



Artist Residency at The Bentway: CALL FOR SOUND ART APPLICATIONS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS RELEASED: January 7, 2019
DEADLINE: Friday, February 15, 2019
INFORMATION SESSION: January 27, 2-4pm, [RSVP >>](#)
RESIDENCY DURATION: April – August 2019

INAUGURAL ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM AT THE BENTWAY: SOUND & THE CITY

The Bentway Conservancy is thrilled to announce our inaugural Artist Residency program. Each year The Bentway will support one self-directed onsite residency focused on advancing artistic experimentation around a specified project theme and discipline. Each residency will also respond to a key feature of the site.

This is a remarkable opportunity for an artist to participate in deeper, long-term research while contributing to the evolution of The Bentway as a creative platform and public space. Throughout their residency the selected artist or collective will be asked to present their ongoing research in a public forum and create opportunities for community engagement and feedback. Throughout the duration of their residency, we invite the artist to consider the lasting legacy of the research, prototypes and/or performances that they will create. We hope that the artist will also question how their work will inform visitors' discovery and appreciation of The Bentway site in years to come. The Bentway's 2019 Artist Residency is presented by RBC.

SOUND & THE CITY

The inaugural artist residency will focus on the acoustic environment of The Bentway. The hum of the Gardiner above, the rush of passing trains to the north, the occasional cannon blasts from the Fort York grounds and the general buzz from the surrounding city make The Bentway site rich acoustic territory. The selected artist or collective will be asked to explore The Bentway as an instrument, and to experiment with the varied sonic environments along its length.

Our hope is that through this artist residency, we can collectively expand the way that we think about the sounds that shape our creative experience in the city, the parameters defining sound art and the types of projects contributing to the discipline. Artists are encouraged to work with found sounds, sounds inspired by memories, sounds that extend from the body and new music informed by different cultures.

Extensive technological knowledge of traditional and experimental sound machines, devices or instruments is not necessary for a successful application. The method of exploration, approach to community engagement and the ability to respond to The Bentway's soundscape with interesting interventions and experiments will take primacy overall.



WHAT THE BENTWAY INAUGURAL ARTIST RESIDENCY AIMS TO ACHIEVE

The Bentway Artist Residency is an opportunity for an artist or art collective to have an extended engagement with the site, staff and local community. Rather than approaching artists with a predefined opportunity, the residency is a true collaborative platform. Both The Bentway and the artist will investigate and interact with the site to arrive at new understandings.

Artists will be asked to work in a highly responsive manner, addressing core aspects of The Bentway's history, physical features and public reception. We believe that this new way of working will lead to unique artistic installations and programs, will help to inform future design and placemaking decisions and will result in new collaborative ways of conceiving site-specific projects.

Each year, The Bentway's artistic residency will be built around a key feature of The Bentway. While this year is focused on The Bentway's acoustic identity, subsequent residencies will address other compelling qualities of the site, and may explore its cinematic potential, its linearity, its landscape features and its ongoing role as a piece of urban infrastructure.

Selection of the successful applicant will be determined by a jury of experienced art and culture professionals whose career practices include and consider acoustic components, as well as key members of The Bentway's Art Advisory committee.

As a forum for social engagement, artistic experimentation and creative expression, The Bentway brings to life the multilayered history of the area as a gathering place for Indigenous peoples, a strategic military location at the foot of Fort York, and an artery linking former industrial lands and now, new neighbourhoods along the city's waterfront. As a new model for public space in Toronto, The Bentway will continue to develop and create opportunities that reconnect visitors with its unique and evolving landscape.

NAISA PARTNERSHIP

Along with The Bentway, New Adventures in Sound Art (NAISA) will mentor the selected artist or collective and provide key expertise throughout the process. NAISA's extensive work in the field of experimental sound art will ensure that Bentway residents consider the relationship of their project to the practice of sound art and to the acoustic community that inhabits The Bentway and the areas within earshot of it. Artistic Director at NAISA, Darren Copeland, will advise and help to guide the successful candidate as they develop their projects and explorations on The Bentway site. Copeland will support the artist or collective throughout their research and experimentation processes, and meet with them regularly to assess ongoing needs, offer feedback and share his extensive knowledge around sound elements and sound machines.

