

acmestudios

SUPPORTING ART & ARTISTS SINCE 1972

February 2010

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Permanent studios on former toys factory site

Visualisation of Block A of the new development at Lesney Matchbox Toys, Homerton, E9, which with the glass trapezoid, will include 49 purpose-built affordable artists' studios.

Planning permission has been granted for 49 purpose-built artists' studios as part of a landmark mixed-use development on the site of the former Lesney Matchbox Toys Factory in Homerton, E9. The development by Telford Homes in partnership with Acme Studios, is located to the north of the London 2012 Olympic Park, less than 200 metres from the International Broadcast Centre which will become a focus for creative industries after the Games. The development comprises 209 residential units (40% of which

will be affordable as shared ownership or for rent), artists' studios and commercial space for community, office and retail use. There will also be improved access to the River Lee Navigation with moorings for residential and commercial boats.

Homerton is adjacent to Hackney Wick, a part of London which has the highest concentration of artists' studios anywhere in the world, but where so many of the buildings are short-term



The Lesney Matchbox Toys Factory before demolition work began.
Photo: Greg Goodale (2009)

and of poor quality. The Lesney scheme will create a permanent and high-quality resource for artists which will contribute to Hackney Council's commitment to encouraging creative industries in the borough and, through public engagement, bring real benefits to new residents and existing communities.

Throughout the planning process Acme worked closely with Telford Homes and the architects Stock Woolstencroft who quickly understood the needs of artists and the benefits they would bring to the project. Acme will acquire studios built to its specifications at a price that will guarantee affordable rents.

Hackney Council was determined to encourage and maintain employment on the site which falls within a Defined Employment Area. The commercial space including the artists' studios, which forms part of the section 106 agreement, will result in a greater number of jobs than the previous factory. John Fitzgerald, Telford Homes Joint Group Managing Director said, "Including artists' studios within a new development creates a natural conduit to local communities. Artists' studios hold a natural attraction and by having them integrated into the heart of the development, we will attract other creative and commercial businesses to the area."

Acme has a long history of working in the borough, having supported several hundred artists with combined housing and studio space throughout the 70s and 80s, and with our permanent studios at Orsman Road, N1. We have a long-standing commitment to public

engagement and one of the studios in the new Lesney building will be devoted to the Hackney Studio Residency, an award for an artist whose work naturally involves local people.

The Lesney studios will be the last project in this phase of our current capital development programme, part-funded by a major grant from Arts Council England, which will see us exceed our target of creating over 180 permanent affordable artists' studios across London. Work is underway and the target completion date is July 2012.

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John Fitzgerald, Telford Homes Joint Group Managing Director

Affordable studios for artists

Acme Studios' core activity is the provision of affordable, permanent and high-quality studios for artists who cannot afford to rent space on the open market. Through this provision we continue to make a significant contribution to the development of art and of artists' careers in the UK.

The context in which we operate continues to be challenging – a huge demand from artists, high land and property values, and the lack of significant arts capital funding for the foreseeable future. Securing and sustaining affordable space in London has always been a challenge and studio providers have always needed to be flexible and opportunistic, responsive to fluctuations in the property market and to local and regional planning policies. In recent years the combination of an uncertain commercial property market and the requirement for the continuation of employment use, has provided Acme with the opportunity to develop pioneering partnerships with commercial and social house builders to create permanent affordable studios within mixed-use developments. Significantly a large proportion of the initial subsidy has come from the developers themselves rather than from public funding sources. The following is an update on recent schemes.

Artists occupy ground floor of new mixed-use development

In March 2009, we opened 21 new-build studios at Leven Road, Poplar, E14. The development is a partnership with Swan Housing Group and is the

UK's first-ever 100 per cent affordable mixed-use project combining housing and artists' studios. A 125-year lease was purchased with a contribution from Arts Council England's Grants for the arts – capital programme. The studios have been fully occupied since day one.

There has been considerable interest in the studios and the innovative way they are combined with affordable housing. Acme has hosted visits to the studios for the previous Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Hazel Blears MP and Barbara Follett MP in her previous role as Minister for Culture. Recently local MP Jim Fitzpatrick and local councillor Ohid Ahmed visited the studios and met artist Mike Stubbs. The scheme was one of four projects shortlisted for the Lloyds Arts & Business Innovation Prize 2009, an annual award that recognises "the most innovative and progressive partnerships of the last 18 months".

