

FESTIVAL OPEN CALL

LIGHTNIGHT 2019: RITUAL

Open Culture invites artistic proposals for LightNight 2019. Exploring the theme Ritual the event will take place 5pm—late on Friday 17 May 2019.

This open call has two strands:

1. Programming & Late Openings (In-kind)

This is for artists, community groups and arts/heritage organisations and venues to be part of LightNight.

2. Artist Commissions (Paid)

The commissions are for individual artists or artist collectives to apply for funds to create new works to be presented on LightNight.

IMPORTANT INFO

All activity proposed for LightNight must:

- Offer something different to your usual offer in response to the theme
- Happen on Friday 17 May 2019 from 5pm—late in Liverpool city centre
- Be free to the public
- Offer a high-quality artistic offer
- Venues must be open until at least 10pm

1. IN-KIND PROGRAMMING / LATE OPENINGS

Due to the scale of LightNight and the number of organisations and artists taking part we use an application process to build the programme.

If you represent a venue that has never participated before, please be in touch with us on the details below before submitting.

Otherwise, we ask that everyone complete the online application form here:

www.culture.org.uk/lightnightsubmit

Deadline: 21 January 2019

What you'll need: your contact details, venue details (if you have one), and a description of your proposed activity and the people involved.

Each submission will be reviewed, and we will be in touch with you as soon as possible after the deadline.

If your proposal is accepted we will request your marketing information, including your listings for inclusion in the Festival Guide, to be submitted to us by 4 March 2019.

2. ARTIST COMMISSIONS

A small number of paid commissions between £1k—£3k are planned for LightNight 2019.

Artists interested in proposing new works in response to the theme should read the [brief](#).

Deadline for Artist Commissions:
Midnight on 5 November 2018

CONTACT US

LightNight is an Open Culture CIC project.

You can reach us on the details below:

Charlotte Corrie or Christina Grogan
charlotte@culture.org.uk / 0151 478 4550
christina@culture.org.uk / 0151 478 4928

www.lightnightliverpool.co.uk

WATCH THE FILM

You can see a highlights film from 2018 at:
<https://vimeo.com/284502919>

ABOUT LIGHTNIGHT

LightNight is Liverpool's annual late-night arts festival taking place annually in May.

LightNight Liverpool is an unforgettable trail of events for all ages including light projections, street performance, exhibitions, open studios, theatre, dance, walks and tours, live music and many more special activities. Over 50 city centre organisations keep their galleries, museums and venues open until late, staging over 100 special cultural events for visitors of all ages.

LightNight is produced by Open Culture and aims to promote the city's arts and cultural offer to those who may not usually engage with the arts.

THEME: RITUAL

A ritual is a structured series of actions, performed in a particular order using specific objects, words or movements. Rituals of all kinds, ancient and modern, are seen in cultures from all over the world; where there is community, there is also ritual.

Humans construct rituals for all manner of reasons; for celebration, comfort, ceremony, catharsis or religious belief. From the individual to the collective, personal or public, ritual permeates every facet of our existence.

Some rituals are rooted in nature and seasonal changes or the calendar, creating a link between the past and future. Some allow participants to have a transformative experience, marking or creating a personal change; whether they are moving into a new stage of life or connecting with another person or community through marriage or initiation. Some offer a means to explore spiritual beliefs and to express reverence, creating a deeper connection with a deity or ancestors.

Carnivals are thought by anthropologists to allow communities, framed year-round by social tensions such as class, race and gender, to invert their normal social order through masking, play and performance. This creates an environment where social stressors can be played out collectively, and an experience that is elevated and distinguishable from the everyday.

Ritualistic qualities can be found in even day-to-day activities, such as how we choose to greet each other or dance together. These customs and habits can help us carve out sense and order from the chaos of our lives.

Many of us also have private rituals, that we enact through repetition or routine; whether it's getting ready to go out, marking an anniversary or lighting a candle for a loved one there is a deliberateness, a level of choice, in ritual that offers significance beyond a simple action.

For LightNight 2019, we will consider ritual as a universal phenomenon, spanning the breadth of human history, and also as an artistic process by which we shift our state of mind. Ritual offers us an active and creative process by which to create shared meaning, understand the world, and define – and transcend – our place within it.

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