

# **PE2030/H: Review cultural funding arrangements to enable Scotland to contribute to the Venice Biennale in 2024**

## **Creative Scotland written submission, 14 June 2024**

Scotland+Venice is delivered through a strategic partnership of Creative Scotland, British Council Scotland, National Galleries Scotland (NGS), Architecture & Design Scotland (A&DS), V&A Dundee and the Scottish Government. Each organisation has a representative on the Scotland+Venice Partnership Board, which is chaired by Creative Scotland.

Established in 2003, [Scotland+Venice has presented 20 projects at the Biennales for Contemporary Art and Architecture.](#)

In early 2023 the Scotland+Venice Partners agreed to pause the Scotland+Venice project in 2024 and 2025 to allow for a period of reflection and review. Information on the decision was issued to stakeholders and press at the time.

In the current financial, planning and policy environment it felt necessary to review the current model of delivery, and to consider the project's position within the wider scope of international opportunities available to Scotland's art and architecture communities.

A Review is underway and is looking at the effectiveness of the current approach and alternative models for the future. It is considering the changing landscape for international cultural events and the need to achieve a pathway to Net Zero. The Review is being carried out by Culture Radar who are consulting widely with the art and architecture sectors.

The Review is considering a range of options, including returning to presenting from 2026, the cessation of the Scotland + Venice project, occasional rather than regular participation and a range of venue models. The findings of the Review will be shared with stakeholders later this summer and will be made available to the public. The Partners will consider the findings and future options and communicate agreed next steps in due course.

Despite the pause in the Scotland+Venice project the Partner organisations have continued work to identify opportunities for artists, curators, and producers to engage with the Biennale in 2024. We have secured Scottish participation in the Professional Development Programme offered by the British Council Fellowship in Venice. The Scottish Contemporary Art Network (SCAN), Glasgow School of Art, and St Andrews University are partners in this programme. We have also offered opportunities to attend the Biennale through the Scotland+Venice Travel Grant awardees, with a focus on encouraging a diversity of engagement.