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Atelier Court development with ground floor artists' studios on Leven Road, Poplar, E14.
Photo: Gary Weston (2009)



Harrow Road studios to open in Spring 2010

Acme will open 12 self-contained ground floor studios in Spring 2010 as part of a major housing development on Harrow Road, NW10 near to Kensal Green Underground Station. The studios are the result of planners at the London Borough of Brent encouraging the inclusion of artists' studios in a large residential scheme by Catalyst Housing Group. Acme worked in partnership with Catalyst to create permanent, self-contained and affordable studios built to our own specification. We anticipate very high demand for the studios from local artists, and those living in the London Boroughs of Brent, and Hammersmith and Fulham will be given priority. The Harrow Road scheme is the third in a sequence of four projects part-funded by Arts Council England Grants for the arts - capital programme, resulting in permanent affordable studios in Brent, Hackney, Southwark and Tower Hamlets.



Development under construction on Stratford High Street, E15 with Warton House in foreground. Photo: Acme Studios (2009)

Stratford High Street update

Construction work on the large-scale development at 150 Stratford High Street, E15 is well underway with the landmark 41-storey tower taking shape. The scheme will result in Acme buying a long-term lease on 15 studios in the listed Warton House, previously part of the Yardley Cosmetics factory, which is currently being used as the main site office. The development is adjacent to the south edge of the London 2012 Olympic Park, a short distance from the new Aquatics Centre. The studios are expected to open in February 2012.



Building work nears completion on 12 ground-floor studios at Harrow Road, NW10. Photo: Acme Studios (2009)

New lease and new studios at South East London's largest studio building

We have signed a new lease which will secure our Childers Street studios until 2028. The former ships' propeller foundry in Deptford, SE8 has provided studios for hundreds of artists since 1990 and is Acme's biggest building and the largest affordable artists' studio building in South East London.

As well as securing the 102 existing studios, Acme's new lease includes part of the ground floor of the building which was previously used as a warehouse by the landlord, Donovan Bros. Acme is currently redeveloping this space to provide 30 new studios which will be available from Autumn 2010. Securing Childers Street until at least 2028 is hugely important, providing long-term security for current artist tenants and much-needed new space for artists on Acme's waiting list. The new lease, which will be on the whole building, will be on similar terms and will guarantee affordable rents.



Exterior of Childers Street, SE8 showing the ground floor which will be converted to create an additional 30 studios. Photo: Acme Studios (2009)

Residency, Awards & Community Programme

Helping artists by providing them with affordable studio and living space has always been Acme's principal charitable activity. Over the years we have worked hard to secure, expand and improve this provision so that increasing numbers of artists can benefit from high-quality, long-term, accessible and affordable studios, enabling them to spend more time devoted to their professional practice in a stable, well-managed and supportive environment.

In recent years we have been developing new ways of supporting artists, adding value to our core provision but remaining true to our belief that providing artists with time and space is fundamental to supporting the development of contemporary fine art practice. The programme now has a number of different strands: work/live residencies and bursaries at low rents, awards which provide free studios and grants, and studio residency schemes where the selected artists are those whose practice is 'socially-engaged', resulting in direct public involvement in creative visual arts activity.

There are a number of principles which underpin the management and development of the programme. Perhaps the most important is that these opportunities are awarded to artists with 'no strings attached'; effectively we do not ask for anything in return and trust artists to make best use of their awards. This is in contrast to many other schemes where there is often a requirement for artists to deliver quantifiable outcomes. Experience tells us that our approach works, that encouraging risk-taking in this way often leads to the enhancement of an artist's work, profile and future prospects. Timing is key, and we always work with external expert artists

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and others to help assess which artists are at a point in their work to make best use of the opportunities provided.

Although obligation-free, we ensure that artists operate within a clear support structure often, as with our Southwark and Tower Hamlets studio residencies, working with external partners to provide mentoring, and support with advice and resources when needed. Increasingly we are developing partnerships to help fund awards and with an acute awareness of the problems which recent graduates face when leaving college will be increasing the number of studio awards for recent graduates.

Taken together our awards and residency programme is one of the most extensive and supportive in the UK. We highlight below recent events and developments.



