

WYSING ARTS CENTRE - STUDIO INFORMATION PACK 2016

We are currently inviting applications for our artists studios. Wysing has a range of affordable artists studios available to rent for up to five years. Facilities on site include wi-fi, a ceramics studio, access to a kitchen and reception space available for meetings, ample parking and an on-site café.

About Wysing

Wysing Arts Centre develops new ways to support artists and enables art and ideas to engage a wide range of people in unexpected ways. Wysing offers a unique environment for artists, providing space for personal development and artistic experimentation and enquiry with an ongoing and innovative programme of events, exhibitions, studio provision, retreats and residencies, and unique programmes for young artists. Wysing's large rural site near Cambridge comprises artists' studios, education studios, a gallery and project spaces, a 17th century farmhouse and outdoor sculptures and structures.

STUDIOS AVAILABLE

Three **studios** will be available:

Stableblock Studio 6 Ground floor studio with double glass doors, good natural light, electricity, sink with running water, gas central heating, and wi-fi. There is access to a shared toilet in reception and the nearby studio block.

Floor area 20.3 m²

£145.75 (inc VAT) per calendar month, plus bills

Available from November 2016

Strawbale Studio 7 This ground floor building is aimed at emergent artists and was designed to be as affordable as possible. It therefore does not have central heating or running water (toilet facilities are in nearby buildings), but does have plenty of light, electricity and wi-fi.

Floor area 34.8 m²

£192.95 (inc VAT) per calendar month, plus bills

Available from November 2016

Studio Block 1 Ground floor studio ceiling height windows providing good natural light, electricity, under floor heating, and wi-fi. There is access to a shared toilet and sink.

Floor area 36.7 m²

£272.40 (inc VAT) per calendar month, plus bills

Available April 2017

For details of how to apply, please refer to page 3.

Wysing Studio Policy

Wysing offers subsidised studios to artists working in any visual art form who support Wysing's values and ways of working. Wysing's ethos as an organisation is one of artistic enquiry and experimentation and this ethos is applied to the studios.

Studios are licensed to artists who want to use the opportunity of being at Wysing, for up to five years, as a way to move their practices forward. To secure and maintain a studio at Wysing, artists need to commit to engaging with Wysing's artistic programme, through attending events and exhibitions, and being open to playing a role in educational and other programmes. Being a studio artist at Wysing is more than simply licensing space; it is a commitment to being an active contributor to the Wysing artistic community.

Studios are licensed for up to five years, to enable a large number of artists working across a range of media to benefit from the subsidised rents and access to Wysing staff and programmes.

Subsidised studios at Wysing are for visual artists who are:

- At Wysing as a developmental opportunity
- Committed to critically engaged contemporary visual art practice
- Establishing a career as a professional artist
- Committed to at least two days/ 16 hours per working week (excluding weekends) to using their studio*
- Exhibiting or engaging in opportunities (exhibitions, projects, residencies) regularly, nationally and internationally
- Committed to constructively participate in the active artistic community at Wysing
- Keen to allow visitors to the site access to their studio
- Willing to participate in opportunities to promote Wysing and its activities, when appropriate.

** we understand that artists may need to be away from studios to undertake commissions and residencies which is allowed as long as Wysing is kept informed.*

Wysing subsidises the studios through its Arts Council England funding, to enable rents to remain low. Wysing is an educational charity and a not-for-profit organisation and as such studio artists are currently exempt from paying business rates. Studios therefore cannot be used as a registered business address or to undertake solely commercial activity.

Lease period

Leases are reviewed annually at review meetings with a curator. Studios leases will only be secure if artists are able to demonstrate their usage of the studio, their commitment to the organisation and with Wysing Arts Charity's core values and organisational objectives. The time a studio will be rented to same artist is up to a maximum of five years.

Studio meetings

Wysing Arts Centre's curatorial staff will provide up to two formal review meetings per year to artists licensing studios. This is an opportunity for critical feedback, professional development and

mentoring. The meetings will also include a review of how the studio is being used; in line with this policy. Specific advice may also be available (charges may apply for additional meetings and support, for example with funding applications).

The culture of Wysing

Wysing's staff team have worked hard to create an atmosphere where artists are encouraged to push their practices and take creative risks. Additionally, artists participating in residency and other programmes are encouraged to join studio artists and staff at social times, such as lunch times, to informally network. The culture of the centre is one of dialogue, discourse, collaboration and enquiry.

Lease termination

Wysing aims to avoid having inactive subsidised studios at any time. If an artist does not adhere to the studio policy and the values and aims of the organisation, articulated through the artistic programme, their lease will be terminated with one month's notice. If an artist wishes to leave their studio before the end of the term of their lease, they are required to give one month's notice.

Sub-letting

Because Wysing is establishing itself as an active community of artists who will be selected on both the quality of their work and their commitment to being positively engaged in the community, sub-letting to other artists is prohibited.

*Wysing's Studio Policy was adopted by Wysing Arts Charity's Board of Trustees: March 2007
Updated Version (Nov 15) adopted: 2 December 2015*

HOW TO APPLY

Studio applications are submitted online through our Wying Submittable online webpage [here](#). To apply, you will need to provide us with the information listed below, each as a separate document (you can save and return to your online application at any time up until the deadline).

Please refer to the studio policy and our website which shows the work of [studio artists](#) and [residency artists](#), please use this as a guide to the work of artists that have successfully applied for a studio. Please note applications must evidence that your practice will fit into the Wying community and that a studio at Wying will support the development of your work.

To apply, please submit:

- Your name, address and contact details
- Details of which studio/s you would be interested in leasing
- A statement on your practice.
- A CV.
- A description of why you would like a studio and what you could bring to Wying.
- A selection of up to 10 images of your work (or other relevant material such as video, sound, press cuttings etc, or send a document with links to websites hosting material such as Vimeo or Youtube).

The deadline for applications is **midnight, 6 November 2016**.

For more information or to arrange to view the studios please contact louise.thirlwall@wyingartscentre.org