



JERSEY ARTS CENTRE

Phillips Street
St. Helier
Jersey JE2 4SW
Channel Islands

Telephone: +0044 (0) 1534 700400
Facsimile: +0044 (0) 1534 726788

Policy & Selection Criteria for Exhibiting

as at: 1 March 2008

The Berni Gallery

The Berni Gallery has been in operation since 1983 and provides the main exhibition space at the Jersey Arts Centre. The gallery name derives from the generous gift given to the Jersey Arts Centre by the Berni family in 1982; this generosity was maintained in 2001; and the gallery is now regarded as one of the most prestigious exhibitions spaces in the Island with over 70,000 people a year passing through it. The programme of exhibitions in the Berni Gallery is managed by the Exhibitions Sub-Committee and this sub-committee is responsible to the Arts Centre's Management Committee.

Other Exhibition Spaces

This policy, and the criteria contained within it, shall also apply to exhibitions at St. James, and, to a lesser extent, to the Bar Gallery at Phillips Street and all other spaces including stairwells, common parts and all hireable rooms.

Mission

The basic brief of the Exhibitions Sub-Committee is to provide the Jersey Arts Centre with the best exhibitions available that will educate and enlighten the people of Jersey.

To do this a balance of exhibitions is provided each year that combines the work of Channel Island artists with that of British and International practitioners. A balance is also sought in the media content of the work to reflect strengths of painting, photography, printmaking, textiles, ceramics etc. Time is also allocated for annual events including the J.J. Fox Open Art Competition and Exhibition and the GalleryMagazine Student Art Exhibition.

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee decides on the exhibitions to be held in the Berni Gallery. It meets in the evening, once a month, to discuss applications, balance the programme of exhibitions and organise the hanging and taking down of exhibitions.

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee is a sub-committee of the Jersey Arts Centre's Management Committee and is made up of a Chairman, Secretary and up to 9 other committee members including the Director of the Arts Centre. A quorum of 5 is needed in order to sanction the decisions made. The Management Committee approves and appoints the Chairman while the Director appoints the Secretary (Education Co-ordinator). The Director and Chairman appoint the remaining members of the committee.

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee seeks as wide a representation of members as possible, with a balance being achieved between practitioners, teachers, lecturers and other suitably experienced members of the community. Members will be encouraged to serve for at least 3 years and it is expected that they will also help hang touring exhibitions promoted by the Jersey Arts Centre. On request, support and advice can be provided by the Exhibitions Sub-Committee to those artists hiring the space.

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee may nominate a Chairman from within the current committee, or from elsewhere, and this nomination is submitted to the Jersey Arts Centre's Management Committee for approval. The Management Committee also makes public the vacancy. The Chairman serves a maximum of 2 years (e.g. January 2008 – January 2010) and reports to the Management Committee at least once a year. The budgets for exhibitions - both promotional and hirings - are communicated from the Management Accounts by the Director and will not be exceeded without reference to the Management Committee.

Principle Aims & Objectives

- To exhibit a diverse range of all aspects of visual arts
- Educational
- To reach the widest possible audience
- To enhance the reputation and integrity of the Jersey Arts Centre

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee will endeavour to:

1. Balance the programme of exhibitions throughout the year
2. Organise the hanging and taking down of each exhibition
3. Promote cultural exchange, wherever possible, at least once every three years
4. Promote links with the Heritage Trust, the Public Sculpture Trust, the Jersey Arts Trust, the Jersey Opera House, commercial galleries, educational establishments, and the other Channel Islands to achieve synergy between the spaces
5. Explore sponsorship opportunities with the Director

Hire Charges & Catering

1. The costs of hiring the Berni Gallery are set each year by the Management Committee. These fees are detailed in the Conditions for Exhibiting document. The Jersey Arts Centre also takes 20% commission on all sales.
2. Previews are usually on a Monday evening between 5.30pm and 7.00pm. Drinks, glasses and food can only be supplied by the Jersey Arts Centre's franchise at Caf  jac.

Selection Criteria

That the proposed exhibition:

1. Is presented in a coherent, professional manner. This must include:
i) a letter of application ii) a curriculum vitae iii) visual examples of the work

This will apply to all prospective exhibiting artists at the Berni.

The letter of application should include the aims and objectives of the proposed exhibition as well as its theme and content. The size and dimension of the works proposed should be outlined and the plans for any sponsorship or private view.

A series of preferable dates for the exhibition should also be included. The visual examples of the work must be of good quality and can be photographs, slides, or the work itself.

The latter is preferred. In all cases the dimensions of the work must be included with the visuals.

Where possible, work should not have been previously exhibited in the Island.

Please note:

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee reserve the right to refuse to hang any exhibition that detracts from the original proposition or includes material unendorsed by them.

2. Will enhance the integrity and reputation of the Jersey Arts Centre
3. Will inform and educate the people of Jersey

That the artist:

4. Complies with the application procedure detailed above
5. Demonstrates integrity, professionalism and commitment
6. Demonstrates an awareness of the physical and visual qualities of the materials used

That the Exhibitions Sub-Committee:

7. Will consider all applicants in a consistent, objective and professional manner
8. Will make provision, when requested, for applicants to make a presentation of their proposal at one of the monthly meetings.
[This should be requested through the Education Co-ordinator]
9. Will contact all applicants, in writing, once a decision has been made

Hanging Criteria

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee will ensure that:

1. The hanging in the Berni Gallery is appropriate
2. That appropriate and professional framing standards are applied

Decisions

The decisions of the Exhibitions Sub-Committee are final and once these decisions have been communicated to prospective exhibitors no further correspondence will be entered into should an application have been unsuccessful.

The Future

It is hoped that, in the not too distant future, the foundation will be laid for a *Friends of the Berni Gallery*; and that more young people can be encouraged to assist with the hanging of exhibitions in order that their knowledge in this respect is developed.