

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS:**

# **‘No Frost at Night’**

**An upcoming exhibition at the Babylon Gallery**

**Babylon Young Curator Sid White-Jones is seeking proposals from East-Anglian based artists and creative practitioners for five new commissions that respond to source material from 'The Soham Weather Diaries' archive.**

The new work will be shown at the upcoming contemporary arts exhibition ‘No Frost at Night’. The exhibition will form part of Babylon ARTS’ 2021 gallery programme, open to the public from 12<sup>th</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> April at the Babylon Gallery.

Five selected artists will be commissioned to create new work in response to a single weather diary from 1963, sourced from a collection of archival records known as ‘The Soham Weather Diaries’ which are currently held within the care of Heritage for All CIC.

‘The Soham Weather Diaries’ are a series of handwritten journals which span from December 1962 – February 2018. Within each diary is a daily temperature reading and a personal observation on the way the weather both felt and looked in the town of Soham, Cambridgeshire on each recorded day. The diary’s author, Betty Mann, was a lifelong resident of Soham

who took these readings right up until her death on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

‘No Frost at Night’ will be curated by Sid White-Jones during his time on the Babylon Young Curators programme.

*“The exhibition will present audiences with ideas on how archival materials can be utilised within the context of contemporary art. ‘The Soham Weather Diaries’ are a wonderfully eclectic source of inspiration, each a unique time-capsule in its own right. I believe that this single weather diary from 1963 will provide a wealth of inspiration for artists and creative practitioners and hope that submitted proposals will offer unique and inventive interpretations of Betty Mann’s weather records.”*

- Sid White-Jones, October 2020.

The invitation to apply is open to both established and emerging East-Anglian based creative practitioners over the age of 18, including (but not limited to) artists, creators, designers, makers, performers and writers.

## Full details

<b>Exhibition dates &amp; location</b>	‘No Frost at Night’ will be held at the Babylon Gallery, Waterside, Ely, CB7 4AU.
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	<p>The exhibition will open to the public from 12<sup>th</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021.</p> <p>The five selected commissions must be completed by 28<sup>th</sup> February and available from 6<sup>th</sup> March – 6<sup>th</sup> April.</p>
<p><b>Experience &amp; requirements</b></p>	<p>Applications are open to any artists and creative practitioners over the age of 18 with a keen interest in responding to archival source material; whether they are an emerging artist, an established artist or somewhere in-between.</p> <p>Submitting practitioners must either reside in East-Anglia or have a strong connection to the area.</p> <p>We will be looking for proposals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond in an engaging and inventive way.</li> <li>• Engage with Betty Mann’s 1963 weather diary or the themes that it presents such as; the weather, the East-Anglian big freeze, data entry, the passing of time and legacy.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Commission fee</b></p>	<p>We aim to offer five commissions of £500 each.</p> <p>The commission fee is the total amount available, covering all production costs, VAT costs (if relevant), artists fees and expenses.</p>
<p><b>Deadline for proposals</b></p>	<p>All proposals must be submitted by Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 5pm.</p> <p>We may not be able to consider late entries so if submitting by post, please make sure you send your proposal in ahead of time to ensure it reaches us before the deadline.</p>
<p><b>Selection process</b></p>	<p>Sid White-Jones, Babylon Young Curator, will curate the exhibition and select five proposals that work well together to form the exhibition. Sid is supported by a project advisory group.</p> <p>All applicants will be notified on the outcome of their application by 23<sup>rd</sup> December. We are unable to offer individual feedback on applications.</p>

