



## People Powered – Brent

### *From the ground up*

#### **Brief for Artist Filmmaker**

A freelance artist filmmaker is sought to lead a participatory social history and creative project exploring some of the significant figures connected to Wembley Stadium.

The artist filmmaker is responsible for developing a new film/ series of short films for public display at Brent Museum and Archives, working with a group of young people. Using archives, portraits and oral histories you will demonstrate how people associated with Wembley have built on their successes and used their status to drive positive change.

- 22 March 2021- September 2021 (Approx. 34 days)
- Fixed fee: £8000
- Closing date: 25 February 2021 9am

## Project

A partnership between Brent Museum and Archives (BMA) and the National Portrait Gallery (NPG), *From the ground up* is one of five projects that forms the NPG's offsite programme; *People Powered*, during its temporary closure to transform the gallery. *People Powered* is an exciting research and creative engagement project involving the NPG, borough archive services, local communities and contemporary artists. *People Powered* is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

#### **Brief to artist filmmaker**

Produce a film or series of short films which tell the stories of significant individuals connected to Wembley Stadium. The stories will reveal the industries connected to Wembley Stadium and how people have used their position and platform to inspire others.

Working with a group of young people (under 21) from Brent you will gather the oral histories of significant individuals, along with relevant visual content and create a narrative that can be understood by a local and national audience.

The approach is designed to foreground the ways in which industry, action and storytelling can shape a locality, consolidate shared experiences and lay seeds of creative inspiration. You will bring in archival and collection material from both the NPG and BMA to reveal the inspiring stories connected to an iconic place. You will also consider the importance of archives and heritage for remembering individuals and events, and how this can shape future identities and understanding of place. A co-produced approach between the artist, young people and the two partner institutions is essential for the project to succeed.

The culmination of the project is an exhibition at the Library at Willesden Green in September 2021 which will include the film(s) produced, archive material and portraits. Local primary schools will be invited to engage with the exhibition and gain a better understanding of their local area and the

people associated with it. The NPG website will show the process of the project as it develops and when the NPG re-opens in 2023 there will be space to show some of the outcomes from the project.

The impact of Covid-19 has determined a need for flexibility. Remote engagement is important as access to physical spaces to meet is not currently possible, but this may change during the duration of the project. However the project team are ready to work with the appointed artist to support new ways of working.

## **Responsible for:**

Creation of a film or series of short films that will feature in a physical exhibition to be co-produced with young people from Brent.

Proposals are invited from filmmakers who meet many or all of the following criteria:

- A participatory, socially-engaged creative practice in filmmaking.
- A connection with, or experience of living in Brent.
- Expertise in interviewing and collating oral histories.
- Enjoys the co-creation process and collaborative working.
- Experience of commissions from museums/galleries/archives/libraries, or delivering project outcomes for comparable client organisations.
- Experience of working with young people (under 21) to support and nurture their creative and technical skills.
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills.
- A visual creative practice which encompasses storytelling and an understanding of representation of identity (e.g. portraiture).
- Confident delivering online or remote workshops and using online platforms and technologies.
- A flexible approach to your working process.
- Strong group facilitation and workshop leadership skills.

## **The filmmaker artist will deliver:**

- The creation of new film or series of short films produced in collaboration with a group of local young people (under 21).
- To lead a group 12 young people in a collaborative research process collating oral histories and practically undertaking some of the filmmaking.
- Undertake research in the archives/collections of BMA and the NPG and work closely with project staff to draw out the most relevant stories.
- Collate oral histories from people connected to Wembley Stadium who have gone on to inspire people through their actions.
- Be involved in the display of the film work both in the physical exhibition and online.
- Support the curation of the exhibition to ensure the stories and individuals are represented coherently.
- Produce multimedia content for websites and social media that reveal the progress of the project.
- Participate in media interviews and provide content for marketing as needed.
- Participate in evaluation activities as required by the clients and funder.



