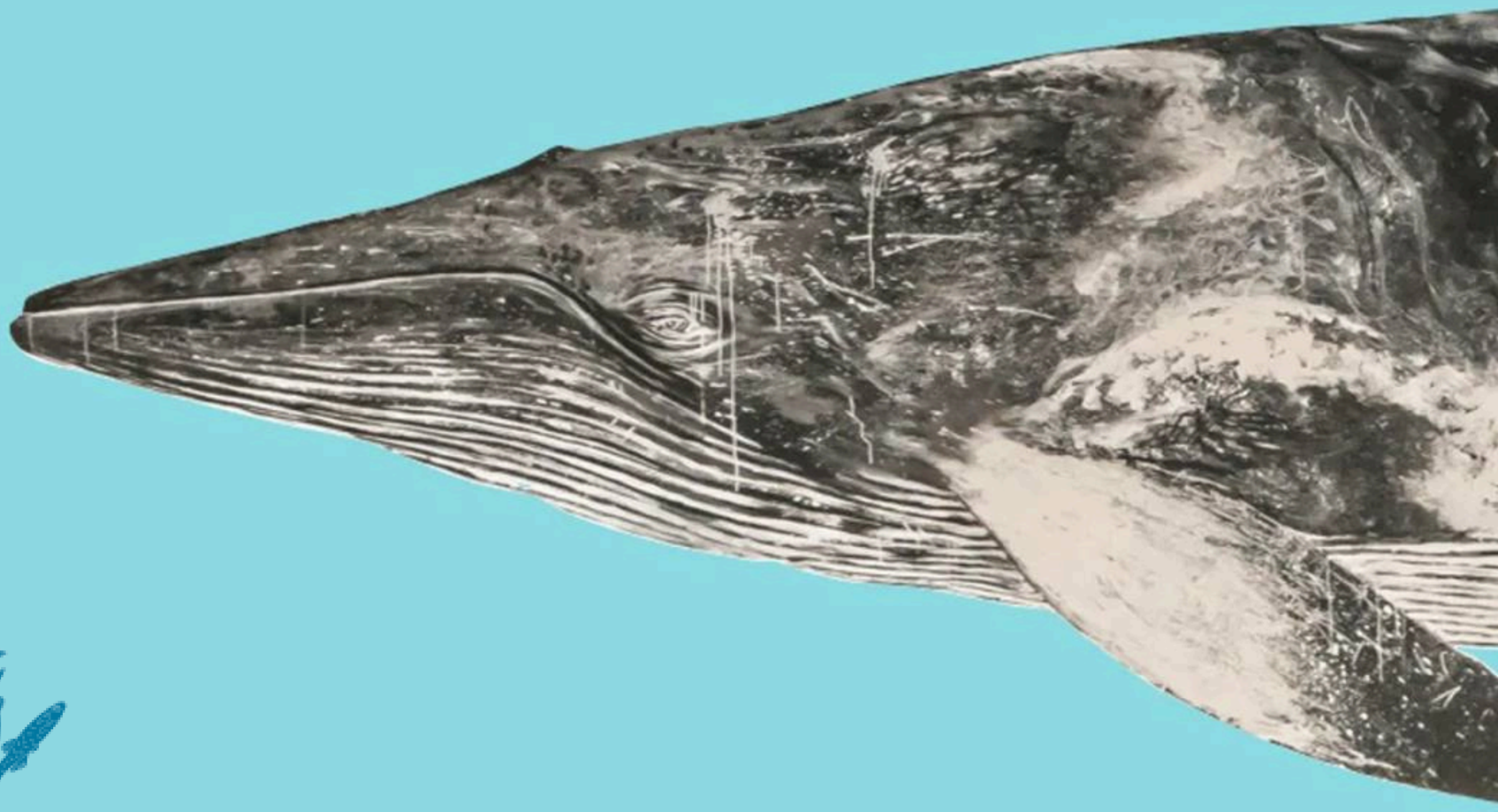
Artist opportunity: Join the Dogger Bank Expedition



Turner

Embassy of the North Sea

22 May–29 May 2027



Turner Contemporary is inviting expressions of interest from artists and filmmakers to join an extraordinary international sailing expedition to the Dogger Bank in May and June 2027.

The expedition, organised by the Embassy of the North Sea as part of its international Rewilding Dogger Bank programme, will bring together artists, scientists, researchers and environmental organisations to explore the future of one of Europe's most important marine ecosystems.

We are looking for an artist whose practice, curiosity and open perspective will bring a distinctive contribution to the expedition, and who is excited by the possibility of using art to help us see, understand and imagine new relationships with the natural world.



