

# Retrospect Arts Festival 2026– Artist Open Call

## Artist for *Collective Moments*

### Artist Open Call | Paid Opportunity

**Role:** Artist - Participatory Visual Arts

**Event:** Retrospect Arts Festival

**Date:** 31st March 2026

**Location:** Cork Opera House

**Deadline:** 15th February 2026

Retrospect Arts Festival is pleased to announce an **Open Call** for an **Artist** to lead *Collective Moments*, a participatory visual arts project as part of **Retrospect Arts Festival 2026**, taking place on **March 31st at Cork Opera House**.

This call is open to **visual artists** with experience in **community engagement, participatory practice, and socially engaged art**. We are seeking an artist who is interested in creating meaningful, inclusive encounters with participants and audiences within a festival setting.

*Proposals should consider accessibility for a broad range of participants.*

## About the Project – *Collective Moments*

*Collective Moments* is a participatory visual arts project that invites members of the public to contribute to a shared creative experience during the Retrospect Arts Festival on March 31st 2026. The project aims to explore themes of connection, creativity, and collective experience, creating space for reflection and interaction within a busy cultural environment.

The selected artist will design and facilitate an accessible, process-led activity that encourages participation from a diverse range of festival attendees. The work may culminate in a temporary installation, visual outcome, or shared action developed over the course of the day.

The role includes project development, facilitation on the festival day, and light documentation.

## **Retrospect- Mission Statement:**

Retrospect is a multidisciplinary arts festival that weaves together memory, nostalgia, and connection through a rich tapestry of immersive experiences. We embrace the meeting of old

and new, where fragments of the past intertwine with the present, to celebrate shared memory and the ties that bring us together.

## Who Should Apply

This opportunity is open to:

- Visual artists working in any medium
- Artists with demonstrated experience in participatory, community-based, or socially engaged practice
- Artists confident working with the public in live or informal settings
- Artists based in Cork (or with the ability to work in Cork city on March 31st)

We particularly welcome applications from artists whose practice prioritises inclusivity, collaboration, and experimentation.

## Fee & Support

- Artist fee paid (*to be discussed with selected artist*)
- Materials budget (€1,000)
- Production and logistical support provided by Retrospect Arts Festival
- Access to Cork Opera House as a festival venue

## How to Apply

Please fill out the following Google Form: <https://forms.gle/tuNsEXFRJ6JFMLJa7>

You will need:

1. A brief artist biography (max 250 words)
2. A short proposal outlining your approach to *Collective Moments* (max 500 words)
3. Examples of previous relevant work (up to 5 JPEG images or links)
4. A current CV (max 2 pages)

5. (Optional) A technical specification sheet and an accessibility specification sheet

## **Selection Process**

Applications will be reviewed by the Retrospect Arts Festival team and will be assessed based on:

- Artistic quality
- Relevance to festival theme
- Experience in participatory practice
- Feasibility within time/space

The selected artist will be notified by **Feb 16th 2026**.

We encourage artists with disabilities to apply to this open call. If you have any access requirements (such as submitting an application via video or audio) or questions regarding the application process, please contact **Zoe-Mae** at **[retrospectartsfestival@gmail.com](mailto:retrospectartsfestival@gmail.com)**