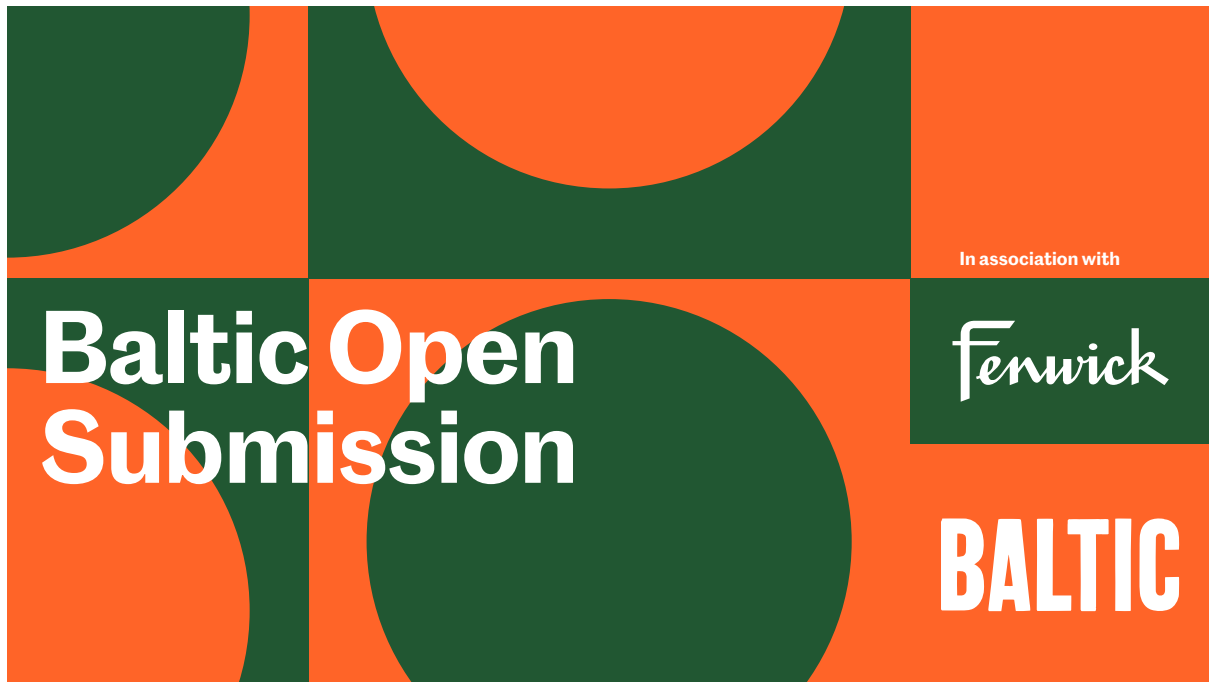


## Submissions invited for Baltic's second open-call exhibition



People in the North East are being invited to submit artwork from today (Wednesday 11 October) for a major open-call exhibition due to open at Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art in March 2024.

***Baltic Open Submission in association with Fenwick***, will showcase painting, sculpture, photography, video and more by artists, makers, self-taught creatives and hobbyists based in North East England, alongside several works by established artists.

This will be the second Open Submission exhibition at Baltic and works will be selected by a panel including North East musician and lead singer with Maximo Park, **Paul Smith**; artist, **Jasmina Cibic**, Niomi Fairweather, Baltic Curator; and Rose McMurray, Baltic Curatorial Assistant..

The exhibition, in Baltic's Ground Floor gallery, will present up to 100 works drawn from the submissions alongside work by several established artists. These will include **Phyllis Christopher**, Newcastle-based photographer known for documenting LGBTQ+ sexuality and protest in 1980s/1990s San Francisco; **Holly Hendry**, London-based sculptor and installation artist who explores what lives beneath the surface, from hidden underground spaces to the interior workings of the body; and British institution, household name and prolific painter **Jim Moir** (aka Vic Reeves) whose submission is a newly completed unseen work.

**Sarah Munro MBE, Baltic Director**, explained: *"Our Open Submission exhibitions present artworks selected by the panel, regardless of whether that work has been created by an established artist or someone who is self-taught and who might never have shown their work publicly before."*

*"The response to our very first open-call in 2020 was overwhelming and showed how much talent we have here in the region. And now we're opening up another opportunity for people to submit their artwork – in any medium from painting and ceramics to sound and video - to be a part of what I hope will be a truly joyful and special exhibition."*

This year, the exhibition is being presented in association with Fenwick, whose flagship department store has been a mainstay of the North East for more than 140 years.

**Leo Fenwick, Head of Strategic Partnerships at Fenwick said:**

*"Our partnership with The Baltic will reveal some brilliant new talent in the UK. Creativity has always been part of our DNA at Fenwick and supporting talent is a very exciting part of who we are as a brand. Through this unique partnership we can showcase artists and spotlight Art and Culture in the North East"*



**Paul Smith, Maximo Park**

commented:

*"It's a pleasure to be able to work with Baltic and to spend some time with all the varied submissions. After completing my visual art studies, I was a drawing and painting teacher when Maximo Park signed our first record contract, which altered my artistic focus somewhat! However, I've retained a keen interest in the visual arts, so this invitation was an opportunity not to be missed."*

The resulting exhibition opens to the public from Saturday 16 March until Sunday 1 September 2024.

Baltic is inviting submissions from **10am on Wednesday 11 October** until **10am on Monday 27 November 2023**/ The open call free to enter, and open to anyone based in the North East of England. Baltic is holding an online and in-person drop-in session on Thursday 2 November 2023, 11am to 5pm, for anyone with questions about applying. Simply show up on the day or email [open@baltic.art](mailto:open@baltic.art) to request the Zoom link.

Full details are available at [www.baltic.art](http://www.baltic.art)

For press enquiries contact [emma@emmapybus.com](mailto:emma@emmapybus.com) / [craiga@baltic.art](mailto:craiga@baltic.art)

ENDS

**About Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art**

Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art creates and produces exhibitions, events and learning opportunities which explore the role of artists from across the world. Located on Gateshead quayside, Baltic has 2,600 square metres of exhibition space making it the UK's largest gallery dedicated to the art and artists of today and tomorrow.

Baltic welcomes visitors free of charge, all year round to experience art, talks, performance and activities in a fully accessible building. Over 8 million have walked through its doors so far. Beyond its bricks, Baltic connects and exchange with communities, individuals and groups exploring creativity, social connections and wider understanding of the world.

[www.Baltic.art](http://www.Baltic.art) @BalticGateshead

**About Fenwick**

Britain's family of style pioneers since 1882. Fenwick offers a curated edit of luxury across fashion, beauty and lifestyle, presented in an inspirational shopping environment across nine stores and digital. Fenwick is the largest family-owned group of department stores in the United Kingdom offering in-store events, bespoke services, treatment rooms and innovative restaurants.

[www.Fenwick.co.uk](http://www.Fenwick.co.uk) @FenwickOfficial

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