



Home Based Situated Practice Artist Residency Open Call Pack

A one-month paid supported virtual residency, commission and mentoring opportunity for a contemporary visual artist who encounters access barriers to 'traditional' in-person opportunities offered by bricks-and-mortar galleries.

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Residency and Commission Overview

Home Based Situated Practice (HBSP) is a year-round **virtual residency, commissioning programme and peer-support network** conceived and delivered by DASH to nurture, mentor and **platform artists who work from home** or at a studio space nearby to home. Each residency will include opportunities for exhibitions, residencies, commissions, artist development and mentorship support.

DASH are delighted to be partnering with Compton Verney, Warwickshire as part of the pilot 2025-2026 Home Based Situated Practice (HBSP) open call **inviting applications in response to the exhibition, Troublemakers and Prophets: Elizabeth Allen and other visionary artists** to take place at Compton Verney next year 28 March - 30 August 2026.

As part of the residency, the selected artist will be **commissioned to produce a new digital artwork, or a recontextualization of an existing work** that may include new elements to be included in the physical exhibition and activated through a hybrid public event.

The digital commission would sit in a section of the exhibition that explores the topsy turvy world of remote communication, through portals of connection from

the radio to the internet to the cosmos. In this gallery, the new digital commission would sit alongside works by Elizabeth Allen, also known as 'Queen', such as *The Great Silence* (1967) (see page 4) which explore how the home environment can inform a language of transformation and connection to other worlds.

We are looking for applicants whose practice explores themes that may include, but are not limited to:

- **Materiality**
- **Rurality**
- **Non-traditional forms of communication**
- **Communities as care**
- **Storytelling**
- **Sickness**
- **Domesticity**
- **Spirituality**
- **Neurodiversity**
- **Networks and portals**
- **Cultural transcription**
- **World-building**
- **Dispossession**





Elizabeth Allen, *The Great Silence* (1967) Image credit: Jamie Woodley and Compton Verney

Image Description: An image of a textile work by Elizabeth Allen that shows different coloured fabric materials stitched together to form a scene depicting a woman wearing a blue patterned flower shawl standing in a field of trees under a bright white moon and starry sky. A figure in white stands opposite the woman with their hand outstretched.

Contextual Information

Compton Verney holds the largest collection of British Folk Art in the UK, including a work by Elizabeth Allen (1883 – 1967), or 'Queen' as she chose to be known, who made textile works using everyday items she had to hand; possibly intended to convey messages decoded from the Bible, apocryphal books and news media to a future audience.

Allen will be the subject of a new exhibition entitled **Troublemakers and Prophets: Elizabeth Allen and other visionary artists** to be held at Compton Verney in 2026. Featuring the work of Allen and a number of contemporary artists, this exhibition will conjure strange new images from fragments of the everyday, imagining forms of community, recognition, or reckoning. These voices have a different way of being in touch with the world, collecting and re-constellating in a way that could be understood through the lens of spirituality or neurodiversity.

Exiled from her family home due to differing religious beliefs, Queen finally settled in "a hut in the forest near Biggin Hill, Sussex". Those who ventured down the dirt track to visit Allen at the time describe her corrugated iron cabin as cosy, heated by a paraffin stove, decorated

with bright colours and nick-nacks. The big bed was fashioned into a couch, where Queen would recline on the tattered brocade, with her crutch leant up against one corner. Allen developed curvature of the spine as a child and towards the end of her life became less mobile, living in one room as the weeds grew up around the chain windows, which were jammed up, sealing in the ever-present smell of kerosene.

Having had no formal training, Queen made work from her home with assistance from a friend who lived with her for the final few years of her life. Her practice was informed by her experience of pain, exile and alienation. She was afraid of the night and preferred to be awake, reading, sewing or writing, instead sleeping in the day with a sheet of material stretched across the ceiling of the cabin to protect her eyes from the light. The scenes in Queen's artwork enabled her an agency across geographies and situations she couldn't otherwise access.





Elizabeth Allen, *Elizabeth Allen, In the Year of Grace 1961* (1961) Image credit: Jamie Woodley and Compton Verney

Image Description: An image of a semi-circular textile work by Elizabeth Allen. There are five figures in total depicted in this image. In the foreground is a red sofa and a brown coffee table with red legs. Two male figures are holding two red chairs. These items of furniture are in front of a pink coloured house that has a figure of a blue uniformed police officer leaning out of the upstairs window. Two figures, a woman with grey hair and a blue uniformed police officer stand facing each other as if in conversation with one another.

About the Partners



'Are You Comfortable Yet?' by Anahita Harding. Image credit: Ayesha Chouglay

DASH is a Disabled led visual arts charity. It creates opportunities for Disabled artists to develop their creative practice. These opportunities take many forms, from high quality commissions to community based workshops, the work it creates is centred around its vision and mission.

DASH's vision is a society in which Disability Art is core and equally valued in the arts sector.

DASH is a Disability Visual Arts organisation whose mission is to develop Disability Arts practice.

DASH works with artists, audiences, communities and organisations to challenge inequality and implement change.

Compton Verney is Britain's leading art space in a park. It is home to six world-class art collections, a programme of exciting exhibitions, a sculpture park and a café – with acres of parkland and meadows to explore and enjoy. All of this in a Robert Adam house, set in a Capability Brown landscape. It is a space where all sorts of things can happen. Compton Verney is a charity that connects people

with art, nature and creativity. They do this by being collaborative, sustainable, bold, inclusive and fun. With so much going on here, and with such a warm welcome, they offer visitors a day full of joy.

