

MUSIC FOR THE SENSES



Created by



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL

In association with



FOREVER
MANCHESTER

Manchester is the place for music. Widely regarded as the capital of music in the UK, Manchester's music heritage is ingrained into the city's streets, buildings and public spaces. The city's legendary music scene is fuelled by incredible live performances from up-and-coming artists to global superstars.

This summer an estimated 1.3 million music tourists will visit the city and while the city celebrates an incredible line up of musical talent, Wild in Art – the team behind the award-winning Bee in the City – will take over the streets with a brand new art trail, Music for the Senses: an art arrangement for a musical city. Created in collaboration with Manchester City Council, the trail will run from 7 July – 31 August 2025.

The trail will feature artworks, exhibitions and installations that celebrate the people, places, moments and instruments of Manchester's music scene.

At the heart of Music for the Senses is Guitar Art which will see more than 50 acoustic and electric guitars donated as part of a guitar amnesty, before being transformed by artists into individual artworks which will be displayed in shop windows and venues around the city.

At the end of the trail, the decorated guitars will be auctioned to raise money for grassroots music projects and venues throughout Greater Manchester via a dedicated music fund managed by charity partner, Forever Manchester in collaboration with key music partners in the city.

AN ART
ARRANGEMENT
FOR A
MUSICAL CITY

We need you to make it happen

We are inviting artists to submit unique designs which will transform an acoustic or electric guitar into a striking visual masterpiece. This is an opportunity to showcase your artistic talent and contribute to a public art trail that will engage and inspire Mancunians, music tourists and visitors.



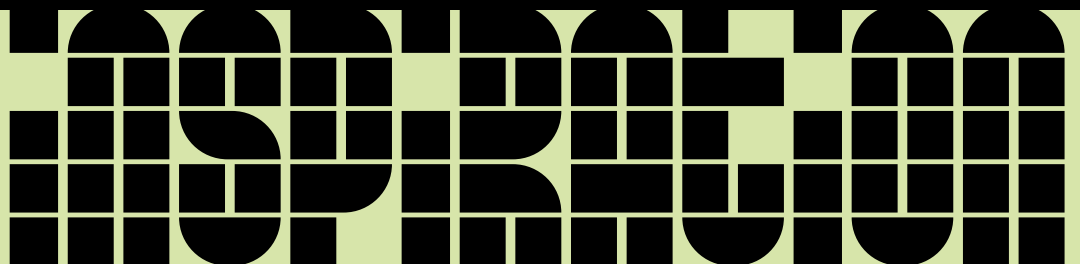
Themes for inspiration

Artists are encouraged to respond to themes that reflect the essence of Manchester's musical and cultural legacy, including:

- **Icons of Manchester Music** – celebrating legendary artists and bands that have shaped the city's sound
- **Soundscapes and Rhythm** – translating the energy and movement of music into visual form
- **Manchester's Cultural Tapestry** – exploring the diverse influences that make up the city's creative identity

- **Urban Harmony** – blending Manchester's industrial history with its vibrant modern music scene
- **Lyricism and Storytelling** – using lyrics, poetry, or abstract narratives to express the emotional power of music
- **Nature and Sound** – drawing connections between natural elements and the harmony of musical expression

Please note: we can't accept designs that infringe on 3rd party intellectual property.



Submission

The Submission Process

1. Design Submission

Artists must submit their designs using the 2D acoustic or electric guitar templates provided. You may submit up to two designs. **Designs must be submitted by midnight on 21 April 2025.**

2. Shortlisting

A panel of project representatives will review and shortlist submissions based on creativity, feasibility, and alignment with the event's vision.

3. Presentation to Sponsors

Shortlisted designs will be showcased to sponsors at an exclusive event on Tuesday 20 May 2025. Sponsors will select the design they wish to appear on their guitar.

4. Commissioning

Selected artists will be commissioned to bring their design to life on a physical guitar. We aim to confirm commissions with successful artists by Thursday 22 May 2025.