After a series of cross-Canada and international residencies, NAISA was established in 2001 as a non-profit arts organization in Toronto. In January 2017 NAISA re-located to the village of South River in the Almaguin Highlands where it operates the NAISA North Media Arts Centre, a multi-faceted exhibition and residency space. NAISA is distinct in Canada and internationally for its eighteen years of comprehensive year-round presentations of sound



art that include work for concert performances, installation exhibitions, and online media. A highlight among NAISA's many commissioned works are the two interactive public art sound sculptures Synthecycletron by Barry Prophet and Sonic Boardwalk by Kristi Allik and Robert Mulder that were both designed to operate 'off the grid.'

WHO CAN APPLY

Applications are open to Greater Toronto Area (GTA) based artists or collectives seeking an opportunity to discover and create within this dynamic acoustic urban environment.

Applicants must be an artist or collective whose art practice has previously included public presentation. We encourage applications from artists and collectives who are undertaking relevant acoustics-related community initiatives and from artists currently enrolled in graduate programs. Applicants are not required to have previous sound art experience.

The artist selected must reside in the GTA (Canada), within a commutable distance to The Bentway site, as the residency agreement will include a commitment to work and research onsite. The selected artist will be expected to manage their own travel expenses.

The Bentway is committed to fostering a positive and supportive creative environment that promotes equity and diversity and welcomes applications from persons with disabilities, Indigenous and racialized persons, women and individuals of diverse genders and sexual orientations.

RESIDENCY SUPPORT AND TIMELINE

The resident artist or collective will be expected to dedicate a minimum time commitment of 12 hours per week (or equivalent) which adds up to a minimum total of 48 hours per month of time working at The Bentway. A monthly stipend of \$1,850 will be provided towards the resident artist's or collective's time spent on project explorations and research. Separate from the stipend, funds will be made available to support the cost of materials, tools and rentals. The amount allotted to materials and equipment will be determined following selection of the resident artist and definition of their research and project.

The artist residency will grant the artist or collective a part-time workspace in The Bentway office during the first two months of the residency, access to The Bentway's facilities for storage, institutional and execution support, a monthly stipend to cover time and funding towards materials and equipment costs. The residency will not include living accommodations on The Bentway site.

Sound Residency Timeline:

- Call-for-applications released: Monday, January 7, 2019
- Open information session for prospective applicants: Sunday, January 27, 2019, 2 pm (An additional session date may be added if necessary)
- Application deadline: Friday, February 15, 2019
- Jury deliberation and selection in early March, 2019
- Resident artist notified by mid-March, 2019
- Residency start: mid-April, 2019



- Artist feedback and residency report due: Monday, September 9, 2019

PROCESS OF SELECTION

The selection of the resident artist or collective will be decided by a jury of arts and culture professionals that will include individuals with advanced experience and knowledge of the sound art field. Following jury deliberations and the final decision, the selected resident artist or collective will be contacted by mid-March, 2019.

HOW TO APPLY

A total application includes a completed application form and CV (resume) document.

Application Package Components:

- CV (PDF format, no more than three pages maximum)
- A completed application form

Project applications may be submitted [online](#) or via email with the subject line '**Sound & The City Residency Application**' to Community@TheBentway.ca.

PLEASE NOTE:

All submissions are considered confidential.

The submission of this application does not guarantee selection.

The deadline for submissions is **Friday, February 15, 2019**.

The successful applicant will be notified by mid-March, 2019 (no follow-up calls please)

Should you require further clarification, have any questions, or require accessibility accommodation please email Community@TheBentway.ca

ABOUT THE BENTWAY CONSERVANCY

[The Bentway](#) is a unique and innovative public space that transforms 1.75km underneath Toronto's Gardiner Expressway into a new gathering place for the city's growing population. The Bentway knits together seven local neighbourhoods with over 70,000 residents, becoming a gateway to the waterfront, while providing access to important attractions and destinations – from Fort York National Historic Site, Ontario Place, and Exhibition Place to Harbourfront Centre and the CN Tower.

The Bentway offers year-round activities and events, including gardens, a skate trail, recreational amenities, public markets, public art, special exhibitions, festivals, theatre and musical performances, and more. The initial phase of The Bentway is open to the public. Stretching from Strachan Avenue in the west to just east of Bathurst Street underneath the Gardiner Expressway, this section of The Bentway is located on the lands of Fort York National Historic Site, recognized by the Government of Canada as a site of national significance.

