



Explore Music

Artistic Directors Series #008: ESKA

Information

This is the online application for Artistic Directors Series #008 with ESKA - "Are You Here?"

Please note that applications can be completed over the phone if completing online presents any barriers for you. You can reach us on 0161 830 3899 during normal working hours.

Brighter Sound presents an artistic residency with Mercury Prize-nominated singer and multi-instrumentalist ESKA.

Zimbabwe-born, London-raised singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist ESKA will lead a **four-day intensive residency from Thurs 25 May - Sun 28 May** for 15 talented emerging musicians, dancers, photographers, actors, filmmakers, graffiti artists, fine artists, visual artists from across the UK. The group will collaborate to create and record new music and work, showcasing on the 28 May at our host venue and project partner, Manchester's **Band on the Wall**.

We asked ESKA to describe what excited her about this opportunity:

"For us, art is not an end in itself ... but it is an opportunity for the true perception and criticism of the times we live in." – Hugo Ball, founder of DADA, 1916.

This is art's 'call to arms'! The barometer of success of this process will be how we are able to challenge ourselves and our audience to think... and think again about the current times we are living in. Working across various art forms, I hope this will also be an opportunity for collaboration, to get a different perspective on the role and function of our art, to challenge notions of performance and the role of the audience in response to our creations. If you, like me, are struggling to grasp what's going on in the world, here is a chance to make a response to that. Excited? So am I - ESKA

ESKA defies categorisation, blending soul, folk-pop, jazz, electronica and blues. Her twenty-year career has taken her around the world, collaborating with artists including Grace Jones, UNKLE and Tony Allen. In 2015, ESKA released her self-titled debut album to rave reviews, earning a Mercury Prize nomination.

We're inviting applications from emerging musicians, composers, vocalists and producers, performers, dancers, actors, filmmakers, photographers, graffiti artists and visual artists who embrace creativity and invention.

By 'emerging' we mean anyone who is aged 18 or over and working towards establishing a successful career in the industry such as jobbing or session musicians, emerging musicians, emerging artists or performers, semi-professionals, recent music graduates. You do not need to hold a qualification or a degree; selection will be based on your experience to date, quality of musicianship and the potential for this opportunity to impact your career.

Applicants must be aged over 18 and be living in the UK.

"It's the sort of opportunity that money can't buy... that can give someone the boost they need for stepping on into the next generation of British music" Bethan Morgan-Williams, previous residency participant.

Application Information:

Dates: Thurs 25 May - Sun 28 May inclusive

Final live showcase: Sun 28 May, 7.30pm

Applicants must

Be 18 or over

Be from or based in the UK

Be available to attend all sessions in person at Band on the Wall, Manchester.

Expenses: £20 paid to each participant, each day

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Sun 9 Apr, 11pm

Successful applicants will be notified no later than Fri 28 Apr

For more information about this project please contact Kate Lowes or Lucy Wallace on info@brightersound.com or call 0161 830 3899.

Further Information:

This residency is produced by Brighter Sound as part of our Classics and Experimental project, and delivered in partnership with Band on the Wall. It is funded by Arts Council England's Grants for the Arts fund, Manchester City Council and Help Musicians UK.

ESKA presents "Are You Here?" is [Brighter Sound Artistic Directors Series #008](#). Each residency in this Series is a four or five-day creative music project where a small group of emerging musicians and artists collaborate with the guidance of an artistic director to devise, re-work, produce and arrange new and existing work culminating in a unique showcase event.

Residencies give musicians the space and time to work intensively with each other and the lead artists, collaborating on ideas, developing artistic practice, honing musical skills and developing strong working relationships.

Click the links to see films of the previous residencies with [Anna Meredith](#), [Beth Orton](#), [Everything Everything](#), [The Unthanks](#), [Snarky Puppy](#) and [DJ Yoda](#).



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About You

Please tell us about yourself.

* 1. Name

* 2. Contact Details (please type carefully - this is how we will contact you)

House name/number and street

Address line 2

City/Town

Postal Code

Email Address

Phone Number

* 3. Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

* 4. To which gender identity do you most identify?

Not listed (please specify)

* 5. Please indicate your ethnicity?

6. We are committed to meeting the needs of people with learning difficulties and disabilities, so please let us know if you require additional support.

* 7. What instruments do you play? List up to 5 including vox.

Please put NA if not relevant - Non-musicians move onto Q8.

Inst. 1	<input type="text"/>
Inst. 2	<input type="text"/>
Inst. 3	<input type="text"/>
Inst. 4	<input type="text"/>
Inst. 5	<input type="text"/>

* 8. Do you write your own material?

Yes No N/A (Non musician applicant)

* 9. Which best defines the musical genres you work in? (Type "N/A" if not relevant. **Music applicants must complete this section.**)

Main	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

10. What other art forms or disciplines do you practise? (Tick any that apply)

- Dancer
- Filmmaker
- Photographer
- Actor
- Visual Artist
- Graffiti Artist
- Fine Artist
- Performer
- Other (please specify)

11. Please tick any other skills you may have

- Re-mixing
- Live performance
- Distribution
- Art work
- Video production
- Sound recording
- Web design
- Blogging
- Social media
- Label experience
- Copywriting
- Coding
- Gestural interfacing
- Making instruments
- Live visuals
- Other (please specify)

12. Please give further details relating to any extra skills you may have, such as software used

Please put NA if not relevant

13. Please insert a photograph of you (paste URL link below)

This could be a publicity image from a performance or headshot. We don't mind! This could be from Facebook, Flickr, Google Images, etc. Photos are purely for post-application press and marketing.

* 14. Are you available for the whole residency - Thur 25 May – Sun 28 May 2017?

yes no

* 15. How did you hear about this opportunity?

- Brighter Sound Newsletter
- Brighter Sound Website
- Brighter Sound Social Media
- Other Social Media
- Other Website
- Word of Mouth
- Through another organisation
- Physical marketing - flier / poster
- Printed Press
- Online Press
- Radio
- Other (please specify)



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Expression of Interest

Please tell us about your musical / artistic career to date, your skills, and why you want to be part of this residency. We have broken the information we require in to 3 sections.

* 16. What do you think you will gain from participation in this residency? (max 200 words)

* 17. What skills do you think you can bring to a creative and collaborative process such as this? (max 200 words)

* 18. Please tell us about your music / artistic career to date.

This could include education and training, previous creative/collaborative experience, recording and performance experience or anything else that you feel is relevant.

* 19. Please provide URL links of one or two examples of your work.

Example 1

Example 2

This could be music you have written / collaborated on, or music that you have performed that features your playing / singing etc., or it could be examples of your design work or project work where relevant. The links could be to Myspace, YouTube, Soundcloud, Mixcloud, Wordpress, Vimeo, Instagram, Flickr, your Dropbox or another online platform with open access. Please make sure they work and can be accessed from a public / non friend account. If we can't see your work it will affect your application.

This is the last question. Once you've completed all your answers, click 'Submit'.

Thank you for your application, and good luck.