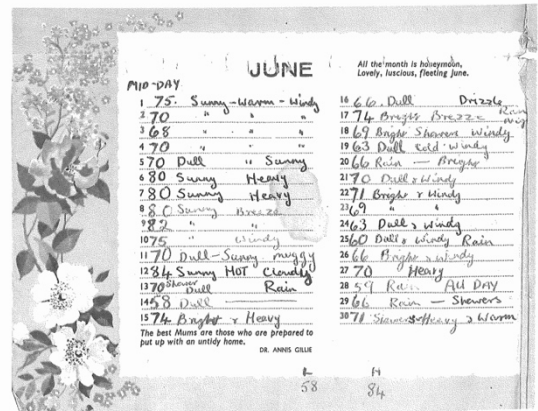
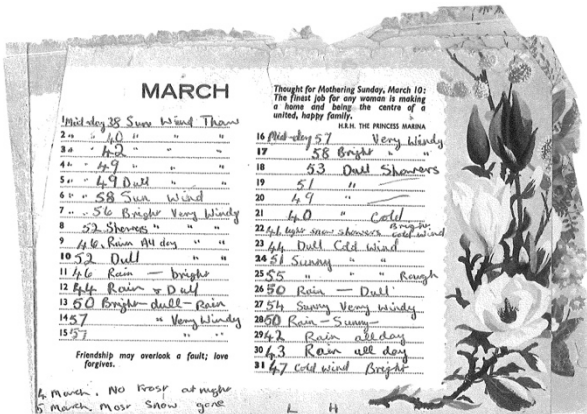
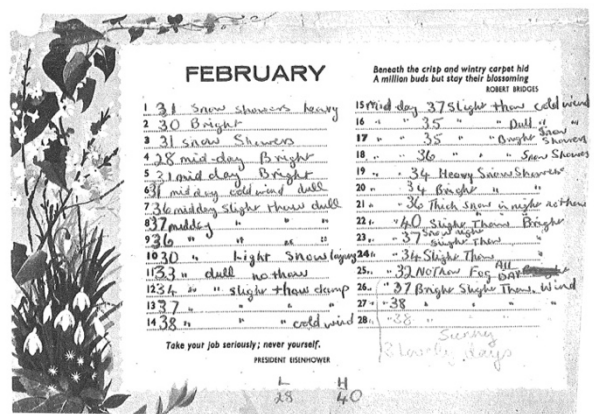
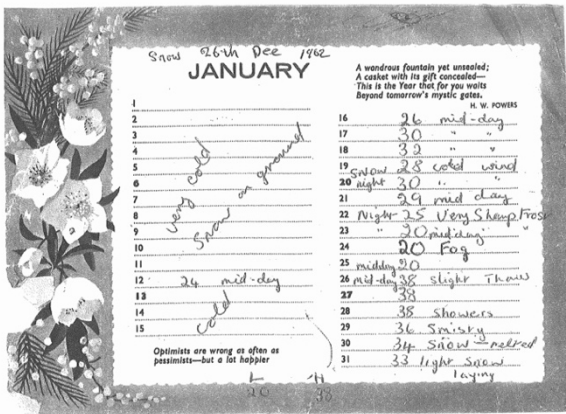
	<p>Sid will liaise with successful applicants in early January to confirm all details and terms of the commission.</p>
<p><b>Timetable</b></p>	<p>Deadline for proposals: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 5pm.</p> <p>All applicants notified on the outcome of their application: 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020.</p> <p>Successful applicants contacted regarding contracts and terms: Early January 2021.</p> <p>Deadline for completed commissions: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021.</p> <p>Exhibition dates: 12<sup>th</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021.</p>

## Source Material

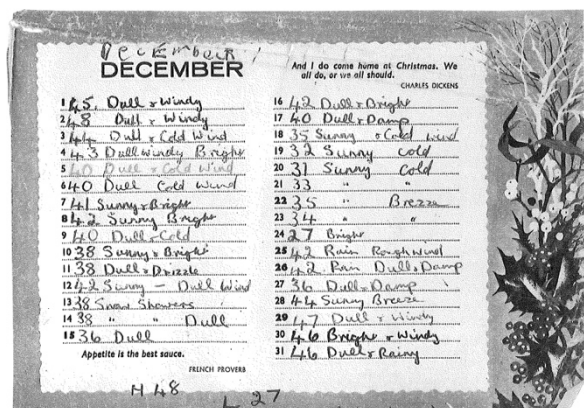
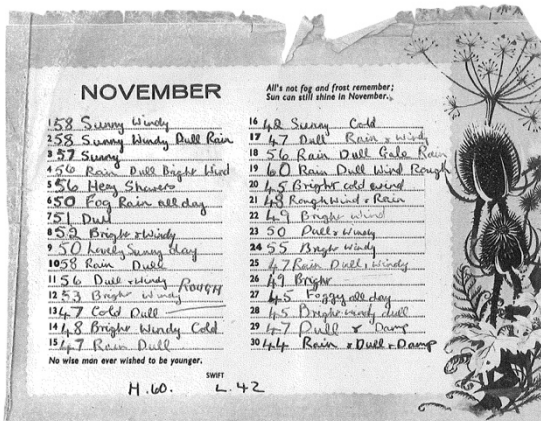
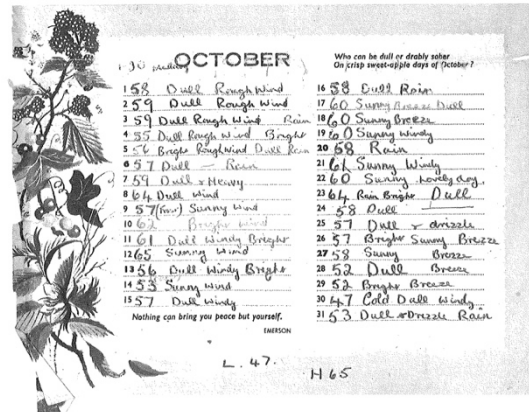
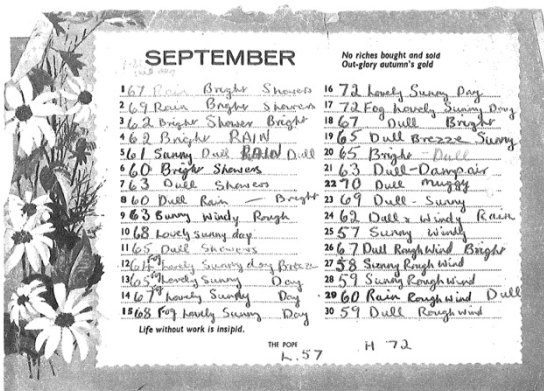
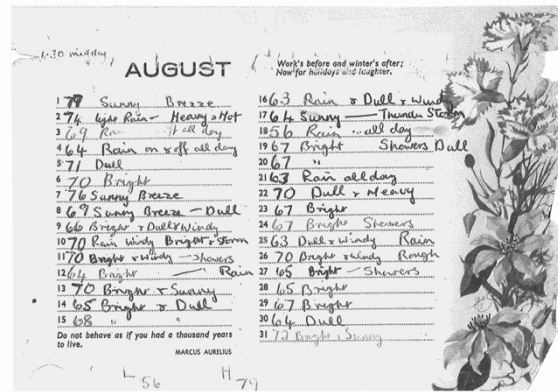
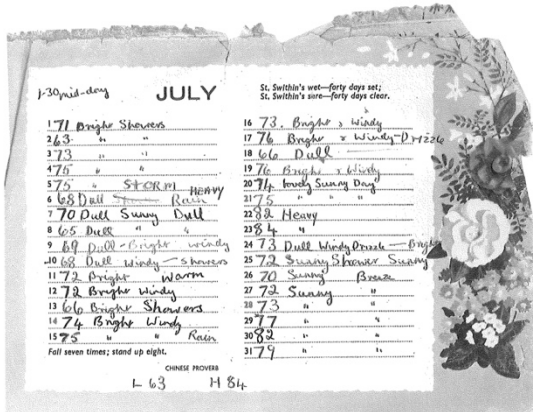
Heritage for All CIC have extensive experience in preserving history and have digitised every entry from Betty Mann's 1963 weather diary, all of which can be seen in the twelve images below.

# Babylon ARTS

Within their proposals, artists and creative practitioners are invited to explore and engage with Betty Mann's 1963 weather diary or the themes that it presents such as; the weather, the East-Anglian big freeze, data entry, the passing of time and legacy.



# Babylon ARTS



These images have been re-sized for online viewing. To see or download HQ versions please visit this Google Drive link - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KhaRyPQ03JnEaeoISPV4iAmFzsVL9joY?usp=sharing>

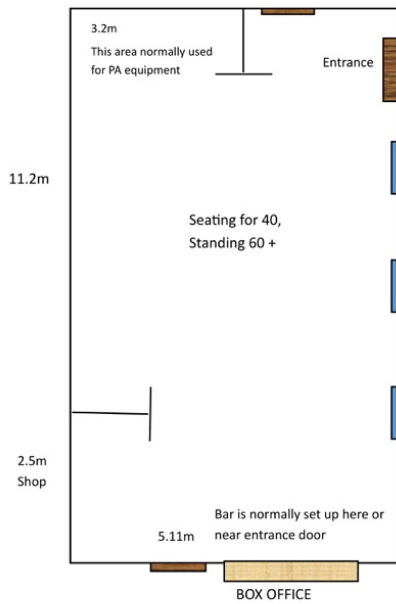
## **Babylon Gallery exhibition space**

Below is a basic floorplan of the exhibition space at Babylon Gallery, as well as images of the space. It may be helpful for submitting artists and creative practitioners to consider this space as we ask you to give an indication of the size and space needed for your proposed work in the application form.

The gallery has access to:

- Track lighting throughout the gallery space.
- Plinths.
- A projector.
- Large portable screen (approx. 3m x 2.5m).
- DVD/Blu-ray player with integrated surround sound speaker system.
- 2 x handheld mics and mic stands.
- 1 amp/speaker that connects directly to mics or other sound system.
- A Yamaha Stagepas 400i portable PA system with two speakers.
- A wall mounted TV.
- A free-standing TV.





## How to Apply

Online applications are invited through Zealous, a submissions platform which connects organisers and creative candidates.

To apply online please visit:

If you would like a paper or electronic version of the application form, please contact:

Sid White-Jones

[sid.white-jones@babylonarts.org.uk](mailto:sid.white-jones@babylonarts.org.uk)

Babylon Gallery, Waterside, Ely, CB7 4AU.

To find out more about Babylon Arts please visit [www.babylonarts.org.uk](http://www.babylonarts.org.uk). If you would like to discuss this opportunity or your individual proposal before applying please contact Sid White Jones by email at - [sid.white-jones@babylonarts.org.uk](mailto:sid.white-jones@babylonarts.org.uk) or by Instagram at - [@sidwhitejones](https://www.instagram.com/sidwhitejones).

Deadline for applications: Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 5pm.

We look forward to seeing your proposals.

**Please note that due to the unprecedented time, in relation to Covid-19 pandemic, the date and duration of this exhibition is subject to government and local authority guidance and our own risk mitigation policies. Every effort will be made to deliver this exhibition safely and enjoyably for all artists, visitors, volunteers and staff; however, we reserve the right to make changes, cancel or postpone this exhibition without notice. Submitting artists and creative practitioners will be notified of any changes as soon as possible.**

# Babylon ARTS

**Babylon**  
YOUNG CURATORS



Supported using public funding by

**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

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