The Bentway is maintained, operated, and programmed by The Bentway Conservancy. The project was made possible through the collaboration of a range of city-builders and experts, including the [City of Toronto](#), [Waterfront Toronto](#), Judy and Wilmot Matthews, [Ken Greenberg Consultants](#), [PUBLIC WORK](#), [Fort York National Historic Site](#), and [Artscape](#). The Bentway is a proud member of the [High Line Network](#), an international network of projects that transform underutilized infrastructure into new urban landscapes.



ABOUT NAISA

[NAISA](#) is a non-profit organization, formerly based in Toronto but now in South River ON, that presents performances and installations spanning the entire spectrum of electroacoustic and experimental sound art. NAISA's annual events include: The Deep Wireless Festival of Radio & Transmission Art in January/February, the NAISA Sound Bash Series in March, the Sound Travels Festival of Sound Art in July/August, and the SOUNDplay Festival in October/November. The objectives of NAISA are to foster awareness and understanding locally, as well as nationally and internationally, in the cultural vitality of experimental sound art in its myriad forms of expression.



The Bentway Artist Residency is Presented by RBC



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APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

CONTACT NAME (PRIMARY)		CONTACT NAME (SECONDARY)	
TITLE		TITLE	
ORGANIZATION (if applicable)			
ADDRESS			
CITY			
PROVINCE		POSTAL CODE	
CONTACT EMAIL (PRIMARY)		CONTACT EMAIL (SECONDARY)	
CONTACT PHONE (PRIMARY)		CONTACT PHONE (SECONDARY)	

EXPERIENCE AND ART PRACTICE

How will this residency opportunity benefit your artistic practice?
(150 words maximum):



Referencing your past works, please describe your exploration approach to Sound & The City, and elaborate on what you hope to achieve during your time as a resident artist at The Bentway.
(300 words maximum):



Have you previously presented in a public space? If so, please elaborate on your experience(s) presenting in public space.

(150 words maximum):

Have you previously engaged in community-based work? Please describe the work that you have done in and with the community.

(150 words maximum):



List of materials and equipment that you anticipate using or that you would like to use during the residency period. (Please note which of the listed items you currently own or have access to and what, if anything, will need to be purchased or rented during the course of the residency)

(Please note that extensive technological knowledge of traditional and experimental sound machines, devices or instruments is not necessary for a successful application. The method of exploration, approach to community engagement and the ability to respond to The Bentway's soundscape with interesting interventions and experiments will take primacy overall.)

Example:

- Microphone - I anticipate using three total, I own two and will likely need to rent or purchase one more

Please use the [Materials List excel file >>](#)

WORK SAMPLES

In the spaces provided below for work samples, please provide titles, short descriptions and web links to online work examples that can be in the form of audio files, video files or still images. A maximum of six minutes of your combined media will be observed per applicant. Please limit your total combined content to under 500mb. Please limit your work examples to no more than three.

1.

WORK TITLE:

WEBSITE LINK:

WORK DESCRIPTION (100 words max.):



2.

WORK TITLE:

WEBSITE LINK:

WORK DESCRIPTION (100 words max.):

3.

WORK TITLE:

WEBSITE LINK:

WORK DESCRIPTION (100 words max.):

HOW TO APPLY



Sound Art Residency applications may be submitted [online](#) or via email with the subject line '**Sound & The City Residency Application**' to Community@TheBentway.ca.

The deadline for submissions is **Friday, February 15, 2018**. Applications review and selection of the resident artist will be determined by jury decision. The Bentway will notify the selected Sound Art Resident Artist by **mid- March, 2019**.

Please be sure to submit all components of the application. The Sound Art Residency application components are:

- CV (PDF Format, no more than three pages maximum)
- This completed application form

All submissions are considered confidential.

The Bentway is committed to fostering a positive and supportive creative environment that promotes equity and diversity and welcomes applications from persons with disabilities, Indigenous and racialized persons, women and individuals of diverse genders and sexual orientations.

PLEASE NOTE:

Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Please also note that submission of this application does not guarantee selection.

Thank you for your application!