

# BEACONSFIELD

a streamlined resource for the development and presentation of contemporary art

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## Beaconsfield receives lifeline grant from Government's £1.57bn Culture Recovery Fund



Beaconsfield has been acknowledged as an important place for cultural exchange and will be supported as a recipient of the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund (CRF) to help face the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic and to ensure they have a sustainable future, the Culture Secretary has announced today.

Beaconsfield is one of 1,385 cultural and creative organisations across the country receiving urgently needed support. £257 million of investment was announced as part of the very first round of the Culture Recovery Fund grants programme being administered by Arts Council England. Further rounds of funding in the cultural and heritage sector are due to be announced over the coming weeks.

Established in 1994, Beaconsfield is non-profit, contemporary visual art organisation, operating for 25 years as an artist-led centre of excellence rooted in Lambeth. As a commissioner of contemporary art and community focused charity, Beaconsfield Gallery Vauxhall offers a space for artists and audiences to make and experience new artworks (beacons) in a wide range (field) of contemporary visual and aural mediums and has been publicly funded for its role as an experimental art laboratory and cultural centre, curating both at home and abroad. Institutional partnerships have included Foam the Dutch Museum of Photography, Museum of Contemporary Art Oslo, CAC Vilnius, Helsinki Contemporary, Tate Britain and Tate Exchange.

Culture Recovery Funds will enable us organisational breathing space to recalibrate in the face of the uncertain future of exhibition culture. During the next months, we will continue to offer our resources and historic building to artists and participants to realise their creative aims. Nurturing young talent and life-long learning are key themes. An integral part of Beaconsfield's artistic practice is the way in which we challenge and re-define people's relation to art. We look forward to finding new ways to continue our mentoring in schools and Higher Education and to reconnecting with our various communities.

BGV operates a comprehensive Environmental Policy through both curatorial initiatives and practical strategies, using a Green Energy supplier since 2000. People really enjoyed sitting (appropriately distanced) in our beautiful green lung when we reopened in July and we look forward to opening up the garden yard for those of the community who would like to read or reflect outdoors when pandemic conditions lift.

**Culture Secretary Oliver Dowden said:**

'This funding is a vital boost for the theatres, music venues, museums and cultural organisations that form the soul of our nation. It will protect these special places, save jobs and help the culture sector's recovery.

These places and projects are cultural beacons the length and breadth of the country. This unprecedented investment in the arts is proof this government is here for culture, with further support to come in the days and weeks ahead so that the culture sector can bounce back strongly.'

**Chair, Arts Council England, Sir Nicholas Serota, said:**

'Theatres, museums, galleries, dance companies and music venues bring joy to people and life to our cities, towns and villages. This life-changing funding will save thousands of cultural spaces loved by local communities and international audiences. Further funding is still to be announced and we are working hard to support our sector during these challenging times.'

**Beaconsfield Co-Directors David Crawforth and Naomi Siderfin said:**

'The Culture Recovery Fund will enable us to continue to provide a reflective space in which people can adjust their perspective through the surprising ways in which we deliver art and culture.'

## Notes to editors:

**Arts Council England** is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in Let's Create that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million Emergency Response Package, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of several bodies administering the Government's Culture Recovery Fund and unprecedented support package of £1.57 billion for the culture and heritage sector. Find out more at [www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19)