

Background

Turner Sims Southampton submitted an application to Arts Council England's (ACE) *Ambition for Excellence* programme in January 2018 for investment of £315,755 over a three-year period towards the creation and development of Jazz South. We were notified in March 2018 that the bid had been successful with the full amount requested granted.

This document contains the original Expression of Interest (EOI) submitted to ACE in October 2017 ahead of the approval to submit a full bid (page 2), together with a brief outline of proposed activity, governance and staffing (pages 3-5).

To give a better insight into the language and focus of the EOI and of the full bid, the central aims of the *Ambition for Excellence* programme to which we were and are responding are as follows:

- *to achieve step-change impact on the sector, practice or place*
- *develop ambition, excellence, talent and leadership across ecologies and/or places*
- *to further enable contribution to the Creative case for diversity – enriching the arts for artists, audiences and our wider society*
- *to increase the quality and range of arts commissioning partnerships, including internationally, and in festival or outdoor contexts*
- *to allow the sector to respond ambitiously to compelling or timely opportunities*
- *to bring the best of culture to new or larger audiences, including by digital capture*

More information on *Ambition for Excellence* can be found at <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/ambition-excellence>

Kevin Appleby

KEVIN APPLEBY

Strategic and Creative Lead, Jazz South

Concert Hall Manager, Turner Sims Southampton

Jazz South Expression of Interest (submitted October 2017)

Turner Sims proposes to create and co-ordinate Jazz South – a new Jazz talent, ambition, excellence and leadership development programme that will embrace the excellence that exists to significantly raise the quality of Jazz practice, performance and commissions in the Southern region (principally but not exclusively Arts Council England’s South West and South East regions).

This proposal is the result of needs identified through consultation across the South and nationally (with regional leads and the Jazz Promotion Network throughout 2016-17) and is reflective of the scale of developmental functions and grassroots-level projects missing in the South that prohibit step change and restrict the potential for excellence to grow and thrive.

Jazz South is a multi-layered programme of projects working with Jazz Artists resident in the South and world-renowned International Artists focussed on developing talent, raising aspirations, driving excellence and leadership development for:

- *Professional Artists*
- *Emerging Artists*
- *Gifted & Talented (G&T) Young People (YP)*
- *Jazz Promoters*
- *Organisations promoting or interested in promoting Jazz and those currently promoting other music genres*

Jazz South will increase the quality and range of commissioning opportunities for Artists and G&T YP and offer funding bursaries to support Artists to showcase commissions (incl. digitally).

The programme will contribute to the Arts Council’s Creative Case for Diversity, embedding and promoting diversity and equality in all projects. Jazz South will grow artistic talent, raise artists’ ambitions, leadership opportunities and achieve excellence by diversifying and increasing the involvement and enthusiasm of YP, Artists, Promoters, Organisations and new and existing Audiences from every background.

Jazz South will be delivered over 3-years commencing 30 March 2018 until 30 March 2021 - delivered in the South West region in Year 1 extending to the South East in Year 2 following further consultation. Jazz South will equip commissioned partners with the knowledge and best practices to develop and sustain the programme and unlock further funding - thereafter influencing Organisations, Promoters, Artists and YP elsewhere in England.

Moragh Brooksbank, Davina Christmas, Ben Lane and Phil Gibby have provided advice.

Budget: £420,000

Requested: £300,000

Jazz South bid summary (submitted January 2018)

Concise description of the activity

Jazz South is an ambitious 3-year programme to develop artistic talent, build quality in jazz practice and develop the economy for jazz communities in South East and South West England. Established and emerging artists will work with promoters and leading UK and international figures, significantly raising aspirations and standards of performance, composition and promotion. New work will be commissioned, talent and excellence developed through masterclasses and residencies and celebrated through performance opportunities, growing diverse audiences and promoting a regional jazz identity.

The ACE Ambition for Excellence Award description

Turner Sims Southampton (TS) will receive £315,755 for Jazz South, an ambitious 3-year programme that will develop artistic talent, build quality in jazz practice, grow diverse audiences and develop a regional jazz identity across South East and South West England.

