



# SIGNALS

Funders:



supported using public funds by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**THE ROGER  
DE HAAN  
CHARITABLE TRUST**



**folkestone  
fringe**

Business Sponsorship:



**Sean Davey**  
ELECTRICAL  
design • installation • maintenance

# OPEN-CALL

## **Context of the project:**

*As a natural bay, Folkestone has a long history of seafaring and a rich maritime heritage. Amongst the many challenges sailors and fisherman faced in the very busy and dangerous English channel, communicating at sea has always presented a challenge. Long distances, different languages and rough seas meant that visual signals quickly became the preferred method of communication.*

*Nautical flag messaging can be traced back to the middle of the 17th century, however, it took until 1817 for the system of flags we recognise today to emerge. Over the years, many other maritime codes were published that attempted to improve upon its predecessors, but all of these attempts were finally replaced by the British Board of Trade's Commercial Code of Signals, issued in 1857. The early stages of the covid-19 era saw new forms of remote communication flourish at a time when one third of the planet's population was forced into lockdown. Communities on a local and national scale came together to bang pots in gratitude, perform on balconies and place crafted posters and messages in windows for the world to see.*

*Signals is a message using international maritime flags as a regenerated form of visual communication that celebrates Folkestone's rich maritime culture whilst encouraging communities to come together again to engage in new forms of communication.*

## **What we're looking for:**

We're looking for 4 local artists that would like to communicate a message to Folkestone, as part of our 2021 project 'Signals'. This could be a response to Folkestone's heritage; sense of community; Folkestone's revival; its new found creative identity; your own experience with the town/community etc. Your creations will then be hung as part of a street installation in Folkestone from mid-October.

## **The outcome:**

3ft x 5ft 'Flag'. The outcome can be made using practical materials or submitted as a digital piece that would be printed. Please bear in mind that your flags could be weathered slightly from being hung outside. **Deadline: 12th October 2021.**

To submit, email [molly.jones018@gmail.com](mailto:molly.jones018@gmail.com).