We worked with over 100 artists, curators and writers and commissioned 23 new works, investing over £439,800 in developing visual arts practice in the UK.

Image: Anna Arca
A national programme supporting visual arts practice, through which Jerwood Charitable Foundation works with early-career artists to commission and present increasingly ambitious new work. Artist opportunities run throughout the year alongside a programme of related exhibitions, events and commissioned writing taking place online, in London and across the UK.

2017 was an exceptionally productive and ambitious year for us and the artists we worked with. The demand for artist-centred support has never been greater and as one of the few UK funders that can support individuals directly our call for entry opportunities had an overwhelming response. Our funds could have been spent many, many times over.

Good quality space and time to experiment and make is beyond the means of many early-career artists, and there is an absence of investment from elsewhere to ensure a well-grounded and sustainable practice. Support is often heavily output-driven, commercial or mainstream, restricting more experimental or radical enquiries. We welcome Arts Council England's new Developing Your Creative Practice fund, which has the potential to make a great difference.

Our own work attempts to tip the balance of power away from institutions back into artists' hands, offering greater self-determination, choice, control and vision. In 2017 we awarded a further 12 Artist Bursaries to support individual artists' self-defined development needs, taking the total investment through this project to £24,000 since 2016.

Early-career artists are also finding opportunities to present new work more constricted than ever, perhaps worsened by the closure of a number of small and mid-scale galleries in major cities. We continued two recently introduced initiatives at Jerwood Space that offer a much needed exhibition platform in London: Jerwood Staging Series and Jerwood Solo Presentations. We also launched a second edition of 3-Phase, a collaborative model in partnership with Eastside Projects, Birmingham and WORKPLACE, Gateshead to support the development of early-career artists' work over a sustained period of time, recruited through the regional networks of each partner organisation.

In September Jerwood Open Forest commission Keith Harrison’s Joyride took place, culminating in a live event at Cannock Chase Forest, Rugeley. The ceramic artist launched a life-size clay replica Rover 75, the last car to leave the Longbridge carplant, down a temporary 10-metre high ramp to a specially commissioned soundtrack illuminated by the headlights of onlookers. The community-focused project and live event brought together personal and social narratives around the automotive industry in the West Midlands, informed by the artists’ upbringing in the heavily post-industrialised Black Country.
2017 has also brought change. Following 17 significant and successful years of support, it was our final year as the key partner and funder for the Jerwood Drawing Prize. It becomes The Trinity Buoy Wharf Drawing Prize from 2018, and continues to be led by Professor Anita Taylor at Bath Spa University. It is rare and unusual that we have the opportunity to follow a project into its mature life and to do so with this project has been an immense privilege. We primarily support early-career artists and projects in their early stages and remain committed to supporting drawing as a fundamental element of artistic practice. The final exhibition slot of the year in our 2018 programme at Jerwood Space will transform with a new, artist-nominated exhibition, Survey. This large group exhibition will present newly commissioned work by the most dynamic early-career artists working across the UK, a snapshot of current practice.

We seek to support outstanding early-career artists who will go on to shape and be leading figures in the visual arts. Our alumni’s activity in 2017 tells of continued practice and many successes:

Emma Hart’s Max Mara Art Prize for Women exhibition opened at Whitechapel, touring to Collezione Maramotti, Italy and Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh. Lawrence Lek’s Jerwood/FVU Awards 2017 commission was shown as part of HyperPavilion at the Venice Biennale and he was invited to show at the 47th International Film Festival Rotterdam. Clare Twomey launched TATE Exchange 2017/18 with her installation FACTORY: the seen and the unseen. Marianna Simnett was nominated for the Jarman Award. An Arts Foundation Award went to Evan Ifekoya; and Woman’s Hour Craft Prize finalists included: winner Phoebe Cummings; Laura Ellen Bacon; Laura Youngson Coll, Emma Woffenden; and Lin Cheung.

MOMA acquired two works by Joanna Piotrowska and three pieces were acquired for the Arts Council Collection. Semiconductor’s five-channel computer-generated animation Earthworks was purchased by Sorigué Foundation Collection. At Frieze Art Fair Ben Burgis & Ksenia Pedan and Emma Hart were the centre pieces of Union Pacific and Sunday Painter respectively whilst Joanna Piotrowska’s work was shown by Southard Reid.

Morgan Quaintance and Imran Peretta undertook Wysing’s Polyphonic Residency. Kelly Best was awarded a place on Zabludowicz Collection’s Testing Ground. Juli Bolaños-Durman received a Crafts Council Hothouse award. Revital Cohen and Tuur Van Balen became Stanley Picker Fellows. Silvia Weidenbach began the inaugural V&A Gilbert Residency and Jasleen Kaur was one of 12 artists commissioned by the V&A to speculate on the future of Europe in the year 4017.

