

## COMMISSION BRIEF

### Commission for permanent destination artwork in a public space in Leicester, UK

#### Introduction

Leicester City Council invites an artist to develop a permanent commemorative public sculpture or artwork which will provide a legacy for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ugandan Asian migration to Leicester. The Ugandan Asian 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (UA50) commission will be designed in acknowledgement and recognition of over 20,000 displaced Ugandan Asians who settled in Leicester between 1968 and 1978.

The sculpture will be sited on the green space and/or central pathway, on Belgrave Circle Leicester LE1 2JU (see Appendix 1: [Location](#)).

This artwork has been funded by Leicester City Council with the potential of further contributions through its CrowdFund Leicester platform.

#### The Vision

To provide a permanent sculpture or artwork to illustrate Leicester's proud history of welcoming refugees, particularly marking the arrival of Ugandan Asians and celebrating the contribution of the community over the last 50 years in shaping the city in its present form.

The sculpture or artwork will incorporate elements of Ugandan heritage in encapsulating the exodus and will be located in the city where many Ugandan Asians settled.

#### Purpose

- To mark the proud history of Leicester in welcoming refugees
- To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ugandan Asians being expelled from Uganda and arriving in the UK, with thousands settling in Leicester
- To ensure this historic event is understood and remembered in future generations
- To celebrate the important contribution the Ugandan Asian community have made in shaping the diverse identity of Leicester

#### Key aspirations for the Ugandan Asian 50th Anniversary Public Artwork

- To celebrate the importance of the Ugandan Asian Community to Leicester over the last 50 years
- To engage and ensure future generations understand and remember the events of 1972

#### Key aspirations for Belgrave Circle, Leicester

- To celebrate the importance and contribution of the Ugandan Asian community to the Belgrave area
- To ensure the sculpture and art piece can be incorporated into festivals and events in the area, i.e. Diwali

TITLE of COMMISSION:
<b>Ugandan Asian 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Public Artwork</b>
OVERALL VISION / AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:
<p>The proposal is to create a sculptural, three-dimensional artwork that honours the 20,000 displaced Ugandan Asian citizens who chose to make Leicester their home between 1968 and 1978. The final artwork should both acknowledge the impact of this displacement and recognise the Ugandan Asian community's significant contribution to Leicester's identity.</p> <p>Interested artists are invited to submit an expression of interest, detailing their ideas for the commission, by <b>Midnight 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>. A shortlist of artists will be invited to present their proposal to the Commission Panel w/c 20/6/22 with the final selected artist confirmed by 1/7/22.</p> <p>Expected completion of the final artwork is January 2023.</p>
CONTEXT - HISTORY/ BACKGROUND/INSPIRATION:
<p>In August 1972, President Idi Amin ordered the forced expulsion of Uganda's Asian communities, giving them 90 days to leave the country. By the deadline of 8<sup>th</sup> November some 60,000 Asian people had been displaced around the World.</p> <p>Between 1968 and 1978 a total of over 20,000 displaced Ugandan Asian families settled in Leicester, founding a community which is thriving and active today.</p> <p>The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ugandan Asian families arriving in Leicester falls in 2022 and Leicester City Council plan to mark this anniversary with a public artwork commission, designed in partnership with community.</p>
COMMISSIONING BODY INFO:
<p>The project and strategy have been developed by Leicester City Council with additional funding expected to be raised through the Council's CrowdFund Leicester platform.</p>
CRITERIA
<p><b>The artwork will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be a permanent sculpture or art piece</li> <li>• include elements connected to Ugandan Asian heritage</li> <li>• incorporate the experience of Leicester's Ugandan Asian community being expelled from Uganda and settling in Leicester</li> <li>• be accessible</li> <li>• be reflective and encourage people to engage</li> <li>• be sensitive to the surrounding built environment</li> <li>• be cast or fabricated from hardwearing material which is resistant to the elements, vandalism, and theft</li> <li>• not feature water or sound</li> <li>• not have removable or working parts</li> <li>• not pose a risk to public safety</li> </ul> <p><b>The artwork may</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be figurative or non-figurative</li> <li>• be set on a plinth</li> </ul>

## LOCATION:

The proposed location for the UA50 Artwork is Belgrave Circle, Leicester LE1 2JU. Belgrave Circle consists of a landscaped mound, with central pedestrian path linking Belgrave Road to the North and Belgrave Gate towards the city. This location is recognised locally as the Gateway to the Golden Mile. Artworks will be considered for siting within the grassed areas of the roundabout or along the central path (subject to underground services and other constraints).

The artist will need to consider the stability of the artwork and final design must adhere to any guidelines identified as a result of existing underground services and other constraints.

Please note there are no plans to divert any underground utilities as part of this project.

For information on the proposed location see Appendix 1: [Location](#).

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE:

The Commissioning body will review proposals from short-listed artists who submit an expression of interest. The successful artist selection will be a collaborative process undertaken by Leicester City Council and an independent Commissioning Panel.

## APPLICATION PROCESS – STAGE 1 – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Interested artists are invited to submit expressions of interest by **Midnight 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Expressions of interest should include the following information:

- A covering letter stating why they are interested in the commission
- Illustrations and/or links to a visual interpretation of the proposed design
- A one-page Word document explaining how the design fulfils the Brief (see 'Purpose' and 'Criteria' above)
- Artist CV
- Links to photographic images of previous public work
- Coversheet (see page 6)

**Send expressions of interest to [arts@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:arts@leicester.gov.uk)** with subject header: 'Ugandan Asian 50th Anniversary Public Artwork'.

