

RESIDENCIES 2021

The V.O Residency Programme hosts up to twelve residents annually, inviting emerging and underrepresented artists, curators, and researchers to experiment and create new work in an open and supportive environment. Our residencies provide practitioners with studio space in central London, critical and practical support, and a platform through which to both develop their practice as well as access useful resources and a broad network of individuals and organisations. V.O aims to bring together diverse voices and encourages applicants from all backgrounds. The V.O Residency Programme is focused on promoting artistic exchange, socially-focused discourse and knowledge production.

Open to practitioners in the first five years of professional practice and with less than five solo exhibitions, V.O Residencies are divided between Artist Residencies and Curator/Researcher Residencies. Our Artist Residencies take place quarterly, hosting two visual artists per session, and the Curator/Researcher Residencies take place bi-annually, hosting one curator/researcher per session, or a collaborative curator + artist duo (more information below).

During their residency, selected artists, curators, and researchers are provided with a studio space at V.O Studios Mayfair. Residents will have the opportunity to engage in critical and ongoing dialogue about their work with V.O founders and programme curator, as well as two guest mentors per session. V.O takes the practices of each resident into consideration when inviting guest mentors; the aim is to provide access to individuals who can offer relevant creative as well as professional mentorship. During their time with us residents are invited to take part in V.O Open Studios, a quarterly event that provides studio artists with an opportunity to show their work to other practitioners and interested audiences. V. O values openness and critical-engagement, and we aim to reflect this in all aspects of our residency programme.

At the end of each session residents have the opportunity to present a solo exhibition at V.O Gallery, to present a project (performance, workshop, lecture, screening etc.) as part of V.O Projects, and to produce a publication related to the work they have developed while in residence. Artists are also invited to donate a work to V.O Curations that represents the thinking and work done during their residency.

Artist Residencies: V.O Artist Residencies are process-based and non-prescriptive, aiming to provide visual artists with the time and space to research and develop new work within a supportive environment. The focus is on providing emerging artists from diverse backgrounds with the opportunity to cultivate not only their own practices, but to engage meaningfully with a broad audience.

2021 Programme (each session below is for two artist residents)

- Winter: 18.01 - 10.04 (applications closed)
- Spring: 12.04 - 03.07 (applications closed)
- Summer: 05.07 - 25.09 (deadline 24.05)
- Autumn: 27.09 - 18.12 (deadline 15.08)

V.O Curations

Artists in residence are provided with:

- Studio space at V.O Studios Mayfair (24/7 access, approximately 25m²)
- The opportunity to present a solo exhibition at V.O Gallery
- The opportunity to present public programming events as part of V.O Projects
- The opportunity to produce a publication related to the work developed in residence
- Grant of £500
- Transportation for moving studio materials at the start and end of the residency
- Critical and practical support from V.O founders and programme curator
- Mentorship from 2 guests: established artists, curators, writers, gallerists etc.
- Option to take part in V.O Open Studios

Curator/Researcher (or duo) Residencies: The V.O Curator/Researcher Residency takes place bi-annually and provides early career practitioners with the time and space to develop a research-driven project within a supportive environment. Each curator/researcher residency culminates in an exhibition at V.O Gallery and/or an event or series of events as part of V.O Projects. The curator/researcher may also choose to apply as a duo with a visual artist.

2021 Programme

- Winter: 18.01 - 10.04 (applications closed)
- Summer: 05.07 - 25.09 (deadline 24.05)

Curators/Researchers in residence are provided with:

- Studio space at V.O Studios Mayfair (24/7 access, approximately 25m², shared if applying as a duo)
- The opportunity to research and present an exhibition at V.O Gallery
- The opportunity to develop and present public programme events related to the exhibition
- The opportunity to produce a publication related to work developed in residence.
- Grant of £250 (£500 if applying as a duo)
- Production grant depending on the specifics of the exhibition and/or public programme events
- Critical and practical support from V.O founders and programme curator
- Mentorship from 2 guests: established artists, curators, writers, gallerists, and others
- Option to take part in V.O Open Studios

Application Process

Applications for our 2021 Residency Programme are now open and we will accept applications until the sessions are filled. Please take note of the deadlines listed above - we will not accept applications after these dates.

V.O Curations

To apply please send an email to residency@vocurations.com with the following:

- *Portfolio of work*
 - PDF of no longer than 30 pages. If applying as a duo please supply a portfolio for each applicant.
- *CV*
 - PDF of no longer than 2 pages. If applying as a duo please supply a CV for each applicant. Include website details where relevant.
- *Proposal*
 - Artist Residencies: in no more than 750 words please introduce your practice and provide a proposal for the work you would like to develop while in residence at V.O. Please indicate whether you would like to present a solo exhibition or a project in another format.
 - Curator/Researcher Residencies: in no more than 1000 words please outline the exhibition you would like to research and present at V.O Gallery, including any public programming events you would like to develop. Please provide an approximate production cost for the exhibition including how the fees would be used. If applying as a curator + artist duo, please describe how you will work collaboratively to present this project.

Selection Criteria

V.O aims to promote emerging and underrepresented voices and therefore encourages applicants from all backgrounds. Our residency programme is open to artists, curators and researchers in the first five years of their practice and with less than five solo exhibitions. Prospective residents will be selected on the following criteria:

- Quality and commitment of work
- Critical engagement with social, political, economic, and cultural issues
- Unique perspective and approach
- Interest and willingness to work collaboratively
- Clarity and focus of proposal

Selection Process

Residents will be selected by founders, Zina Vieille and Nnamdi Obiekwe and programme curator, Kate Wong. Selections will be based on the applicant's portfolio and quality of their proposal, further details below.

V.O Curations

About V.O Curations

V.O Curations is an arts organisation located in central London focused on supporting emerging artists, curators, and researchers through an innovative and critically-engaged programme. The V.O programme comprises residencies, exhibitions, events, publications, and studio spaces.

Founded in 2018 by Zina Vieille and Nnamdi Obiekwe, V.O Curations believes that to curate is to approach all aspects of its programme with care. We aim to promote diverse voices and narratives across all of our activities and collaborations, and to facilitate artistic exchange, socially-focused discourse, knowledge production, and experimentation. V.O is focused on cultivating a sense of community, promoting collaboration, and encouraging active learning rather than passive viewing.

In January 2021 V.O will open its new hub at 56 Conduit Street, which will be the site for its residency programme, gallery, project space, and some artist studios. This new location reinforces our commitment to connecting emerging and underrepresented artists to distinctive networks and resources.

V.O Curations

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