



How selection for CPA fairs works

We're often asked how selection works across our three fairs - [Ceramic Art London](#), [York Ceramics Fair](#) and [Oxford Ceramics Fair](#). This note sets out the process as clearly as possible.

The overall approach

- All three fairs are curated through a selection process. The aim is to ensure a high-quality, varied and engaging mix of work for visitors, while supporting a wide range of ceramic practices.
- Selection is based on the quality of the work, not on previous participation, profile or seniority.

Who can apply

- [Selected, Fellow and Honorary Members](#) can apply to all three fairs
- Associate Members can apply to all three fairs, including shared stand options at Oxford and York
- Ceramic Art London is also open to non-members from the UK and internationally

For Ceramic Art London, Selected, Fellow & Honorary Members receive a discounted stand fee and are prioritised in early promotional activity.

How applications are assessed

Applications are reviewed by a selection panel. Panels typically include a mix of:

- [CPA Council](#) or committee members
- Independent experts such as curators, academics or writers

All applications are assessed against the same core criteria:

- Quality and originality of work
- Strength and coherence of the body of work
- Clarity of presentation (images and supporting information)
- Evidence of an active and developing practice
- Panels also consider the overall balance of the fair, including a mix of styles, disciplines and career stages.

The application itself

Applicants are typically asked to provide:

- A set of high-quality images of recent work
- A short statement about their practice
- Basic contextual information (for example scale of work)

Images are particularly important, as they are the primary basis on which applications are assessed. They should be clear, well-lit and focused on the work itself.

Selection outcomes

- Decisions are based on panel scoring and discussion.
- Demand for places exceeds availability at all three fairs, so we are not able to offer places to all applicants who meet the standard.
- Not being selected one year does not affect future applications.
- To support a balanced and varied fair over time, exhibitors may be rested periodically at the discretion of the organisers and selection panels.
- **In summary**
- Selection is competitive and based on the work
- Panels aim to create a strong, varied and balanced fair
- Clear, well-presented applications make a real difference

We hope this helps demystify the process. If you're thinking of applying, we strongly encourage you to do so.