5. Production Timeline

Artists will have **2 weeks** to complete their work. Guitars will be delivered to artists' home studios from Friday 23 May 2025 with a **deadline for completion of Monday 10 June 2025.**

All guitars must be returned to us by Wednesday 12 June 2025, either via courier or via our delivery driver, in order to be lacquered by our preferred supplier and then photographed for inclusion on the website and app.

6. Exhibition

The guitars will be displayed across Manchester for 8 weeks, from 7 July – 31 August 2025.

How to Apply

Artists should submit their designs, along with a short statement about their concept and artistic background at musicforthesenses.co.uk by **midnight on 21 April 2025.**



Eligibility

- The call to artists is open to artists of all backgrounds and disciplines.
- Shortlisting decisions will be based on quality, innovation and creative interpretation.
- While submissions are welcome from artists based anywhere in the UK, we will also be looking to celebrate Manchester, Greater Manchester and North West artists or artists with links to the city. Designs shortlisted that have local links will have a badge identifying them as such, to help sponsors at the art selection who have identified this as a crucial selection criteria.
- Timelines for this project are incredibly tight, so artists must be able to complete the physical artwork within the given timeline.



The Fee

Commissioned artists will be paid a honorarium fee of £500 for the completion of their design on either an electric or acoustic guitar, inclusive of any art materials.

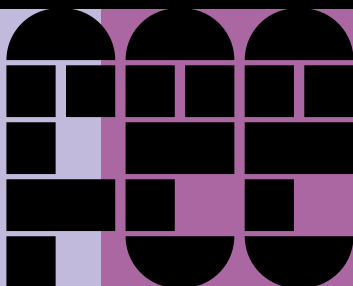
We anticipate the majority of the design will be painted directly on to the guitars, which will be provided prepared and primed with the strings removed to aid in the painting process. On return, the instruments will be sent to Rigby Music UK for a protective lacquer to be applied and to be restrung.

We have a limited number of commission opportunities for 3D or guitar adaptations and displays, for which a small amount of additional funds may be allocated at the discretion of the event team. If your design relies

on additional materials or modifications, please make sure you include details of any additional costs in your submission statement.

In addition, some guitars will be displayed as part of installations where additional funding is available. These will need to be completed in Manchester city centre between Monday 30 June and Sunday 6 July 2025. Please indicate in your application if you would like to be considered to create an installation.

Please ensure you have read and agree to the full Music for the Senses Art Programme Terms and Conditions. By submitting your design you acknowledge your adherence to them.



Any Questions?