### The filmmaker artist will have the following responsibilities:

- To develop a plan for the young people's participation and a concept for the final film(s) which meets the project aims.
- To work with the project staff to arrange and facilitate the oral histories of individuals connected to Wembley Stadium, and to include own suggestions of relevant individuals/stories to be captured.
- To ensure that the film(s) incorporates a critical engagement with collections. Including the power of such collections to convey nuanced personal, collective and national histories as well as the sometimes problematic aspects of representation.
- To develop and produce the final film(s) from concept to installation, ensuring high production values are met.
- To work with BMA and NPG staff on any interpretation materials for the exhibition that are required.
- To ensure all relevant project activities are recorded and edited appropriately.
- Seek to create and maintain a safe space in workshop sessions and oral history gatherings so that the participants feel secure and confident to share their reflections and emotional response.
- To work within the agreed budget and retain receipts of all expenditure, ensuring any expense reimbursements follow procedure.
- To ensure the agreed timescale for deliverables is met.

## Budget

There is a budget of £8,000 for the filmmaker fee. This will be payable in two instalments on a schedule to be agreed with the appointed artist.

There is additional budget for the final artwork's production and installation costs. This may include (for example) materials, fabrication, printing, equipment rental, etc.

The commissioned artist will be required to have in place (by the time of contract start date):

- Registered with HMRC (you will be asked to provide recent evidence of tax status)
- Public liability insurance
- Enhanced DBS disclosure. The appointment will not be formalised until or unless a satisfactory current disclosure is supplied.

## Recruitment process

Please send your application via email to [Rebecca.Thompson@brent.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.Thompson@brent.gov.uk) & [estone@npg.org.uk](mailto:estone@npg.org.uk) by the closing date of **9:00 on Thursday 25 February 2021**. It should include the following 4 elements:

- A personal statement which explains why you want to be considered for this project. This could be written or recorded. What interests you about the opportunity to explore stories connected to Wembley Stadium in Brent? How might your creative practice be utilised in this context?
- Your CV or portfolio/ examples of previous films
- A short case study outlining your previous participatory work with a community group
- Contact details for a referee from a participatory project you were involved with.

We are committed to the employment and development of disabled people. We guarantee to interview anyone with a disability whose application meets the minimum criteria for this post. To be invited to interview/assessment, you must show in your supporting statement that you meet the minimum criteria for the role, across all essential criteria. If you tell us that you have a disability we can make reasonable adjustments at interview, and, if you join us, to your work arrangements.

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Interviews will take place online via Zoom or Teams on **10<sup>th</sup> March 2021**.

The interview panel will include staff from Brent Museum and Archives:

- Rebecca Thompson, Heritage Service Officer

The National Portrait Gallery:

- Emily Stone, Participation Manager
- Clare Freestone, Curator Photography

## **Project context and background**

*From the ground up* is part of *People Powered*, one of the NPG's offsite public engagement programmes running during [Inspiring People](#), its closure to transform the galleries. Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the project outcomes will be represented within the central London gallery when it reopens in 2023. NPG also seeks to acquire new collections to represent the UK's diverse heritage which emerge or result from *People Powered*'s local partnerships.

Brent Museum and Archives exists to collect, preserve and provide free access to the history of the London Borough of Brent. Our mission is to ensure that residents can enjoy and learn about the history and diverse cultures of the Borough by collecting, recording and making accessible Brent's past and present. We aim to use these unique resources to create opportunities, improve lives and create stronger communities.

Since it first opened in 1923, Wembley Stadium has had a significant impact on the communities within Brent. Known as the home of English football, an industry with worldwide reach, this iconic venue has become a focal point for both residents and visitors. Over the years, it has hosted internationally famous athletes, musicians and performers, and we are looking to represent the individuals involved in industries that have shaped the nation of the UK. *From the ground up* will tell the stories of people who have made an impact either in their career or using the platform that a high profile location such as Wembley Stadium can offer.

Supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