Compton Verney's ambition is to move beyond sustainability to regeneration. Through art, they aim to help the world to renew, restore and grow – culturally, emotionally and environmentally. They want to become a model place of regeneration through art. Their current strategy prioritises expanding their market, enriching their offer and strengthening the organisation.

What will you receive?

- DASH x Compton Verney Home Based Situated Practice (HBSP) will support one artist to undertake a **virtual residency over a 4-week period** with support and guidance from both participating organisations
- Residencies will **take place remotely** and we anticipate that artists will **produce work from the home** or from a studio near to their home (i.e. garden or studio space nearby).

This **opportunity** will **also include**:

- **1 virtual and 1 in-person studio visit** from Heather Peak, Artistic Director/CEO (DASH), Lucy Mounfield, Creative Producer (DASH) and Compton Verney Curatorial team.
- A **digital commission or recontextualization of an existing work** that will be displayed within the physical exhibition at Compton Verney in early 2026.
- The commission will be highlighted in a **hybrid public event** taking place in-person at Compton Verney and online. The event will be in collaboration with the selected artist.

The successful artist will receive:

- **Artist Fee:** £1,500 (including VAT)
- **Commission Fee:** £1,500 (including VAT)
- **Materials (e.g. equipment, software subscriptions, editing support) :** £800 (including VAT)
- **In-kind support for mentorship through studio visits** with DASH and Compton Verney teams
- **Artist Fee for hybrid public programme event:** £250



Who Can Apply?

- We are looking for an artist who is **currently living in the West Midlands** but is **based from the home**.
- We are particularly interested in receiving applications from artists who live and work in **rural parts of the West Midlands region**.
- Open to **visual artists who encounter access barriers** to 'traditional' **in-person opportunities** offered by bricks-and-mortar galleries.
- For this opportunity we are encouraging and prioritising applications from people who **face the highest barriers to accessing in-person** residency and commission opportunities.
- This includes a focus on those whose access requirements are **less likely to be met in physical spaces** and those who **experience intersectional oppressions and barriers**.



Application Process

Deadline for applications: Tuesday 9 December, 23:59pm.

To apply, please email info@dasharts.org using 'HBSP Residency' as the subject header with the following documents:

- **Expression of interest** (any format), (max 500 words)
- **CV** (any format), 3 pages (max.)
- Links to **recent work** (images/ video/audio works)



'Semantically Satiationing Dada' by Luke ' by Luca Cockayne

Please respond using one of these formats:

- A **written text** (max. 500 words)
- A **film** (max. 7 mins)
- An **audio recording** (max. 7 mins)
- A **visual collage or drawing***

*Please provide a digital photo of your collage or drawing or a WeTransfer link to your audio recording or film since we are unable to accept physical submissions in the post.

Please complete our **Equal Opportunities Monitoring form**. This form will be viewed alongside your application and made available to the selection panel:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5JJ29TL>

If you have any **questions about the role**, please email our team on: info@dasharts.org using, 'HBSP Residency Questions' in the subject header.

Lucy Mounfield, Creative Producer will also be available for a **15 mins confidential chat** (via Zoom or phone). To book a session, please email Lucy directly on lucy@dasharts.org with 'HBSP Confidential Chat' in the subject header.



Important Dates

Key Dates for the Residency and Exhibition

The virtual residency dates are **12 January 2026** until **15 February 2026**.

The exhibition *Troublemakers and Prophets: Elizabeth Allen and Other Visionary Artists* will take place at Compton Verney from **28 March 2026** until **30 August 2026**.

A hybrid (online and in-person) public in-conversation event related to the HBSP residency will take place at Compton Verney **Spring/Summer 2026** (date/time TBC)

Important Application Dates

Submission deadline: **9 December 2025 at 23:59pm**

Shortlisting: **10 December 2025**

Successful applications will be notified of attendance to interview: **12 December 2025**

Interviews: **18 December 2025**

Successful applicant will be notified: **19 December 2025**

Selected artist publicly announced:
w/b 5 January 2026

Important Information

DASH is a Disabled-led visual arts organisation and our values are based upon equality of opportunity and the Social Model of Disability.

DASH is an equal opportunities employer. We welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons regardless of age, sex, sexual orientation, religion, nationality or ethnic origin, disability, marital status or pregnancy.

DASH is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of adults, children and young people with care needs and expects its staff and volunteers to share this.

All positions at DASH require a DBS check, either enhanced or basic, depending on the specific role. If you have any inquiries regarding the DBS process, please feel free to ask. As a Disability Confident Committed Employer we are committed to:

- Ensuring our recruitment process is inclusive & accessible.
- Communicating and promoting vacancies.
- Offering an interview to disabled people who meet the minimum criteria for the job.

- Anticipating & providing reasonable adjustments.
- Supporting any existing employee who acquires a disability or long-term health condition, enabling them to stay in work.
- At least one activity that will make a difference for disabled people.

GDPR personal data notice:

During our recruitment process, DASH collects and processes personal data relating to applicants. We are committed to being transparent about how we collect and use data to meet our data protection obligations. Please be aware that we will share the personal data received in your application with the shortlisting and interview panel. Access will be restricted to those involved in the recruitment process.

