

## **Tender for Commissioner 13th Architecture Biennale, Venice 2012**

Interested parties are invited to submit expressions of interest to act as the Commissioner for Ireland's national representation at the Venice Biennale in 2012.

Culture Ireland in partnership with the Arts Council is committed to Ireland's participation in the Venice Architecture Biennale and to increasing opportunities and profile for Irish architects at this key international event. The Venice Architecture Biennale, as well as serving as a global showcase for architecture, offers the opportunity for Irish architects to engage with international audiences, influence future trends and explore their practice as an artform.

### **Role of Commissioner**

The Commissioner will work to support the delivery of the project and will lead on project management, management of budget (including fundraising), securing of venue, communications and press, and liaison with the Biennale office, as well as providing administrative support. The Commissioner will provide support for the creative process in the delivery of the project, as required by the Curator, and will be available to assist the Curator on the development of the exhibition concept to presentation stage. The Commissioner will be involved with the stakeholders in the selection of the creative team, including the Curator through a separate open call process.

### **Budget**

A core budget has not yet been set for the 2012 Biennale. While the 2010 budget of approx €300,000 may be used as a guideline, the current public and private funding climate may require that a lesser sum is available. A financial management and reporting structure will be set up by the Commissioner in agreement with the selected Curator.

### **Stages for Selection**

Interested parties should forward a submission as per the attached brief. A shortlist will be invited for interview by the selection panel.

### **Brief For Submission**

The term "Commissioner" is used informally in this brief to designate the author/s of the proposal. Proposals are invited from an individual, collective, or organisation with the knowledge and skill to manage and deliver a presentation appropriate to the context of the Venice Biennale. The Commissioner for the Irish presentation will be chosen on the strength of skills including organisational capacity and the ability to meet the criteria.

Ireland at Venice is an initiative of Culture Ireland in partnership with the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon.

## Criteria

Applicants must have a proven record in the architectural and/or broader cultural sector and will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Detailed knowledge of current trends in architecture and architectural exhibition, nationally and internationally
- Knowledge of and/or experience in exhibition delivery
- Experience in project management including liaising with stakeholders
- Budget management and reporting
- Organisational capacity and availability to meet time and travel commitments
- Proven capacity to manage and deliver a project of this scale
- Reporting and editorial skills for documentation and dissemination
- Networking skills and international connections
- Level of proposed fee costs

## Submission Requirements: Stage 1

Applicants must submit no more than 2 x A4 pages in PDF format outlining their approach and capacity to deliver a presentation of Irish architecture within the platform of the Biennale and its subsequent presentation in Ireland. The applicant must also indicate a proposed project management fee structure.

This submission must demonstrate how the applicant fulfils the eligibility criteria above and must be accompanied by all relevant biographies.

## Stage 2: Interview

From the information provided in the submission one or more candidates may be invited to present in person to the selection panel in November.

## Terms and Conditions

- The Commissioner may not act as Curator of the exhibition nor as a participant in it.
- This call for submissions is open to Irish individuals, collectives or organisations based in Ireland or abroad, or to those, of any nationality, resident in Ireland.
- Submissions will not be returned.
- No fees or expenses will be paid for either submission stage.
- The receipt of all proposals will be acknowledged. Those shortlisted will be directly informed of the selection panel's decision by Culture Ireland.
- The selection panel's decision is final.

## Deadline for Proposals

Submissions should be emailed to [christine.sisk@cultureireland.gov.ie](mailto:christine.sisk@cultureireland.gov.ie) and must be received by 5pm on Friday 21 October, 2011.

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