Stephanie Kingston's paintings of her uncle's home placed in situ in his empty house. Photo: Greg Goodale (2009)

Jessica Wilkes Award: Stephanie Kingston (2009-10)

In April 2009, Stephanie Kingston was selected as the second recipient of the Jessica Wilkes Award, a one-year grant of £10,000 for Acme studio holders. The award is the result of a legacy from former Acme tenant Jessica Wilkes who died in 2005 and is aimed at artists whose work incorporates drawing. Stephanie has a studio at the Galleria, SE15 and has been using her award to create a series of paintings related to memories of her uncle's house where she spent a

great deal of time when she was growing up. The house had lain empty for some time and, before it was sold, Stephanie worked with photographer Greg Goodale to capture images of her work on location around the house. The paintings in situ were also filmed by Sam Austen who is the current holder of the Chelsea Studio Award. Stephanie is planning to use the photographs and film as a basis for an exhibition of her paintings at the Acme Project Space in October 2010.

Jessica Wilkes Award: Howard Dyke (2008-09)

Howard Dyke was the first recipient of the Jessica Wilkes Award in 2008. Howard used the £10,000 award towards renting larger studio spaces which enabled him to work on a larger scale than had previously been possible. A productive year culminated with a solo show 'Dance of the Techno Polar Bear' at the newly opened Acme Project Space in June 2008.



'Dance of the Techno Polar Bear' inaugural exhibition at the Acme Project Space. Photo: Acme Studios (2009)

Ana Laura signs off with 'Night Time' book launch

Ana Laura Lopez de la Torre finished her residency as Acme Southwark Studio Residency holder in July 2009. During her 18-month residency Ana Laura worked with hundreds of local people from a range of backgrounds to explore the idea of night time. Ana Laura secured funding from Arts Council England to produce a book containing essays, poems, photos and artwork from a series of workshops run with the people of Southwark. 'Night Time' was launched at an exhibition, 'At Night I', in September at Camberwell Space in Peckham, South London.



Launch of 'Night Time' at Camberwell Space.
Photo: Franco La Roussa (2009)

Ana Laura's process of engaging people through informal talks and drop-in sessions, as well as visiting the homes of local residents, resulted in new relationships and networks and has left a lasting impression on the area. A central aim of the residency is to bring real benefit to the artist's own professional development. For Ana Laura the residency has had "a great impact on my practice, on my visibility as an artist and on the way I am thinking about my future."

The residency programme is supported by Acme Studios, Southwark Council and the South London Gallery and provides the selected artist with a £10,000 grant and rent-free studio at the Galleria, SE15. Southwark Council provides £5,000 to the residency, as well as support and advice and the South London Gallery provides support from the senior curator and/or director who visits the artist during the residency period. The Southwark Studio Residency is the only current example of a studio provider, gallery and local authority working together to create a programme which Ana Laura describes as "the most well supported, enriching and exciting professional opportunity I have ever had as an artist."

"[The Southwark Studio Residency is] the most well supported, enriching and exciting professional opportunity I have ever had as an artist."

Ana Laura Lopez de la Torre

The award is designed to give an artist whose work naturally engages with local communities the opportunity to experiment with new ideas.

Jan Hendrickse makes connections in Tower Hamlets

Jan Hendrickse is settling in as the Acme Tower Hamlets Studio Residency holder at our newly-opened Leven Road studios in Poplar, E14. Jan began his residency in March 2009 and has spent his time exploring the area and making connections with local people and organisations. As the residency holder Jan receives a rent-free studio and a £10,000 a year bursary for two years. The award is designed to give an artist whose work naturally engages with local communities the opportunity to experiment with new ideas. This is especially important for Jan who is at a critical moment in his career as he moves from his background as a classical musician and composer to practicing as a sound artist.



Jan Hendrickse running an impromptu workshop with local residents at the public opening of Leven Road Studios, October 2009. Photo: Greg Goodale (October 2009)

Matt's Gallery, an influential and internationally renowned gallery located in Tower Hamlets, will offer additional support for the residency. Director Robin Klassnik will be mentoring Jan during his residency and will provide curatorial support and advice. Acme's relationship with Matt's goes back many years, with both organisations being early pioneers into East London. We are delighted to be

working with Matt's whose approach very much echoes Acme's own. Both organisations share a philosophy which puts the emphasis on dialogue and trust, focusing on giving artists the freedom, time and space to develop their practice.



Lindsay Seers in her Work/Live unit at the Fire Station, Programme 1 (1997 - 2001). Photo: Hugo Glendinning (1999)

Artists selected for Fire Station Work/Live Programme Four (2010-2015) announced

Acme Studios' residency programme at our converted Fire Station building in Poplar, London E14 is one of the most supportive schemes for professional artists in the UK.

The 12 residencies offer a significant practical and financial breathing space which allows artists to focus on the development of their professional practice. Consistent with our support of artists across our range of programmes, no obligations are placed on the artists allowing them to pursue their own professional agendas. Since it was established in 1997, over forty artists have benefited from this support. It is gratifying to see how these artists were able to maximise the benefits of this 'breathing space' to challenge and develop their own practice, with many going on to secure national and international reputations.

