



BLUECOAT
DISPLAY CENTRE



UNITY

Bluecoat Display Centre X The Association for Contemporary Jewellery

To celebrate **The Eurovision Song Contest** being hosted by the City of Liverpool in May 2023, The ACJ are working in collaboration with Bluecoat Display Centre on a selling exhibition of jewellery that responds to the global contest's themes of music, unity, acceptance, and diversity.

ACJ members are invited to apply to be part of this selling showcase. Creating one “key piece” responding to the themes around Eurovision, alongside a supporting range of 8-10 pieces of works, to include affordable/price accessible pieces. The supporting range does not need to be connected to the Eurovision themes, but they should all work well as a collection.

Up to 15 jewellers will be selected for this selling exhibition. The selection will be made by the team at Bluecoat Display Centre.

- The jewellery can be made with any kind and any material/s but it does need to be wearable.
- Members are encouraged to make new work, if possible, especially for the “key piece” - but it can have been completed in the last 5 years.
- The supporting range should **not** have been exhibited widely in recent exhibitions.
- You may submit a combination of new and older works, provided they work well as a collection.
- The gallery welcomes design sheet submissions, photos of completed works or a combination of both as suits your practise. Photos of usual gallery stock can be included to show what your supporting range will look like, or you may include design sheets for the supporting range if you prefer.
- If you are submitting designs, please ensure they are fully comprehensive so the selection panel can clearly see what your work will look like upon completion.
- If you are submitting designs with the work being made upon selection, then please refer to the timeline to ensure this is possible if you are selected.

For your “key piece”, there should be a strong connection to Eurovision through one or more of the following themes -

- Unity – bringing people together
- Music
- Celebration of diversity and inclusivity
- LGBTQ+ Community
- Pyrotechnics
- Colourful and theatrical

- Lavish costumes
- The votes!
- Innovation and new ways of creating

The retail price points for the supporting range should include affordable/price accessible pieces, so they can align with BDC's customer base. You can see examples of work in their shop space here - <https://bluecoatdisplaycentreshop.com/collections/jewellery>

The pricing for your "key piece" can be higher than the supporting range. BDC's commission is 50% of the retail price plus our VAT on that commission on work under £500 wholesale or 42% plus VAT on over £500 wholesale.

How to submit –

- Submissions should be sent via **We Transfer** to exhibitions@acj.org.uk with the subject title "**ACJ UNITY**"
- Please submit up to two images of your "key piece" (either a completed piece or a design) and up to 4 images of available work/or designs for the supporting range.
- The submitted images should be **72dpi** please, 300x600 pixels. Not large files at this stage. If you are selected you will be required to send higher res images.
- Image files – please title them with: your first name, family name and consecutive numbers e.g. – **John_Smith_01, John_Smith_02**
- If the photographer is not yourself add the photo credit (e.g. **John_Smith_01_Photocredit_Jane Smith**)
- **Please include your application form (word docs only) with your submission** (with your full name in the file name e.g. **John_Smith_Unity**).
- **The deadline to submit is 6th February 2023 at midnight.**

Further timescales:

15th February 2023 – successful makers will be notified by this date

6th April 2023 – the work should arrive at BDC by this date

14th April 2023 - the exhibition opens

3rd June 2023 - the exhibition closes

Please note that the opening and closing dates are "provisional" and my shift a little either way, depending on the galleries schedule. Final dates TBC.

Costs:

- There is **no fee** for application.
- Selected participants will be expected to pay for their own delivery/postage to the gallery and the return delivery/postage. BDC will liaise with you on the return postage.
- If you are applying from outside the UK, please take into consideration the fees involved with posting your work and the time it may take to reach the UK. It is recommended that you plan how you will post your work before applying to ensure it can reach the gallery on time and you do not incur any unexpected fees.

If you are selected:

- BDC will require images that are representative of your work as soon as selection has been made, which can initially be images of the supporting range. Please avoid posting images of your “key piece” on social media as BDC may wish to keep the one-off “key pieces” as a “big reveal” when the show opens!
- BDC will liaise with successful makers on further selection details and next steps. For the selected jewellers an exhibition contract will be issued by the BDC which will contain further dates, deadlines, insurance info, terms and commission information.

ACJ will provide:

- An email receipt of your submission.
- Selected makers will be notified by the date above by BDC. Please note - because of the large number of entries we receive we will not be able to give feedback to those not selected.
- Development and promotion of the exhibition.

Selected members will provide:

- Images of work for BDC after selection.
- Completed work by the delivery deadline.
- Further higher resolution images as requested.
- Payment for the delivery and return of work to Bluecoat Display Centre.
- Support in promoting the exhibition through social media.

The exhibition will be promoted on the ACJ social media channels with reciprocal support from our exhibition partners.

Addressing barriers:

We heartily welcome applications from jewellers currently underrepresented in our sector. This includes but is not limited to people of African or Caribbean heritage, Arabic heritage, Latin American heritage, East Asian, South Asian, and Southeast Asian heritage, people from traveller communities, disabled people and LGBTQIA+ people. For further details on our equality and diversity policy please see our website -

<https://www.acj.org.uk/index.php/about-us/equality-diversity-policy>

If you have any essential questions that are not covered in this letter, please email us at exhibitions@acj.org.uk

Joanne Haywood
ACJ - Exhibition and Events Manager