



The role of artists' studios in supporting and extending HE provision:
ACAVA's Grange Walk Studios, Bermondsey, London and
***a space arts* with Southampton Solent University**

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with

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artists' studio provision & social enterprise,

- over 6,000 workspace opportunities across the UK
- 550+ studio providers identified, largely in London and in and around major cities
- opportunities: availability of buildings, demand from recent graduates and established artists
- workspaces offered at an average of one third of market cost
- Few buildings owned by artists/providers. Many on short term leases/licenses (> 10 years).
- High dependency of local/global property cycles etc



Bow Arts Trust, Tower Hamlets: image c/o NFASP

The Flying Angel, Newham, opening in 2009.



Look Ahead, a Registered Social Landlord, will open a new building, The Flying Angel, in Newham in 2009. Look Ahead have employed ACAVA to provide artists to work with the residents and local communities in an enjoyable and supportive atmosphere. This is primarily a housing project, on the upper 7 floors, aimed at people who need accommodation and support. The building also includes 12 ground floor artists' studios in a joint project with ACAVA.

Studio providers

- 1960s+ pragmatic approaches to temporary occupancy of buildings in which artists made their own work and set up exhibition and performance spaces
- This often still happens - the start of a studio's life
- A body of well-regarded and well evidenced professional practice
- Engaging wide range of property owners, regeneration and funding agencies across the UK
- National Federation of Artists' Studio Providers 2004-date



Open Studios: Bow Arts Trust, Tower Hamlets. Image c/o NFASP

Artists studios regeneration and economic development

Investing in Creative Communities through the provision of Affordable Artists' Studios

A role for Spatial Planning

This briefing note for planning and regeneration professionals shows:

- ◆ how affordable artists' studios contribute to sustainable communities
- ◆ examples of successful studio initiatives and developments
- ◆ studios within national and local planning policy frameworks
- ◆ how the planning system works for people promoting and developing artists' workspace

National Federation of Artists' Studio Providers is the professional body which supports, connects and represents all those who manage and develop affordable studio space for visual artists. This NFASP publication, written by Martin Elson, Emeritus Professor in Planning at Oxford Brookes University, is available on: nfasp.org.uk/page.php?id=194

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Artists' studio providers and universities

- models of financial sustainability without reliance on subsidy
- graduate pathways to employment and entrepreneurship
- environmental sustainability / sustainable use of historic buildings
- artistic / cultural integrity matching structured and delivered education outcomes
- collaborations with public and commercial property owners and with HEIs
- how studios generate more than work space and contribute to place making and community, whilst allowing artists to develop experience in locally focussed practice

Universities in Urban South Hampshire

- The 4 Universities in South Hampshire are interested in establishing supported provision so that new graduates can establish their own enterprises:
- **Directly Managed Provision** - The Cell Block being delivered by University Portsmouth
- **University Provision** - Delivered with a commercial partner Innovation warehouse start up space primarily for digital startups
- **Social Enterprise model** - Southampton Solent University developing relationship with Aspace to provide start up space for businesses being initiated by recent graduates