



RADIANT CIRCUS

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Poplar Dock Marina
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BRIEF:

WunderKammer / Volume 1

Theme: CRISIS?

Fee: £85

Announcement: 13/07/2021

Pitch Deadline: 22/07/2021 at 17:00

Commissions Confirmed: 28/07/2021

Submission Deadline: 18/08/2021 at 17:00

Publication/Payment: Mid-September 2021

WUNDERKAMMER

WunderKammer is a new showcase for alternative screen culture, curated by RADIANT CIRCUS.

WunderKammer will look beyond the production of moving pictures to expose their 'afterlife', peering behind the curtain to reveal more about the people, projects and places that show, share and celebrate film.

Through a connected series of live events, content commissions and printed zines, our aim is to inspire further creative appreciation of film content. We also want to provide valuable networking opportunities for London's promoters and producers of alternative screen culture. You never know, we might even project a movie or two...

BACKGROUND

RADIANT CIRCUS is established as a film listings site dedicated to helping Londoners find great things to do in the dark. Film London called us "the home of alternative screen culture in London" and @Alpember said our regular event listings were "the absolute sh*t".

We now want to embark on a process of commissioning more considered content that will endure beyond the listings cycle. We also want to help promoters and producers of alternative screen culture connect and create.

WunderKammer will develop across three interconnected activities:

- A live event series to showcase significant work and enable new creative connections
- Commissioned content for web and print to examine key themes, ideas or issues
- Occasional printed zines to preserve and promote what might otherwise be lost.

VOLUME 1 / CRISIS?

We're getting started with some paid content commissions in response to the theme of CRISIS?

We're looking for insider case study accounts of the emergency cinema and screen culture that was created by Londoners during the cinema shutdown. If you took your venue or film club online, kickstarted a streaming community, engaged your audience on social media or simply got behind a # as an audience activist, we'd love to hear from you. What happened, what was it like, what was lost, and what was found?

We're particularly interested in capturing the *shared audience experience* of online screen events, because that is the thing that so often gets lost. What did this emergency online cinema *feel* like as a communal experience, what made it social, how did audiences engage and interact, what did they love, and what did they ignore?

To sum it all up, we'd like you to consider a simple question: *Was the cinema shutdown a crisis or a renewal?*

COMMISSIONS

We want to commission 6-8 pieces that respond to our theme. The final pieces will be published online at radiantcircus.com and in our first zine which will be launched at the first WunderKammer Live event in September as part of Leytonstone Loves Film 2021 (15 to 19 September).

For each commissioned piece RADIANT CIRCUS will pay £85 inclusive of all fees and taxes. You will retain ownership of your work by granting RADIANT CIRCUS an exclusive 6 month license to publish it first (in print and online). Payment will be made following initial publication (mid September for Volume 1 – date TBC).

Volume 1 is funded entirely by our monthly subscribers at Patreon. All proceeds from sales of Volume 1 will go to our RADIANT CIRCUS Revive The Dark Exhibitor Fund to sponsor DIY film events across Greater London.

We're only looking for pitches that originate from London in this call. We understand that responses to the pandemic may have involved global collabs, but RADIANT CIRCUS exists to promote alternative screen culture in the capital, and the people that make it happen, so it's important that's where these pieces start from.

We estimate final submissions will be between 1,000 and 1,500 words in length, but we welcome other ways of telling your story (e.g. in social media posts, illustrations, or screen grabs). As long as we can get your submission into a printed zine, we'll leave the creative angle to you...

HOW TO RESPOND

Email a short pitch in response to this creative brief by 22 July 2021 at 17:00.

All you need do is give us a short description of your work/experience and the piece you would like to create. Include links to other examples of your work. Please only submit one pitch in response to this brief.

We will select and confirm commissions from these pitches by 28 July 2021.

Final/completed pieces should then be submitted by email by 18 August 2021 at 17:00.

We will then produce a printed zine in time for our first live event as part of Leytonstone Loves Film (15 to 19 September 2021 – event date TBC). You'll get a copy! Payment will be made in full following initial publication.

SMALL PRINT: We have a 'pay what we can' policy based on available funds for each project. Briefs/fees may therefore vary from project to project. We'll be as transparent as we can be. We have no obligation to pay for pieces that are not of a publishable standard or are submitted after our deadlines... It goes without saying, but please make sure your submission is your own work or you have the right permissions to include other people's content (including fair use reasons). Please understand, due to limited capacity, we won't be able to provide feedback on unsuccessful pitches on this occasion, but we are incredibly grateful for all your time taken to consider creating with us.

EMAIL US

If you have any questions about this brief, please get in touch (email is best): barker@radiantcircus.com.

Please email your pitch/finished piece to this address by the relevant deadline!

COMING SOON: VOLUME 2 / REVIVE THE DARK

We will soon be inviting pitches for our second WunderKammer volume around the theme REVIVE THE DARK.

If CRISIS? is asking 'what happened?', REVIVE THE DARK will ask 'what happens next?'. We will be looking to commission considered pieces about the development of distinctive DIY cinema for diverse audiences and the revival of cinema as a shared social experience. These pieces will be c2,500 words and will attract a fee of c£225. You can be commissioned for content in both Volume 1 and Volume 2, but we will only commission one piece per contributor per volume. Volume 2 and the first WunderKammer Live event in September will be supported by Barbican Centre as part of Leytonstone Loves Film 2021.

POWERED BY OUR SUBSCRIBERS AT PATREON

Everything we do is powered by our monthly subscribers at Patreon (the membership platform for content creators). For a small monthly sub, subscribers are helping us create the most comprehensive listings guide to London's alternative cinema scene and a range of projects that promote and preserve alternative screen culture.

WunderKammer is part of our **Revive The Dark** initiative which now directs 40% of our monthly fee revenue to sponsoring DIY film events across the capital. Find out more and join us at patreon.com/radiantcircus.

/ENDS