

# **PROPOSAL GUIDE**

**BUBBLEGUM  
RESOURCES**

# WRITING AN ARTIST BIO

- A good artist bio well encapsulates you as an artist and your artistic practice. The key goal when writing a bio is to create a text that reflects the core ideas, principles and research interests that guide your artistic practice.
- Artist bios are usually written in the third person and should be concise.
- Some of the things you could include in a bio are your conceptual interests, the questions your work seeks to answer, the media you use and the themes your work allows you to explore.
- Artist bios will usually include exhibitions, projects and other public showcases the artists has been a part of as well as any formal art education/ training. Some artist also chose to include personal information which has influenced their work.
- It might be helpful to look at other artist bios to draw inspiration from. You can find examples of artist bios on art gallery websites or art museum websites. Pay attention to what information they prioritise and how they present themselves and their practice.

# HOW TO CREATE A STRONG PORTFOLIO OF WORK:

- Keep your portfolio simple and neat.
- A portfolio will usually include an artist bio, artist statement and examples of the artists work.
- Include a good selection of work that will support your proposal and make sure your work is documented in high quality.
- Portfolios usually require 8-10 examples of the work so make sure that each piece of work is strong and shows a good variety.
- One good idea is also to shift around your portfolio order so that the most relevant pieces are at the beginning of your portfolio. Ask your friends which works they find the strongest, as some might find it difficult to critically view their own work.
- Do not forget to label your work with the artworks title, medium and dimensions as well as the year in which they were produced.

# WRITING A STRONG PROPOSAL:

- The residency is purely production based, therefore, artists who submit well developed ideas with a thorough production plan—will stand a greater chance of selection.
- When writing a proposal it is important to lay out an idea that you want to investigate and suggest ways it can be achieved.
- Remember to proofread your proposal before you submit it, checking for spelling mistakes or grammar errors. Most importantly, make sure everything your proposal is communicating is necessary information and that it communicates a consolidated idea. We are looking for a clear understanding of what it is you would like to achieve during the month long residency.
- The main three things you should communicate in your proposal are: what you are aiming to produce through this residency, why do you feel like this should be achieved and a production plan.
- Try to be flexible towards exploration and less static about what can or will be achieved. A well thought out yet simple proposal is often more successful than one that makes grand claims. Suggest what you hope to show, explore or draw links between through your work.
- Remember that there is a difference between claiming what you will achieve and claiming what you wish to achieve through your residency; be realistic with yourself and your own perceptions of what is possible.