We began 2018 with new Director Lilli Geissendorfer and we look forward to her contribution to this programme over the coming months. Clearly an enormous question which the UK faces is its future status in the world. We are acutely aware of how this will affect our beneficiaries, from a practical point of freedom of movement and work opportunities, and also how it will play out thematically in their work. Meanwhile artists remain under increasing financial pressure on all fronts. Our focus remains on how we continue to provide the best and most relevant ways to support the excellence and creativity of artists in this ever-changing world.

Sarah Williams, Head of Programme, Jerwood Visual Arts
We worked with over 100 artists, curators and writers and commissioned 23 new works.

Our website received over 120,000 sessions from over 71,600 visitors and there were over 29,000 physical visits to the programme nationally.

Our social media channels brought over 6400 plays of content related to the programme, and followers rose to over 51,000.

Through Jerwood Visual Arts we deliver awards, commissions and projects often in partnership with leading arts organisations. In 2017 our partners were: Film and Video Umbrella, making two new £20,000 commissions through the Jerwood/FVU Awards; Bath Spa University, awarding £27,000 of prizes through the Jerwood Drawing Prize, including the new £10,000 Evelyn Williams Drawing Award; Eastside Projects, Birmingham and WORKPLACE, Gateshead supporting the development of three artists to make new work through a second edition of 3-Phase, and Forestry Commission England, presenting Keith Harrison’s £30,000 commission Joyride at Cannock Chase Forest, with the additional support of Arts Council England.

Newly commissioned work was presented through Jerwood Staging Series, 21 artists working with performance and event-based practice, and Jerwood Solo Presentations, three early-career artists at pivotal junctures. Two artists made new work for the unique social environment of The Gentlemen Barristas’ café The School House adjacent to the galleries at Jerwood Space. The 12 current Artist Bursary holders met as a group for a series of developmental events at Jerwood Space to further support their practice.


The programme received press coverage in Ai, ArtDaily, Aesthetic, a-n, Apollo, ArtForum Critics Picks, Art Licks, Art Monthly, Art Rabbit, Art Week, BBC Radio 4, Blueprint, Benchpeg, Birmingham Mail, Ceramics Monthly, Ceramic Review, Christie’s Interiors, Crafts, Crafts Council, Culture24, Disegno,
Each year we host a number of Writers in Residence who provide critical and contextual responses to the programme through substantial commissioned writings published online. In 2017 these were James Gormley, Hatty Nestor and Tom Emery and the Writing and Media pages of our website received over 3000 views. You can read their writing at jerwoodvisualarts.org.

In London we run an events programme to accompany each exhibition, led by Lauren Houlton. In 2017 we ran 13 public events, including two offsite from Jerwood Space through the Jerwood/FVU Awards at the Cinema Museum and Royal College of Art. Event related content generated further plays or listens of over 6480 online.

We continued our programme of artist-led workshops with youth groups in Southwark led by Holly Graham, Gallery Assistant and Learning Coordinator, providing opportunities for young people to engage with the programme. Raju Rage worked with Bosco Centre; Patrick Hough with Hollington Youth Centre; Anna Bunting-Branch with Salmon Youth Centre; Juli Bolaños-Durman with Albrighton Community Centre Youth Club; Larry Achiampong with Bradford Youth Club; and Elisa Alaluusua and Christopher Fry led Jerwood Visual Arts’ The Big Draw event.
We presented exhibitions in 14 locations nationally

EXHIBITIONS IN 2017

Project Space:
Sohelia Sokhanvari, Paradise Lost
Jerwood Space, London
9 January – 13 May

Jerwood Solo Presentations
Anna Bunting-Branch, Imran Perretta,
Ben Burgis & Ksenia Pedan
Jerwood Space, London
18 January – 26 February

Jerwood/FVU Awards 2017:
Neither One Thing or Another
Patrick Hough, Lawrence Lek
Jerwood Space, London
22 March – 14 May
Firstsite, Colchester
2 October – 30 November (Lawrence Lek); 16 June – 30 July (Patrick Hough)
Screenings: CCA, Glasgow; HOME, Manchester; Phoenix, Leicester; Phoenix, Exeter; Tyneside Cinema, Newcastle; Arnolfini, Bristol; and FACT, Liverpool (April 2018)

