

TYNE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE

NORTH EAST ARTIST COMMISSION

An Open Call for visual artists to create a mural on the wall in the 1867 Hall, Tyne Theatre & Opera House.

Tyne Theatre & Opera House has a blank wall as part of the newly developed 1867 Hall. We invite commissions from local independent artists to create a mural which reflects the heritage of our Victorian venue and the community that surrounds it.

The available space is *9ft x 9ft* square (image below). The artwork must be an original piece of art, with your idea responding to the theatre's unique heritage and place in the community.

As we envisage the space may be re-developed in the next few years, the mural will need to be painted onto a canvas or similar that will then be attached to the wall with batons, rather than painted directly onto the wall. It is likely that the mural will be in situ for approximately 2 years.

We would like the project to include two half-day open sessions with community participants. These could be research-based sessions or facilitated creative sessions. The community engagement aspect of the commission will take place at the venue (date to be agreed between the artist and TTOH) and supported by TTOH staff.

Timeline

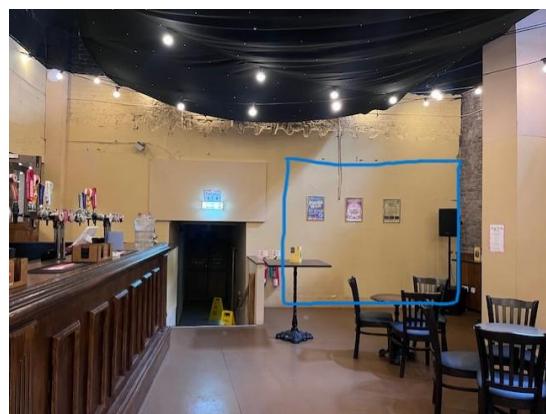
Work can be completed on the freelancer's own timeline but we would hope installation could take place during April 2026.

Fee

The fee for this work is £2100 to include preparation, materials and facilitation of the community sessions alongside completion of the Work. TTOH will cover preparation of the space including provision of the canvas, installation/destall, and support of the community sessions.

The space

Our 1867 Hall has recently been redeveloped and is now in use as a meeting space for local community groups, a rehearsal venue for Tyne Theatre Voices (our in-house community choir), Tyne Youth Company and an event space for creative workshops, as well being our main bar area for guests attending productions. The wall is directly opposite the entrance from the 1867 Café.



Applications

Applications should be equivalent to 1 side of A4 in total or a maximum 2-minute audio/video recording, and include:

- A brief artist biog including links to your previous work or webpage that support your application.
- An outline of your proposal including any separate project stages. Please make sure this includes information on the community session and how your proposed mural reflects the heritage/community brief.

Please note that we are inviting applications from North East based artists only.

Applications should be submitted by email to rachel.snappe@ttoh.uk by Friday 13 February 2026.

About Us

Tyne Theatre & Opera House is a Grade I listed theatre, built in 1867 by industrialist and politician Joseph Cowen who envisioned 'a Theatre for the People' in the West End of Newcastle. Over 150 years later, this remains at the heart of our ethos with a varied programme of events offering something for everybody. We are an independent not-for-profit venue and a registered charity, with all profits going back into the maintenance and preservation of the building for the benefit of future generations. We are also the proud owners of one of the only surviving examples of Victorian modular stage machinery which was filmed for BBC's 'The Repair Shop on the Road' in February 2025. You can find out more about our history and heritage by visiting <https://www.tynetheatreandoperahouse.uk/history-heritage/>

This commission is Supported by Creative Central NCL