1. About the expedition

At the centre of the North Sea lies the Dogger Bank, an undersea nature reserve covering over 25,000 km² and one of the most important ecosystems in Europe. As the nursery of the North Sea, the area is crucial for the biodiversity and health of the marine ecosystem as a whole.

But the Dogger Bank is severely damaged, and despite its protected status, the ecosystem remains under pressure, while large-scale recovery lags behind.

Since 2025, the Doggerland Foundation and the Embassy of the North Sea have been working together with a coalition of Dutch and international partners on Rewilding Dogger Bank Seascape, an ambitious programme that connects nature restoration, legal cases, art, design, science, lobbying, public imagination and social involvement. It is a joint effort across borders and disciplines, because real change can only be achieved if the underlying worldview culture, values and policy move together.

An important part of this programme is an international 21-day sailing expedition to the Dogger Bank and the subsequent Dogger Bank Days in The Hague.



2. The opportunity

Turner Contemporary is offering one UK-based artist or filmmaker the opportunity to join this extraordinary international sailing expedition to the Dogger Bank.

The selected artist will travel aboard the Morgenster from Germany (Bremen port) to UK (Ipswich) from 22 May to 29 May 2027 joining a wider group of people working across art, science, research and environmental action.

We are interested in artists who will bring an open, curious and imaginative perspective to the experience and we hope the expedition will provide space for new encounters, ideas and creative possibilities to emerge.

The selected artist will be invited to document, interpret or creatively respond to their experience in ways that could contribute to future public engagement.

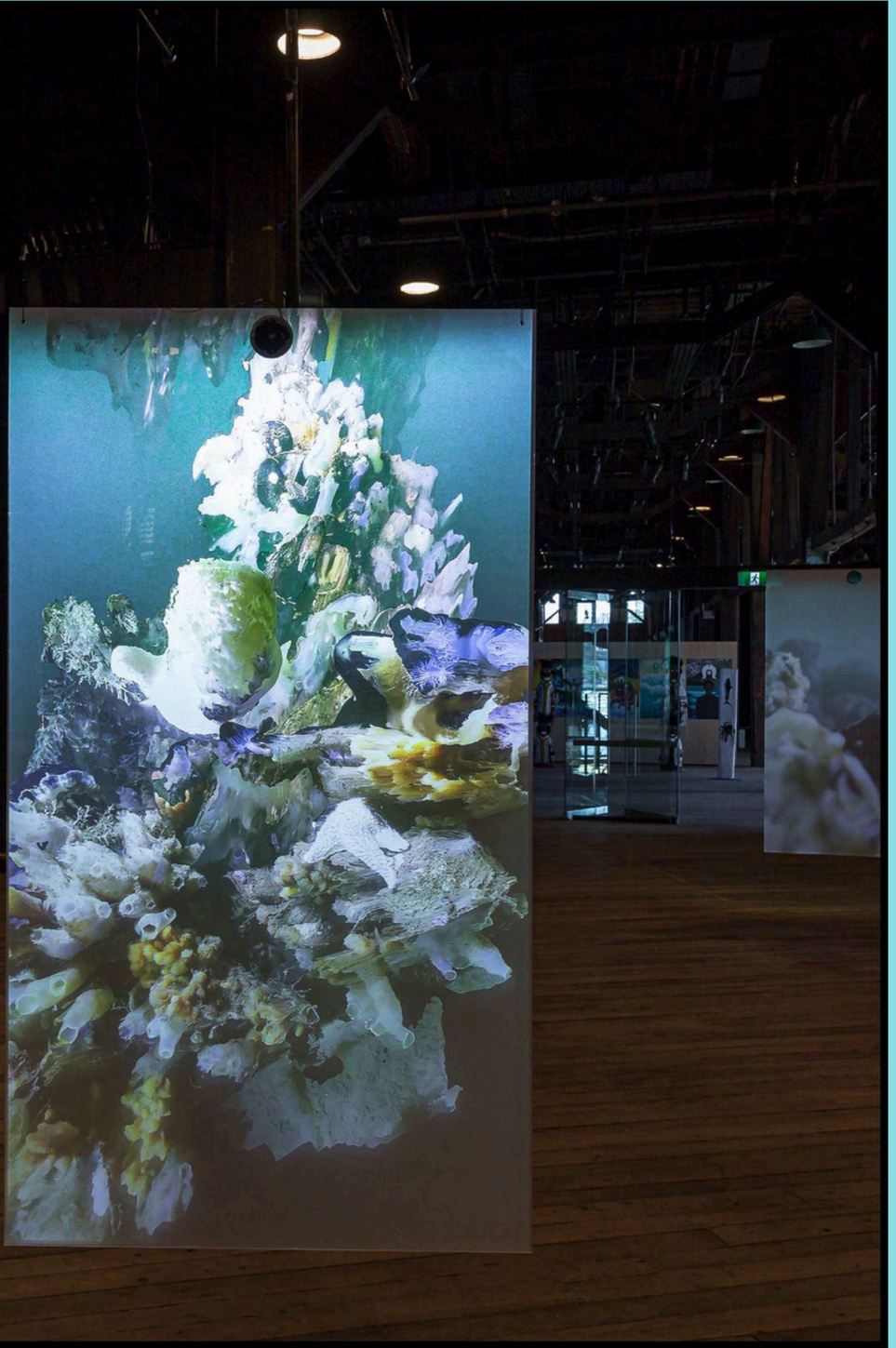
This opportunity builds on the success of Turner Contemporary's One Ocean 2026, extending our commitment to bringing together art, science and environmental action.



