



## Overview

Platform Commissions is an initiative to support the production of significant new works by individual artists and collectives based in Ireland. It invites the submission of proposals from eligible artists for new artworks and projects through a simple, open, and supported process.

We now welcome Platform Commission proposals for the 41st EVA International programme, which will be selected by **Iarlaith Ní Fheorais** and **Roy Claire Potter**. Selected proposals will be offered support for the realisation and presentation of new work as part of the upcoming biennial programme (August - October 2025), taking place across sites and spaces in Limerick. Although EVA's programme is typically presented as an exhibition, we are actively encouraging proposals that go beyond the usual parameters of venue-based exhibition presentation. For information on previous Platform Commissions, please see [eva.ie](http://eva.ie).

## Thematic Guidelines

The selection panel has drafted the following statement as a guide to applicants:

'Access in the arts is commonly understood as the inclusion of (and the reduction of barriers for) disabled, neurodivergent, d/Deaf, Mad and chronically ill people in the making and presentation of artworks.

The Platform Commissions for the 41st EVA International seeks to commission projects that build on this definition, framing access as a method of creating alternate forms of sociality, or convivial ways of being together.

We encourage applicants to look beyond the exhibitionary form when responding to this framework, and we welcome proposals that imagine interventions, events, gatherings, publications and performances — in material, corporeal and digital forms — or anything else that, as yet, we cannot imagine.'

- Iarlaith Ní Fheorais and Roy Claire Potter

## Selection / Assessment Process

The selection panel for 41st EVA Platform Commissions will comprise of **Iarlaith Ní Fheorais** and **Roy Claire Potter**, chaired by **Matt Packer** (Director, EVA International).

- Step 1: Submission of a summary proposal using EVA's downloadable template, deadline 17:00 GMT, 8 April 2024.
- Step 2: Shortlisted applicants will be notified by end of April 2024. Successfully shortlisted artists will be awarded €500 to develop their proposals further. This allows for an additional stage of research, site visit, feasibility assessment, and further project visualisation, as required. EVA will provide administrative and production management support during this process.
- Step 3: Shortlisted applicants resubmit their further proposals to the panel for final selection, mid-May 2024 (A confirmed date will be advised to Shortlisted applicants).



## Eligibility

- We will only accept proposals from artists that are **currently based** in Ireland, or else will be based in Ireland during the development and production process of their project
- Platform Commissions proposals must be for **new** artwork and projects
- Students in full-time education are not eligible to apply
- A maximum of one proposal can be made per individual artist or artist group/collective

## Assessment Criteria

Proposals will be assessed by the panel on the following criteria:

- The ambition and originality of the proposal (20 points)
- The relationship or contributing relevance to the thematic statement of the 41st EVA International Platform Commissions (see previous page) (20 points)
- The feasibility of the proposal (10 points)

## Submission Guidelines

- **Deadline for submission: Monday 8th April 2024, 17:00 GMT.** An online workshop on the application process will take place on Friday 8th March, 11am GMT. Please email [platformcommissions@eva.ie](mailto:platformcommissions@eva.ie) to register. Following the workshop, a screen recording of the session will be made available on the EVA website ([www.eva.ie](http://www.eva.ie))
- Please complete and send the Platform Commissions Application Form to [platformcommissions@eva.ie](mailto:platformcommissions@eva.ie). The Application Form is a PDF form with editable text sections. The PDF is best viewed on Preview (Mac) or Acrobat Reader (Mac / PC) (download a free version here: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>)
- It is optional to include no more than three low resolution images when submitting the application form (total file size: 5MB). The application form and images must be included in the same email
- Applications are only accepted digitally by email unless by prior agreement with EVA
- Large print and audio options of the application form and guidelines are available at <https://www.eva.ie/project/platform-commissions/>
- If you have any technical problems, please contact [info@eva.ie](mailto:info@eva.ie)

## Biographies of the Selection Panel

Iarlaith Ní Fheorais is a curator and writer and the author of the free online resource Access Toolkit for Artworkers. She was the curator of 21st edition of TULCA Festival of Visual Arts and curated *Speech Sounds* as Curator-in-Residence of VISUAL Carlow. As a writer she has written for publications including Frieze, Burlington Contemporary, Viscose Journal and Girls Like Us. She regularly contributes towards public programmes and lectures including at Somerset House, KW Institute, Konstfack University, Royal College of Art and Arts and Disability Ireland.

