

Unique Elly Clarke Mobile Phone Photo not yet taken in India, Jan-Feb 2008
Item Description

My name is **Elly Clarke** and I'm a visual artist based in London, UK. I'm selling *Unique Elly Clarke Mobile Phone Photo not yet taken in India, Jan-Feb 2008* to fund my next art project. Entitled *Four Films and a Documentary*, it is a series of short films I want to make next year in collaboration with **The Russ Foundation**, a charity based in **Madurai in Tamil Nadu, India**, which I visited and worked with for 2 months in 1994, aged 18.

In 1994, the Russ Foundation existed as a children's home. Since then it has expanded to support three additional groups: female sex workers; people living with HIV and AIDS and rural communities that are supported by a medical outreach program. (See more about it here: <http://www.russfoundation.org>.)

Four Films will be **3-5 minutes** in length each, made in collaboration with individuals from each of these four communities. The participatory approach I use in other areas of my art practice will be applied to this project. Every aspect of the creation and production of the films – from storyline development to casting, performance, music, direction and the final edit – will be worked out collaboratively. With the exception of the cinematographer, all crew will also be sourced locally. The *Documentary* element will record the process of the project: from recruiting producers, to the final screenings of the work, which, I hope, will take place in India, the UK and beyond – at film festivals, via the Russ Foundation website and in galleries.

I need a minimum of **£20,000** to make these films. At this stage, however, by taking one photo a day on my mobile phone, at a time requested by my buyers, I hope to raise enough to fund a research trip I have planned for January-February 2008. Thanks to artist **Radha Chandrashekar**, who I met on the **future of ideas art** residency at the **Banff Centre for the Arts** last Autumn, I have been invited to lead some workshops at the **Shrishti School of Art, Design & Technology** in Bangalore during this time - on the condition that I can get to India for it. I want to combine this teaching opportunity with the chance to spend time at the Russ Foundation, in order to gain a better understanding of the context I will be working within, and to get to know the people involved. My connection with Shrishti will enable me to make further contacts towards my project, within both the film industry and the art world.

For one month, **from 14th January until 14th February** I will take **one photograph per day on my mobile phone at the time the buyer requests**, which I will deliver back to the buyer via text message. The buyer can text me at any time (during daylight hours) on the day that s/he has purchased to let me know when to take the picture. I will then take it as soon as I can after receiving the text and send the photo straight back. If I'm out of mobile range that day, I'll take the photograph at 5pm and send it whenever I next find reception.

After the last photograph has been taken, I will produce **unique, one-off, single edition, signed prints of all photographs** send them to buyers in the post, from India.

In short winning bidders will receive the following:

- A confirmation email stating the day(s) purchased and the mobile phone number to text at the desired time. (There will also be the option to pre-arrange the time of the photograph if easier)
- The mobile phone photograph texted to you on the day (or as soon as possible afterwards if not in mobile phone range)
- A hard-copy, one-off, signed print posted to you from India in mid February 2008
- The option to purchase a limited edition poster that features all photographs taken in this manner, at the pre-production fixed price of £25. A total of 50 of these posters will be made. Only ebay purchasers will be eligible for this offer.

Money raised through this project will cover all expenses related to this 6 week stay in Madurai and Bangalore Any additional money raised beyond this will go directly towards the films.

I have a **Masters in Fine Art** from **Central Saint Martins** and an undergraduate degree in **History of Art** from **Leeds**. My work has been shown in the UK and abroad, including **Globe Hub** in Newcastle, **Seven Seven** in London, the **Banff Centre** in Alberta, Canada, the **Kiasma Museum** in Helsinki and, currently, at **London Gallery West** at the **University of Westminster**. Since 2003 I have contributed to conferences and publications produced through the **Centre for Mobility Research (CeMoRe)** at **Lancaster University** and am a current contributor to Stephen Willats' *Control Magazine – Issue 17*. Although my work is mostly lens-based, I am as interested in the process of production as the end product of the work. I am also interested in selling work in this way – to an audience I can not see, of a piece of work that does not yet exist, but which, through its purchase, will ensure it does.

This is the **second time I have used ebay.co.uk as a vehicle for fund-raising**. The first facilitated my passage on the Trans Siberian Train, where I made *Moscow to Beijing*, which is the exhibition currently on show (until 6th January 2008) at London Gallery West at the University of Westminster in Harrow, London.

Can you part with (from) £45 for a text message photograph not yet taken? Can you support my passage to India, and this film?

I hope so! I look forward to hearing from you!

Elly Clarke

Artist website: www.axisweb.org/artist/ellyclarke

'The Journey/Moscow to Beijing', exhibition at London Gallery West, University of Westminster, Harrow: <http://www.wmin.ac.uk/mad/page-54>

The Russ Foundation: <http://www.russfoundation.org>

The Shrishti Art School in Bangalore: <http://www.srishtibl.org/index.htm>

Time Zone Converter (to find out what time it is in India)

<http://www.timezoneconverter.com/cgi-bin/tzc.tzc>