

We are looking for 3 European partners with an interest in collaborating on an exciting new venture.

What? To create a telematic art event across 4 European countries.
When? October 2008 – September 2009
Who? Ignition Projects in collaboration with the University of the West of England, plus 3 other EU-based partners

We aim to apply to the EU Culture Programme 2007-13, which will fund 50% of costs for projects costing up to €400,000. The call for applications will be very soon (May/June 2007) and the deadline is likely to be October/November 2007.

Below is some general guidance on the priorities that the EU has set out.

- projects which are a genuine cultural collaboration between at least three cultural organisations from at least three different eligible European countries
- "culture" includes all aspects of performing arts, visual arts, literature and heritage - but it excludes audiovisual projects (for which there is a separate programme, Media 2007) - you should also be aware that they are keen to support "interdisciplinary" projects covering several cultural areas
- projects should include some element of mobility - of artists or creative practitioners, or of works of art or heritage objects - and / or address the theme of "intercultural dialogue" (which aims "to strengthen respect for cultural diversity...to support the coexistence of different cultural identities & beliefs...to acknowledge the contribution of different cultures to the EU member states' heritage & way of life...")

At this stage our priority is to set out a framework with sufficient freedom to allow creativity, and at the same time sufficient structure to ensure coherence and cohesion. We are aiming to hold a meeting in Bristol with all the partners to explore ideas for the project and address creative, technical and managerial issues. We are proposing meeting over a couple of days in September, and are currently applying for sources of funding to pay for travel and accommodation.

The idea in more detail:

To create a telematic installation piece simultaneously in each of the participating countries, in which each wall (and possibly the floor) will receive images of the alternate spaces in each of the four countries. So the audience in one space can see a virtual version of an artwork and its audience in each of the other spaces in real time. Members of the audience can interact with the installation, triggering sounds and images, shaping their individual experience of the space. Walls may be interactive so that the touch of the audience can stimulate 'events'. These events/images could be created and modified through any number of artistic media – sound, image, performance - allowing the individual artists to explore their particular passions and interests – noting also the encouragement of interdisciplinary projects. The delivery of the images will be by satellite and/or broadband, and we will be seeking to involve the telecom companies of the partner countries.

Ignition have participated in two previous Culture 2000 projects: *Memory 2000* and *The Art of Memory*.

For Ignition: Alison Sterling and Terry Flaxton <http://www.ignitionfilms.org/art1.html>
For UWE: Barbara Hawkins <http://amd.uwe.ac.uk/index.asp?pageid=500>