Please contact art@musicforthesenses.co.uk

Terms and Conditions

1. The project is open to all artists, amateur or professional. You must be aged 18 or over and living in the UK.
2. You may submit up to two applications.
3. All terms and conditions in this application form a part of the agreement between you, Wild in Art and Manchester City Council in connection with 'Music for the Senses' and by submitting your work you are agreeing to be bound by all terms and conditions in this application form.
4. You must be the sole author and owner of all intellectual property rights of the work entered, or if the work is not your own in full, you must have sole permission in writing from the copyright owner/s to use their work. Source material or proof of permission in use of another person's work must be made available on request by the selection panel. Wild in Art and Manchester City Council do not accept liability in the publication of any reproduced art.
5. The design must represent a piece of work that you have the ability to reproduce on a 3D Guitar and adaptable to either an electric or acoustic model of varying sizes.
6. Any additions or modifications to the guitar must be sufficiently strong to maintain structural integrity. In most cases we would prefer if the guitar remains playable, but if the intention of the design is that the guitar will become more of an installation piece, or if you propose additional modification or material cost, above that of the agreed painting honorarium of £500, this should be detailed in your statement and can be discussed on a case by case basis. (For the avoidance of doubt, we will not be able to consider additional cost exceeding a maximum of £250).
7. To enter, the work must be received by the closing date of **midnight on 21 April 2025**. All entries must be accompanied by a completed artist submission form.
8. No allowances will be made for work that arrives later than the deadline.
9. By completing the artist submission form and submitting your designs, you consent that all data provided by you may be used by Wild in Art, Manchester City Council and project partners for marketing, communications and evaluation purposes unless you opt out in writing. We don't and never will sell or pass on any of your details to another organisation for them to use for their own purposes. We may, however, use third party organisations to help deliver services on our behalf, for example, distributing our email newsletters or feedback questionnaires, or managing participant lists for our events. At all times we will ensure that we look after your details responsibly and that any organisations using your information on our behalf do the same. For more information, please see the Wild in Art Privacy Policy at <https://wildinart.co.uk/privacy-notice>
10. Copyright and all other IP Rights in the design belong to and remain with the artist. However, subject to Wild in Art paying all amounts due to the artist under any final letter of agreement, the artist grants to Wild in Art and Manchester City Council an irrevocable royalty free licence to use the completed artwork for purposes in connection with the event, 'Music for the Senses'.
11. You consent to the use of your work, name and photograph in any promotional material carried out by Wild in Art and Manchester City Council without any further compensation.
12. Your work will be reviewed and shortlisted by Wild in Art and a panel of suitably experienced and impartial professionals including a representative from Manchester City Council, prior to being shown to the event sponsors.
13. Work will be commissioned following selection and or confirmation by the event sponsors. The decision on all matters relating to the work selected to be used is final. No further correspondence will be entered in to.
14. Upon commissioning, Wild in Art will enter a separate service level agreement with you to include an agreed schedule and the terms and conditions of engagement. Please note that due to the condensed timelines of this project you must be available to complete the commission between 22 May and 12 June 2025.
15. Wild in Art will provide either an electric or acoustic guitar at no charge to you. This will be stripped, primed and have the strings removed, ready for painting. The cost of materials is your responsibility except for a protection lacquer, which will be applied once returned by expert staff at Rigby Music. Unless otherwise agreed by both parties in writing.
16. There will be no communal painting space provided for this project, therefore we assume production will take place at your home/studio. We will work with you in order to co-ordinate and manage the safe and secure transportation of the guitar to and from your studio either via a delivery driver or courier. Wild in Art will cover the cost of logistics and details will be finalised before any commission is confirmed, but we ask you to be as flexible as possible in your availability to accept deliveries. If deliveries are missed you may be charged for redelivery.
17. You will provide a list of artist materials – specifically paint, brand and colours used in the application on the guitar and we ask you to follow best practice guidelines for materials.
18. Wild in Art reserves the right to withhold any fee payable to you in connection with the event if in its sole opinion the quality of the finished work provided falls below that which can be reasonably expected for public display and auction and/or is substantially different from the design submitted.
19. The guitar remains at all times the property of Wild in Art and must be returned in good playable order, unless otherwise agreed in writing.
20. If the guitar is returned unfinished by you or deemed irreparable due to damage while in your possession, you shall be charged the full replacement cost of said instrument.
21. Wild in Art will award commissioned artists with an honorarium of £500 +VAT (if applicable). This will be paid on completion of the finished artwork, subject to sign off, and all relevant paperwork. Payment will be made within 28 working days of receipt of invoice. By submitting this application you confirm that you are responsible for all your own tax and national insurance contributions relating to the honorarium and reporting thereof. Wild in Art will consider, at our discretion, staged payments on a case by case basis.
22. Wild in Art may from time to time produce facsimiles of the completed artwork in both 2D and 3D form, excluding figurines. For the avoidance of doubt, any agreement reached in connection with any facsimile of your design should include any consideration to be paid to you by Wild in Art and require transfer of rights to Wild in Art and Manchester City Council.
23. At the end of the trail the decorated guitars will be auctioned to raise money to support grassroots music projects and venues throughout Greater Manchester via a dedicated music fund managed by Forever Manchester, in collaboration with key music partners in the city.
24. By entering your work for consideration to be selected to be used in the event and for eligibility for payment of the honorarium you warrant that you have all required rights and consents to submit the work and allow Wild in Art and Manchester City Council to use the work in connection with 'Music for the Senses'. You also agree to grant an irrevocable royalty-free licence to Wild in Art and Manchester City Council and to use the completed work for the purposes described elsewhere connected with the event.