



MOONFEST — COLLABORATOR RECRUITMENT

MOON MUSEUM LEAD ARTIST

COMPANY PROFILE

Little Earthquake is a theatre company based in Walsall (West Midlands / United Kingdom) which was set up in May 2005. The core team consists of co-Directors Gareth Nicholls and Philip Holyman, working alongside Producer Zoë Roberts and our magnificent Board.

We believe in giving people experiences that aren't boring. We do that by tailoring each piece of work we make to the audience we are making it for or with: they are the most important consideration in all we do. We want to surprise, intrigue, and above all, entertain them. "Thou Shalt Not Bore" is our only commandment.

We make a wide range of theatre in a wide range of places. You are as likely to find us creating a web series reimagining "Hamlet" in Black Country dialect (*Yamlet*) as inviting 100 primary school children to help us produce a family friendly version of Kafka's "Metamorphosis" (*The Boy Who Became A Beetle*).

Through our participation, training and mentoring programmes, we work directly with communities, educational institutions and the next generation of theatre-makers. We also curate the East Meets West network, facilitating opportunities, events and initiatives which encourage collaboration across the East and West Midlands theatre sector.

Information on the company and our portfolio of current and past projects can be found on our website at www.little-earthquake.com.

THE FESTIVAL

MoonFest is a nine-day programme of Moon-inspired events and activities — created in collaboration with artists, academics and audiences — presented in partnership with mac and University of Birmingham — marking the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing in July 2019.

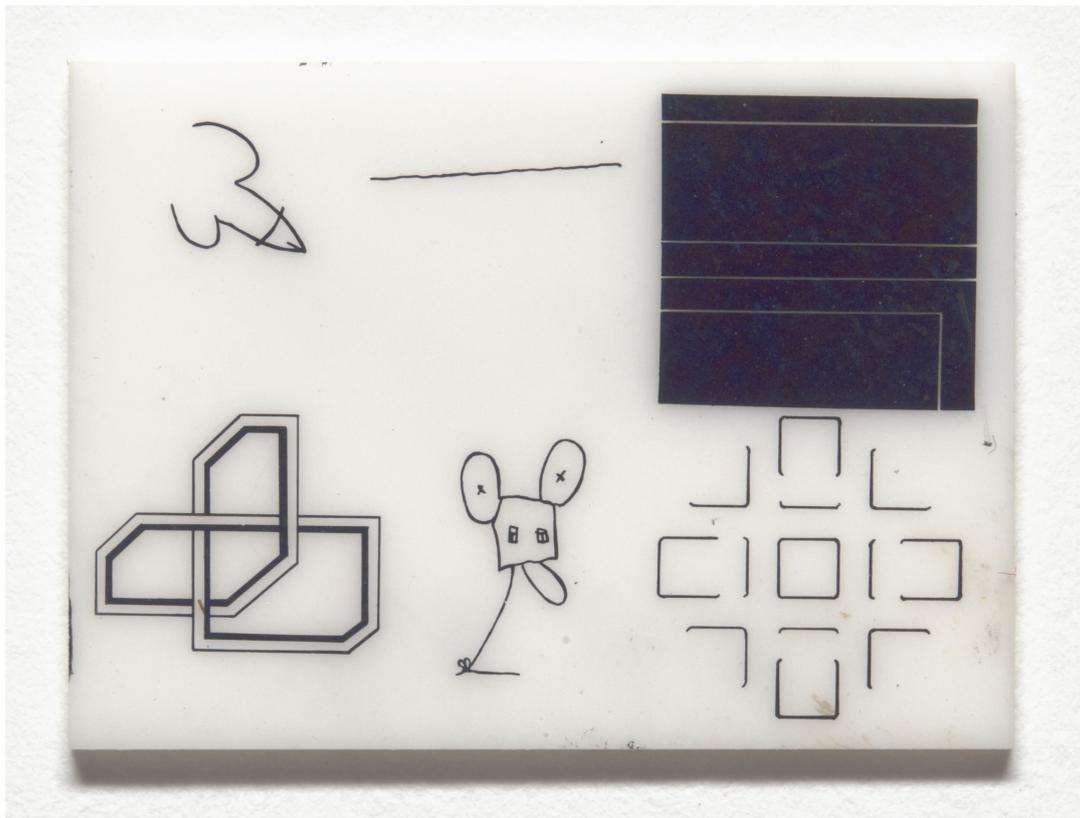
MoonFest is designed to offer people thought-provoking and entertaining ways to engage with this landmark event's history, and to make their own creative contributions to a new archive of artworks, memories and visions of the future. It invites people to get involved as audiences and active participants, encouraging them to push gently at the boundaries of what they know and like.