Also on board

Others on board the expedition will be a mix of members from the four Dogger Bank countries: artists, scientists, storytellers and journalists selected by the Dogger Bank Coalition which consists of:

—Embassy of the North Sea (NL)
—ARK Rewilding Nederland (NL)
—Blue Marine Foundation (UK)
—BUND (DE)
—Doggerland Foundation (NL)
—World Wildlife Fund (DK)
—Atlantic Technological University (IRL)



3. Who are we looking for?

We welcome expressions of interest from UK-based artists and filmmakers who can demonstrate:

- An established and distinctive artistic or filmmaking practice, with examples of previous work.
- A curiosity about the ocean, ecology, climate, biodiversity, landscape, place or our relationship with the natural world.
- An ability to respond creatively to new experiences, ideas and encounters, and an interest in working alongside people from different disciplines.
- The potential to communicate the experience of the expedition through their practice, whether through film, photography, visual art, writing, sound or other creative forms.
- An interest in how art can help people understand environmental challenges, imagine different futures and engage with the restoration of our oceans.

Applicants must also be available for the full expedition dates and meet the eligibility requirements for participation.

4. What we are asking you to submit

We want to make the application process as straightforward as possible. You do not need to submit a fully developed project proposal. We are looking for an artist with a distinctive practice and a genuine curiosity about the expedition and its themes, rather than a fully formed project proposal.

Please provide:

Expression of interest (maximum 250 words)
Tell us why would you like to take part in the Dogger Bank expedition?
What interests or excites you about Dogger Bank and the themes of the expedition?
How might the experience connect with or inform your artistic practice?
What possibilities do you see for creatively responding to or sharing the experience?

Examples of your work
Please provide a link to your website, portfolio, showreel or examples of previous work.

Short biography
A brief introduction to your practice and experience.

Availability
Please confirm that you are available to participate in the expedition from 22 May–29 May 2027 (dates may change, weather dependent); and the kick off meeting on 18 January 2027.



5. Selection process

Turner Contemporary will review all expressions of interest and to put forward a small selection to the Embassy of the North Sea.

Applications will be assessed against the criteria outlined with particular consideration given to the strength of the artistic practice, the applicant's curiosity and engagement with the expedition's themes, and the potential for an interesting creative response.

We anticipate the process will involve:

—Submission of expressions of interest.
—Internal review of applications by Turner Contemporary.
—A short conversation with shortlisted artists.
—Selection of one artist to be nominated to the Embassy of the North Sea, subject to their final approval.

6. Key dates and timeline

Open call: 12 November 2026
Application deadline: 30 November2026
Selection deadline: 16 December 2026

18 January 2027: Expedition kick-off meeting. An opportunity to receive further information about the expedition and meet fellow participating artists, researchers and other contributors.

22 May–29 May 2027: Dogger Bank expedition. Travel aboard the Morgenster from Germany (Bremen port) to UK (Ipswich). [dates may slightly change depending on the weather]

October 2027: Dogger Bank Days, The Hague. An opportunity to bring together and present the artistic research, experiences, knowledge and stories gathered during the expedition, and engage with wider audiences.

June 2028: One Ocean 2028, Turner Contemporary. Potential opportunity to share the creative outcomes and reflections from the expedition as part of Turner's ongoing ocean programme.



7. Finance

Turner Contemporary will fund the artist's participation in the expedition, including travel to and from the departure and arrival locations, as part of its Art and Environment strand and ongoing research and development towards One Ocean 2028.