Programme Four (2010-2015), which was launched in September, will provide low-cost combined working and living units for 11 selected artists for five years together with a two-and-a-half-year bursary (a rent-free work/live unit plus a grant of £5,000/year) specifically for a disabled or deaf artist.

Over 100 artists applied to the new programme, which was open to artists aged 23 or over from across the UK. The selection panel members this time were artist and educator Cath Hawes, artist

Gayle Chong Kwan, and Acme's Chief Executive Jonathan Harvey. Twenty-one artists were short-listed and interviewed and we are delighted to announce that the following have been awarded residencies and will be moving into the Fire Station in April:

Briony Anderson, Gemma Anderson, Kate Atkin, Jonathan Baldock, George Charman, Melanie Clifford, Susan Corke, Robin Footitt, Haroon Mirza, Matthew Noel-Tod, David Osbaldeston and Emma Smith.

Jarman Award 2009 winner Lindsay Seers took part in the first Fire Station Programme (1997-2001). She recently spoke to Acme's Julia Lancaster about her experience and her career to date. The interview can be listened to at: www.acme.org.uk/firestationworklive.php



Installation shot from 'Re :ri: rm: hm: ha: h:i ho: hum:' at the Acme Project Space. Photo: Franco La Roussa (2009)

Adrian Carruthers Award: Revati Mann (2008-09)

Revati Mann finished her year as the Adrian Carruthers Award holder with a solo exhibition at the Acme Project Space in September 2009. As a recipient of the award, Revati received a rent-free studio and £5,000 bursary. Created in memory of former Acme tenant and Slade School of Art graduate Adrian Carruthers who died in 2001, the award is designed to give selected graduates time and space to work on their practice in the year following a post-graduate qualification from the Slade School of Art. Now in its eighth year the award has provided invaluable support to artists at a key stage of their careers. The year-long award allowed Revati to experiment with new ideas, something she continued in her solo show 'Re :ri: rm: hm: ha: h:i ho: hum:' which featured work created in response to the architecture and environment of the Acme Project Space.



Janne Malmros in the Adrian Carruthers Studio, Childers Street, SE8. Photo: Acme Studios (2009)

Adrian Carruthers Award: Janne Malmros (2009-10)

In October 2009, Janne Malmros began her year-long Adrian Carruthers Award at Childers Street, SE8. This opportunity has come at a perfect time for Janne who had work on show in autumn 2009 at University College London, Donlon Book and Nolias Gallery. Janne's work was included in "Postgraduate Printmaking in London 2009: a survey of London art colleges" at 30th Floor Gallery, Canary Wharf (December 2009 - February 2010). She has been doing research in the Strang Print Room at UCL and using the Adrian Carruthers Studio to prepare for a show at I-myu Projects, EC2 in January 2010.

Acme Project Space open

For over 20 years The Showroom gallery occupied a space at Acme's Robinson Road studio site in Bonner Road, E2 before it moved to a new location off Edgware Road in West London. Acme saw the opportunity to use the space as a multipurpose venue to highlight work created by artists on



Exterior of the Acme Project Space, Bonner Road, E2. Photo: Acme Studios (2009)

Creating a space for artists to exhibit publicly or to test ideas privately is an important extension of the support we offer.

our expanding Residency, Awards & Community Programme. Artists on our programmes receive rent-free studios and often bursaries as well. Creating a space for artists to exhibit publicly or to test ideas privately is an important extension of the support we offer. There is no intention to develop a programme of exhibitions or events, but rather to use it responsively to support artists in a flexible way.

WASPS artist at the Fire Station

Acme Studios and the major artists' studios provider in Scotland, WASPS have been looking at ways they can work in partnership to directly benefit artists. A short-term opportunity arose in one of Acme's work/live units at the Fire Station in Poplar, E14. Moray Hilary was selected by WASPS to spend two months rent-free in the unit in January and February 2010. Moray is at an exciting stage of his career; over the past year he has moved from working predominantly with paint into developing sculptural and installation works on an ambitious scale. Recently, he has also been collaborating with a performance artist to create a new dialogue with his work. Spending time in London, based at the Fire Station is a unique opportunity for him to meet new artists, make connections with galleries and other arts professionals and embark on a period of research that will help inform his current and future work.

