victoria Gallery and Museum exhibition for 'The Allotments' with Dave Lockwood and Arthur Lockwood, forthcoming August 2019, plus two commissioned poems in response to the themes of our 'Kinship' exhibition in April and 'A Portrait of...' in July, both of which will be published in our Tilt publication.

Pauline has proven very successful in developing new audiences for her work and OEG, and I have confidence that Pauline Rowe can develop a national profile around her 'Insane Places' collection and related on line / website development activity.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Fisher'.

Sarah Fisher,

Executive Director,

Email: sarah@openeye.org.uk.