## APPLICATION PROCESS – STAGE 2 – SHORTLISTED ARTISTS

Shortlisted artists will be notified by **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022** and invited to STAGE 2 of the application process. Each shortlisted artist will have three weeks and a budget of £1,000, to produce a presentation of their final artwork proposal.

All shortlisted artists will be invited to visit Leicester, view the site, and explore the key aspirations of the commission with members of the commissioning body, before presenting their proposals.

Each artist will be provided a 30-minute slot to present their proposal to the Commission Panel.

Presentations are expected to take place w/c 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

Presentations must include the following:

- A written narrative outlining ideas, design rationale, research and key concepts associated with the artwork, and its appropriateness for this commission.
- Visualisations of the artwork in context clearly setting out the concept, size, material, weight, and appearance of the piece. Any drawings should include perspectives and sections and elevations to scale.
- A methodology for incorporating the experience of Leicester's Ugandan Asian community including details of engagement activity – The commissioning body will organise venue and contacts for engagement sessions.
- A detailed plan of execution for production and fabrication including details of preferred fabricators with timescales.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cost breakdown for materials, fabrication / manufacture, fabricator project management costs, travel, artist's fee, copyright/permissions, any specialist engineering costs, transportation. The total cost must be within the indicated budget.</li> <li>○ Fabrication and installation timeline.</li> <li>○ Consideration for maintenance, design life and long-term sustainability of the proposed artwork.</li> <li>○ Documented evidence showing track record of producing similar work</li> </ul>
APPLICATION PROCESS – STAGE 3 – SELECTED ARTIST(S)' ROLE:
<p>The successful artist will be notified by <b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022</b> and will be granted a budget of up to £120,000 with potential for further funds raised through CrowdFund Leicester and 26 weeks to complete the artwork.</p> <p>The selected artist(s) will be expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop their concept proposal through a process of consultation with the Commissioning Body</li> <li>• Engage with community groups to discuss the Leicester Ugandan Asian experience</li> <li>• Produce final artwork in time and on budget</li> <li>• Manage the artwork installation in partnership with LCC and the commissioning body</li> <li>• Take part in appropriate media and PR engagement</li> <li>• Liaise with LCC press office for promotional content prior to and during artwork launch</li> <li>• Attend artwork launch and contribute to promotional activities</li> </ul> <p>The commissioned artist will be required to demonstrate appropriate levels of public, employers and professional indemnity insurance and appropriate risk management plans. Evidence of these will need to be provided before a contract is issued.</p> <p>The artist will keep possession of the artwork until an agreed delivery date with LCC. It will be the responsibility of the artist to organise transportation and delivery of the artwork prior to installation.</p>
SELECTED ARTIST(S)' ROLE: ENGAGEMENT
<p>The selected artist will be invited to engage with Leicester Ugandan Asian community members to create and inform the final artwork design. Workshop sessions with community members will be developed to effectively capture the experience of Leicester Ugandan Asian citizens with a purpose of providing community ownership of the commission, and to ensure the final artwork intrinsically reflects the Leicester Ugandan Asian experience. Venue and contacts for community consultation events will be provided by the commissioning body.</p>
COPYRIGHT / OWNERSHIP:
<p>The artwork will remain the property of Leicester City Council but any subsequent adjustment or removal of the work will be detailed to the artist, in line with Leicester City Council Public Art Guiding Principles, see here for details: <a href="https://www.leicester.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/arts-and-culture/public-art/">https://www.leicester.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/arts-and-culture/public-art/</a></p>
COMMISSION PRINCIPLES
<p>This artwork commission has been developed in line with Leicester City Council's Guiding Principles for Public Art. <a href="https://www.leicestermuseums.org/media/cwbai0zs/guiding-principles-for-public-art.pdf">https://www.leicestermuseums.org/media/cwbai0zs/guiding-principles-for-public-art.pdf</a></p>

## BUDGET

The budget for the commissioned work will be up to £120,000 including VAT with potential for further funds raised through CrowdFund Leicester. Payment will be made in stages agreed with the artist.

This sum is expected to cover:

1. Artist fees and travel
2. Materials
3. Artwork design and creation including any fabrication / manufacture costs
4. Attendance at engagement sessions
5. Fabricator project management
6. Any specialist engineering costs
7. Transportation
8. Plinth (if appropriate)

The artist's budget **excludes** the cost of site preparation and installation. Value for money will be taken into account when assessing designs.

All monies will be administered by the Commissioning Body

## TIME FRAME KEY DATES:

Deadline for expressions of interest:	Midnight Sunday 15th May 2022
Shortlisted artists notified	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2022
Proposal presentations:	w/c 20th June 2022
Final Artist selection confirmation:	Friday 1st July 2022
Artist engagement activity	Summer 2022 (final dates TBC)
Deadline for final artwork completion:	27th January 2023

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact [arts@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:arts@leicester.gov.uk)



## Ugandan Asian 50th Anniversary Public Artwork

### COVERSHEET

#### Artist details:

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please ensure you have included the following:

A covering letter stating why you are interested in the commission

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A one-page Word document explaining how your design fulfils the Brief

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Links to a visual interpretation of your proposed design

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A copy of your Artist CV

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Links to photographic images of any previous public work.

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Please tick the box to confirm you will be available to visit Leicester and deliver a presentation of your proposal, week commencing 20/06/22, if invited to do so.

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to [arts@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:arts@leicester.gov.uk) before Midnight 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022 with the subject header: 'Ugandan Asian 50th Anniversary Public Artwork'.**