

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

The Galleria Studios artists open their doors to the public for the first time during Open House London 2006

Acme Studios is showcasing its pioneering new studios at The Galleria, Peckham, in the Capital's biggest architectural event, London Open House 2006. 40 artists, including Southwark's first Artist in Residence Isa Suarez, will open their studios to the public on Saturday 16 September, 1-5pm and Sunday 17 September, 1-5pm.

The Galleria is the UK's first development to include purpose-designed artists' studios alongside private and affordable apartments.

Acme has pioneered this unique mixed-use planning-gain scheme, designed by architects Dransfield Owens de Silva, in partnership with Barratt Homes, Arts Council England and Southwark Council.

Speaking at The Galleria's official opening in June, Minister for Culture David Lammy MP said: "Artists do some great work with so many groups; children, schools, asylum seekers and whole communities. But to get all that you need to provide space.

"If you believe in art and that artists convey meaning to society, challenging and provoking through beauty, then this is exactly what you want to see."

Due to the high level of support and interest The Galleria Studios has generated, Acme is currently working on plans to replicate this mixed-use planning gain scheme elsewhere.

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Acme Studios is a group of three exempt charities registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965

Members of the National Housing Federation

Acme Studios Housing Association Limited
Reg No IP28377R
Vat Reg No 680 7763 03
Acme Artists Housing Association Limited
Reg No IP27215R
Acme Housing Association Limited
Reg No IP20468R

NOTES FOR EDITORS

- Access to The Galleria Studios is free of charge.
- Acme Studios is a London-based charity formed by artists in 1972, which supports the development of fine art practice by providing artists with affordable studio and living space.
- The Galleria Studios is part-funded by Arts Council England's Grant for the arts – capital programme, which has made £2 million available to Acme for this and future projects
- 430 studios managed by other studio organisations in London are at risk over the next 10 years from rising land values and new development schemes
- The Galleria Studios is one of only nine permanent studio buildings out of over 90 in London, four of which are owned by Acme Studios
- Since 1972 Acme has helped over 5,000 artists with affordable studio and living space

PRESS INFORMATION

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