RCA students work with Acme award holders

In October 2009 the Royal College of Art added a new work-based pathway to their current MA Curating Contemporary Art. This two-year course is a development of Arts Council England's Inspire initiative and is aimed at aspiring Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic curators. The programme offers a vocational and academic curriculum with a professional placement in a national gallery or museum and includes a collaborative project for the thirteen students showcasing work by artists in receipt of an Acme residency or award. The resulting exhibition will be presented by the students at the Acme Project Space in June 2010.



Sam Austen (right) interviewed by journalism students from London College of Communication in his studio at the Galleria, SE15. Photo: Acme Studios (2009)

Student initiated award attracts support from Chelsea Arts Club Trust

This year saw the beginning of the Chelsea Studio Award, which offers a BA Fine Art graduate of Chelsea College of Art and Design a six-month rent-free studio. Unusually, the founders of the award were not the institution but two second-year students at the college. Concerned about the lack of opportunities for recent graduates Kiki Claxton and Harry Major approached numerous organisations to ask for contributions for a prize for graduating artists. Acme was happy to provide a rent-free studio for six months and was involved in the selection of Sam Austen who moved into a studio at the Galleria in September 2009. Sam's previous work includes small-scale painting and projections. Having a large studio has encouraged Sam to experiment in new media and he is using his time to work on a large sculptural piece.

The value of next year's Chelsea Studio Award will be greatly enhanced as a result of a grant from Chelsea Arts Club Trust, who encourage art and design education, and provide help and support for artists and designers. The contribution from Chelsea Arts Club Trust, means next year's award holder will also receive a cash bursary and professional mentoring. The role of organising the award will be taken on by second year student Lauren Houlton who will gain invaluable experience of working with professional arts bodies. Acme is delighted that an initial idea from two art students has been embraced and developed by their college and now supported by a charitable trust to create a valuable award which provides a supportive bridge between leaving college and entering the world of professional practice.

Acme International Residencies Programme

Since 1987, Acme Studios International Residencies Programme (Acme IRP) has enabled governments, cultural agencies, foundations and businesses to offer individuals major work/live residencies in London. Over 300 artists have benefitted from stipend-supported residencies for periods of three, six or twelve months. We currently manage 22 residencies annually, working with eight client organisations from Australia, Canada, Germany, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland (3).

International artists show at Acme Project Space

In October 2009, three artists and a curator on international residencies managed by Acme IRP held a joint exhibition at the Acme Project Space, E2. 'Chance Meeting on a Drawing Table of a Zebra and a Meteorite' included work by Margarida Gouveia from Portugal (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation residency), Tina Isabella Hild from Germany (Hessische Kulturstiftung residency) and Martin Karlsson from Sweden (IASPIS residency). The show was curated by Irene Mueller from Switzerland (Zuger Kulturstiftung Landis & Gyr residency) and developed after the four met during their London residencies. Lea O'Loughlin, Acme IRP's Manager, facilitated the exhibition as part of the additional services we make available to client organisations. The exhibition was accompanied by a publication of Martin Karlsson's drawings entitled 'London: An Imagery' and has led to other international agencies utilising the project space for their artists.



Tina Isabella Hild at work in the Hessische Kulturstiftung house.
Photo: Moz Bulbeck (2009)

Quebec residency quickly establishes itself

Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec is the most recent addition to the International Residencies Programme. Housed in Claremont Court alongside four residency artists from other international programmes, the residency offers the selected artist combined studio and living space in the heart of East London's art scene. Christian Quesnel, a graphic artist, was the inaugural residency holder and finished his six-month residency with a solo exhibition at the Acme Project Space. 'Hearts of Clay (Coeurs d'Argile)' used antiques, photographs, letters, plans and archives to piece together a story board narrative about two lovers from western Quebec interweaved with the process of the novel's creation. The exhibition and studio were visited in



Private view opening of 'Chance Meeting on a Drawing Table of a Zebra and a Meteorite' at the Acme Project Space, October 2009.
Photo: Acme Studios (2009)



Quebec Agent-General Pierre Boulanger, artist Christian Quesnel and Quebec Minister for Culture Christine St-Pierre. Photo: CALQ (2009)

December 2009 by the Quebec Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women Madame Christine St-Pierre.

