

CALL FOR EXHIBITION PROPOSALS

The Bard Graduate Center Exhibition and Academic Program Departments are initiating an annual call for exhibition proposals to students and alumni in conjunction with the BGC's exhibition at the International Art + Design Fair, 1900-2008. Located at the Park Avenue Armory, The International Art + Design Fair is the newest fair established by Anna and Brian Haughton devoted to design and the decorative arts. Proceeds from the opening night gala go to the BGC student scholarship and fellowship fund. In 2008 the Art + Design Fair runs from October 3 – 8, 2008 with the opening night gala taking place on Thursday, Oct. 2nd. Previous exhibitions have received extensive press coverage, the fair organizers provide an ambitious marketing campaign to promote the event, and the Bard Graduate Center hosts one or more related public programs at the Armory

Guidelines

Exhibition Proposal

This initiative provides a unique opportunity for current and past students to curate a small highly visible exhibition in a 400 square foot display, centrally located on the Armory floor. The exhibition curator will determine the exhibition concept, compose the checklist, and work in conjunction with the BGC director of exhibitions and exhibition designer to install the exhibition.

Exhibition proposals are expected to provide a detailed description of the original idea and content of the exhibition, major themes, and relevance of the project to twentieth century and twenty-first century design history and culture. The proposal must provide a list of proposed lenders to the exhibition that the curator knows to be likely agreeable to loaning objects and displaying them at the Armory. The exhibition department will send loan request letters to all lenders.

Students should note that the public for this exhibition is non-academic, non-scholarly and not necessarily one that is familiar with our exhibition program. The successful application, therefore, will be one that can attract the attention of the largely commercial interests of people who attend the A&D Fair (i.e. collectors, connoisseurs, consumers of design).

Due to budgetary and logistical constraints, and the short-term run of the exhibition, the lender list should be concise, preferably not exceeding five private and/or public collections. The checklist can include loans outside the New York and Tristate area although it is preferable to restrict the loan locations within a reasonable distance so that the exhibition assembly is economically viable. The Bard Graduate Center is responsible for the exhibition assembly, insurance, mounting and disassembly of the exhibition.

Since the actual configuration of the 400 square foot space changes each year, and the type of material(s) representing the exhibition concept will vary, the exhibition checklist cannot exceed 75 objects, excluding furniture, which should not exceed 12 pieces. The curator in consultation with the director of exhibitions and the exhibition designer will determine the final number of objects.

Proposals must also include a plan for the exhibition interpretation citing the use of exhibition labels, text panels, photo blow-ups or other graphic devices that would enhance visitors understanding of the contents.

The Catalog Essay

The curator will write an illustrated essay based on original research about the subject of the exhibition for the International Art + Design Fair catalog that will be available to all fair visitors.

The exhibition proposal should include a general outline of the essay that is expected to be no longer than 10,000 words with endnotes. The curator is expected to provide no more than ten illustrations in black and white and/or color with captions to accompany the text. The Director of Exhibitions must approve of all copyright and reproduction fees in advance of submission of the illustrations.

The exhibition proposal committee will review the catalog manuscript for content and the exhibition department will submit the final version to the Haughton Fair organizers for copyediting.

Exhibition Proposal Committee

Susan Weber Soros, Director of the Bard Graduate Center, Peter Miller, Chair of Academic Programs, Deborah Krohn, Coordinator of History and Theory of Museums, Nina Stritzler-Levine, Director of Exhibitions, and Susan Wall, Director of Development will review exhibition proposals.

Deadlines

Exhibition

2007

December 3

Submission of exhibition proposal, essay outline, and proposed budget to AP office. Students must submit six (6) full sets of their proposals

December 14

Announcement of accepted proposal

2008

January 19

Submission of final exhibition checklist

February 19

Confirmation of checklist and loan requests sent to all lenders

Catalogue**April 1**

Submission of catalog essay to AP office

April

Essay returned for content edits

May 1

Submission of essay with illustrations and captions for copyediting

Exhibition**September 30 – October 2, 2008**

Exhibition installation at the Park Avenue Armory

October 2, 2008

Exhibition opening and gala preview

October 3-8, 2008

Exhibition dates at the Armory

Compensation

The curatorial fee for the project is \$1,500. An additional fee of \$500 is awarded for the catalog essay. The Bard Graduate Center will cover the costs of related research not to exceed \$300, and related travel and accommodation expenses for the curator to make one trip to New York to meet with the BGC exhibition designer and to be present at the Armory for the installation and opening of the exhibition.

Further Information

Please contact Nina Stritzler-Levine, Director of Exhibitions, with any questions or requests for further information. stritzler@bgc.bard.edu, (212) 501-3052

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SIX COPIES OF ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OFFICE BY DECEMBER 3rd.