

Neoartists Application Guidance Notes

Levels of Membership

1. Studio Holder Membership

All artists offered a studio space will be required to join Neoartists as a Studio Holder member.

Studio Holder membership includes:

- Studio (Individual or shared) at a rent determined by the size of the space. Please note that lockable spaces carry a 10% premium.
- Electricity
- Water
- 24 hour access, 7 days a week
- Use of communal printmaking and sculpture workshop equipment (see below)
- Wireless broadband and hard wire connection.
- Individual webpage on the Neoartists website
- Exhibition opportunities
- Monthly newsletter

We regret that there is no disabled access to the studios.

If you would like to view the studios please contact Jason on 07855 369 522 to arrange an appointment.

2. Studio User Membership

This scheme is for serious printmakers who would like to use the printmaking facilities on a regular basis, but do not want a permanent work space in the Neoartists Studios.

Location:

1st Floor, Neoartists Studios CIC, Corporation Chambers, Corporation Street, Bolton, BL1 2AN.

Facilities:

The printmaking studio is 'green'. We offer non-toxic printmaking facilities for:

- Ferric Chloride Etching
- Copper Sulphate Etching
- Solar Plate Etching

- Collagraph
- Drypoint
- Monoprint
- Screenprint
- Photo Screenprint
- Relief Printing

Equipment:

Equipment at our Corporation Street workshop consists of:

- Large vacuum screen-printing bed accommodating screens up to 150cm x 95cm
- Two small vacuum screen-printing beds for screens up to 60cm x 50cm
- Large TOFKO etching press with bed size 180cm x 100cm
- Small POLYMETAAL etching press with bed size 60cm x 35cm
- Relief press, bed size 50cm x 40cm
- Large self-contained U/V exposure unit to expose photosensitive plates and screens up to 114cm x 92cm
- Dark room
- Print drying racks
- Stainless steel washout cabinet, 150cm x 115cm with high pressure jet-washer
- Work stations with toughened glass work surfaces
- Selection of fine art papers and inks for etching and screen-printing

Access:

The printmaking studio is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We regret there is currently no disabled access.

3. Associate Membership

Associate Membership is aimed at artists who want to have contact with fellow creative minds but don't require studio facilities. Associate Members get a page on our website, the opportunity to submit your work for exhibitions at one of the Neoartists gallery spaces (final selection is always at the discretion of the curators). We have good contacts with other studio groups in and around Greater Manchester and Associate Members can receive notification of any previews, Open Studios and talks. The Associate Membership is an ideal way to network and keep in touch with the art scene in Greater Manchester. Neoartists also runs practical workshops and Associate members are entitled to discount pricing

Use of the studio

We are trying to develop a bustling and thriving creative art space and are keen to encourage artists to use their studios as much as possible. We realise that the number of hours might be difficult to specify but please be realistic in your estimate.

Materials

We are predominantly a Fine Art Studios and encourage experimentation and the use of a wide range of materials. However, fire and building regulations restrict the use of certain materials and processes. It is important that you are clear about your materials use to prevent problems developing in the future. Some questions on the form are not applicable to writers and can be marked N/A.

Processes

Whilst we have a range of power tools that are available for Studio Holders and Studio Users, you will need to agree to an induction (for us to comply with Health and Safety legislation) before you will be able to use them. Indicating any requirements will help us speed the process up. You are able to bring your own equipment into designated workspaces but they will need to have been tested before use (Portable Electrical Appliance Tested). We have a director trained to do this and you will need to make arrangements with our Health and Safety officer to book equipment in. All other electrical equipment including music equipment will also need to be tested.

It would be useful if you could let us know if you intend make use of the printmaking facilities.

How do you describe your practice?

It is not important in this section to explain your working process or techniques. We want to understand how your ideas develop and how you explore avenues and possibilities for enquiry. For example;

- Is your work process based or observational in nature?

- Do you work on a large scale? If so why?
- How (if at all) do you exploit other media and materials to develop your ideas?
- How has your work evolved and developed?
- Do you have a philosophy supporting your work?

This is an opportunity for us to get to understand more about you and your work. Art is often about more than the image and needs to be experienced in a context.

- Be honest.
- Don't try to be overly complex.
- Try to avoid excessive jargon
- Don't be vague.

Writers might prefer to use the term 'craft' or 'style' for this section.

What do you hope to achieve in the next 12 months?

This is going to vary widely from individual to individual but we are trying to gauge what you want from your involvement with Neoartists. Some applicants might be working towards a particular exhibition or project whilst others might be at the start of their artistic careers and want to have time to develop new ideas. Specific goals are not important but we would hope that artists are able to think about their work as a long term commitment.