8. How to apply

To express your interest, please send your 250-word statement, biography, portfolio link and confirmation of availability to: Toby Parkin at tparkin@turnercontemporary.org with the subject line 'Dogger Bank Expedition'.
Please also use this contact for any questions you might have.

Deadline: 30 November 2026.

We look forward to hearing from artists and filmmakers who are excited by the opportunity to explore, question and creatively respond to the future of the North Sea.

Further Information from Embassy of the North Sea



The Dogger Bank Days: from research to dialogue

In October 2027, the insights from the expedition will be on display in The Hague during the Dogger Bank Days.

The Embassy of the North Sea will open a temporary public space for several weeks where citizens, policy makers, researchers, social organizations and artists can meet to discuss the future of the North Sea.

The Dogger Bank Days will make visible what normally remains hidden: the ecological significance of the area, the challenges of recovery and the choices that will have to be made in the coming years.

The central focus is on the development of a broadly supported vision for the Dogger Bank and an international agreement to rewild this area on a large scale. This is not a traditional policy document, but rather a public and accessible speculation about what recovery of the area could look like.

Through exhibitions, conversations, artistic interventions and expert meetings, we are building a new social story about the North Sea: a story in which nature is not only managed, but also represented.



Intended impact

Ecological impact

—Support for ongoing recovery programmes for the Dogger Bank.
—New knowledge for reef restoration and monitoring.
—Fortified international cooperation on nature restoration.

Social impact

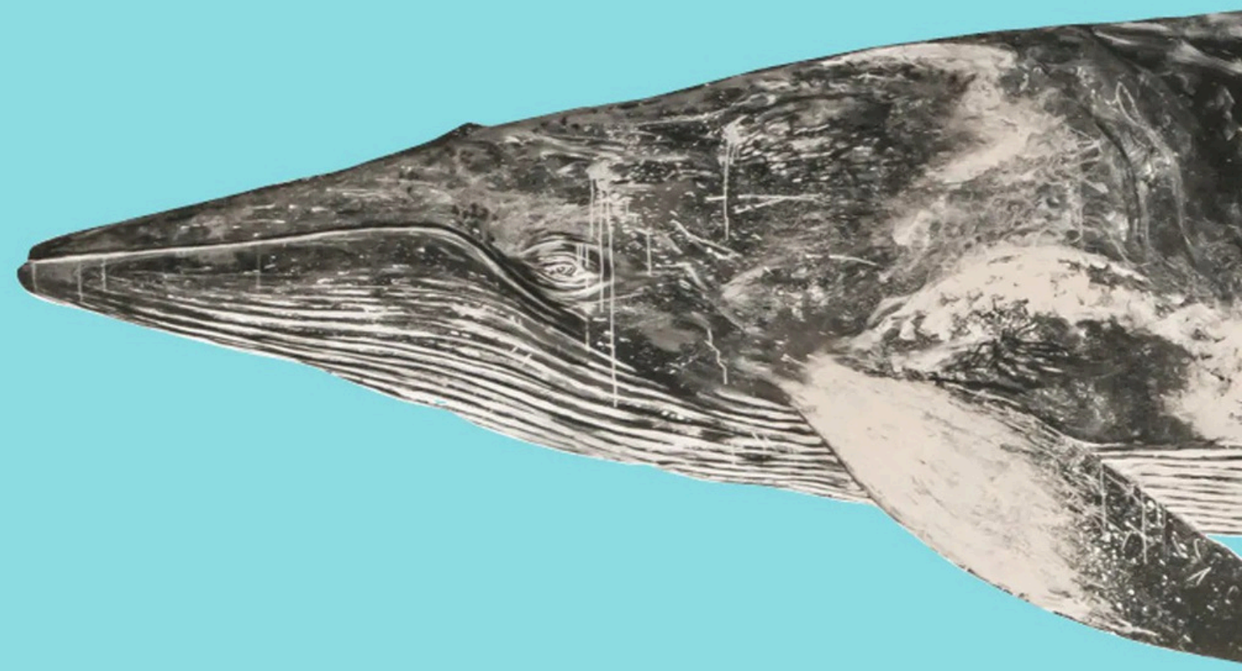
—Increased public knowledge and involvement in the North Sea.
—New connections between citizens, social organisations and experts.
—Broader social support for nature restoration.

Institutional impact

—A more advantageous position for the Dogger Bank in politics and policy.
—New forms of democratic representation of marine nature.
—A contribution to future-proof North Sea policy in Europe.

Turner Contemporary

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