We are now inviting applications for our new **FTP Cohort** artist development programme.  
  
**FTP Cohort** is a new artist development programme at Phoenix. Our art programme explores the creative and cultural impact of new media and technologies, offering new, inventive artistic experiences and fresh ways of thinking about our rapidly changing world.

A monthly series of talks, delivered by artists working in or with links to the East Midlands will explore different technologies, strategies and issues related to digital-based art practices.

Each talk will focus on a particular tool, piece of software or process used by the artist. Participants will be encouraged to experiment with this through beginner exercises and project ideas.

Participants will be invited to join discussion groups and meetups in between the artist talks, encouraging peer-to-peer development.

Participants do not need a background in digital arts, simply a willing to engage critically with digital issues and media.

Where possible sessions will be held in person at Phoenix. If this isn’t possible, we will continue to facilitate sessions online.

**FTP Cohort** will also offer exhibition opportunities and support the development of funding applications with match funding/production budget available toward the end of the programme.

We particularly encourage applications from artists who identify as part of groups underrepresented in the creative and cultural fields.

**FTP Cohort** will run from April 2021 through to October 2021.

FTP is an acronym for File Transfer Protocol. This is a standard Internet protocol used to transmit and exchange large amounts of data and information over a network. We chose this as a name to represent our ambitions for creating a network of artists sharing information and ideas.  
  
**How to apply**Please send a short statement or video (250 words / 2 minutes) expressing why you want to join FTP Cohort and what you’d like to get from it, using this form:

[Application Form](https://forms.gle/8cHy55bp22fEHyWt9)

#### You will also be asked to complete our Equal Opportunities Monitoring form which is anonymous and will not be used in the selection process. Application Criteria

-This opportunity is primarily for Leicester/shire based artists, but we are accepting applications from anyone based in the East Midlands.  
-This opportunity is open to all ages 18+ and all experience levels.  
-We aim to facilitate a peer-to-peer learning environment, accessible to everyone. If you have specific access requirements, please let us know.  
-For online sessions we will most likely be using Zoom.  
-We will focus on using tools that are free and open-source (FOSS).

**What is included?**

-Monthly meetups with a range of speakers.  
-Online activity space for shared research and resources. (probably Trello or Discord)  
-Peer support and feedback opportunities  
-Technical support from Phoenix Creative team.  
Dependent on COVID-19 restrictions:  
-Free access to Interact Labs (a studio space equipped with digital technology)

**What is the selection process?**

The deadline for applications is **midnight 14th March**.  
Applications will be reviewed by Phoenix.  
We will aim to talk to shortlisted applicants by 18th March.