Design a New Iconic Mural for Manchester's 'Trendy' Northern Quarter

NCP and OOH Know Media in consultation with MCC and City Co are on the lookout for talented artists to design a mural to be displayed fixed to the NCP car park on Church Street in Manchester's Northern Quarter. The mural will consist of two display panels with one panel to display a large format banner advert from time to time (see image below). 'Mural A' will need to work as a stand alone piece when an advert is displaying. However when there is no advert the mural will occupy both display sections (Mural A & Mural B) and cover the entire elevation.

The functional concrete and tile multi-story car park (pictured below) stretches along a considerable length of Church Street besides the vibrant independent retailers, eateries, nightspots and creative businesses for which the Northern Quarter is renowned. The artistic driver behind this project is to alter the appearance of the car park by turning the Church St elevation of this dominant concrete monolith into an iconic giant canvas featuring artwork to enhance the street scene and make a statement about the Northern Quarter.

To fulfil our vision for artists based locally to create the artwork, we are running a competition inviting entries for consideration.



The Design Brief

The proposed mural will be printed onto a vinyl material fixed to the car park and will be split into two adjoining spaces with a permanent display area (Mural A) measuring 22 metres (length) x 9 metres (height) and an additional, extended display area (Mural B) measuring 45 metres (length) x 9 metres (height). Mural B will be visible when advertising is not displayed. This will mean that although the design element(s) will need to extend across the entire space Mural A will also need to function independently.

The design should centre on the Northern Quarter itself and celebrate its development and growth into the vibrant, individual space and community that it is today. The historic development of the district can also be a feature/theme too if the artist desires. The design/content should not include any recognised consumer brand I.D.'s or logo's. The colour treatment is entirely open – vibrant modern colours or wash effects to black and white or even sepia treatments.

The design style/art genre is open too – architectural, abstract, caricature/cartoon, street graffiti! Whatever style you deemed to be the best to deliver the messages which will engage the audience!

Along with design submissions we would also like a title for the piece and a brief (max 500 words) description of the design, how it was conceived and created, the artist's relationship with the Northern Quarter/City of Manchester and a little about the artist.

All finished artworks need to be supplied in proportion to the mural dimensions as a hi res PDF or on canvas/other suitable flexible material which can then be scanned for production and printing.

The competition is open to all artists resident in Manchester and the surrounding districts. All ages are welcome to submit their design/artwork.

There will be only one winner. The entries will be reviewed by a panel of judges made up of representatives from the City Council, NCP, CityCo and OOH Know Media.

The winning artist will receive a cheque for £500 and will see their artwork displayed on the NCP Church Street Car Park for a minimum 1 year period, subject to planning approval.

The closing date for entries is *TBC*. All artworks should be delivered to OOH Know Media , c/o NML Manchester, NML House, 61 High Street, Manchester M4 1AZ.

The winner will be informed no later than by *TBC*. Please ensure you include a contact phone number or e-mail address when submitting your entry.