What is Jazz South?

- An initiative led by TS and funded to 31 March 2021
- A series of projects that will involve artists, promoters, and audiences across the region
- A partnership with key organisations and networks across the region and country, but also with a reach internationally



Where is the Jazz South region?

Essentially ACE's South West and South East regions as shown in the map. These are bounded by Kent in the east; the Home Counties south and west of Greater London; Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire at the north of the region; and the South West peninsula.

Who will be involved?

A wide group of organisations and individuals. At the outset the partners and contacts supporting TS's bid included Bristol Music Trust, Cheltenham Jazz Festival, Edition Records, Brighton Festival, Europe Jazz Network, Jazz North, Jazz Promotion Network, Jazzwise, Southampton Music Hub, and the University of Southampton. Many others were consulted in advance of the bid being submitted. A full audit of provision will take place as part of the setting up of Jazz South.

What will be happening?

Platform South – informed by the success of Jazz North's *Northern Line*, artists from Jazz South's region will apply to perform on the *Platform South* scheme, launching with a showcase gig at a festival and then a series of self-sourced bookings.

Jazz South Introduces - building on the proven success of *Jazz North Introduces*, *Jazz South Introduces* will provide emerging jazz artists (16-25 years old) with their first high-profile performance, showcasing the region's best new talent.

Professional Residencies - 5-day residencies at TS for some of the region's professional jazz artists. Participants will be involved in practice sharing and mentoring with leading UK and international artists culminating in an informal performance on the final day.

Masterclasses - emerging artists and gifted and talented children and young people given the opportunity to participate in masterclasses led by artists from the region, UK and abroad and hosted by local delivery partners.

Artist Ambassadors- high profile established artists from the region will be invited to become Jazz South Artist Ambassadors.

Jazz South Co-commissions – opportunities for regional promoters who aspire to commission a regional artist(s) and present the finished work.

Promoter Support Events – bringing together promoters from across the region to share experiences, best practice, and explore opportunities for collaboration.

Jazz Education Events - bringing together Music Hub personnel, youth jazz orchestra leaders, and specialist music education providers and organisations, to consider the opportunities and challenges in jazz education and the potential for significant change via collaboration and Jazz South initiatives.

Legacy Building Events - practice sharing, knowledge building and opportunities for generating inspiration and aspiration, these events will address sustaining connectivity between stakeholders, eg artists, promoters, Music Hubs, professional development partners and Bridge organisations.

Digital platforms - Jazz South will develop and feed a unique website plus social media channels to promote outstanding jazz artists from the region; present online premieres of new work; signpost artists to regional, national and international promoters, conservatoires, University courses, and music schools; feature best practice jazz education resources, artist continuing professional development (CPD), promoter resources and blogs. It will represent the best talent, best practice resources and guidance. The site will be a digital application portal for all selection processes (eg *Platform South*) and provide further sector baseline data through free login accounts.

Governance and staffing

Governance

Funding for Jazz South is ring-fenced within TS's overall budget, overseen by the TS Strategic Board as part of the University of Southampton.

Staffing

The strategic and creative lead for Jazz South is Kevin Appleby, TS Concert Hall Manager.

The full-time Jazz South Manager post will run the programmes and co-ordinate activity including the website.

Interns will be recruited through the University of Southampton's Excel Intern programme specifically for Jazz South activity.

Sub-regional advisory panels (SRAPs)

With each sub region having a diverse profile and diverse needs, there will be 2 Sub-Regional Advisory Panels (SRAPs) that will meet 4 times per year, and be attended by Kevin Appleby or the Jazz South Manager. The panels will comprise jazz educators, promoters, artists, organisations promoting or interested in promoting jazz and representatives from Music Hubs.

Programme selection panels

Specialist sub groups of musicians, promoters and other industry experts will be convened to select Artist Ambassadors; artists for *Platform South*, commissioned new work, artists participating in the residencies, emerging artists and gifted and talented children and young people participating in masterclasses, and emerging artists participating in *Jazz South Introduces*.

KMA
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