It will include new commissions across multiple art forms, showcase participatory work between local communities and local artists, and provide a breadth of experiences to cater for a wide range of audience interests, from watching work to creating it themselves.

Above all, we want to position Birmingham as a place for looking back at a dramatic period in human endeavour and looking ahead at the future of our place in the universe. *MoonFest* is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to capture, commission and celebrate local responses to this iconic global event.

THE PROJECT

Get six famous artists to make six new works of art. Shrink them together onto a tile the size of a micro SIM card. Sneak it onto a rocket. Land it on the Moon. And leave it there. That's exactly what happened in 1969, or so the story goes. And it's time for history to repeat itself.



“The Moon Museum” is thought to be the first artwork to have travelled to the Moon. American sculptor Forrest Myers worked with scientists from Bell Laboratories to produce some tiny ceramic tiles inscribed with drawings by six artists: Andy Warhol, Claes Oldenburg, David Novros, John Chamberlain and Robert Rauschenburg, alongside Myers himself. Even though it's officially unconfirmed, one of the tiles is said to have been secretly hidden on the Apollo 12 spacecraft and left behind on the Moon along with other personal effects transported by the astronauts.

As part of *MoonFest*, we are commissioning six brand new pieces of art inspired by the Moon landing — all of which will be created through collaborations between one visual artist and six local community groups. (Little Earthquake is currently confirming the groups who will take part — the Lead Artist is not responsible for identifying or securing these initial relationships.) They will come together to create our very own *Moon Museum* for 2019, a teeny tiny treasure made up of these six mini-masterpieces. The *Moon Museum* artwork will be displayed at mac during *MoonFest* for visitors to view through a special Moon Magnifier.

THE POSITION

We are now looking for a *Moon Museum* Lead Artist who will become a key member of the collaborative team, working closely with Little Earthquake and the participant groups to design and create the final *Moon Museum* artwork.

Using the original “Moon Museum” and wider research around the Moon landing as a starting point, the Lead Artist will work with each participant group to explore their ideas for their panel — looking at the imagery which might be featured and thinking about how these images might best be realised in a miniature artwork.

Taking each participant group’s ideas as a primary source of inspiration, the Lead Artist will develop designs for each of the six panels and will eventually bring the panel designs together to create the final *Moon Museum* artwork.

NB: This position (and its fee) covers the design of the artwork (and related activities) and the construction of the artwork (with a minimum of 14 finished copies required.) If the Lead Artist needs to outsource some or all of the construction of the artwork, the costs for this must come out of the Lead Artist’s fixed fee.

Applications from companies or collaborative teams: the fee for this project has been calculated on the basis of one person being appointed as the Lead Artist. We are open to receiving applications from companies or collaborative teams consisting of more than one person, but applicants should be mindful of National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage regulations when considering the feasibility of a joint/group application. Should any such application be shortlisted, all of the named team/group members would be expected to attend the in-person meeting with Little Earthquake’s Co-Directors.

At A Glance Overview:

- **Job Title:** *Moon Museum* – Lead Artist
- **Reports To:** Gareth Nicholls and Philip Holyman (co-Directors)
- **Job Purpose:** Deliver design of *Moon Museum* artwork as part of collaboration with participant groups; deliver/oversee construction of artwork
- **Terms:** Freelance
- **Location:** Birmingham / West Midlands
- **Commences:** May 2019
- **Fee:** £2,100 (with separate travel and materials budgets)

Areas of Work and Responsibility

- To devise and lead two sessions with each of the six *Moon Museum* participant groups (each session lasting approx. 2 hours) which explore the participants’ ideas for their group’s panel on the *Moon Museum* artwork;