Jerwood Staging Series
Laura Alhach, Louis Benassi, Katya Chitova, Rob Crosse, Alex Culshaw, Webb Ellis, Gareth Evans, Samuel Fouracre, Keira Greene, Faye Green, Lauren Houlton, Louisa Martin, Harry Meadley, Christian Nyampeta, Guy Oliver, Stanley Schtinter, Jessica Sarah Rinland, Irene Solà, Richard Whitby, Anita Wolska-Kaslow, Andrea Luka Zimmerman
Jerwood Space, London
25 May – 11 June

Jerwood Makers Open
Sam Bakewell, Juli Bolaños-Durman, Jessica Harrison, Marcín Rusak, Laura Youngson Coll
Jerwood Space, London
28 June – 27 August
New Brewery Arts Centre, Cirencester
15 September – 5 November, and continued to Devon Guild of Craftsmen, Bovey Tracey and Pier Arts Centre, Orkney in 2018

Jerwood Drawing Prize 2017
Gary Lawrence (First Prize)
Ana Mendes (Second Prize)
Jade Montserrat, Dejan Mrdja (Student Awards)
Barbara Walker (Evelyn Williams Drawing Award)
Jerwood Space, London
13 September – 22 October
East Gallery, Norwich 14 November – 20 January 2018 and The Edge, Bath University, Sidney Cooper Gallery, Canterbury Christchurch University and Vane Gallery, Newcastle

3-Phase
Larry Achiampong, Mark Essen, Nicola Singh
Jerwood Space, London
8 November – 10 December
with subsequent new presentations of work at Eastside Projects and WORKPLACE in 2018.

Keith Harrison’s Joyride, a Jerwood Open Forest commission
Cannock Chase Forest, Rugeley
30 September

Jerwood Drawing Prize 2016 continued
its tour to The Turnpike, Leigh and The Gallery, Arts University Bournemouth

Lawrence Lek, Geomancer, 2017. Commissioned for Jerwood/FVU Awards 2017: Neither One Thing or Another, supported by Jerwood Charitable Foundation and Film and Video Umbrella. Image: Anna Arca.

Jessica Harrison with her work 54 Pins, 44 Followers, 2017. Originally created for Jerwood Makers Open 2017, supported by Jerwood Charitable Foundation. Image: Hydar Dewachi

Jessica Harrison with her work 54 Pins, 44 Followers, 2017. Originally created for Jerwood Makers Open 2017, supported by Jerwood Charitable Foundation. Image: Hydar Dewachi

Lawrence Lek, Geomancer, 2017. Commissioned for Jerwood/FVU Awards 2017: Neither One Thing or Another, supported by Jerwood Charitable Foundation and Film and Video Umbrella. Image: Anna Arca.
Selected alumni of the programme include to date: Ed Atkins, Claire Barclay, David Blandy, Lucy Clout, Kate Cooper, Revital Cohen and Tuur Van Balen, Benedict Drew, Cécile B. Evans, The Grantchester Pottery, Keith Harrison, Emma Hart, Jasmine Johnstone, Nahoko Kojima, Dale Lewis, Taslim Martin, Nao Matsunaga, Clare Mitten, Joanna Piotrowska, Heather Phillipson, Elizabeth Price, Naheed Raza, James Rigler, Antonio Roberts, Semiconductor (Ruth Jarman and Joe Gerhardt), Katie Schwab, Susan Sluglett, Marianna Simnett, Corin Sworn, Clare Twomey and Bedwyr Williams

Selected panellists, curators and advisors we have worked with have included to date: Martin Barnes, Phyllida Barlow RA, Iwona Blazwick OBE, Paul Bonaventura, Duncan Campbell, Broomberg & Chanarin, Glenn Brown, Marcus Coates, Dan Coombs, Michael Craig-Martin RA, Dexter Dalwood, Siobhan Davies, Stephen Farthing RA, Deirdre Figueiredo MBE, Neville Gabie, Paul Hobson, Salima Hashmi, Skinder Hundal, Chantal Joffe RA, Grizedale Arts, Dan Harvey, Shama Khanna, Tania Kovats, Cliff Lawson, Jenni Lomax, Tim Marlow, Mali Morris RA, Fabian Peake, Emma Talbot, Amy Sherlock, Joy Sleeman, George Vasey, Rachel Whiteread CBE and Alison Wilding RA

The team
Shonagh Manson, Director, Jerwood Charitable Foundation (until Oct 2017)
Lilli Geissendorfer, Director, Jerwood Charitable Foundation (from Jan 2018)
Sarah Williams, Head of Programme
Oliver Fuke, Gallery Manager
Lauren Houlton, Exhibitions Assistant and Events Programmer
Holly Graham, Gallery Assistant and Learning Co-ordinator
James Murison, Gallery Technician
Parker Harris, Project Management support and press
Four Colman Getty, press support
Anna-Maria Pfab, press support
Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers.

www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org