

INTERIOR MOTIVE 2024-2025 MENTORING: FAQs

The Application Form

Interested people or groups are asked to fill out a simple google form.

You will be asked to reply to the following questions:

1. Tell us about you and your work (2000 characters or roughly 350 words)
2. Describe the idea or project you would like to focus on during the mentorship (2000 characters or roughly 350 words)
3. Provide up to 3 links that demonstrate your work (could be websites, past projects, or portfolio)

We welcome video/audio submissions. When you record your video, focus on answering questions 1 and 2, telling us about your work and what project you would like to focus on during the mentorship. The video should last no longer than 5 minutes in total and be no more than 2GB in size. Please provide a link to your video or sound file in the application form (question 3). If you have trouble sending us a file or link to a file, you can contact us at weareinteriormotive@gmail.com. Please also complete question 4, providing us with links to your work.

Who is the mentorship for?

In our work we meet a lot of respected artists and musicians who say they cannot 'speak the language' required to access support. This mentorship scheme aims to address this through paid time spent with us, developing planning and writing skills around a focused project or goal. Our aim is to make a small contribution to the resilience of the UK experimental music community, passing on writing skills to artists and musicians who need these skills to effectively access support now and into the future.

The scheme is aimed at individuals or group experimental musicians or artists working with sound, who have an established practice (usually 3+ years of activity) or proven track record in producing or performing work, but have struggled to access support such as funding for their own projects, or have not yet felt able to approach these applications alone. We are interested in people with great ideas that they are prevented from realising because of the skills needed to access support and write various types of application forms. We welcome all levels of experience and education, and the scheme is open to anyone 18 or over. If you have accessed funding or other support opportunities on multiple instances in the past, and have written the applications yourself, this scheme may not be suitable for you.

Will you get me funding?

No, but we can help you plan and write texts and funding bids, if this is how you choose to spend your time with us. This scheme is not a bid writing service and we do not submit applications for you. We aim to develop your project design and writing skills through working on a text with a purpose – this may be a funding bid, or an artist statement, or something similar. It is your responsibility to take the text onto the next stage.

I have accessed funding or other forms of support for my work (such as residencies or funding) fairly regularly, should I still apply?

Having accessed funding or support before does not exclude you from applying, but if you have been a regular recipient of forms of support that required application forms, and you have written these applications without considerable outside input, then you may not benefit from this scheme. If you have had grants, funding, residencies etc in the past, but someone else applied on your behalf, please note this in your application.

Do I need to know what I want to apply for?

No. Some applicants may have a clear idea of what organisation or funding scheme they want to get into, but we can often explain some of the main options available, and will not be judging on this basis.

I am just getting started and so don't have any work to show, should I still apply?

We are aiming to work with people who have been making and delivering creative works, but who have so far been doing so without institutional support – this may mean you're a few years into your creative practice, or you may have been working for decades. We are interested in working with people and groups with different experiences and at different career stages, our main requirement is that you have documentation of your work online from the last few years. If you are just getting started with your art or music and do not have anything to show yet, we suggest you apply at a later date.

I don't work with sound or music, should I still apply?

We are both specialists in sound and music, as are all our partners. We welcome applications from multidisciplinary artists with any kind of sonic element to their work, however, if you are not working with sound or music in any form in your practice, this scheme may not be suited to your needs.

How will the selection process work?

- Round 1 application deadline is midnight on 6 September.
- Round 2 application deadline is midnight on 6 December.
- If you are shortlisted we will be in touch to arrange an informal conversation about your work and what you hope to achieve.

I want to submit a video or audio application, how do I do that?

Please enter a link into the space provided on the application form. This may be a link to a private video or audio file on a platform such as YouTube, Vimeo, Soundcloud or similar, or a Google drive, Wetransfer, Dropbox link or similar. If the folder or upload requires a password please remember to also give us this alongside the link.

Your audio or video file should be no more than 5 minutes long and no more than 2GB in size. It should tell us about your work, and about the project you want help producing text for. You will still need to fill in question three and provide us with links to your work.

When will the mentoring take place?

Round 1 runs mid-September to mid-November 2024
Round 2 runs mid-January 2024 to mid-March 2025

What are my chances of getting onto this scheme?

We do not know how many applications we will receive and have only run it once before, so we have no reliable stats about how many applications we will receive.

I'm not in the UK, can I still apply?

No. You must be resident in the UK to qualify for this scheme. You do not need to have been born in the UK to qualify for this scheme.

Will you tell me if I am unsuccessful?

Yes, although since we are a very small team of two, we may not be able to offer individual feedback.

I don't want to join the scheme, but can you offer feedback on my application?

Generally we are unable to offer ad hoc feedback on applications. If you'd like to talk about other forms of support, please email us at weareinteriormotive@gmail.com.

Where and when will the meetings take place?

We'll meet online unless otherwise agreed, and can offer flexible timings around your other commitments. As a guideline, we would aim to complete 4 mentoring meetings and an optional external session over 3 months.

I have access requirements, can you provide support?

Yes, please email weareinteriormotive@gmail.com with any questions and for further information. You are not expected to attend anything in person. All sessions will be remote, unless it becomes safe to do so and is otherwise requested by mentees.

How many people will you take on?

There are 8 mentorships available, and we're interested in working with individuals or groups.

How much work will I have to do?

The mentorship scheme supports two full days of your time split across multiple sessions (e.g. four online half-day sessions) at a rate of £350 (total). In between times you will be expected to work on the project we agree upon in our first meeting. The goal is for you to have a finished text at the close of your time with us, such as a funding bid, an artist statement, or residency application. This scheme is focused on developing your writing skills, it does not provide a bid-writing service, nor are we able to guarantee the success of any applications made. We will not submit the applications for you.

What do the industry partners offer?

Industry partners will provide an extra mentoring session with the mentee they are paired with, with the aim of getting you specialist advice on your work. This will be arranged on a case by case basis according to each successful mentee's needs and specialisms.

Can I apply with audio or video?

Yes. There will be an opportunity to link to a video/audio file in the application form. You are still required to provide three links to your work.

Can I apply to both rounds?

If you are unsuccessful in the first round you can apply again for the second round. You cannot apply multiple times with different projects in one single round.

What links should I provide?

Please provide links that give us a clear sense of your work. These could be audio or video files, links to Bandcamp/Soundcloud profile, or website, reviews or press, a portfolio folder (eg Dropbox) of your work.

My project is time sensitive, when will this run?

We can occasionally compress our meetings into a shorter time frame if there is a very good reason for doing so (eg a deadline in October for the first round), if this please mention this when you apply to our scheme.

The dates are:

Round One: The deadline to apply is 6 September. The scheme will run September-November 2024.

Round Two: The deadline to apply is 6 December. The scheme will run January 2025 - March 2025.