FESTIVAL IN A VAN COMMISSIONING POLICY



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Festival in a Van is committed to commissioning artists and creative practitioners in a transparent, fair, and inclusive manner that supports artistic excellence, diversity, and meaningful collaboration. Commissioning is central to Festival in a Van's artistic programme, enabling the creation of new work and supporting artists to develop their practice in socially engaged contexts.

ARTISTIC QUALITY AND INTEGRITY

Festival in a Van commissions artists whose work demonstrates artistic excellence, originality, and a clear artistic voice. Artists are selected based on:
The quality and strength of their artistic practice

- Their professional experience and track record
- Their interest in socially engaged and collaborative practice
- Their suitability for the specific project context
- Their ability to work sensitively and respectfully with participants

TRANSPARENT AND FAIR SELECTION

- Artists are identified through a combination of:
- Direct invitation based on artistic merit and relevance
- Recommendations from trusted artistic and sector partners
- Existing professional networks and prior collaboration



DEITIES by WeAreGriot

Commissioned by Festival in a Van with the support of the Bank of Ireland Begin Together Arts Fund in partnership with Business to Arts.

WeAreGriot is a collection of Nigerian-Irish poets and storytellers: FELISPEAKS, Dagogo Hart, and Samuel Yakura, whose goal is to ‘reflect the times we live in throughout work, to celebrate culture and community, and to stretch the boundaries of poetry. We create to serve both art and agenda.’







Festival in a Van ensures that commissioning decisions are based on artistic merit, project suitability, and alignment with the organisation's artistic vision.

All commissioned artists receive clear written agreements outlining:

- Scope of work
- Fee and payment schedule
- Timeline and expectations
- Rights and responsibilities

Artists are paid fairly and in line with Arts Council guidance and industry standards.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Festival in a Van is committed to ensuring equitable access to commissioning opportunities. We actively seek to work with artists from diverse backgrounds and experiences, including artists who are underrepresented within the arts sector.

Our commissioning approach recognises the artistic value of diversity and aims to ensure a range of artistic voices, perspectives, and practices are represented across our programme. We are committed to removing barriers to participation and creating inclusive working environments for artists.

ARTIST SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

Festival in a Van provides artistic, practical, and production support to commissioned artists, including:

- Clear communication and briefing
- Production and technical support
- Safeguarding and contextual guidance where relevant
- Opportunities for artistic development and experimentation
- Artists are treated as collaborators and partners in the creative process

ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Festival in a Van maintains professional and ethical standards in all commissioning relationships. We ensure:

- Fair and transparent communication
- Respect for artistic autonomy
- Appropriate safeguarding procedures
- Safe and supportive working environments
- We are committed to ongoing reflection and improvement of our commissioning practices