

Group Occupation

Artist Residencies for ESP members at The New Art Gallery Walsall

6 March – 2 June 2012

Extra Special People (ESP) and **The New Art Gallery Walsall** (TNAGW) have teamed up to offer **Group Occupation**, a series of short, practical residencies for nine ESP members. Working in the artist studio at TNAGW, artists will occupy the space in groups of three for one-month at a time during March, April and May 2012.

The Residency Context

Group Occupation will provide artists with resources, time and space within a mutually supportive group context in which to develop a new project. Artists will be grouped together thoughtfully according to their practice, interests and approach to the residency, encouraging a useful dialogue and possibilities for working together to develop.

Artists do not need to work on a group project (but can if they would like to). This residency will be appropriate for artists who want to share a space with other artists, engage with them and their work and enter into a critical and supportive dialogue with each other about practice.

This opportunity is aimed at artists who want to undertake a self-directed residency in the context of a public gallery and who are also interested in engaging with a wider audience of gallery visitors. The emphasis is on the creation of new ideas and the process of making work rather than producing a final, resolved outcome (the residency programme is independent to the exhibitions programme).

Residency Dates

There are three residencies taking place between the following dates:

Tuesday 6 March to Saturday 31 March

Tuesday 10 April to Saturday 5 May

Tuesday 8 May to Saturday 2 June

The New Art Gallery Walsall is open Tuesday – Saturday, 10 – 5pm, closed Sunday, Mondays and Bank Holidays.

Artists must be able to commit to working in the residency studio for a minimum of 2 – 3 days a week.

Critical Support

Artists are invited to test and explore the notion of 'being in residence' within a public gallery and engage in a critical dialogue with one another about practice and work being produced during the residency period.

Artists will receive critical support from ESP including facilitated critical group discussions for each residency group with a facilitator of their choice. The invited facilitator can be an artist, curator or writer that the group are interested in. The facilitator will work with the group for a morning or afternoon to facilitate a group discussion around existing work, work in progress work and ideas for how to progress during the residency period.

Artists Studio Information

The Artists' Studio is located on the first floor of the gallery and is fully equipped with internet and telephone access, sink, fridge, kettle, radio/CD player/i-pod dock, crockery and lockable storage cupboards. Artists also have access to office facilities and equipment, and reference materials housed within the gallery's art library.

Events

There will be an open studio event on the last Saturday of each residency. These events will be open to all including members of the public and ESP members and staff.

Fees

Each artist will receive £350 fee, including all materials, travel costs and expenses.

How to Apply

To apply for this opportunity you must send a proposal that includes all of the following information:

1. Your name and contact details
2. Dates that you are unable to undertake the residency
3. A statement explaining why you want this opportunity to make new work at The New Art Gallery Walsall and work alongside other artists (200 words max.)
4. Your artist statement (200 words max.)
5. Your up to date CV
6. Up to ten images or a showreel of works (total exceeding no more than 1MB if submitting by email)

Deadline for applications: Friday 27 January 2012

Interviews: Wednesday 8 February 2012

Artists working in any medium are eligible to apply.

Residency artists will be selected by Helen Jones (Exhibitions Curator, TNAGW), Katy Woods (ESP Coordinator) and Ruth Claxton (Associate Director, Eastside Projects).

Send you completed proposal to:

submissions@eastsideprojects.org and write 'Group Occupation' in the subject header or post it to:

Group Occupation
Extra Special People
Eastside Projects
86 Heath Mill Lane
Birmingham
B9 4AR

For more information about The New Art Gallery Walsall visit:

www.thenewartgallerywalsall.org.uk

Please note this opportunity is only open to ESP members.

Extra Special People (ESP) is Eastside Projects' Associate Membership Scheme, which supports the development of work, ideas, connections and careers and programmes events for artists, writers, curators and those with a more general interest in contemporary art.

Membership costs £5 per month / £60 per year. See www.extraspecialpeople.org for further information and the full programme.



Walsall Council



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