Roy Claire Potter is an artist writer who performs. Recent print, live and audio works are commissioned by Book Works (2024), Bergen Centre for Electronic Arts (2024), PRIMARY (2023), Counterflows music festival and Cafe OTO (2022) Reduced Listening for BBC Radio 3 (2020), and Tate Britain and Tate Publishing (2019). Essays relating experimental art writing practice to an autism spectrum condition's modes of being have been published by MOSTYN, Llandudno (2021), and by Fingal County Council as part of artist Sarah Browne's edited collection *Echo's Bones: a parallel play* (2023). Roy is a Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at Liverpool John Moores University, and they are represented by A plus A gallery, Venice.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q. Do I have to pay a fee to submit?**

A. No. There is no submission fee for Platform Commissions. We're keen to keep the process as open as possible.

### **Q. Can I submit more than one proposal?**

A. No, only one proposal will be accepted per artist / artist group / collective.

### **Q. How will my proposal be assessed?**

A. Please see the Platform Commissions selection process and assessment criteria for details.

### **Q. When will I be notified if my proposal has been shortlisted?**

A. All applicants will be notified before the end of April 2024.

### **Q. Will I receive feedback on my submitted proposal?**

A. Unfortunately, due to the high number of proposals and the limited capacities of the EVA team, we are unable to offer feedback on any unselected proposals. We will offer feedback only if you are shortlisted.

### **Q. Do I have to use the application form provided?**

A. If you'd prefer not to use our template or are having difficulty using it, you can submit your own PDF. It should be no more than two pages, and should be limited to the required fields of the EVA template.

Large Print and audio versions of the Application Form are available at <https://www.eva.ie/project/platform-commissions/>

### **Q. Can I include images?**

A. Yes, you can submit up to three low resolution images. All image files must be clearly titled with the same name used on the Application Form and be submitted in one email together with the Application Form.



## **Frequently Asked Questions (continued)**

### **Q. Can I submit exiting work?**

A. No, this is an initiative to support the production of new work in Ireland.

### **Q. What detail should I include in the Production Budget / Fabrication Requirements section of the application form?**

A. This should relate to any practical requirements that are necessary for the development and realisation of the proposal. This could include budget estimations for fabrication or studio costs or collaboration fees (though should not include artist fees for the main applicant, which are calculated separately). Any details provided in this section of the form are not binding, but they help the Selection Panel build a complete picture of the project and the organisational resources that will be needed. There will be an opportunity to refine the practical and budgetary details if shortlisted.

### **Q. Do I have to respond to the thematic statement?**

A. It's not mandatory, but the relationship and relevance to the thematic statement is part of the assessment criteria.

### **Q. We are an artist group/collective, can we apply?**

A. Yes. However only one proposal will be accepted per artist group/collective.

### **Q. I am student, can I apply?**

A. Unfortunately, due to our funding commitments, students in full-time education are not eligible to apply.

### **Q. I am based in Northern Ireland, can I apply?**

A. Yes, all artists currently based on the island of Ireland can apply.

### **Q. I am not an Irish citizen, can I apply?**

A. Yes, all artists based in Ireland can apply regardless of citizenship.



## **Frequently Asked Questions (continued)**

### **Q. If my shortlisted proposal is selected to be realised for the 41st EVA International, what support will I receive?**

A. EVA will support artist fees, production costs, and any necessary travel within Ireland, accommodation, or transport costs essential to the proposal, in addition to contributing the general organisational supports of the biennial. This budget will be agreed with EVA before the project gets underway. Aside from financial support, EVA is an artist-focussed organisation that works closely with artists on aspects of production management, curatorial development, and communications, as required.

Successful applicants can expect to meet regularly with the EVA team to discuss both practical and curatorial development of the project.

### **Q. I have a specific venue in mind for my proposal. Should I mention this within the proposal?**

A. EVA works across different venues for reasons that are sometimes to do with the needs of the artwork, sometimes to do with connecting to particular audiences or aspects of the city, and sometimes determined by practicality. For all these reasons, we can't guarantee that particular venues or sites will be available or possible, so would suggest proposals are developed with flexibility and openness to discussion with EVA if shortlisted.

### **Q. I want to submit but I am having technical issues?**

A. Please email EVA at [platformcommissions@eva.ie](mailto:platformcommissions@eva.ie) for assistance.

### **Q. I have a question or query that isn't answered here?**

A. Please contact [platformcommissions@eva.ie](mailto:platformcommissions@eva.ie) with the subject header 'Platform Commissions'. We're open to suggestions on how to improve the application process.