



National Gallery of Jamaica

Jamaica Biennial 2014



Guidelines

About the Biennial

In 1977, the National Gallery of Jamaica (NGJ) inaugurated the Annual National Exhibition, which in its twenty-five year run established itself as the premier national art exhibition in Jamaica. In 2002, the Annual National Exhibition was converted into the National Biennial to favour a stronger exhibition, giving artists more time for the development of ideas and work. Effective 2014, the Biennial has been renamed as the Jamaica Biennial.

For the staging of the 2014 Jamaica Biennial, the NGJ will be keeping many aspects of the established framework for previous Biennials but with some important changes to create a more dynamic Biennial that both acknowledges the growing regional and international networks that Jamaican artists participate in and supports the best of local art production.

We are considering other entry options for future biennials but for now the entry process remains essentially the same: Jamaican artists may participate by either special invitation or the jury process. In addition, however, selected international and regional artists will be invited to do special projects during the exhibition. There will also be a call for proposals for National Gallery West, our new extension in Montego Bay, which will be open to Jamaican artists.

The 2014 Jamaica Biennial will be a multi-venue exhibition comprised of three sections, **Legacies**, **New Ground** and **Special Projects**. These will represent the broad array of Jamaican art as well as important works from the region, its diaspora and relevant international artists.

Legacies: An exhibition of work by senior Jamaican artists and those who work more traditionally, whether invited or juried.

New Ground: An exhibition of contemporary Jamaican art from both emerging and established artists, whether invited or juried.

Special Projects: A series of smaller self-contained exhibitions by specially invited regional and international artists, as well as a project from a Jamaican artist selected from the call for proposals for Montego Bay.

The Jamaica Biennial 2014 will open on November 14, 2014 to coincide with the NGJ's 40th anniversary and also to better position it on the international art calendar.



National Gallery of Jamaica

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Jamaica Biennial Guidelines

INVITED ARTISTS

Invited artist status has been granted to artists who in the opinion of the Exhibitions Committee and Board of Directors of the NGJ have made a significant contribution to the development of Jamaican art. Since the invited artists system is under review, no new names will be added for the 2014 Jamaica Biennial.

Invited artists will receive a formal letter of invitation. Works submitted should have been completed in the last ten years and at least one of the works should not have been previously exhibited. Works are accepted only in the categories specified in each artist's invitation letter, which are the categories for which the artist has achieved invited artist status. Invited artists may submit work in other media as juried entries but should not exceed the total number of two works per artist in the exhibition. Installation proposals and oversize works must also be submitted to the jury.

Invited artists are asked to discuss their submission plans with the Curatorial Team of the NGJ prior to the actual submission.

JURIED ARTISTS

Artists who are not officially invited must submit their work for consideration by the Biennial selection committee. Artists may submit up to two works for exhibition. Works should have been completed in the last two years and at least one of the works should not have been previously exhibited.

SELECTION & ELIGIBILITY

A selection committee comprised of two international curators with interest and expertise in Caribbean art will be responsible for selections for the juried section and for the National Gallery West special project.

The NGJ Curatorial Team will be responsible for the Special Projects by invitation and for liaising with the invited artists about their submissions. The NGJ Curatorial Team will also decide in which section of the Jamaica Biennial, Legacies or New Ground, any accepted works will be exhibited.

All decisions of the selection committee and curators are final.

The exhibition is open to all artists resident in Jamaica and all Jamaican artists resident abroad; artists of direct Jamaican parentage living abroad; specially invited regional and international artists.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All entries for the **Juried Section** of the 2014 Jamaica Biennial and all **installation and performance proposals by juried or invited artists** must be received at the NGJ by **Friday, September 12, 2014**, along with completed and signed entry forms.

All other entries for the **Invited Section** of the 2014 Jamaica Biennial must be received at the NGJ by **Friday, October 3, 2014**, along with completed and signed entry forms.

No late entries will be accepted.

HOW TO SUBMIT

Entry categories: Painting • Drawing (including Pastel & Watercolour) • Original Print • Collage • Photography • Sculpture (including Assemblage) • Installation • Ceramic • Fibre Art • Video • Performance

As a general rule, artists should submit the actual, completed work(s), appropriately framed or mounted by the applicable deadline.

Performances and installations, whether by invited or juried artists, should be submitted in proposal form. Installation proposals should consist of a written description, supported by diagrams and/or a model, with a clear indication of media, size, space and technical requirements. If accepted, the artist is responsible for the timely execution of his/her installation. Performance proposals should consist of a written description and documentation of the proposed or previous performances with a clear indication of space and technical requirements. All costs associated with the realization of installations and performances must also be borne by the artist.

Qualifying artists who reside overseas may enter the exhibition with reproduction-quality digital images of the entered work(s). If accepted, it is the responsibility of the artist to have the actual, completed and duly mounted work(s) delivered to the premises of the NGJ (packed, shipped, cleared through Customs) by **Friday, October 17, 2014**. The artist will also be responsible for the return of the work to its place of origin at the end of the exhibition.

Size restrictions: The NGJ reserves the right to reject works it may not be able to mount because of space and size limitations. The normal size restrictions of two-dimensional works are: maximum height: 230 cm; maximum width: 300cm. For three-dimensional works: maximum height: 230 cm; maximum width and depth: 150 cm. Multi-part works, when entered as a single work, must collectively conform to these size restrictions. Any exceptions to these size restrictions are at the discretion of the NGJ Curatorial Team.

AWARDS

All participating artists, invited or juried, will be eligible to receive the Aaron Matalon Award. This biennial award consists of a monetary prize and a uniquely designed and produced medal. The Aaron Matalon Award will be given to a single artist, to be selected by a special committee appointed by the NGJ's Board. In addition, purchase awards may be made. This is solely at the discretion of the NGJ's Acquisitions Committee and the Board.

PUBLICATIONS

For each Biennial, the NGJ will publish an illustrated catalogue with a short biography for each artist. Each participating artist is entitled to a copy of this catalogue, which will be released at the opening of the exhibition. The catalogue will be offered for sale in the NGJ's Gift Shop.