- To develop designs for the six panels which will be featured on the *Moon Museum* artwork, influenced primarily by the participants' ideas, as well as by the Lead Artist's own creative research and inspirations;
- To share design ideas with participants and members of the collaborative team in contact sessions and project update meetings as well as through sketches, prototypes and digital renderings;
- To finalise designs and specifications for the *Moon Museum* artwork;
- To carry out the construction of the *Moon Museum* artwork personally (in whole or in part) and/or to supervise the construction of the *Moon Museum* artwork by other people (in whole or in part), as appropriate;
- To produce a minimum of 14 copies of the *Moon Museum* artwork within the approved making budget — one for public display (to be retained by Little Earthquake); one for each of the six participant groups to keep; one for each of the six *Moon Museum* sponsors to keep; at least one copy for the Lead Artist to keep;
- To contribute to the design and delivery of the *Moon Museum* exhibition at mac, including the interpretation panels displayed alongside the artwork;
- To advise on suppliers for materials and services, and to solicit quotes from suppliers, if requested;
- To read, understand and abide by Little Earthquake's Safeguarding policy;
- To document all design work carried out throughout the process;
- To make contributions to the *MoonFest* web blog, to the photo and film documentation, and to the Arts Council England final evaluation.

Person Specification

We are committed to creating equal opportunities that are accessible and welcome to all, and we encourage applications from a broad range of communities, especially those who are under-represented in the cultural sector. We welcome applications from minority ethnic, disabled, LGBTQI+ and trans artists, who are underrepresented within our commissions programme. There is no age limit for applicants and the call is open to all artists regardless of their 'official' qualifications.

Essential Skills and Experience

- Excellent quality of art practice, with a proven ability to deliver visual artworks (in any medium), with at least 2 years of relevant creative work under your belt;
- Good interpersonal skills to work effectively and communicate clearly with the Little Earthquake team, participant groups, project partners and external suppliers;
- Strong creative skills, with the ability to interpret participant contributions, analytical thinking and research influences into design concepts;
- Accuracy and attention to detail;
- Understanding of costs and time limits, all of which can impact on the design;
- Excellent time management and organisational skills;
- DBS checked to Enhanced level;
- Experience of working with participant groups in community settings — desirable

Essential Characteristics

- A positive, self-motivating, self-managing person;
- Willingness to challenge and inspire those you work with;
- Openness to being challenged and inspired by those working with you;
- Existing interest in the arts and for nurturing that enthusiasm in others.

BUDGET

- **Lead Artist** — fixed fee to include sessions with participant groups, design and construction of artwork (or supervision of construction), consultation and documentation sessions, evaluation sessions — £2,100 (based on 14 non-consecutive days of work @ £150 per day)
- **Travel** — fixed budget to include sessions with participant groups, planning and production meetings, consultation and documentation sessions, evaluation sessions — £180
- **Materials** — fixed budget for creation and delivery of 14 copies (minimum) of the final *Moon Museum* artwork — £750

RECRUITMENT PROCESS

The *Moon Museum* Lead Artist will be recruited through a two-stage process:

- Initial expression of interest from artist using the application form (www.little-earthquake.com/opportunities) accompanied by CV (with contact details of two referees) and samples of recent work;
- Gareth and Philip will meet with short-listed candidates (in person only), after which a final decision and offer of appointment will be made.

RECRUITMENT TIMESCALE

- Expressions of interest will be accepted from 10am on Friday 12th April 2019 and no later than 5pm on Thursday 9th May 2019;
- All candidates will be notified of their application outcome by 5pm on Friday 10th May;
- Meetings with shortlisted candidates will take place in person at a Birmingham City Centre location on Wednesday 15th May. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to select their meeting time via a Doodle poll on a first come, first served basis;
- Shortlisted candidates will be notified of the final decision by 5pm on Friday 17th May;
- Work will commence in May 2019, subject to acceptance and signature of contract. Payments will be made by BACS in accordance with a Schedule of Payment which will be drawn up and agreed as part of the contract.

KEY ACTIVITY DATES

- Creation and delivery period (to include contact sessions with participant groups and making of *Moon Museum* artwork): Monday 20th May 2019 — Friday 5th July 2019
- Contact sessions with participant groups: dates and times TBC
- Deadline for delivery of final *Moon Museum* artwork: Friday 5th July 2019
- Full *MoonFest* festival dates: Tuesday 16th July 2019 — Wednesday 24th July 2019
- *Moon Museum* exhibition dates: Friday 19th July 2019 — Wednesday 24th July 2019
- Exhibition de-installation date: Thursday 25th July 2019
- Evaluation sessions: late July/mid-August (dates TBC with collaborators)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any questions prior to submitting your application, please contact us by email at epicentre@little-earthquake.com and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.