Visiting Arts artist at the Fire Station

Visiting Arts works with artists and cultural professionals to foster international exchange, dialogue and intercultural understanding. They recently approached Acme IRP to host an international artist for an eight-week residency in London as part of their '1mile²' project, a three-year global arts programme. The programme sees international artists based in a specific area of another country, working with communities

and an ecologist to map the biodiversity, cultural diversity, and aesthetic diversity of their local neighbourhood. In October 2009, Chinese artist Shaw Zhifeng Xu arrived in London to work in the London Borough of Waltham Forest. Visiting Arts were aware of Acme IRP's track-record and capacity for managing international residencies in East London. We were able to provide a work/live unit at the Fire Station, E14 as well as professional and social support throughout the residency. In addition to the contacts made through the '1mile²' project, Acme introduced Shaw to other networks and artists in London, including Acme Tower Hamlets Studio Residency holder Jan Hendrickse who has a shared interest in socially-engaged work.



Exterior of the Fire Station, E14. Photo: Acme Studios (2000)

Board recruitment

Acme Studios is governed by a small, highly-skilled, effective and dedicated board which continues to provide invaluable guidance and support to the organisation. The board consists of artists and others whose skills and knowledge – in art, architecture, finance, property and the law – have been vital to the organisation's success.

We are now seeking to expand the board, both to ensure that we continue to be in touch with the needs of artists and that we have access to professional expertise and experience to help us to expand our services for them. We also wish to add fresh perspectives.

If you are an artist, or a professional working in the areas of property, fundraising or

communications, or indeed feel that you could make a contribution to the work of the organisation, we would like to hear from you.

We are also concerned that the governance of our organisation fully represents the artists we serve and the communities within which we work. We are therefore keen to recruit artists and professionals from diverse backgrounds.

If you are interested in helping the organisation by joining its board of trustees please refer to www.acme.org.uk/governance.php after 15 February or email jonathan@acme.org.uk for a board recruitment pack.

Thank you.

ACME STUDIOS is a London-based charity that provides artists with affordable studios and living space, residencies and awards.

Acme was formed by artists in 1972 and is the largest organisation of its kind in the UK. We have helped over 5,000 artists with this fundamental means of support – investing in the development of art at the level of research and production. Acme is recognised as the leading development agency for artists' working and living accommodation.

Through an expanding residency and awards programme we support the development of artists' careers by providing artists, selected from open submissions, with a financial, practical and creative breathing space. Through these programmes we also deliver public benefit by working with artists whose projects naturally evolve from wider social engagement.

Acme continues to pioneer new models for developing affordable, high-quality, accessible and permanent studio space through the use of planning gain and partnerships with commercial and affordable housing developers. We promote these models for the benefit of the affordable studios sector as a whole.

Supporting artists – non-residential studios and work/live space:

- We provide 394 non-residential studio units across 12 sites, 28 work/live units and four houses supporting over 460 artists with affordable space
- New permanent studio projects are currently under construction in the London Boroughs of Brent (12 units), Hackney (49 units) and Newham (15 units)
- We are working in partnership with a number of commercial and affordable housing developers, local authorities and development agencies to create new affordable studios across London and the Thames Gateway

Supporting artists – residency and awards programme:

- Five-year work/live residency programme for 12 artists, including a bursary for a disabled or deaf artist, at the Fire Station, E14
- Two artist in residence programmes (rent-free studios plus grants for 18 months/2 years) based at our Galleria Studios, SE15 in partnership with Southwark Council and the South London Gallery, and at Leven Road Studios, E14
- Free studio and grant for an artist in an Acme studio through the annual Jessica Wilkes Award

- Free studio and grant for a graduating MA student from the Slade School of Art at our Childers Street studios, SE8, through the annual Adrian Carruthers Award, and a free six-month studio for a BA graduate from Chelsea College of Art & Design
- We are developing further residencies and awards in our existing buildings and new developments in partnership with housing associations, individuals and other cultural agencies and trusts

Supporting the sector:

- We work with the National Federation of Artists' Studios Providers, Arts Council England and other agencies to help develop the affordable studios sector nationally
- We provide a nation-wide free advisory service to individual artists and studio groups and organisations on all aspects of property negotiation, development and management

Supporting other cultural agencies and artists:

- We manage a major international residency programme on behalf of eight foreign agencies from Australia, Canada, Germany, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland (3), in thirteen properties in East London, providing living and working space for 22 visiting artists annually on three, six and twelve month residencies
- We provide space for an important publicly-funded gallery: Matt's Gallery

Acme Artists Studios Limited

44 Copperfield Road, Bow, London E3 4RR

T 020 8981 6811

E mail@acme.org.uk W www.acme.org.uk

Please contact us on 020 8981 6811 if you require this information in an alternative format.

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Editors

Jack Fortescue
Jonathan Harvey

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me.print@btinternet.com

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