

Applying to MFA

Guidelines for Applicants

(see also <http://application.gsa.ac.uk>
for guidance on uploading your
portfolio)

Application Form

- Your application will be forwarded to assessors when you have submitted
 - A completed postgraduate application form
 - A personal statement
 - A portfolio

Additional Information

- In addition you will also need to submit
 - Evidence of academic qualifications
 - Two academic references
 - Evidence of English language ability (IELTS) if applicable
 - A copy of your passport (if applicable)
 - We would prefer if you sent all this information with the application form, personal statement and portfolio

Personal Statement Guide

Your personal statement (approx 500 words) should be a concise, critical, self-evaluation of your artwork, giving a clear sense of the key areas that your work explores, how you see your work developing in the future and how that relates to your application to the MFA programme at GSA. The statement should demonstrate that you have researched the programme and indicate the reasons why you think it would be best suited to the future development of your practice.

Portfolio Guide (Form)

- 25 images in jpg format, max 200kb per image.
- For larger files (e.g. Video) use of a file-sharing site may be necessary (ensure this does not expire before the assessment dates) Maximum duration of any video or sound files should not exceed 3 minutes each.
- If you wish to submit a link to a website you may do so, *in addition* to submitting a portfolio. A website link is not sufficient on its own.
- Select good quality images that present your work to its best effect.

Portfolio Guide (Content)

- In addition to images of your work you should also submit an image list with your application that provides information on individual works, such as the titles, dates, dimensions, materials, etc.
- If you choose to include details of work, these details will be counted as part of your overall total of 25 images. Images of details of work should be clearly labelled as such.

Portfolio Guide (Content) contd.

- You may include early work, but you are encouraged to focus on recent work made during the last 3 years
- It is helpful to present your images in chronological order, beginning with the earliest

Assessment Criteria

Application Form and Portfolio

Criteria

- (1) Academic Qualifications/ Relevant experience (normally the equivalent in of a 2(i) degree in Fine Art)
- (2) Range of relevant skills
- (3) Potential for development within the MFA programme
- (4) Evidence of a critical understanding in relation to your work, its contexts and its ambitions

Where these criteria are demonstrated

- (1) Application Form
- (2) Application Form and Portfolio
- (3) Portfolio and Personal Statement
- (4) Personal Statement

Assessment Criteria

Interview

Criteria

- Breadth of interests and quality of research
- Ability to discuss your work
- Capacity for self-criticality in relation to your work and its ambitions
- Awareness of contemporary art and other relevant contexts for your practice
- Capacity for independent thought and action
- Critical awareness of the potential for development in your work