



Figures of Speech: Creative Commission
November 2022
Scottish Storytelling Centre | Edinburgh City of Literature

What Big Idea from Scottish Literature inspires you?

Figures of Speech is a cross-artform series of six events throughout 2022 which explores who we are as a modern literary nation, celebrating Scotland's literature and challenging its boundaries. The event series is a collaboration between the Scottish Storytelling Centre and the Edinburgh City of Literature Trust and is funded via EventScotland as part of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022.

As part of this project we are hosting an open-call to commission a creative response to the theme of **Big Ideas** within Scottish literature, to spark fresh imaginings of the stories and ideas we know so well and continue the national literary conversation. The inspiration for this could range from historic texts which defined a generation, and had global impact – Hume on philosophy, Hutton on geology etc – to new ideas about nationality, sexuality, artificial intelligence, environmentalism or any big idea within Scottish books (fiction or non-fiction) you feel is worth exploring.

Details

- Propose a creative response to in your chosen artistic discipline which responds to the theme of Big Ideas within Scottish literature. This response can be inspired by a specific story, character, scene, lyric, or text within the theme, or it can be to the overall theme itself.
- The final piece must be ready to be presented at the live event at the Scottish Storytelling Centre in Edinburgh on Wed 30 Nov 2022. If being presented live it should be no longer than 15mins.
- If the art form is not suitable for live performance, it will still be featured in some capacity at the event, even if that is via a presentation by the artist or by the audiences accessing it some way post-event (online, on location etc).
- The selected artist will be paid a fee of £500. This will cover research, development, and creation of the piece, as well as attendance and performance (if suitable) at the live event.
- Travel expenses will be provided to attend the live event and the costs of any accessibility support requirements will be met.
- The artist would own all the rights to the work.
- Applications are welcomed from any artist based or working in Scotland.
- Applications can also be submitted via video, please contact via the email below.
- The live event will be filmed, and footage of the piece may be used to promote the project.
- As part of the commission fee the artist may be asked to contribute to the online dialogue discussing the theme or share a teaser of their work in progress. This is to help engage an international audience in the discussion and promote Scotland's Year of Stories 2022.

Timeline

- Application Deadline: Mon 12 Sep (10am)
- Proposal selected: Wed 14 Sep
- Performance/Delivery: Wed 30 Nov

Further Information

- Figures of Speech events from May, June and July 2022 are available to watch online via this [playlist](#).

To Apply

Please send a 1-page proposal include the following information:

- Name, Email, Phone
- Short Bio/Artistic Practice
- Website/Social Media
- Creative Idea (max 200 words)
- Any other comments or questions

Proposals should be sent to daniel@scottishstorytellingcentre.com | 0131 556 9579
Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR