

# External Artwork Competition

## St Rollox Church of Scotland

Sighthill, Glasgow

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## INTRODUCTION

#### Sighthill

Sighthill is an area lying to the north of Glasgow City Centre. Historically it hosted Charles Tennant's Chemical Works and industries related to the Railways e.g. St Rollox Carriage and Wagon works. In the 1960s the Sighthill Housing scheme came into existence. Sighthill was characterized by its Multi-storey flats and council housing with many of the problems one would expect to find in an area of multiple deprivation. There has always been a sense of community in Sighthill, which despite demolition of old housing stock and dispersal of its residents to other parts of the city, somehow seems to be retained. St Rollox Church of Scotland, has been one of the constant factors in the changing landscape of Sighthill and its witness into the area has provided a place of faith, support and welcome to the community.

Sighthill is one of 8 Transformational Regeneration Areas within the city of Glasgow and a £250 million masterplan has been developed for Sighthill. More information can be found at this link: Sighthill Regeneration Information It is currently the second largest area of Regeneration in the UK. As part of the masterplan, to make way for a new access road, St Rollox Church of Scotland has been subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order and as a result a new purpose-built Church centre has been designed and will be built. The new building will be located on Fountainwell Road, further into the scheme approximately 400 metres from the existing building.



#### St Rollox Church of Scotland

The congregation of St Rollox has served the parish and community of North Glasgow since 1855. It has met in schools and purpose-built church buildings over the years and is now preparing to move into its next new building.

For many years now St Rollox has had a particular ministry to asylum seekers and refugees coming into Glasgow. It runs an outreach project, staffed by many volunteers, to these and others who may be isolated and or needing help with English as a second language. Support is provided to those who have been made destitute as a result of government policy and other who have been caught up in sanctions affecting their access to universal credit or other benefits. The church is a hive of activity and there are always people from many different nations to be found at St Rollox. It is known as a place of welcome, where people are listened to and valued for who they are. Relationships are built up and friendships are made. All of this happens because of our Christian belief that God calls us to demonstrate his love to those around us.



The congregation itself, meeting to worship on Sundays is very diverse. We are the most ethnically diverse congregation in the whole of the Church of Scotland. Our members are a mix of local folk from Sighthill, some who have lived there all their lives and a larger number who have come to Glasgow from different

countries across our world. On any given Sunday we can have people from around 20

different countries regularly worshipping together. All of whom have found a welcome at St Rollox and have made it their spiritual home. This brings a rich spiritual and cultural mix to our life together as a family of God. We are also a young congregation in that almost all of our members are of working age and we have many children and teenagers as well. We have been described recently as a Church of the World.

We are the most ethnically diverse congregation in the whole of the Church of Scotland.

Together we seek to grow in our faith in Jesus and to live that faith out in our daily lives. We're not perfect - but we have a God who is and who loves us enough to help us become more like him in our attitudes and actions as his Holy Spirit works within us. Prayer is at the heart of all that we do, because we depend on God's strength and guidance, not our own. Jesus came into the world to offer us life in all its fullness and as Christians, we believe that fullness of life is only found in Jesus and so we do what we can to enable others to experience this abundant life.



Jesus said: I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full

## **ARTWORK**

In order to satisfy a planning condition to the "gable wall" on the sanctuary side of the new church building, it has been agreed to commission a piece of public art that will, in the form of a sculpture/relief, be affixed to said wall.

#### THEME

The artwork will add architectural interest to the gable and should itself reflect something of the nature and mission of the congregation of St Rollox

Church of Scotland

or a Biblical theme that will speak to those within and outwith the church. There is an aspiration that a motif from the artwork could also appear elsewhere on the "The artwork should reflect the nature and mission of St Rollox or a Biblical theme"

exterior of the building. Consideration should therefore be given to how the artwork might be integrated into the visual expression and identity of the building.

This significant commission will be a focal point within the whole regeneration area of Sighthill and a major contribution to the public art provision within the new community. Glasgow City Council have asked that the new church be a landmark and iconic building in the new area. The artwork will be a visible reference point that signifies the church as a physical landmark.

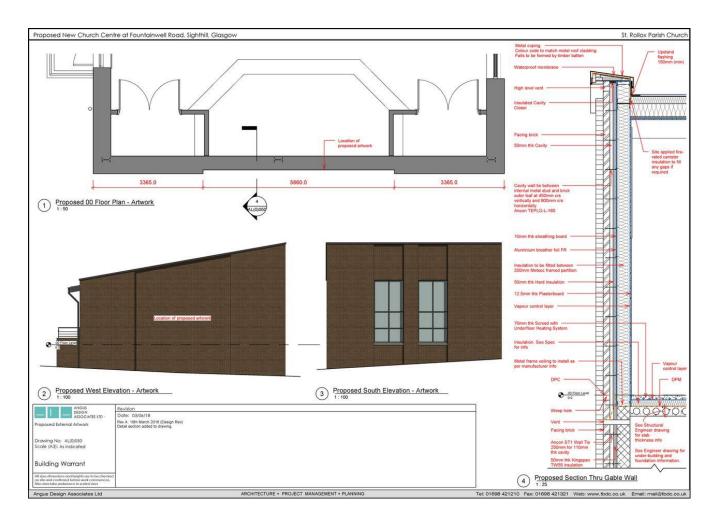
We are therefore inviting visual artists to conceptualize and produce an artwork that will easily lend itself to being viewed as a compellingly appealing creation. It will be a statement piece whose appeal should defy the passing of time. Another important aspect is that the artwork itself should be the subject of minimum future maintenance, be suitably robust for an external location and resistant to vandalism and other forms of damage.

Once an artist has been appointed he/she will be responsible for fabrication, transportation to site and installation whether undertaken themselves or by a third party specialist contracted by the artist. The artist (and any third party contractor) should have appropriate Public Liability Insurance and Professional Indemnity Insurance [e.g. that offered through a-n Artists' Network [https://www.a-n.co.uk/about/insurance].

# **TECHNICAL DETAILS**

### Information regarding siting of artwork

The artwork will be situated on the external back wall of the sanctuary with the relief coming around the corner to the long wall, which will face the new housing already in place on Fountainwell Road.



The brick chosen for the new building is Stamford Buff.

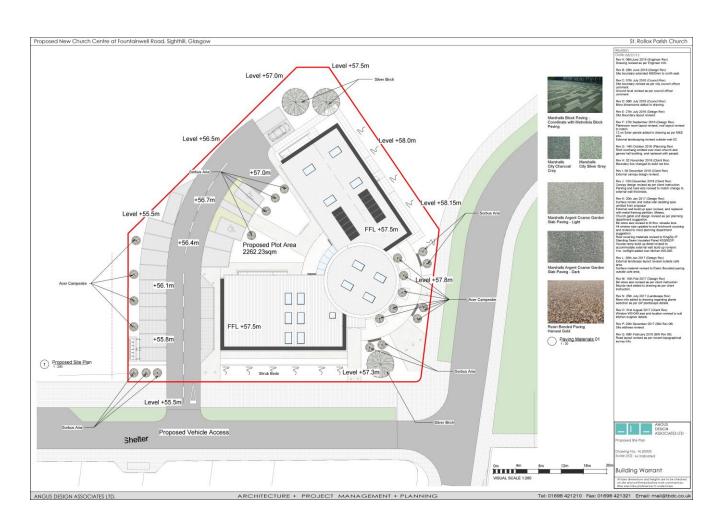
An example of Stamford Buff Brick



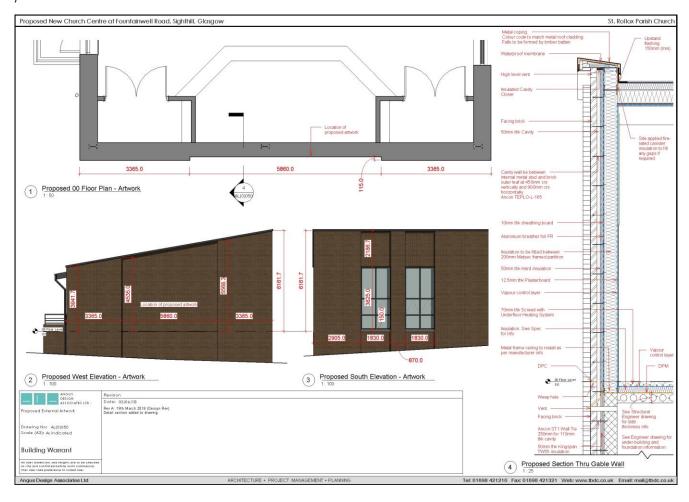


#### **Budget**

The overall budget for the commission is £45,000. This sum will include the artist's fee, fabrication, transport and installation.



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## **TIMEFRAME**

#### Timeline of competition

Entries will be accepted until the 24th May at 5pm.

25<sup>th</sup> May: Entries will be sent to jury.

27<sup>th</sup> May: 10<sup>th</sup> June: Congregation will review entries and express any preferences 13<sup>th</sup> June: Jury will meet to shortlist 3 artists, notifying them of next stage

24th June, 1st and 8th July: Shortlisted artists invited to meet with the congregation, gain an

understanding of who they are, what is important to them and

shape their entries to reflect this interaction. Each artist will have a

four week window from their meeting with the congregation in

which to submit a final design

25<sup>th</sup> June - 6<sup>th</sup> August: Shortlisted entries are submitted

7<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> August: Shortlisted entries reviewed by congregation

29th August: Jury meets with shortlisted artists and makes its decision

Thereafter the artist's contract will be issued on proof of PLI and PII cover.

Artists who are shortlisted and invited to meet with the congregation will be awarded a sum of £600 in order to work up a final design and present it to the jury at interview.

The overall budget for the commission is £45,000. This sum will include the artist's fee, fabrication, transport and installation.

It is envisaged that the artwork would need to be completed by March 2019 and ready for installation in April 2019. (These dates are still to be confirmed.)

Enquiries may be addressed to the Rev. Jane Howitt

Email: JHowitt@churchofscotland.org.uk

Tel: 0141 581 0050

Mobile: 07415 639 366

## **ENTRY GUIDELINES**

Entries will be accepted from artists based in Scotland. (Entries will not be accepted from students excepting those working at PhD level or above and who have an already recognized portfolio of work.)

#### Appointment procedure:

If you would like to be considered for this commission please send the following:

- A CV
- Up to 10 images of your work/most recent projects
- On no more than 2 sides of A4, an artist's statement and an 'expression of interest' in this project detailing the appeal of this commission to you and your potential approach to it. You might include notes on process and engagement, materials, relation to practice

  "Entries must be submitted by 5pm on

24th May 2018"

as it already exists

- Your full contact details, including website and links etc.
- · Response to the above time scale and budget
- Details of two referees familiar with your work and with whom you would be happy for us to get in touch

#### Shortlisted artists

Selected artists will be invited to join the congregation at Sunday worship, meet with them afterwards to lead a short workshop for a mutual sharing of ideas that might then inform the final commission. Each artist will then have a four-week period in which to develop a final proposal and submit that to the jury for consideration. Each artist will also be interviewed by the jury before the commission is awarded.

Entries should be emailed to

<u>JHowitt@churchofscotland.org.uk</u>

or posted to the Rev. Jane Howitt, St Rollox Church of
Scotland, 9 Fountainwell Road, G21 9TN

# THE JURY

Members of the jury will make a final decision as to who is awarded the commission. They will have received feedback from the congregation on the shortlisted artists' proposals and they will also meet with the shortlisted artists before making their decision.

Amongst others, the jury will include representatives from the following: St Rollox Church of Scotland The Church of Scotland Glasgow City Council

# **USEFUL LINKS**

St Rollox Church of Scotland <u>www.strollox.co.uk</u>

Herald Article <u>Herald Article St Rollox</u>

Flythrough New Build <u>St Rollox Flythrough</u>

St Rollox Community Outreach <u>www.strolloxcommunityoutreach.com</u>

The Church of Scotland <u>www.churchofscotland.org.uk</u>

Sighthill Regeneration Area <a href="https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18395">www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18395</a>

Sighthill Building Futures Sighthill Building Futures

A-N Artists' Network <u>www.a-n.co.uk/network</u>