

Art Beats Festival 2024

International Festival of Art, Film, Music, and Theatre

Date: 20th August – 25th August

Location: Lancaster, United Kingdom and [Online](#)

Established in 2023, Art Beats is an internationally acclaimed festival jointly organized by Lancaster University (United Kingdom) and Sunway University (Malaysia) and in 2024, presented in partnership with [Lancaster Arts](#).

This annual event showcases a diverse array of international artworks, featuring pieces by early career, mid-career, and established artists. Additionally, Art Beats proudly promotes a curated selection of works by Lancaster and Sunway students to a global audience, fostering a dynamic exchange of creative perspectives within the international artistic community.

We are looking for multi-disciplinary works in form or content, from visual arts, painting, and photography to multi-media, film and video art, theatre and performance to experimental sound and music.

This year's festival focuses on the themes of ***Flight, Eco-Visions and Untold Stories***. With the help of artists in residence and academics from both universities, we will curate a selection of works for a physical exhibition at Lancaster University as well as a larger exhibition online in partnership with Lancaster Arts. **For each theme, there will be first prize (£400), second prize (£300), and two Student Special Mentions Awards (£200).**

Flight: When we fly, we soar. We adventure and invent. We gain new perspectives. We experience the magic and beauty, but also the thrill and even danger, of breaking through the cloud line and into the beyond. But when we fly, we may also flee. Our flight may not be a choice, a lesser evil in a 'fight or flight' scenario. And increasingly, we understand that a love of flying is not sustainable, that our journeys through the clouds make the world not only smaller but more fragile. Whether literal or metaphorical, human or mechanical, flight presents a dual nature—enabling exploration yet carrying the risk of extending destructive conflicts beyond the earth's surface. The allure of flight beckons both wonder and caution.

Eco-Visions: When we nurture, we grow. This theme encapsulates a diverse array of artistic expressions that intricately weave together imagination, ecological consciousness and an awareness of environmental justice. Whether through captivating visuals, resonant melodies, thought-provoking installations, your work has the power to illuminate the interconnected relationship between humanity and the natural world. Join us in shaping the narrative of Eco-visions and making a lasting impact through your artistic endeavours.

Untold Stories: When we listen, we learn. We hope to invite creators to delve into unexplored narratives through their artistic practices. This theme embodies a commitment to uncovering and presenting narratives that have remained hidden or overlooked. Artists are encouraged to break barriers, challenge conventions, and illuminate the unseen aspects of human experience. We

seek to bring to light unsung heroes, impactful stories, and contributions of underrepresented individuals and groups.

Call for Entry & Submissions

Key Information

- Submission Deadline: **April 30, 2024**
- Eligibility: Artists, filmmakers, musicians, sound artists and theatre makers* from around the world.
- Time-based works such as performance or film should not **exceed 20 minutes**.
- For review, all submissions should be in a digital format **

Submissions **MUST** include:

- Your name and country of residency
- A short bio of the main creator of 100-150 words maximum
- Title of the work
- Which of the festival themes you wish to address
- Work's specification (dimensions for physical works, length/running time, aspect ratio, colour/BW, etc.)
- A short interpretative text suitable for use as an exhibition label (up to 100 words)
- An artist's statement of maximum 100-300 words, including an explanation of how the work relates to the chosen theme.
- 3-4 images from your work
- 1-2 photograph/s for the creator (or the team behind the work)
- Please complete the monitoring document [here](#).

For more information, please email us at art.beats@lancaster.ac.uk with any questions you might have.

*Theatre performance pieces are for live performances. For submission criteria follow the link below.

**If the work is selected for physical exhibition at Lancaster University, the transport of the work and insurance will be the artist's responsibility. Performance work will have production support.

How to enter:

1. Complete the [online submission form](#) then
2. Upload your digital work [here](#)

You must complete both step 1 and step 2 for work to be considered.